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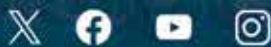


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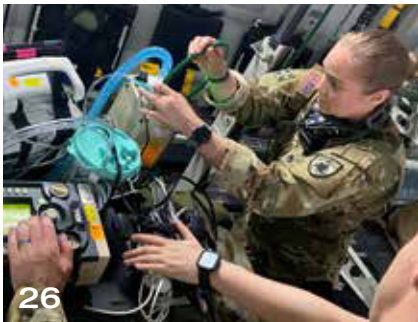
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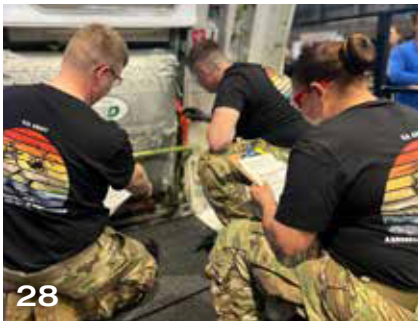
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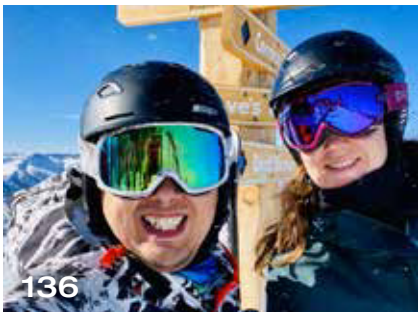
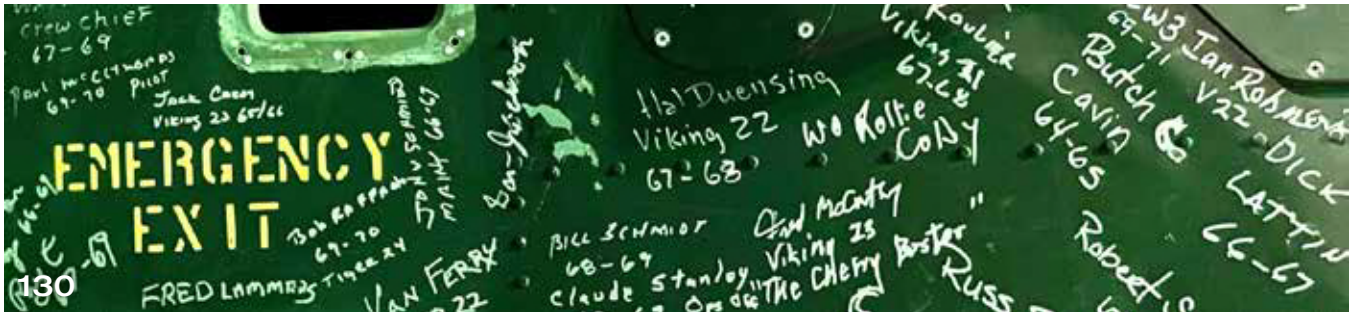
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## On The Cover

PAID ADVERTISEMENT: The versatile UH-60M Black Hawk® helicopter, the cornerstone of Army Aviation, is ready to modernize for tomorrow's fight and bring more power and more connectivity to ground commanders. *Caption provided by the advertiser.*

# Briefings

## USAACE Welcomes Gill



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY KELLY MORRIS

MG Clair A. Gill assumes command of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Novosel, during a ceremony hosted by LTG Milford H. Beagle Jr. (left), U.S. Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth commander, at Fort Novosel, AL, July 26, 2024. Outgoing commander, MG Michael C. McCurry (back to camera) moves to his next assignment at Army Futures Command.

## Arctic Aviation Command Stands Up

COL Russell Vanderlugt assumed command of the Arctic Aviation Command (AAC), August 8, 2024 at Ladd Army Airfield, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska. CW5 Daniel Hansen is the AAC's Command Chief Warrant Officer, and CSM Freddy Rivera-Melendez the Senior Enlisted Advisor. The move puts two active-duty aviation battalions under direct control of the command. Previously, the command's Alaska-based battalions, 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment, and 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, reported to units based in Washington state and Hawaii, respectively.



U.S. ARMY PHOTOS

## Harter Confirmed as Chief, Army Reserve



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

LTG Robert D. Harter was confirmed by the Senate on August 1, 2024 as the new chief of Army Reserve and commanding general of the U.S. Army Reserve Command. Prior to his new assignment, Harter was the commanding general of the 81st Readiness Division and the deputy chief and G3 of the Office of the Chief of Army Reserve. In between his roles at the Army Reserve, Harter was chief of staff of the Army Materiel Command.

## Stubbs Takes Over as Acting CNGB



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

LTG Jonathan Stubbs has been nominated by President Biden to be the 30th Chief of the National Guard Bureau. He has been serving as acting chief since August 5, 2024 taking over from GEN Daniel Hokanson, a Master Army Aviator, who retired on Aug. 2 with more than four decades of service. Stubbs is currently serving as the Director of the Army National Guard.

## Unaccompanied ROK Tours Extended for 15Q & 15T Soldiers



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SGT SHARH D. SWANSTER

Single soldiers without dependents in seven MOSs assigned to the Republic of Korea will be required to serve the accompanied tour length of 24 months, according to an Aug. 1 force-wide memo announcing the exception to policy. Air Traffic Control Operators (15Q) and UH-60 Black Hawk (15T) helicopter repairers are among the seven MOSs. The change applies to soldiers who received permanent change-of-station orders to South Korea on Aug. 1 or later; troops who were placed on orders or who were already stationed in South Korea before Aug. 1 are not affected by the new policy. The assignment will not become an accompanied tour that would allow soldiers to bring dependents along.



**AAAA TLC -**  
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The AAAA Trade-school, Licensing, and Certification Foundation, (TLC) was formed in 2021 as a 501(c)(3) Charity to benefit AAAA members and families. The TLC is focused on providing financial grants for attaining skills like getting your civilian Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) license, Commercial Drivers License, (CDL), welding certification, etc. The TLC is seeking applicants for grants, as well as AAAA members and spouses to serve on the TLC Board. See page 126 for more details.

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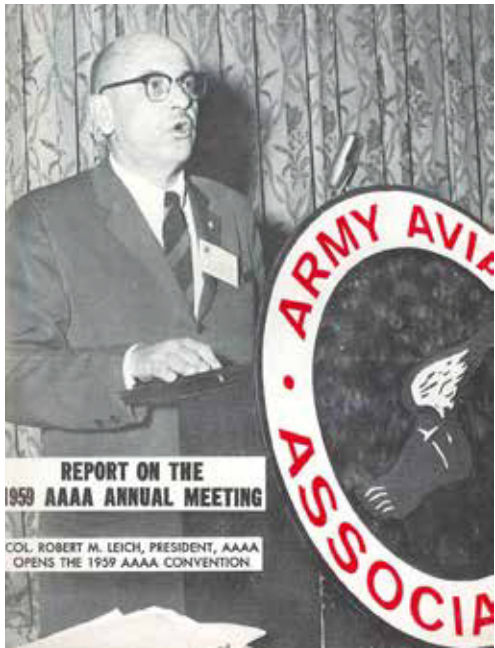
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# Aviation Leadership Changes and AAAA Events



Welcome to our annual Army Aviation “Blue Book” Directory issue that provides all of our members with an enormously broad perspective across the entire Army Aviation Enterprise.

*Left: 1st Annual Convention was held June 5, 1959 at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC.*

*Right: 65 years later and the Convention keeps growing!*

I know many look forward to this ‘one of a kind’ issue, as it serves as an invaluable resource of information about our Total Aviation force structure and personnel.

I’ll begin by informing you all that I had the privilege of representing our Association at several events recognizing and honoring our Aviation and Joint Force leaders. First, I thank our immediate past Branch Chief, MG Mac McCurry, for two great years working together with AAAA to make sure we were doing our best

to support the Branch priorities and initiatives through our AAAA forums and activities. He and Sadie have been outstanding, and we look forward to their continued success at Army Futures Command. We are blessed as a force to have MG Clair Gill, our new Branch Chief, setting the path ahead; we look forward to working closely with him and his team at Fort Novosel to ensure AAAA is synchronized in our support of the Branch. Next, a huge thank you to MG Tom O’Connor, the now former

AMCOM Commanding General, who has transitioned to become Director of Force Development for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-8. MG O’Connor has always been an ardent supporter of our Association and his commitment to our Mission is second to none. We are so grateful to have MG Lori Robinson taking the AMCOM reins and look forward to working with her and the AMCOM team in support of their sustainment and readiness mission. And finally, to another outstanding

advocate and supporter of AAAA and our most senior Army Aviator, GEN Dan Hokanson, now the former Chief of the National Guard Bureau, was honored twice for his incredible lifetime of service at retirement ceremonies at Fort Myer and in Medford, Oregon (where he served many years as the Oregon Adjutant General). All three were inducted into the Gold Order of St. Michael!

By the time you read this, AAAA will already be well into our busy season of events. Starting with the Army Aviation Survivability Forum that ran from September 15-17 in Huntsville, AL; followed by the Cribbins Readiness Conference, November 11-13 back in Huntsville, AL; the Luther G. Jones Army Aviation Depot Forum, December 10-11 in Corpus Christi, TX; and of course the upcoming annual AAAA Army Aviation Mission Solutions Summit, May 14-16, 2025 in Nashville, TN.

I have been asked from time to time, why does AAAA do all this? As you can imagine there is a ton of work with all the logistics, planning, and execution involved in all of them. And,

with the exception of the big Annual Summit, the other events barely break even or sometimes even run at a loss especially post COVID with huge increases in hotel, food, and audio-visual charges. So again, why do we do all this?

The answer is in our Mission Statement, "AAAA: Supporting the U.S. Army Aviation Soldier and Family." These events go back long before COVID. The Cribbins event dates from the 1970s, and Survivability from the 1980s are two examples. They along with the Summit that began in 1959 were and are what today we now call "Networking" opportunities for the whole community to gather around a particular subject like Depot Maintenance in the Luther Jones case or the entire spectrum of Army Aviation in the case of the Summit.

What these other smaller events have yielded are significant real-world impacts to our war-fighting Soldiers ranging from improved ballistic protection, to proliferation of unique equipment from the Special Operations world to Big Army, to making sure that Depot capabilities are

understood by our major units in the field, and lessons learned in classified sessions for our government and industry partners at the Survivability Forum. You can't measure the lives saved and successful operations that these events have contributed to, but believe me, they are real.

Together with "Networking," the other three pillars that support our Mission Statement are Recognition, Voice, and Support. Each of these are also on display at every one of these events especially the "Recognition" pillar with our AAAA Awardees featured at each event from the UAS Soldier of the Year, to Air-Sea Rescue and Fixed Wing Unit awards.

You simply cannot beat the benefits of face-to-face engagements with your peers, Army Aviation leadership, and Industry Partners as we all work together to keep Army Aviation at the tip of the spear of our nation's Land Warfare capability.

---

MG Walt Davis, U.S. Army Retired  
36th President, AAAA  
[walt.davis@quad-a.org](mailto:walt.davis@quad-a.org)

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# Continuity and Change By MG Clair A. Gill



Our Army is simultaneously transitioning to address the challenges of tomorrow, while keeping pace to win against today's threats. Our imperative is to remain ready now and in the future.

As your 18th Chief of the Army Aviation Branch and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE), I acknowledge this challenge and my role in preparing our Aviation Soldiers to remain "Above the Best." From my perspective, we must balance continuity

of our current initiatives while remaining flexible enough to address change in an uncertain future.

As we look back on the lessons of the Cold War and persistent conflict in the GWOT, the Army is due for some wholesale changes in our equipment, our technology and our doctrine. Army Aviation is pivotal to this transition, while we meet our obligations to the Joint Force every day around the globe. Our Chief of Staff Army, GEN George, calls this "transforming in contact" – meet today's demands, while preparing for the future. With this perspective, we link the decisions we make short-term with their broader implications in the future. That's our obligation to our nation.

So, we'll continue to focus on the future of Army Aviation. Because of the threat's sophisticated capabilities, future battlefields require our aviation forces to operate from relative sanctuary, dispersed and decentralized, and be

ready to deliver tactical effects from strategic and operational distances. The battlefield of the future might be unfamiliar, but the role of Army Aviation remains unchanged. We will continue to support the Soldier on the ground across multiple domains – only we can do that. We will continue to pursue Future Vertical Lift (FVL) initiatives. While the Army selected the Future Long Range Assault Aircraft (FLRAA), we must continue maturing and leveraging disruptive technology at the speed of relevance and change.

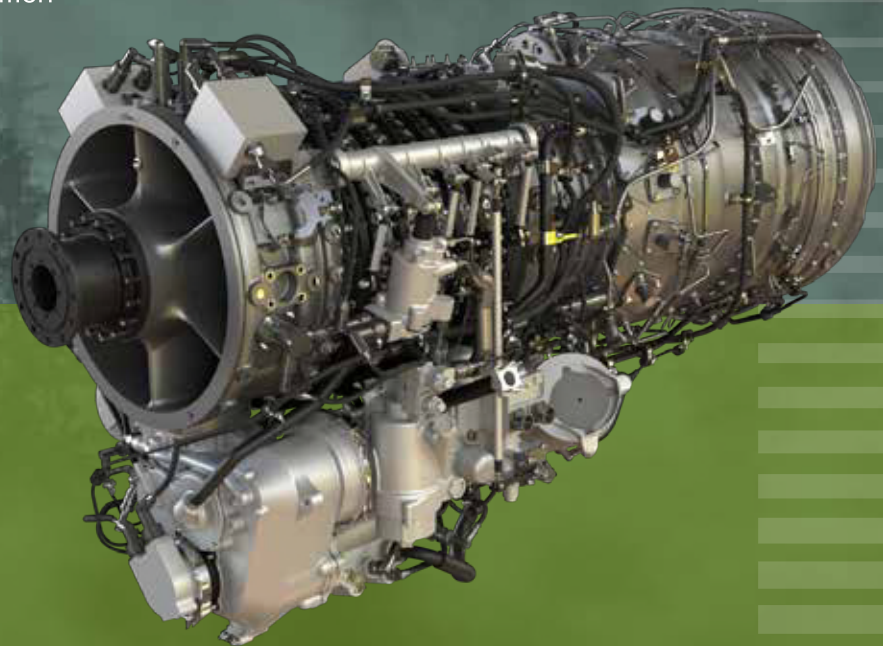
As the salient issues associated with the advent of unmanned systems, artificial intelligence, and human-machine integration emerge, we will work them to resolution. These technologies will inevitably be part of the Aviation warfighter's arsenal. While some of these systems may not be fully developed today, we will work quickly to mature and integrate them into the force of tomorrow.



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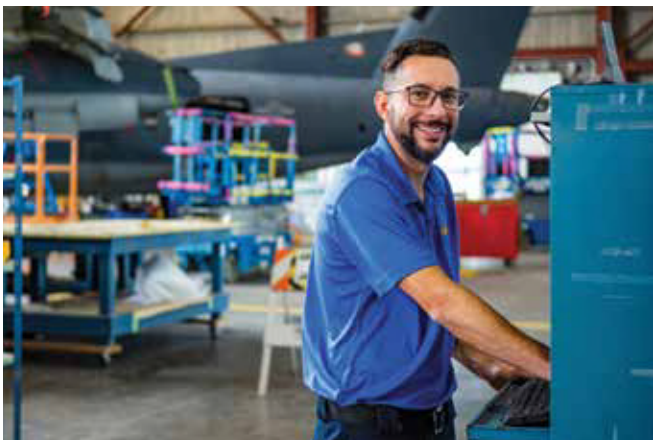
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An open and continuous dialogue with Industry and the Science and Technology communities is critical as we develop and mature FVL. I encourage our Aviation formations to engage and participate in Army-sponsored conferences, summits, and forums such as AAAA, AUSA, and our own Center of Excellence-sponsored Industry Days. There is no better way to get a glimpse into the future of our branch and have healthy dialogue on these transformative capabilities than in these settings with our collection of experts. Additionally, I encourage our Soldiers – officers, NCOs, and enlisted -- to share their experience and ideas on the equipment, tactics, techniques, and procedures, and unresolved gaps. They should communicate their ideas at conferences and professional forums and in AAAA, Aviation Digest magazines or other Army-professional publications. It's all part of the CSA's mandate to Strengthen our Profession.

Notwithstanding our forward-facing perspective, we cannot lose sight of the here and now. Until FVL is fully fielded, we will fight with what we have. This truism means we must improve the lethality and survivability of our existing or enduring systems, specifically our workhorse fleet of the AH-64E, UH-60M, and CH-47F. These aircraft have proven their mettle, but a refresh is critical to bridge the requirements between now, 2030, and beyond. Due to the obsolescence of various systems and components on these enduring aircraft, we must target improvements to sustain their viability in battle.

GEN Shinseki once said, "If you don't like change, you'll like irrelevance even less." Continuity is essential; change is our reality. So, we prepare for what we know will be a dynamic path forward in an uncertain geopolitical environment.

After some time away from the Army on the Joint Staff, I can attest that it is great to be back in Army Aviation! It's also great to (once again) assume command from MG "Mac" McCurry, one of our branch's finest leaders. In multiple strategic Army roles, and most recently as our branch chief, he postured Army Aviation exceptionally well for the transformation ahead. Mac shepherded our branch and prepared Aviation warriors to support our operational formations so that they can fight and win on the future battlefield. He trained our force, he championed our modernization, he worked with industry, HQDA, and Congress to keep us resourced to train and fight. On behalf of every Soldier who served in Army Aviation or was the beneficiary of Army Aviation for the last two years, I thank him and Sadie for their steadfast leadership in taking care of our team and ensuring our Army is ready when the nation calls.

I am excited about the future of Army Aviation! It remains a decisive element of the combined arms team. I am also elated that I have this opportunity to work with the Soldiers who will forge a new chapter in Army Aviation's future.

Above the Best!  
Fly Army!

*MG Clair A. Gill is the Army Aviation branch chief and commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Novosel, AL.*



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# HQDA Perspective – DAMO-AV is Fielding the Future Force While in Continuous Transformation

By BG Matt Braman



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

It is great to be back for my third foray in the building and amongst the great team of aviation professionals here at DAMO-AV.

*U.S. Army SGT Claudia Kinney, assigned to the 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment, retrieves a drone during Allied Spirit 24 at the Hohenfels Training Area, Joint Multinational Readiness Center, Germany, March 6, 2024.*

Although it seems like yesterday that I left here as the deputy, it's been a quick 26 months with the fielded force and I remain absolutely impressed on how the branch continues to support a continuous need for aviation around the globe. There are new names and faces to be sure in 3A474 and also new programs and initiatives that reflect the realities of a changing world. The one constant is the mission – fielding lethal, ready, and cohesive aviation formations to support the Soldier on the ground and the Joint Force in large scale combat operations (LSCO). Increasingly, that means internalizing lessons observed from ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East and integrating new capabilities and technologies into our formations. This requires a degree of agility on behalf of the Aviation Enterprise – not always easy when you

consider the number of organizations involved. DAMO-AV's role is to provide the cohesion that enables agility, to synchronize the efforts of the Aviation Enterprise with the initiatives and priorities of our Army leadership to ensure we are all working in concert.

## New UAS Division

DAMO-AV is standing up an Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Division due to the increased role unmanned systems play on the modern battlefield and to better organize ourselves to support the continuous transformation of Army Aviation. The Division will provide a more focused effort to integrate UAS at every echelon of the Army. Key to this transformation will be coordinating efforts across the Army to respond to emerging requirements with rapid acquisition and fielding of small, attritable

UAS and launched effects (LE). The Division will work to identify opportunities to accelerate fielding of capabilities from the squad up to the brigade levels, while also continuing to synchronize efforts to modernize the MQ-1C Gray Eagle UAS. Looking into the not-so-distant future, a significant challenge for each Service will be airspace management on the battlefield and training ground. Fortunately, our subordinate command, the United States Army Aeronautical Services Agency (USAASA) along with the UAS Division and TRADOC are already hard at work updating policies and doctrine to guide airspace and spectrum managers in future operations.

## Modernization

Our signature modernization effort for the Army that is vital to successfully executing LSCO is the Future Long

A Chinook Block II helicopter is shown in flight, viewed from a low angle. The helicopter is dark green and has its main rotor blades blurred from motion. It is flying over a lush green coastline with a blue ocean in the background. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The helicopter's landing gear is visible, and it appears to be in a steady climb or level flight.

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Range Assault Aircraft (FLRAA). FLRAA will enable ground forces to maneuver from relative sanctuary and can navigate the vast distances of the INDOPACOM area of operations and other theaters. DAMO-AV is coordinating across the Aviation Enterprise to accelerate fielding and ensure the structure and personnel are in place to fully harness FLRAA's transformational capabilities. FLRAA remains aviation's #1 modernization priority.

Alongside FLRAA and UAS, the modernization and sustainment of the current fleet will also be key to our ability to fight and win in LSCO. DAMO-AV is synchronizing efforts across the Aviation Enterprise and Army Staff to ensure aviation modernization priorities are fully resourced and Army aircraft are ready to operate in a multidomain environment. The Army will execute new multi-year procurements for UH-60M and CH-47F Block II aircraft. The Improved Turbine Engine will improve the performance of our Black Hawk fleets and set conditions for Apache integration. Developments in

long range munitions will ensure the AH-64 remains lethal well into the 21st Century. Senior Leader priorities also are assisting in the development of the improved Apache tail rotor and drive train. Additionally, the Army will continue to examine ways to leverage new technologies such as artificial intelligence to improve maintenance and supply chain management.

### Force Structure

Equally vital to ensuring Army Aviation is ready for LSCO is optimizing our force structure. The Army Structure Memo that directs the Aviation Force Design Update (FDU) has been signed and the FDU EXORD has been published. FDU will transition 11 modular COMPO 1 CABs designed to support counterinsurgency operations to 12 purpose-structured CABs designed for LSCO. The new structure will address gaps in attack/reconnaissance, air-assault, and lift capacity and align CABs to support Divisions as the unit of action in MDO. FDU is foundational to Army Aviation 2030 and beyond.

These are some of the challenges we'll be working hard to address in the coming year and I'm excited to get going. I want to thank the outgoing Director, MG Walter Rugen for his capable leadership and guidance during his tenure in DAMO-AV. I also want to thank our outgoing Branch Chief MG McCurry and I look forward to working with our new Branch Chief MG Clair Gill, both of whom I served under as their Deputy Director in DAMO-AV. I have complete confidence in the Aviation Branch's ability to meet the issues of the day with agility and clarity. Not the least because of the talented individuals working to synchronize efforts across the Aviation Enterprise in DAMO-AV. I encourage anyone to reach out to the DAMO-AV team if we can be of any assistance or stop by if you're in the D.C. area.

Above the Best!

*BG Matt Braman is the Director of Army Aviation at Headquarters, Department of the Army G-3/5/7 (DAMO-AV).*

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## ▶ Chief Warrant Officer of the Branch Update

*Editor's Note: CW5 Corsaro has asked CW5 (Ret.) Koz Koziol to provide his thoughts on efforts to bridge the experience gap from the DAMO-AV perspective.*

# Bridging the Experience Gap

By CW5 (Ret.) Jonathan "Koz" Koziol



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

**G**reetings from the Department of Military Operations for Aviation; or, as most know it, DAMO-AV. It has been a challenging past 22 months in Army Aviation.

Since the beginning of FY23, our shortages in mid-career year groups became unfortunately clear with a downturn in readiness. In the dynamic realm of Army aviation, readiness is not just about possessing cutting-edge equipment and advanced technology; it hinges crucially on the proficiency and experience of the personnel who operate them. The shortage of aviators and maintainers with 12-18 years of aviation service created an experience gap that is keenly felt at the unit level.

### The Importance of Experience

Experience in Army aviation is irreplaceable. It encompasses a deep understanding of aircraft systems, tactical maneuvers, decision-making under pressure, and effective communication in high-stakes scenarios. Our senior aviators bring years of accumulated knowledge that is invaluable in training

the next generation and in maintaining operational readiness. They have faced diverse challenges--from complex missions to adverse weather conditions--which have sharpened their abilities and judgment.

### Challenges of the Experience Gap

The experience gap poses multifaceted challenges to U.S. Army aviation readiness. One primary concern is the potential erosion of institutional knowledge. As senior aviators retire or transition from active duty, there is a risk of losing critical insights and lessons learned from decades of service. This loss can impact training effectiveness, operational planning, and the ability to adapt to evolving threats. An example is the diminished level of knowledge of Loss of Tail Rotor Effectiveness or Authority (LTA/LTE) resident in the force. As a young aviator flying AH-1s

*Pilot Briefs are invaluable to strengthening the team through sharing current experiences, introducing new information and accomplishing some mandatory training.*

and OH-58s, awareness of LTA/LTE conditions and how to get out of them was part of daily planning.

Bridging the experience gap requires deliberate efforts in training and mentorship. While new technologies and simulators enhance training realism, they cannot fully substitute for real-world experience. The practical wisdom gained from countless flight hours and operational deployments remains unmatched in preparing aviators for the unpredictable nature of combat environments.

Frequency and repetition at any task get you one step closer to being an expert at your craft. For our aviators, that is flying. Fly your training strategy. In HQDA, we constantly work with senior leaders to defend the resources for your flying hours. The most important thing a commander can do is fly their training strategy. Granted, a Continuing Resolution (CR) at the beginning of

the fiscal year seems to be an annual event lately, but commands should focus on funding the CAB Commander's program to minimize disruptions to building and maintaining experience.

Most importantly, as individual aviators, you should know your limits. This is a two-way street with the individual pilot and leadership. We all need to help recognize when a situation is too much and be brave enough to address it. Risk Common Operating Picture (RCOP) reviews and candid discussions are required.

### Education

A holistic change in Primary Military Education (PME) for our aviation warrant officers was just approved. This approach focuses the education on doctrine, planning, and building extensive aviation knowledge throughout an individual career focusing on what is important for our aviators and ensuring the time spent at Fort Novosel will build your depth of aviation knowledge.

### Strategies for Bridging the Gap

Aviation Branch is working tirelessly to assist you with many of the challenges

faced by the gap in experience, but commands can also help:

1. Pilot Briefs: Not long ago these were a weekly occurrence. They are invaluable to share current experiences, introduce new information and knock out some mandatory training. Most importantly, it strengthens the team.

2. Retention of Senior Aviators: We are working hard on incentive program revisions and career pathways that encourage experienced aviators to remain in service longer. Senior Army leadership understands the opportunities available to you and have empowered us to come up with solutions.

3. Enhanced Training: Aviation Branch is working hard on doctrine and training material to help our trainers. Incorporating lessons learned from past operations and leveraging advanced simulation technologies helps prepare newer aviators more effectively.

4. Cross-Generational Collaboration: Facilitate opportunities for collaboration by finding aviation mentors (Old Folks like me) you can invite to pilots briefs. They have most likely faced the same challenges and can help you solve them.

### The Path Forward

Looking ahead, investing in professional development, enhancing retention efforts, and leveraging emerging technologies will be pivotal to maintaining readiness. As challenges evolve, so must the strategies employed to prepare the next generation of aviators for the complexities of large-scale combat operations. Bridging the experience gap is not just about meeting current operational demands but also about laying a foundation for future success supporting our Soldiers on the ground.

Thanks for all you do. I am proud to still be working with such a sensational Army Aviation Enterprise.

Above the Best!



*CW5 (Ret.) Jonathan "Koz" Koziol is the Department of the Army G-3/5/7 (DA-MO-AV) chief of staff in Washington, DC and the former eighth command chief warrant officer of the Aviation Branch; and CW5 Michael A. Corsaro is the tenth chief warrant officer of the Aviation Branch with the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Novosel, AL.*

An advertisement for ARKA (Army Research and Knowledge Agency) with a dark blue background. The text 'ARKA' is at the top left in white. Below it, 'Survivability Begins Here' is written in large, bold, light blue letters. Further down, 'Protecting the Warfighter with Laser Detection' is written in large, bold, white letters. On the right side, there is a circular inset image showing three military helicopters in flight against a blue sky with clouds. A satellite in orbit is shown above the helicopters, with a line indicating a laser beam being directed at them. The ARKA.org logo is in the bottom left corner of the ad area.



## ▶ Branch Command Sergeant Major Update

*Editor's Note: CSM Coley has asked SGM Ruben Davila to provide a look into the pivotal role Aviation senior leaders have in Army Aviation Maintenance training.*

# The Crucial Role of Aviation Senior Leaders in the Army Maintenance Training Program

By SGM Ruben Davila



U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY SFC JOEL MANZANO

“High OPTEMPO for CABs, both home and abroad.” “Additional duties that divert attention from building aviation proficiency.” “Lack of experience for junior maintainers, and no time to conduct maintenance training.”

What do these statements all have in common? Not only are they concerns that were recently submitted following the latest Army Aviation stand-up, but they are concerns that have been facing Army Aviation leaders for years. Having served in both conventional and special operation aviation units, I have experienced the OPTEMPO, seen the impact of additional duties, and was a Soldier that fought through the daily

operations to gain experience and grow as a maintainer. The one consistent factor that I have seen lead to success is engaged leaders who emphasize the importance of maintenance operations.

In today's complex operating environment where aviation personnel and technically complex aircraft remain in high demand around the globe, engaged leadership, from the company to brigade level, couldn't be more

*Soldiers assigned to the 169th Aviation Regiment, 101st Troop Command, Puerto Rico National Guard, discuss the maintenance training given for the day at San Juan, Puerto Rico, July 22, 2024.*

important in ensuring we are developing experienced aircraft maintainers and maintenance managers. The backbone of maintenance are our enlisted maintainers, and their effectiveness relies on cooperation and guidance from senior leaders within CABs. It begins with senior leader involvement in the development of the unit's Aviation Maintenance Training Program (AMTP) and ensuring that it receives just as much emphasis in training meetings and quarterly training briefs as training for air assault and gunnery



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## Enlisted Aviation Soldier Spotlight

Each month we will feature a past AAAA National or Functional Enlisted or NCO Award winner as part of our ongoing recognition of the Best of the Best in our Aviation Branch. The CY 2023 National winners were featured in the April/May AAAA Army Aviation Mission Solutions Summit issue.



ARF FILE PHOTO

### UAS Soldier of the Year, 2021

*Sponsored by General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc.*

### SGT Damian P. Del Rae Company F, 2nd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment Fort Campbell, Kentucky

SGT Damian Del Rae is a standout innovator in a company known for being at the forefront of Army UAS modernization. In the past twelve months, he was selected to lead the mission planning cells for the company's two most significant training events, during which groundbreaking UAS advancements were made. He has managed significant events such as establishing the company's first expeditionary tactical operations center (TOC) out of an Expando Van. In addition, when the company took the lead on developing tactical solutions to counter a near-peer threat, as the lead planner in the planning cell, he assisted in the development and testing of these tactics to include flying at 500 feet above ground level (AGL) and using terrain masking. Further, during this same training event, the company was tasked to test flying in National Airspace, something usually only accomplished by Air Force UAS. Once again, he eagerly accepted the challenge and made all necessary coordination, resulting in the first flight in National Airspace by a 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (SOAR) UAS. SGT Del Rae consistently performs above standard with limited guidance. His incredible ability to identify problems, develop innovative solutions, and execute flawlessly clearly identify him as the Army Aviation Association of America's 2021 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Soldier of the Year.

operations. Senior leaders bridge the gap between training and operational readiness. They ensure AMTP aligns with mission requirements. Whether it's simulator time, maintenance facilities, or qualified instructors, leader influence and presence ensure that the AMTP receives adequate support and resources, in addition to ensuring their formations remain focused on aviation tasks.

Just as our pilots use checklists and learn the fundamentals of flight prior to doing more complex in-flight tasks, we, as senior leaders, must also reinforce the importance of following technical manuals and procedures precisely, in addition to mastering the basics in maintenance operations. Proficiency in fundamental tasks, whether it's torquing bolts, safety wiring, conducting inspections, or troubleshooting, forms the foundation for safe and effective maintenance. When maintainers are well-trained, they make fewer errors which results in fewer safety incidents; however, proficiency isn't a one-time

achievement. Senior leaders must promote continuous learning and skill development encouraging maintainers to seek additional certifications and stay up to date on technological advancements.

A well-managed AMTP requires feedback from Senior NCOs on training effectiveness, areas for improvement, and advocacy for necessary adjustments. The insights from senior NCOs will help commanders tailor the AMTP to meet evolving needs, especially during periods of high turnover when continuity is essential to retaining vital aircraft component maintenance expertise.

Aviation maintenance directly impacts an aviation unit's ability to execute missions and provide combat and service support to ground forces, and the involvement of commanders and senior NCOs is critical in balancing mission requirements and continuously evaluating their unit's maintenance preparedness. The interconnections between training, maintenance, and

readiness are of utmost importance, and senior leader involvement is essential to the success of the AMTP. By fostering collaboration, addressing challenges, and prioritizing communication, we enhance readiness, optimize training, and ensure that enlisted maintainers receive the support they need to keep our aviation assets mission ready to fight and win today.

Army Aviation needs engaged leaders who don't just manage the endless tasks but ones who inspire hearts, cultivate trust, and ignite passion in developing foundational maintenance skills.



*SGM Ruben A. Davila is the Department of the Army G-3/5/7 Sergeant Major; CSM Kirk Coley is the command sergeant major of the Aviation Branch at the United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Novosel, AL.*

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# Building a Better MEDEVAC – How the Army National Guard is Harnessing Lessons Learned to Develop Advanced Medical Transport Capabilities

By MSG Joseph Stringer



NRG COMPOSITE PHOTO

Beginning in 2011, a flurry of reports and studies from Army Medical Department research teams flooded the military medical journals.

Evidence pointed to a clear correlation between the medical credentialing levels of Army flight medics and the long-term survival outcomes of combat trauma patients in Afghanistan and Iraq theaters. COL (Ret.) Robert Mabry et al. published the most influential of these studies in 2012 demonstrating that employment of Army National Guard (ARNG) flight medics trained to the Critical Care Paramedic level correlated to a 60% increase in 48-hour trauma patient survival as compared to their active-component EMT counterparts. Subsequent studies have demonstrated increased education and experience for pre-hospital transport providers, in both combat and the civilian sector, results in statistically significant improvements for clotting capability, blood-oxygen levels, correct performance of interventions, and even dramatic differences in decision-making among paramedics with varied experience levels.

In 2012, the United States Congress took note and mandated an upgrade in education and credentialing for all en route aeromedical care providers to the Critical Care Flight Paramedic (CCFP) level. Guard MEDEVAC units have faced more challenges than initially indicated finding enough personnel with the drive and academic aptitude to engage the 10-month training program and all required follow-on flight training. Command teams at all echelons struggled to keep advanced medical training as a priority when faced with resourcing competing requirements. After overcoming the early obstacles to build capacity, NGB has righted the ship with a more robust Aeromedical Evacuation team and targeted funding for both military and civilian-based schooling, bridging the gap from Combat Medic to CCFP. Close coordination between State Army Aviation Officers and State Surgeons places greater emphasis on command teams and medical providers to seek advanced schooling.

*SFC Jonathan Vass (left) (PA ARNG) practices Rapid Sequence Intubation in flight; SSG Elizabeth Fricker (right) (CA ARNG) transfers her patient to a CCATT C-17 liquid O2 system.*

The transformation in MEDEVAC comes at a time when large-scale combat operations (LSCO) dominate the headlines in every military journal. A plethora of personal videos uploaded to the internet from the battlefields of Ukraine and Israel not only demonstrate heroic efforts from medics of all skill levels, but also highlight the need for improved training and more adaptive evacuation techniques. Commanders will need to re-think how to employ aeromedical assets in less-permissive environments when airspace superiority is not guaranteed. This reincarnation of an old peer-on-peer environment is where the ARNG must explore creative solutions to new problems.

Enhancing the primary capabilities of rotary-wing DUST-OFF crews from advanced search and rescue to flying intensive care units (ICUs) presents a challenge of application in the domestic operations sphere. Domestic medical emergency response forces, long used to limited hoist support, will find a robust medical capacity to complement their disaster response. In 2018, after Hurricane Michael made landfall in the Florida panhandle, 39 ICU patients had to be evacuated from local hospitals via ground ambulance providers. This disaster operation overloaded domestic ambulance and hospital capacities for hundreds of miles. Future crises could see ARNG MEDEVAC and Air Guard Critical Care Air Transport Teams (CCATTs) in a joint patient movement operation from coastal hospitals to inland specialty care centers before storms make landfall. The first CCFPs from Indiana and California have recently graduated from the USAF CCATT program to explore the operational needs of patient movement in a joint environment. These CCFPs represent the future of the National Guard's aeromedical evacuation community and they're coming to a battlefield, or a natural disaster, near you.

*MSG Joseph Stringer is the Aeromedical Evacuation LNO in the Army Aviation Training & Operations Branch of National Guard Bureau.*



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## ► 128th Aviation Brigade Update

# 128th Aviation Brigade Continues to Exceed Standards at the 2024 Snap-On Tools Aerospace Maintenance Competition

By SSG Zaw M. Aung



The 128th Aviation Brigade recently made quite an impression at the annual Aerospace Maintenance Competition (AMC) held in Chicago from 09-11 April 2024, where Team Black Hawk and Team Chinook clinched the top two spots in the Military Category.

Team Black Hawk claimed the coveted 1st place, with Team Chinook securing a close 2nd over 18 other Military Teams in the competition. This remarkable achievement underscores the unwavering commitment of the brigade to surpassing performance standards year after year.

Noncommissioned officers hailing from various Army Aviation Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) backgrounds within the 128th Aviation Brigade collaborated to exchange knowledge and provide reciprocal training in preparation for a competition focused on fixed-wing and rotary aircraft maintenance tasks.

A groundbreaking moment occurred at this year's competition as the AMC included a rotary-wing maintenance task for the first time, thanks to the sponsorship by the U.S. Army and outstanding dedication from WO1 Rahnjames Clements and SSG Charles Hayworth. The task, Main Rotor Track & Balance Adjustment, simulated the critical process of adjusting the main rotor pitch change links during helicopter maintenance operations. This milestone not only solidified partnerships with the greater Aviation community, but also attracted significant interest from competitors representing major airlines such as Alaska, United, American, and FedEx. These participants eagerly sought insights into Army Aviation, underscoring the event's impact in showcasing our excellence and diverse training opportunities.

Then Corpus Christi Army Depot commander, COL Kyle Hogan, practices lockwire and adjustment skills at the Snap-On Tools Aviation Maintenance Competition as WO1 Rahnjames Clements provides guidance.

128th AVN BDE instructors conduct maintenance on United Airlines Render Safe task at the Snap-On Tools Aviation Maintenance Competition.

A noteworthy event at the competition was the Render Safe Removal and Installation fixed-wing maintenance task sponsored by United Airlines. Despite lacking prior experience in the task, the U.S. Army Aviation Team rose to the challenge. During their training sessions, team members meticulously studied the task and visualized how to execute it. When the competition day arrived, the U.S. Army team's prowess shone through, with only seven teams successfully completing the event, including the U.S. Army team.

Participating in aerospace maintenance competitions, such as AMC, serves as a platform to enhance skills and knowledge for Army Aviation units. It offers Soldiers the opportunity to showcase their proficiency and dedication to their craft while also learning from peers and the civilian sector, thereby gaining invaluable experience.

The camaraderie and competitive spirit displayed during the competition not only bolster team dynamics but also spotlight the professionalism and capabilities of the U.S. Army Aviation branch on a national stage. As the brigade continues to partake in such events, confidence abounds that our teams will continue to excel and uphold the esteemed reputation of excellence in aerospace maintenance. The 128th Aviation Brigade takes immense pride in representing the best in Aviation maintenance and eagerly anticipates future opportunities to showcase their skills and unwavering dedication.

### **Born Under Fire!**

SSG Zaw M. Aung is a Drill Sergeant assigned to the 128th Aviation Brigade, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA.



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# Dr. Sam Crews' Legacy:

## Part 2 – Keep 'Em Ready to Fly

By Dr. Thomas L. Thompson

Dr. Sam Crews was passionate about developing and fielding technology that helped Army Aviators and maintainers perform their tasks more effectively and efficiently.

During his tenure as Aeromechanics Division Chief in the Aviation Engineering Directorate (now part of the Systems Readiness Directorate), Dr. Crews collaborated with leaders in industry, government laboratories and the Aviation program offices to initiate development and fielding of advanced flight control systems, Health and Usage Monitoring systems (HUMS), and electronic flight performance planning applications. This second of three articles on Sam's visionary work will focus on our progress in developing and fielding HUMS that increase aircraft safety and readiness.

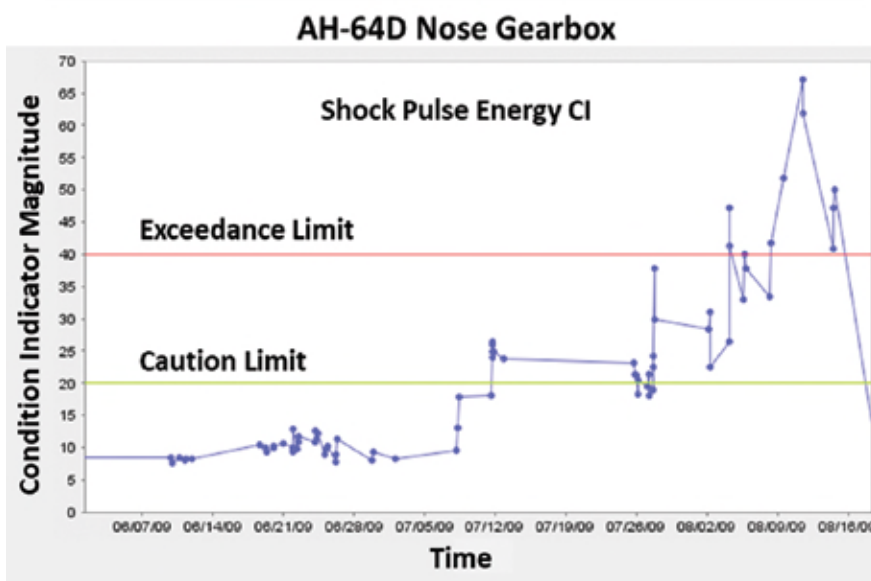


Apache nose gearbox failure.

During the 1990s, Army maintainers began using the portable Aviation Vibration Analyzer (AVA) to keep once-per-revolution (1p) rotor vibration levels within recommended limits. In addition to reducing the long-term effects of vibration on aircrews, there was some evidence that maintaining low 1p vibration levels extended the

lives of airframe components. AVA was also used to perform periodic checks of critical dynamic components, such as the safety-of-flight requirement to perform a 50-hour vibration check on the CH-47 Chinook. The success of these efforts encouraged Dr. Crews and others to develop and qualify onboard permanently installed systems to smooth (track and balance) the rotors and monitor vibration of critical drive system components.

One of the earliest and most successful demonstrations of an onboard system was conducted in the early 2000s as part of the Vibration Management Enhancement Program (VMEP), a collaboration of experts from government, industry and academia, including Dr. Crews and his team at the Army Aviation Engineering Directorate and the South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) under the leadership of MG Les Eisner. SCARNG Apache and Black Hawk aircraft were equipped with VMEP vibration monitoring systems and were flown for about two years. Results confirmed the efficiency of using the onboard systems to regularly monitor vibration and make





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any necessary adjustments to maintain vibration levels within recommended limits. The data was also used to develop and refine Condition Indicators (CIs) that were derived from data measured by accelerometers mounted at locations of interest on the rotor swashplates and drive systems.

The Army, convinced of the benefits of onboard vibration monitoring systems, began in 2005 to equip its fleet with permanently installed systems, such as Honeywell's Modernized Signal Processing Unit (MSPU) and Goodrich's Integrated Vehicle Health Management System (IHVMS). By 2013, most aircraft in the Army fleet, including Special Operations Aircraft, were equipped with HUMS and aircrews were using the systems to support maintenance operations.

The efficiency of these systems in monitoring cockpit vibration levels and providing maintainers with recommended rotor adjustments resulted in a reduction of the number of maintenance test flights required to reduce 1p vibration levels within limits. In addition to saving time and cost for track and balance flights, the ability of

the systems to monitor vibration levels in certain flight regimes and at periodic intervals throughout a flight removed the need to install temporary equipment and conduct dedicated flights to perform required safety-of-flight vibration checks. Ground station software provided maintainers with a summary of drive system health and identified components that should be replaced at the earliest opportunity. Numerous aborted missions were prevented because HUMS identified incipient failures, thereby enabling corrective action before the mission was affected (Figure 1 shows an example of an Apache nose gearbox failure that was detected with the MSPU). In addition, continuous vibration monitoring allowed the Army to extend the lives of some components, such as Apache hanger bearings, and to postpone required maintenance for other components, such as Black Hawk oil cooler fans.

Future aircraft will incorporate next-generation HUMS technology that provides a more detailed and comprehensive assessment of vehicle health than is available with legacy systems. However, to fully leverage this

capability and expand Sam's vision for health management systems, Army and industry will need to work more closely together to develop and field systems that (a) facilitate transfer of collected data from individual aircraft to a joint Army-industry website where data is analyzed using a common set of tools, (b) allow greater flexibility in modifying diagnostic algorithms and onboard software, and (c) communicate with logistic systems to order replacement parts when health indications show that components are nearing failure. Also, the Army and industry will need to establish depot/factory-level maintenance policies to identify and document the actual condition of all monitored components after removal for cause; this is critical to validate HUMS indications and enable the accuracy needed to achieve the aircraft readiness benefits envisioned by Dr. Crews.

*Dr. Thomas L. Thompson is the Chief Engineer for Aeromechanics at the Systems Readiness Directorate, U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center, Redstone Arsenal, AL.*

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# Pap Smear

By LTC Brit C. Geisler, M.D.

**Q:** I'm so confused with all the changing recommendations whether I need a pap smear every year or not.

**FS:** The guidelines for pap smears come from the American Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (ASCCP). The ASCCP guidelines were updated in 2006, 2012, and the most recent was in 2019. It is completely understandable that there is some confusion. The recommendations also are very different from the days where patients had a pap smear starting young and continuing yearly. We are going to discuss the recommendations for routine screening of average-risk individuals. If there is a history of abnormal pap smear or an issue that would increase the risk of cervical cancer, this does not apply.

The pap is short for Papanicolaou who is the physician that came up with the test. Dr. Papanicolaou spread cells from the cervix on a slide to look at under a microscope. The test is for the early detection of malignant changes of the cells on the surface of the cervix which is cervical cancer. Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer in women globally with the majority caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV).

The pap smear hasn't changed much since the 1940s, but the technology to evaluate them has changed. Getting a pap smear is the same as a normal pelvic exam, but the provider will take a swab of the cervix or the vaginal cuff to send off to the lab. The technology, called cytology, uses a machine that will process out the contamination making it easier to examine. Both the older and new ways have the same detection rate for cervical cancer. Cytology testing is not affected by contamination such as blood, so it can be performed during menstruation.

Not all pelvic exams include a pap smear, and not all swabs can be a pap smear. A cytology study can only look at

the cells of the cervix but there is a test for the HPV virus that is linked to cervical cancer. Both testing can be done at the same time, so another pelvic exam is not needed. Be sure to talk to your provider about whether they are performing a pap smear because places like the Emergency Department rarely perform a pap smear.

The recommendations for routine pap smear screening are to start at the age of 21. After the age of 21, the pap smear is repeated every three years until the age of 29. This testing is only cytology (i.e., looking at the cells) and does not test for the virus. Starting at age 30 until 65, there are three options to discuss with your provider on which is best. There can be continuation of using cytology every three years, doing the cytology with testing for HPV every five years, or high-risk HPV testing alone every five years. After the age of 65 or after a hysterectomy that removes the cervix, routine testing is not necessary if the individual meets certain criteria like negative testing or no history of cervical cancer.

HPV is an extremely common virus that has over a hundred different strains. It can cause common things like warts and most infections spontaneously clear. The virus is associated with different cancers, not just cervical. It has been associated with genital cancers, such as vaginal, vulvar, penile and anal, as well as oral, such as tongue and tonsil cancer. The HPV strains 16 and 18 are high risk strains since they cause most cases of HPV-related cancer. The good news is that there are vaccines that protect against HPV infections. There are three different vaccines that protect against 2, 4, and 9 different strains of HPV. The two

vaccines that protect against 2 and 4 strains are approved for everyone ages 9-26. The 9-strain vaccine is approved for everyone ages 9-45. The vaccines are 99% effective and extremely safe.

Cervical cancer can be prevented with vaccination and access to screening. The guidelines have changed over the years and close communication with shared decision-making with your provider is extremely important. Get vaccinated, get screened.

## Fly Safe!

### Questions for the Flight Surgeon?

If you have a question that 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.

*LTC (Dr.) Brit Geisler is a Flight Surgeon and Board Certified OBGYN, Aerospace Medicine Specialist at the Department of Aviation Medicine, Fort Novosel, AL.*



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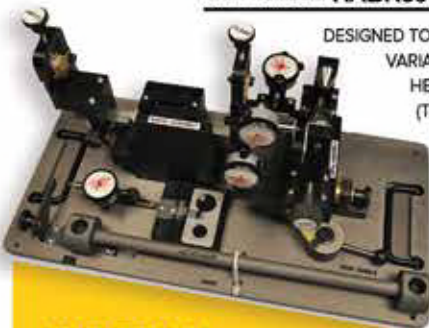
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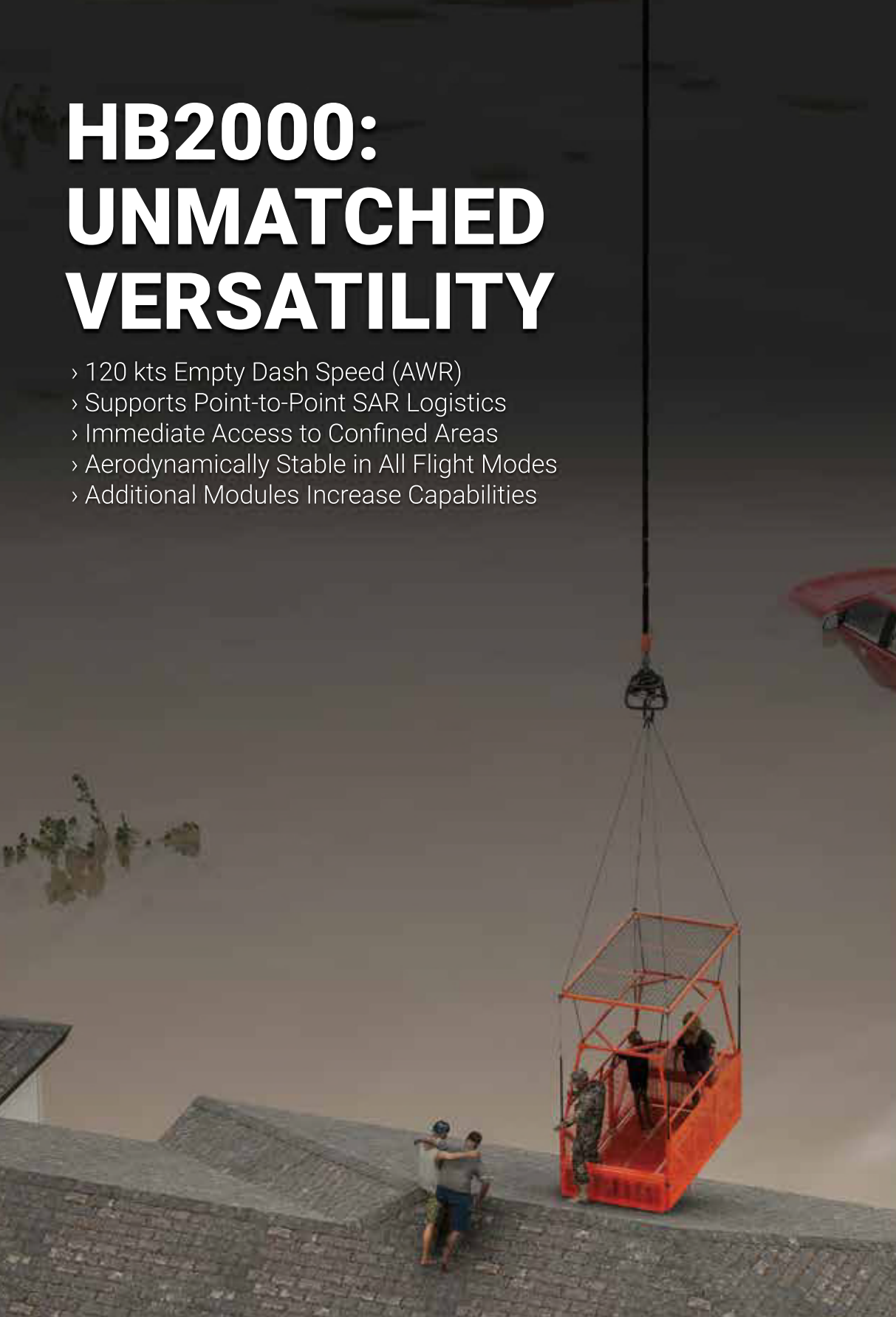
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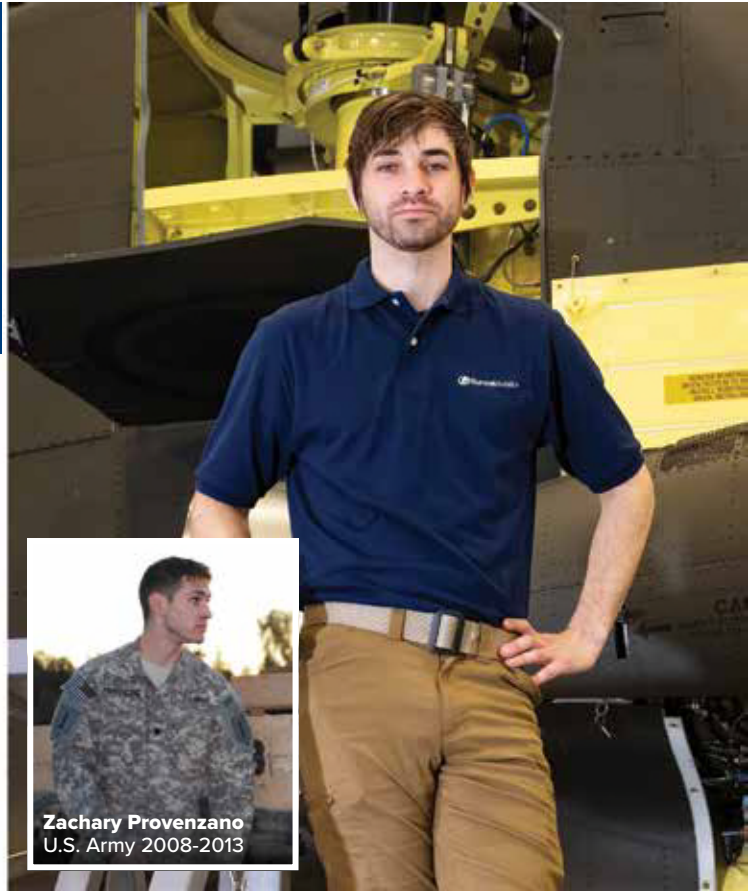
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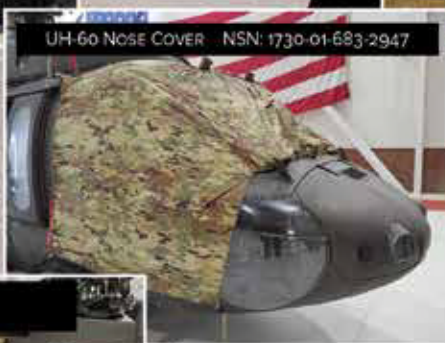
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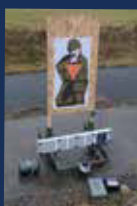
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# Over \$630,000 Awarded by the AAAA Scholarship Foundation

## Giving to the Soldiers and Families Who Give So Much!

By COL (Ret.) Karen Dahlgren Lloyd

The Army Aviation Association of America Scholarship Foundation, Inc. (AAAASFI) is proud to announce the selection of 388 deserving Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA) family members to receive \$632,250 in scholarship grants.

Your scholarship foundation has come a long way since its inception in 1963. We are so grateful for the continued support of AAAA National and all who make the time to apply, evaluate and support the Scholarship Foundation. We believe that these Scholarships are the most important AAAA membership benefit and to date AAAASFI has awarded more than \$11M to over 6,700 recipients.

In 2015 we transitioned to a fully electronic voting process which means application evaluations can occur from anywhere. We thank everyone who took the time this year to assist in this very important process, especially our Board of Governors who came out in record numbers to ensure the best students received the awards. If you don't have someone

competing for a scholarship, *please* consider becoming an evaluator.

During the selection process, students are judged solely on their own merit. All references to names, units, location or to a relative member's rank/title are removed from the files before board review and are only revealed after all files have been voted and selections made by order of merit list has been completed.

This year there were 616 applicants that completed the application with a selection rate of approximately 62%. The success rates for applicants based on the member affiliate's demographic group were:

- **65% of enlisted applicants that applied won awards**
- **100% of warrant applicants that applied won awards**

- **50% of commissioned applicants that applied won awards**
- **62% of civilian applicants that applied won awards**

Also this year, we saw 36 of our 76 AAAA chapters participate in the annual Chapter Matching Program. This program allows our chapters to raise money and have it matched by the Scholarship Foundation based on their chapter size. For our AAAA and Senior chapters the match is up to \$5,000, for our Master chapters it is up to \$4,000 and our Super chapters the match is up to \$3,000.

A key take-away is that 100 percent of your donations go directly to scholarships because AAAA pays overhead costs less management fees of the Scholarship Foundation (a separate corporation). Please ask your chapter officers for more information and encourage your local chapter leadership to sponsor a scholarship for your own chapter if there isn't one already. Let's get the remaining 40 chapters into the program.

The Annual AAAA Scholarship Fundraising Dinner will take place on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, during the Cribbins Army Aviation Readiness Symposium in Huntsville, AL. Join us for an engaging and fun-filled evening to discover "Speakeasy Secrets" during Murder Mystery Dinner Theater, all while supporting AAAA families.

Right now, take a few moments to look through the following pages and join me in congratulating our most deserving 2024 awardees. If you have any questions about the program, contact us at (800) 722-ARMY, or [scholarship@quad-a.org](mailto:scholarship@quad-a.org).

COL (Ret.) Karen Dahlgren Lloyd  
*President,*  
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# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



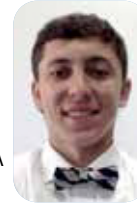
**Helen Cribbins Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$10,500 - \$2,625 for 4 years - Amelia H Morgan - Daughter of COL Andrew Morgan, APO AP - University of Pennsylvania



**Joseph P. Cribbins Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$10,000 - \$ 2,500 for 4 years - Sebastian D Rojas - Grandchild of LTC Richard Peters, Orlando FL - University of Florida



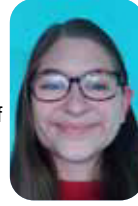
**AIRBUS Group Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$6,000 - \$1,500 for 4 years - Dylan Lindborg Rodriguez - Sibling of SPC Samanta Lindborg Rodriguez, Richmond VA - Angelo State University



**AAAA BG O. Glenn Goodhand Memorial Scholarship**  
\$5,000 - \$1,250 for 4 years - Christopher J Sullivan - Son of COL Christopher Sullivan, Dothan AL - The University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa



**AAAA BG Robert M. Leich Memorial Scholarship**  
\$5,000 - \$1,250 for 4 years - Breanna L Coonfare - Grandchild of Capt Leonard Whiteing, Omaha NE - United States Military Academy



**AAAA Bryce Wilson Memorial Scholarship**  
\$ 5,000 - \$ 1,250 for 4 years - Charlotte J Sladek - Grandchild of CAPT Gary Sladek, Orlando FL - University of Florida



**Tennessee Valley Chapter COL Joseph A. Hoecherl Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$4,000 for 1 year - Faith K. Warner - Daughter of Mrs. Birvid Atkins-Warner, Madison AL - The University of Alabama



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Colleen Hipp Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 4,000 for 1 year - Ashton R Worley - Daughter of LTC J B Worley, Madison AL - University of Alabama



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 4,000 for 1 year - Brooklyn T Talmadge - Daughter of Capt Lee Talmadge, Harvest AL - Auburn University



**LTG Gus Cianciolo Memorial Scholarship**  
\$ 4,000 for 1 year - Lachlan J Black - Grandchild of Colonel Richard H. Black (USA Ret.)(Deceased) - Duke University



**Connecticut Chapter LTC William J. May Memorial Scholarship**  
\$ 4,000 for 1 year - Grace W Hanke - Daughter of Mr. Jeff Hanke, Cheshire CT - University of Maine



**Stonewall Jackson SSG Darryl D. Booker Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 4,000 for 1 year - Jackson W. Mann - Son of CW4 Geoffrey Mann, Henrico VA - University of Tennessee



**AAAA National Aeronautical Sciences Scholarship**  
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**LTG William B. Bunker Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
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**Bell Textron Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 3,500 - \$ 1,750 for 2 years - Jesslynn Davis - Daughter of Mr. Brian Davis, Southlake TX - University of Tampa



**BG James and Joyce Hesson Scholarship**  
\$ 3,500 - \$ 1,750 for 2 years - Ethan C Ploetz - Son of COL Nicholas Ploetz, Colorado Springs CO - United States Military Academy



**SGT Dan E Hackney Scholarship**  
\$ 3,500 for 1 year - Samantha A Sanders - Grandchild of COL Brian Mullady, The Villages FL - University of Georgia



**GEN Frank S. Besson, Jr. Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$ 3,000 - \$ 1,500 for 2 years - Alexa G Myers - Daughter of COL Scott Myers, Colorado Springs CO - United States Military Academy



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Maxwell Harris Guida Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 3,000 for 1 year - Jacob C Bates - Son of Mr. Charles Bates, Meridianville AL - Auburn University



**Washington-Potomac Chap. SPC Jeremy D. Tomlin Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 3,000 for 1 year - Clare E Scullion - Daughter of COL James Scullion, Stafford VA - Clemson University



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\$ 3,000 for 1 year - Amelia S Bishop - Daughter of COL Joseph Bishop, Clifton VA - North Carolina State University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter COL Paul Kelly Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 3,000 for 1 year - Gabrielle P Sturtz - Grandchild of CW4 Jesse Dize, Kilmarnock VA - University of Virginia



**Washington-Potomac Chapter LTG Harry Kinnard Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 3,000 - \$ 3,000 for 1 year - William W McIntosh - Son of COL Travis McIntosh, Fairfax Station VA - University of Tennessee, Knoxville



**Washington-Potomac Chapter LTG Lavern E. Weber and LTC Donald L. Wellen Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$3,000 for 1 year - Zachary Bendorf - Grandchild of BG Harry Bendorf, Fairfax VA - University of South Carolina



**Washington-Potomac Chapter MG Carl McNair Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 3,000 for 1 year - Jocelyne J Dempsey - Daughter of CPT Horace Dempsey, Washington DC - Old Dominion University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter MG Robert F. Molinelli Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 3,000 for 1 year - Kaylie E Bishop - Daughter of COL Joseph Bishop, Clifton VA - East Tennessee State University



**Robertson Fuel Systems, LLC John R. Rawling Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$ 3,000 for 1 year - Tyler W Barlow - Son of COL Mark Barlow, Scottsdale AZ - Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University



**Morgan Rae Kurowsky Memorial Scholarship**  
\$ 3,000 for 1 year - Blakely H Wilkinson - Daughter of BG Scott Wilkinson, Fort Liberty NC - Vanderbilt University



**COL Ret. Paul B. and Jenny L. Gale Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Sydney A Crocetta - Grandchild of LTC Clarence Boyle, Williamsburg VA - University of Lynchburg



**Connecticut Chapter I Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Nora Hurley - Daughter of Mr. Jay Hurley, Monroe CT - University of Colorado Boulder



**Connecticut Chapter II Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Chrissy Chow - Daughter of Mr. James Chow, Wallingford CT - New York Institute College of Osteopathic Medicine



**Mid-Atlantic/Monmouth Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Morgan H Teely - Daughter of Mr. Dennis Teely, Havre de Grace MD - West Virginia University

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Virginia M Holbrook, Daphne, AL - University of Florida



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Charles S. Hamilton - Son of CW5 Charles Hamilton, New Braunfels TX - Texas A&M University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Joseph C Cole - Son of COL Kenneth Cole, Fort Liberty NC - University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Robert D Federovich - Grandchild of CAPT Peter Federovich, Gulf Breeze FL - University of Florida



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Simon G. Toennies - Grandchild of COL Galen Rosher, Hampton Cove AL - Columbia University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Mackenzi Stecher-Reed - Grandchild of CW2 William Reed, Nampa ID - University of Arizona



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Elizabeth Sneed - Grandchild of COL Robert Enyeart, Ozark AL - The University of Alabama



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Tyler J. Wyks - Grandchild of LTC Edward Wyks, Ormond Beach FL - Virginia Tech



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Rowyn R. Wharton - Grandchild of Mrs. Linda Connolly, Vienna WV - Lipscomb University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Caroline Sanders - Grandchild of CW2 Clifford Hyatt, New Braunfels TX - Arizona State University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Josiah Z. Watson, Powell, TN - University of Tennessee - Knoxville



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Lex O White - Sibling of Miss Olivia White, O Fallon IL - Southern Illinois University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Jordan P Currie - Grandchild of CW4 Robert McFall, El Paso TX - George Mason University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Joshua T Kern - Grandchild of COL Robert Lorenz, Broken Arrow OK - Purdue University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Elijah C Richardson - Grandchild of MAJ Charles E. Richardson - LeTourneau University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA-361st AVN Co "Pink Panthers" Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Owen A Leahy - Grandchild of GEN Bryan Brown, Vonore TN - Florida State University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA-Anonymous Donor Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Jack P Egan - Grandchild of CAPT John Egan, Humble TX - United States Air Force Academy



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA-Helene Westreich Memorial Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Isabella N Sweeney - Grandchild of CW4 Carey Sweeney, Nicholasville KY - University of Mississippi



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA-IMO UPI Reporter Joe Galloway Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Elizabeth M Schueckler - Grandchild of CW2 James Schueckler, Le Roy NY - Hillsdale College



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA-MG Carl H. McNair Jr., Ret Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Greta Hamre - Grandchild of LTC Larry Hamre, Fort Worth TX - Oklahoma State University



**Connecticut Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Jack W Hanke - Son of Mr. Jeff Hanke, Cheshire CT - Northwestern University



**Connecticut Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Justin R Sadownick - Son of CW4 Ronald Sadownick, Monroe CT - Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine



**Connecticut Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,500 for 1 year - Grace Cerneck - Daughter of Capt Michael Cerneck, Southbury CT - Virginia Tech



**Peninsula Chapter Founder's Washington Potomac Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Jahleel A McCallum - Son of Ms. Kathy Parker, Newport News VA - James Madison University



**Chapter COL Henry "Hawk" Ruth, Ret. Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Alina M Dziembowski - Daughter of CW5 Filip Dziembowski, Clarksville TN - Purdue University



**Air Assault Chapter COL Ted Crozier Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Landon J Hankemeier - Son of CW5 Adam Hankemeier, Clarksville TN - Austin Peay State University



**Tarheel Chapter CW3 Richard B. James Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Faith S Almond - Daughter of COL Mark Almond, Apex NC - Elon University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Christopher & William "Bill" Gavra Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - McKayla A Turner - Daughter of CW4 Michael Turner, Scottsboro AL - University of Washington - Seattle



**Tennessee Valley Chapter COL Bill Powell Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Hanna C Kuykendall - Daughter of Mr. Roger Kuykendall, Madison AL - Auburn University



**Valley Chapter CSM Isaac B. Sheffield Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Elise M. Walker - Daughter of Mrs. Amy Walker, Huntsville AL - Auburn University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter CW4 James V. Torney Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Natalie T Birmingham - Grandchild of COL Robert Birmingham, Merritt Island FL - Auburn University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Dianne Stephenson Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Hannah Baker - Daughter of BG Phillip Baker, Redstone Arsenal AL - Auburn University

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**Tennessee Valley Chapter John K. Jolly Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Kathryn G Mitchell - Daughter of Ms. Cindy Mitchell, Taft TN - University of Alabama in Huntsville



**Tennessee Valley Chapter LTC Robert F. Vlasic Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Madison T Campbell - Daughter of Ms. Michelle Campbell, Redstone Arsenal AL - Auburn University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter LTC Steven D. Moore Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Reagan L Burgess - Daughter of LTC Tory Burgess, Madison AL - Mississippi State University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter MAJ Jeffrey DeCarlo Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Madelynn G Lewis - Daughter of Mrs. Lynn Lewis, Huntsville AL - Mississippi State University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Mary and John Burke: Excellence in Engineering Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Hallie R Logan - Daughter of Mr. Brent Logan, Owens Cross Roads AL - Auburn University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Paul Bogosian Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Alice R Pickett - Daughter of SGM Jeffrey Pickett, Westfield IN - Purdue University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Stan Cagle Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Benjamin C Lightfoot - Son of Dr. Jay Lightfoot, Huntsville AL - Auburn University



**Boeing Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Sean Vine - Son of COL Christopher Vine, Walnut CA - Oregon State University



**S3 Inc-System Studies and Simulation, Inc. Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Shannon R Beall - Son of LTC Shannon Beall, Sr., Enterprise AL - Marion Military Institute



**Sikorsky Igor Sikorsky Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Anthony J Fiatarone - Son of Mr. Dana Fiatarone, Stratford CT - Fairfield University



**Sikorsky Il Igor Sikorsky Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Kathryn A Semosky - Sibling of Mr. Matthew Lisk, Watertown CT - Post University



**Vertol Systems Company Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Natalie J Buss - Daughter of COL Darren Buss, Carlisle PA - University of Minnesota Twin Cities



**114th Aviation Company Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Isabel F Brown - Grandchild of COL Robert Brown, San Antonio TX - Virginia Commonwealth University



**Otter-Caribou Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Emily Turnage - Grandchild of COL Larry Turnage, Dothan AL - Shenandoah University



**Otter-Caribou Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Jocelyn C Maxwell - Grandchild of SFC Kermit Morrison, Pocatello ID - The College of Idaho



**Otter-Caribou Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Aislyn G Beauregard, Weatherford, TX - The University of Texas Medical Branch



**COL James W. Lloyd, Ret. Memorial Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Sarah E Bergantz - Grandchild of MG Joseph Bergantz, Madison AL - Clemson University



**MG Ostovich and Lucky Wright Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Caleb Pipes - Son of COL Gregory Pipes, Dulles VA - Grove City College



**Arizona Chapter Dimmery-Koch Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Joshua A. Webster - Son of Lt Co John Webster, Gilbert AZ - Northern Arizona University



**Arizona Chapter Dimmery-Koch Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - McKenzie C Cox - Grandchild of COL David Sale, Mesa AZ - University of Tennessee Health Science Center



**Arizona Chapter Dimmery-Koch Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Riley G Perry - Grandchild of CW3 Michael Perry, Coolidge AZ - Grand Canyon University



**Arizona Chapter Dimmery-Koch Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Jena E Vandenberg - Daughter of CW4 John Vandenberg, Mesa AZ - Arizona State University



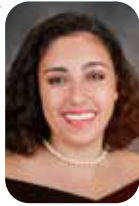
**Arizona Chapter Dimmery-Koch Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Ethan D Cox - Grandchild of COL David Sale, Mesa AZ - Auburn University



**Big Sky Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Gracie Leiva - Daughter of CW3 Jennifer Hoover, Boulder MT - Montana State University



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Hannah M Hamontree - Daughter of LTC George Hamontree, Riverview FL - Old Dominion University



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Natalya I Khelemsky - Daughter of CW4 Vitaly Khelemsky, Tampa FL - Thomas Jefferson University



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Katelyn E Lowe - Grandchild of Mr. John Lowe, Homosassa FL - Palm Beach Atlantic University



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Katelyn Lyders - Daughter of Mr. Devin Lyders, Orlando FL - Georgia Southern University



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Logan M Wamsley - Grandchild of CW2 Gary Spooner, Mount Dora FL - University of South Carolina



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Morgan R. Werner - Daughter of MAJ Marc Werner, Cape Coral FL - Butler University



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Thomas M Quek, Tampa, FL - Liberty University



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Sophia G Gallardo - Grandchild of Ms. Cynthia Gallardo, Winter Park FL - College of Charleston

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Domenic Vizzari - Son of COL Kevin Vizzari, Vero Beach FL - University of South Florida



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
John W Wyatt - Son of CW4 John Wyatt, Orlando FL - Southeastern University



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Luke C McCloud - Son of Mr. Terrell McCloud, Orlando FL - University of Florida



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Austin M Spooner - Grandchild of CW2 Gary Spooner, Mount Dora FL - Stonehill College



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Jonathan R Floyd-Evans - Son of LTC Charles Attales, Titusville FL - Eastern Florida State College



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Eric S Luther - Son of CW4 Matt Luther, Madeira OH - The Ohio State University



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Elizabeth A Kline - Grandchild of COL James Robinson, Arlington TX - Texas A&M University



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Alexander R Ott - Son of LTC Carl Ott, Yorktown VA - Northwestern Preparatory School



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Autumn M Vander Lugt - Daughter of COL Russell Vanderlugt, Jber AK - Wheaton College



**Central Florida Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Mackenzie R Vargas-Lebron - Daughter of CW4 Pedro Vargas-Lebron, San Antonio TX - The University of Texas at Austin



**Gold Standard Chapter The Extortion 17 Aircrew Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Josephine E Hagan - Daughter of 1SG Terry Timmons, Louisville KY - University of Kentucky



**Idaho Snake River Chapter CPT Ed W. Freeman Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Katie M. Amthor - Daughter of COL Granger Amthor, Meridian ID - Western Governors University



**Idaho Snake River Chapter CW2 Jesse D. Phelps Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Delaney E Sauer - Daughter of LTC John Sauer, Boise ID - University of California San Diego



**Idaho Snake River Chapter Guardian Medevac Flight Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Katelyn M. Widman - Daughter of CW5 Spencer Widman, Kuna ID - Idaho State University



**Idaho Snake River Chapter Talon Flight Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Shiloh J. McNeiece - Grandchild of CW2 William Reed, Nampa ID - Northwest Nazarene University



**Old Tucson Chapter 1LT Steven J. Jordon Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Giselle Griffin - Daughter of 1SG Dirk Griffin, Tucson AZ - University of Arizona



**Old Tucson Chapter CW3 Gregory A. Clevenger Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Rebecca Harwick, Prescott, AZ - Prescott College



**Old Tucson Chapter LTC Benny Cobb Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Kendall J Snyder - Daughter of LTC Brett Snyder, Marana AZ - Pima Community College



**Oregon Trail Chapter Raymond F. Rees Leadership Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Cameron J Bourn - Grandchild of CW2 John Toensing, Eugene OR - Auburn University



**Southern California Chapter COL Jake Benjamin Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Abigail G Carter - Daughter of COL Andrew Carter, Orange CA - California Polytechnic State University Southern



**California Chapter Los Alamitos AAF Legacy Aircrew Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Marie Hamilton, Santa Clarita, CA - University of California - Santa Barbara



**Stonewall Jackson SSG Darryl D. Booker Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Elizabeth H Woodward - Grandchild of COL James Holden, Richmond VA - University of Virginia



**Tarheel Chapter CPT Christopher M. Plummer Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Rebecca E Rascon - Daughter of LTC Tom Rascon, Raleigh NC - University of North Carolina Wilmington



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Conrad J Martin - Son of LTC Phillip Martin, Madison AL - Northwestern University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Tara A Flynn - Daughter of Mr. Tim Flynn, Madison AL - Auburn University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Jason Davies - Son of Mr. Jeff Davies, Madison AL - Auburn University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Kyle R VanKirk - Grandchild of LTC Jack Van Kirk, Madison AL - Auburn University



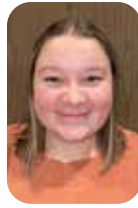
**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Claire B Lewis - Daughter of Mrs. Lynn Lewis, Huntsville AL - University of Tennessee, Knoxville



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Tyler Hyatt - Son of Ms. Leslie Hyatt, Huntsville AL - University of Alabama



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Hunter T Mason - Son of Mr. Richard Mason, Madison AL - Taylor University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Margaret E Randle - Daughter of 1LT Timothy Randle, Huntsville AL - Auburn University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year -  
Matthew C Mingus, Madison, AL - Carnegie Mellon University

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Anne E Ward - Daughter of COL Chad Ward, Athens AL - The University of Alabama



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Teresa Wiggins - Daughter of Mr. George Wiggins, Harvest AL - Auburn University



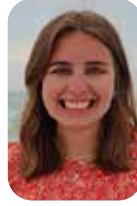
**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Olivia L Cole - Daughter of Mr. Danny Russell, Huntsville AL - The University of Alabama



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Mia M Edens - Daughter of BG Timothy Edens, Houston AL - Samford University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Jessie S Foster - Grandchild of COL Rayford Eubanks, New Marketq AL - The University of Alabama at Birmingham



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Ashley C Bates - Daughter of Mr. Charles Bates, Meridianville AL - University of South Alabama



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Lucy Helena Pickett - Daughter of SGM Jeffrey Pickett, Westfield IN - Purdue University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Katherine G Marlow - Daughter of 1SG Jeffery Marlow, Harvest AL - University of Alabama at Birmingham



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Riley S Foster - Grandchild of COL Rayford Eubanks, New Marketq AL - Mississippi State University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Jin-Shiuan T Wu - Daughter of Mr. Meng Wu, Madison AL - Auburn University



**Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Kaleigh H Beck - Daughter of Mr. Daniel Beck, Madison AL - University of Alabama



**Voodoo Chapter Kevin F. McDermott Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Caleb M Hall - Grandchild of MAJ Wayne Albert, Metairie LA - Louisiana State University



**Voodoo Chapter Kevin F. McDermott Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Devin S. Middleton - Son of LTC Kevin Middleton, Slidell LA - Louisiana State University



**Voodoo Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Ainsley Morgan - Daughter of CW4 Phillip Morgan, Lafayette LA - Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine



**Voodoo Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Edison J LeBlanc - Grandchild of CAPT William Bennett, Sulphur LA - Louisiana Tech University



**Voodoo Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Darby R Middleton - Daughter of LTC Kevin Middleton, Slidell LA - University of Southern Mississippi



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Richard Hayden Black - Grandchild of COL Richard Black, Ashburn VA - Duke University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Lillian G Beall - Daughter of Mr. Scott Beall, Arlington VA - James Madison University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Willow Black - Grandchild of COL Richard Black, Ashburn VA - Stanford University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Emery A Moore - Daughter of LTC Charles Moore, Arlington VA - Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University (Virginia Tech)



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Olivia R Clary - Daughter of 1SG Christopher Brown, Stafford VA - University of Tennessee at Martin



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Fernando R. Avila - Son of CW5 Fernando Avila-Gonzalez, Waldorf MD - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Jessie A Bricker - Daughter of COL Paul Bricker, Clifton VA - Marymount University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Lauren R Kemmer - Daughter of SGM Dusty Kemmer, Severna Park MD - MGH Institute of Health Professions



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Madelyn G Forshee - Daughter of LTC Ryan Forshee, Greer SC - Clemson University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Allison P Truscott - Grandchild of COL James Truscott, Burke VA - Texas State University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Charles L Moore - Son of LTC Charles Moore, Arlington VA - Virginia Tech



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Bryce M. Whiteside - Son of COL Jacob Whiteside, Fairfax Station VA - University of Tennessee



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Amailei S Anderson - Grandchild of Mr. Tommy Marks, Woodbridge VA - Old Dominion University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Leigha L Ashley - Grandchild of LTC Forrest Price, Woodbridge VA - West Virginia University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Ryan A Lukow - Son of COL Ronald Lukow, Fairfax Station VA - Purdue University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Emily A Mazingo - Daughter of COL Phillip Mazingo, Fort Belvoir VA - Auburn University

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Haven L Habhab - Daughter of COL Travis Habhab, Fort Myer VA - Old Dominion University



**Washington-Potomac Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$2,000 for 1 year - Kathryn C Lang - Daughter of LTC Jarred Lang, Fairfax VA - Florida State University



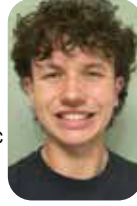
**MG and Mrs. Carl H. McNair, Jr. Ret. Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Elijah R Martin - Son of LTC Stephen Martin, Versailles KY - Western Kentucky University



**MSG Gary I. Gordon and SFC Randall D. Shughart Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Ella R Garcia - Daughter of COL R. Garcia, Wahiawa HI - University of Texas at Austin



**90th Anniversary of Fort Monmouth Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Hannah F Mains - Grandchild of Sgt Fredric Robins, Tenafly NJ - University of Miami



**Air Assault Chapter CW5 George Arzente, Ret. Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Hayden G Waleski - Son of COL Roger Waleski, Clarksville TN - East Tennessee State University



**Air Assault Chapter CW5 Robert L. Huffman, Ret. Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Joanna R Jernigan - Daughter of CPT Donnie Jernigan, Clarksville TN - Lipscomb University



**Air Assault Chapter Ms. Tamela McCurdy-Taliento Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Mckenzie Wakefield - Daughter of MSG Jeremy Buzzard, Clarksville TN - University of Southern Indiana



**Air Assault Chapter SFC Andrew McClure Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Andrew H Middleton - Son of SFC Daniel Pennington, Clarksville TN - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University



**Lindbergh Chapter Past Presidents Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Daniel J Rickmeyer - Grandchild of Mr. Jaros Rickmeyer, St. Louis MO - University of Oklahoma



**Lindbergh Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Alexis A Noel, Saint Louis, MO - University of Missouri



**Lindbergh Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Mitchell W Harris - Son of CW5 Bill Harris, Collinsville IL - University of Health Sciences and Pharmacy



**Lindbergh Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Zachary Rickmeyer - Grandchild of Mr. Jaros Rickmeyer, St. Louis MO - Texas A&M School of Engineering Medicine



**Mid-Atlantic/Monmouth Chapter Ablett/Gobel Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Alaura G Stelker - Daughter of LTC Raymond Stelker, APO AE - Saint Leo University St. Leo, FL



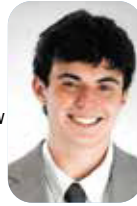
**Mid-Atlantic/Monmouth Chapter Dean/Kelly Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Yosef D Feldman - Grandchild of Mr. Norman Colten, Ocean NJ - Yeshiva University



**Sikorsky III Igor Sikorsky Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Joseph M Lilly - Son of MAJ Joseph Lilly, Sewell NJ - Virginia Tech



**"The Originals" Cub Club Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Sofia Bella Pitzen - Daughter of Capt Andrew Pitzen, Wilmington MA - Georgetown University



**7/17th Cavalry Association Ruthless Riders Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Jacob W. Weber, Canton, MI - Michigan State University



**1LT Kathryn M. Bailey Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Lucy C Ross - Daughter of MAJ Kevin Ross, White Bear Lake MN - University of Minnesota



**1LT Kathryn M. Bailey Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Johnathan Panarese - Son of CW5 Christopher Panarese, Saratoga Springs NY - St. Olaf College



**COL Charles L. Anderson, Ret. Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Madison B Jones - Daughter of LTC Darrell Jones, Fayetteville NC - Clemson University



**CW4 Richard E. Campbell Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Kevin Thaden, Savannah, GA - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University



**Davis Aircraft Pamela Dukas Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Josie E Lampe - Daughter of COL Charles Lampe, Grimes IA - University of Iowa



**Frank H. Radspinner Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Noelia E Berbers - Daughter of 1stSg Wilhelmus Berbers, Mansfield TX - Trinity University



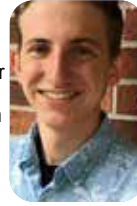
**Lindbergh Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Josiah Andrew Boyce - Son of Mr. Mark Boyce, Chesterfield MO - Pensacola Christian College



**Lindbergh Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Megan M Matasci - Grandchild of CSM Michael Schrupf, Perryville MO - Maryville University



**Lindbergh Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Riley C Harris - Daughter of CW5 Bill Harris, Collinsville IL - Southern Illinois University



**Lindbergh Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Matthew J Boyce - Son of Mr. Mark Boyce, Chesterfield MO - Truman State University



**Lindbergh Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Coleman K Bredehoeft - Grandchild of CAPT Fred Bredehoeft, Independence MO - Purdue University



**Tarheel Chapter 1SG John Hunter Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Hope E Almond - Daughter of COL Mark Almond, Apex NC - East Carolina University

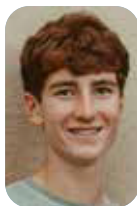


**Tarheel Chapter CW3 Kevin Hatcher Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Casey C Woodruff - Son of SFC Charles Woodruff, Angier NC - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University



**Tarheel Chapter CW5 James "Freddy" Reeves Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,500 for 1 year - Cecilia A Woodruff - Daughter of SFC Charles Woodruff, Angier NC - University of North Carolina Wilmington

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**Sendak Family Scholarship**  
\$1,250 for 1 year - Casey P Kirtz - Son of Mrs. Kelley Kirtz, Cedar Rapids IA - Iowa State University



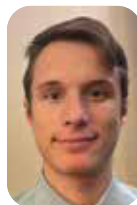
**Carolyn L. Chapman Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Haley M. Gates - Daughter of CPT James Ramey, Lakemont GA - Brown University



**COL John J. Stanko, Jr. Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Lily C Palfrey - Daughter of 1SG Frank Palfrey, Indiana PA - Indiana University of Pennsylvania



**COL John W. Marr Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Grace E McCarrick - Grandchild of LTC Alfred Livaudais, Enterprise AL - University of Oklahoma



**COL Russell Baugh Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Nico C Marvin - Grandchild of COL Dave Carothers, San Antonio TX - Virginia Tech



**Don and Ruth Luce Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Johnathan D Spuhl - Son of LTC Robert Spuhl, Harvest AL - University of Alabama



**Families of the Fallen Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Jacob R. Upchurch - Son of CW4 Craig Allen Upchurch - Auburn University



**Families of the Fallen Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Addyson L Codling - Daughter of LTG John Riggs, Lewisburg TN - Auburn University



**GEN Hamilton H. Howze Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Caden A Pawlak, Spring Lake, MI - Western Michigan University



**Jane and Wayne Phillips Memorial Perpetual Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Hallie A Palmer - Grandchild of CAPT Robert Palmer, Pleasant View UT - Utah State University



**Aviation Center Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Emma L Smith - Grandchild of Mr. Elvin Gunter, Daleville AL - Auburn University



**Aviation Center Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Braden C MacGregor - Son of LTC Kent MacGregor, Enterprise AL - Auburn University



**Colonial Virginia Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Tyler S. Wood - Son of Mr. Allen Walker, Fort Eustis VA - Virginia Tech



**Greater Atlanta Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Allee J Foley - Grandchild of CPT James Fink, Tucker GA - North Carolina State University



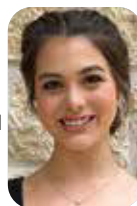
**Mid-Atlantic Chapter 244th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Braden L Galloway - Grandchild of Mr. Chester Galloway, Keyport NJ - Univ. of Rhode Island



**Mid-Atlantic Chapter 29th Combat Aviation Brigade Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Christian C McElroy - Son of COL Glen McElroy, Brick NJ - Lesley University



**Mid-Atlantic Chapter Carnes-Roache Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kristi R Gallagher - Grandchild of COL John Gallagher, Havre De Grace MD - Southern Wesleyan University



**Mid-Atlantic/Monmouth Chapter COL James E. Young Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Jaelynd Edwards - Daughter of MG Joseph Edwards, Conroe TX - Auburn University



**Mid-Atlantic/Monmouth Chapter Hogelin/O'Donnell Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Ryan P Moran, Nottingham, MD - Towson University



**Mid-Atlantic/Monmouth Chapter MAJ R. Kahl-Winter Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Halie Hicks - Daughter of CSM John Hicks, Lambertville NJ - University of California Law



**North Texas Chapter Edwin "Ed" A. Link Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Rachel Lucas - Grandchild of CAPT Edwin McKee, Fort Worth TX - Texas Christian University



**North Texas Chapter George H. Schultz Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Bailey D Phillips - Daughter of CW5 Douglas Phillips, Azle TX - Texas Tech University



**North Texas Chapter Lawrence "Larry" D. Bell Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sydney Grace Corcoran - Grandchild of LTC Fred Bagley, Little Elm TX - Texas A&M



**North Texas Chapter LTG Bob Williams Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Blake E Campbell - Grandchild of CW4 William Campbell, Denton TX - Saint Mary's University of Minnesota



**North Texas Chapter Mike Kawa Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Matthew D Howard - Grandchild of LTC Robert Howard, Grand Prairie TX - University of Texas at Arlington



**North Texas Chapter Red River 44 Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Joel L Beauregard, Weatherford, TX - University of Texas at Arlington



**Stonewall Jackson Chapter SSG Darryl D. Booker Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Forrest J Woodward - Grandchild of COL James Holden, Richmond VA - United States Naval Academy



**Volunteer Chapter 1LT Thomas Williams, Jr. Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Mackenzie K Watson, Powell, TN - Pellissippi State Community College



**Volunteer Chapter CPT Marcus Afford Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Nicholas N. Rogers - Son of MAJ Patrick Rogers, Maryville TN - Liberty University



**Volunteer Chapter CW2 Billie Jean Grinder Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Savannah M Newman - Daughter of CW4 William Newman, Henderson TN - John A. Gupton College of Mortuary Science



**Volunteer Chapter CW3 Tim Flanigan Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kayla E Coonfare - Grandchild of Capt Leonard Whiteing, Omaha NE - Appalachian State University



**Volunteer Chapter CW4 Dan Cole Memorial Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Allison Schuck - Daughter of COL Gerald Schuck, Fairfax VA - West Virginia University

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**ACME Aerospace Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Ketziyah R Francis - Daughter of CSM Garvin George, Fayetteville NC - Suffolk University Law School



**Art and Dotty Kesten AAPI Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Arianna M Armiger - Daughter of MSG Anthony Marrero, Dupont WA - University of Washington



**Bannister Enterprises Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kevin A Arellano - Son of SSG Guido Arellano, Belton TX - The University of Texas at Austin



**CSRA Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Paige K. Thamer - Grandchild of CW4 Keith Thamer, Carlsbad CA - Indiana Institute of Technology



**Donaldson Company, Inc., Aerospace & Defense Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sydney A. McKernan - Daughter of LTC Dennis McKernan, Fort Washington PA - The Pennsylvania State Univ.



**DynCorp International Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Desiree M Barron - Grandchild of CW3 Joseph Riley, Slana AK - Idaho State University



**Meggitt Defense Systems Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Thomas D Sparks, Lake Havasu City, AZ - Upper Iowa University



**Northrop Grumman Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Savannah L Martin - Daughter of LTC Phillip Martin, Madison AL - Savannah College of Art and Design



**Peduzzi Associates Limited Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Shelby A Fricks - Daughter of COL Samuel Fricks, New Brockton AL - Colorado State University Pueblo



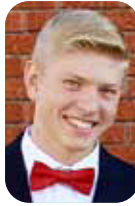
**Robertson Research Group, Inc. Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Parker F Wilkinson - Daughter of BG Scott Wilkinson, Fort Liberty NC - Vanderbilt University



**The WO1 Arthur F. Chaney Memorial Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sara C Milio - Daughter of LTC Michael Milio, Annapolis MD - University of Virginia



**Vencore, Inc. Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Lauren M Morgan - Daughter of COL John Michael Morgan, Pinehurst NC - Liberty University



**Vertex Aerospace LLC Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Garrison D Brown - Son of LTC Matt Brown, College Station TX - Texas A&M University



**190th Assault Helicopter Company Spartans Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Katerina J Levinson - Grandchild of Colonel Joseph Levinson - University of Oxford



**Mike Novosel Dustoff Association Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Ashleigh A. Wootton - Spouse of CW4 Jacob Wootton, Albuquerque NM - University of New Mexico School of Law



**Otter-Caribou Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sheridan R Bredehoeft - Grandchild of CAPT Fred Bredehoeft, Independence MO - Kansas State University



**Otter-Caribou Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Jonathan C. Marshall - Grandchild of Mrs. Harriet Marshall, Matthews NC - Covenant College



**Otter-Caribou Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kylee Bennett - Grandchild of SFC Kermit Morrison, Pocatello ID - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University



**Otter-Caribou Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Lily L Givens, Coeur d'Alene, ID - University of Idaho



**Otter-Caribou Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Nicholas Turnage - Grandchild of COL Larry Turnage, Dothan AL - Immaculata University



**Otter-Caribou Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Lane S Caraballo - Grandchild of LTC (Ret.) Julian T. Caraballo - University of Mary



**TCAA Transportation Corps Aviation Association Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Catherine N Byars - Grandchild of LTC Harold Byars, Newport News VA - Texas A&M University



**The Army Aviation Heritage Foundation Sky Soldiers Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Grace Anne Crigler - Daughter of CW3 James Crigler, Winona MN - University of Wisconsin-Stout



**The OV-1 Mohawk Association Heritage Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Lily Ann M Keutzer - Grandchild of SPC Kendall Keutzer, Arlington IL - Indiana State University



**COL Harry W. Townsend, Ret. Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Allison D Swiger - Daughter of CW3 Jason Swiger, Orion IL - Washington University



**COL Larry and Julie Holcomb Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Dylan Z Richardson, Santa Barbara, CA - Whitworth University



**CW2 Keith E. Cedras Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Christine Schueckler - Grandchild of CW2 James Schueckler, Le Roy NY - University of Virginia



**CW3 Stephen A. Hansen Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Christopher L. Morris, Harrisburg, PA - Eastern New Mexico University



**CW4 Jimmy B. Johnston & Family Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Karleigh Milio - Daughter of LTC Michael Milio, Annapolis MD - UMASS Amherst



**CW4 Jimmy B. Johnston & Family Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sydney M Gabhart - Daughter of CW5 Shawn Gabhart, Frankfort KY - University of Kentucky



**David Hoffman Fine Arts Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Jake E Genger - Son of LTC Noah Genger, Clancy MT - Montana State University



**Dianne Stephenson Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Mia A Lodwig - Grandchild of LTC Steven Lodwig, Mill Creek WA - University of California Los Angeles

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**Johnnie Maule Segars Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Madelyn M Diep - Grandchild of CW4 Ransom Beckwith, Liverpool NY - Suny Delhi



**LTC Thomas F. and Ann Y. McNamara Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Ashlyn P. Moore - Daughter of CW5 Marcus Moore, Springfield MO - Drury University



**LTG William H. Forster, Ret. AAPI Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Travis A Rivers - Son of Mrs. Latoya Rivers, Hampton VA - North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University



**MG Andy and Artie Andreson Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Dominique Dempsey - Daughter of CPT Horace Dempsey, Washington DC - Boston University



**Sandra Ann Emerson Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Lyla T Gardner - Daughter of LTC Mark Gardner, Lutz FL - University of Mississippi



**Susan Yellen Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kambree B Nydegger - Daughter of LTC Joseph Nydegger, Rancho Cordova CA - San Jose State University



**Terry and Bonnie Reininger Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Ethan Crotts, Weatherford, TX - Texas Tech



**Wes Lematta Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - John A Corbin - Grandchild of CW4 John Edmunds, Enterprise AL - Auburn University



**Air Assault Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Alauna I Wilson - Daughter of CPT John Wilson, Statesville NC - West Virginia Wesleyan College



**Air Assault Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Caleb A Hankemeier - Son of CW5 Adam Hankemeier, Clarksville TN - University of Tennessee



**Air Assault Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Cannon J Prather - Son of CW4 Joel Prather, Clarksville TN - High Point University



**Air Assault Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Avery L Morrow - Daughter of CW4 James Morrow, Clarksville TN - Middle Tennessee State University



**Air Assault Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Maddox G Jackson - Daughter of LTC Brett Jackson, Clarksville TN - University of Central Florida



**Air Assault Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Emily A. Miller - Grandchild of CPT Art Jacobs, Brentwood TN - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University



**Aviation Center Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Erin L Diaz - Daughter of COL Brian Diaz, Dothan AL - University of South Alabama



**Aviation Center Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - JaLynn Coley - Daughter of CSM Kirk Coley, Fort Novosel AL - The University of Alabama at Birmingham



**Aviation Center Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Emmie Elizabeth Baker - Daughter of CW5 Sam Baker, Enterprise AL - Auburn University



**Aviation Center Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Loriah M Castro - Daughter of CW5 Demetrio Castro, Enterprise AL - The University of Texas at San Antonio



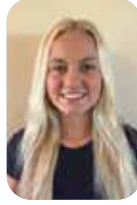
**Aviation Center Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Noel P Freeman - Grandchild of WO1 Anthony Zacniewski, Enterprise AL - Auburn University



**Aviation Center Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Shelby A Seger - Grandchild of CW4 Clifford Whittum, Dothan AL - Hillsdale College



**Badger Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sage L Smith - Grandchild of CPT Robert Smith, Onalaska WI - University of Wisconsin Madison



**Badger Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kaitlyn I Hilbert - Grandchild of Capt Richard Jarock, Seymour WI - Carroll University



**Bluegrass Chapter Wings of Thunder Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Avery M Robinson - Daughter of LTC Phillip Robinson, Harrodsburg KY - Western Kentucky University



**Bluegrass Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Raylan S. M Villier - Daughter of CW5 Anthony Villier, Lawrenceburg KY - Midway University



**Colonial Virginia Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Payton Warren - Daughter of CSM Joseph Warren, Williamsburg VA - University of North Carolina Wilmington



**Colonial Virginia Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Wesley R Ogdan, Orem, UT - Georgia Tech



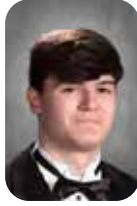
**Delaware Valley Chapter Harry McGinness Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Nicholas J Billmann - Son of Mr. Kevin Billmann, Swedesboro NJ - University of Delaware



**Delaware Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Caroline R Long - Grandchild of Ms. Caroline Long, Sinking Spring PA - Hobart and William Smith Colleges



**Delaware Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Charlotte G McCreary - Grandchild of SPC Albert Banks, West Deptford NJ - The University of Tampa



**Delaware Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - William L Gutsche - Grandchild of CW4 Walter Gutsche, West Chester PA - Murray State University



**Delaware Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Ryan C Billmann - Son of Mr. Kevin Billmann, Swedesboro NJ - Lehigh University



**Delaware Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Tyler B Hansen - Son of CW5 Daniel Hansen, Fort Wainwright AK - Auburn University

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**Delaware Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Daniel A Scannell - Son of COL John Scannell, Medford NJ - Boston College



**Delaware Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Micah A Crum, Lauderdale, MS - The University of Southern Mississippi



**Delaware Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Brooke A Messa - Grandchild of CW4 David Messa, Gulfport MS - Louisiana State University



**Delaware Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Paula I Brown - Sibling of Mr. Garrison Brown, New Stanton PA - University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown



**Don Munsch-Jimmy Doolittle Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Keegan R FitzGerald - Grandchild of CPT Walter Kohls, Mason OH - University of Cincinnati



**Gold Standard Chapter 8-229th Flying Tigers Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Grayson P Stinger - Son of COL Russell Stinger, Elizabethtown KY - University of Louisville



**Griffin Chapter John "Jay" Brainard III Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kathrin E Smith - Spouse of CW4 Ray Smith, APO AE - University of Maryland Global Campus



**Griffin Chapter John C. Pratt Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Georgia E Bryant - Daughter of 1SG James Bryant, APO AE - Louisiana State University



**Keystone Chapter Jim Furlow Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Lillian E Gross - Daughter of LTC Michael Gross, Lebanon PA - University of Pittsburgh



**Keystone Chapter Shane Jenkins Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sadie M Palfrey - Daughter of 1SG Frank Palfrey, Indiana PA - The University of Tennessee at Martin



**Keystone Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Luke D. LeKites, Middletown, PA - University of Delaware



**Keystone Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Morgan L Smith, Delta, PA - Shippensburg University



**Keystone Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Ethan M Raho - Son of CW3 Mitchell Raho, Williamstown PA - Pennsylvania State Schuylkill



**Keystone Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Katherine Tuttle - Daughter of COL Todd Tuttle, Mechanicsburg PA - West Virginia University



**Keystone Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Bailey A Lutz - Son of COL Randy Lutz, Dillsburg PA - Pennsylvania State University



**Keystone Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Parker J Tuttle - Son of COL Todd Tuttle, Mechanicsburg PA - West Virginia University



**MacArthur Chapter BG Vincent J. Albanese Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Michael D Chiquitucto - Grandchild of SFC Gerald Babor, Syosset NY - SUNY Oswego



**MacArthur Chapter COL William Zimmerman Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Daniil I Usmanov, Kew Gardens, NY - SUNY Cobleskill



**Minuteman Chapter CW3 Scotty Landis Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sarah E Freeman - Grandchild of 1LT Thomas Damson, Mobile AL - Auburn University



**Minuteman Chapter CW3 Terry Knight Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Matthew J Belmont - Son of MAJ Jonathan Belmont, Concord MA - Wentworth Institute of Technology



**Minuteman Chapter CW5 Phil Reeves Memorial Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Ashton B Barlowe - Grandchild of CW4 Albert Smith, Kannapolis NC - Appalachian State University



**Mohawk Chapter CW2 Douglas J. Jones Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Aidan J Bailie - Son of LTC Paul Bailie, Cohoes NY - Villanova University



**Mohawk Chapter SSG Vincent "Chief" D'Arrigo Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Winter R Hansen - Grandchild of Capt Michael Law, New Braunfels TX - Brigham Young University



**Mount Rainier Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Phoebe L Olvey - Grandchild of CW2 William McNease, Seattle WA - Oklahoma State University



**Mount Rainier Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Anthony E Amaro - Son of CW2 John Amaro, Friday Harbor WA - Gonzaga University



**Mount Rainier Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Carianne A. Holt - Daughter of LTC Douglas Holt, Rancho Cucamonga CA - Providence Christian College



**Mount Rainier Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Tyler L Ramos - Son of CW4 Jeffrey Macauley, Sioux Falls SD - University of Washington



**North Star Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Carson R Cooper - Son of LTC Curt Cooper, Vadnais Heights MN - University of Tampa



**North Star Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sianmairead M Cox - Daughter of LTC Taylor Cox, Minneapolis MN - Concordia University St. Paul



**North Star Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Ayden M Crigler - Grandchild of CW3 James Crigler, Winona MN - Saint Mary's University of Minnesota



**North Texas Chapter Sidney Achee "The Originals" Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - William G Hutton - Grandchild of Capt Michael Hutton, Dallas TX - Texas Tech University



**North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Jayla M Johnson - Daughter of Ms. Jennifer Johnson, North Richland Hills TX - University of Arizona

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sydney E Orsak - Grandchild of CW2 Arthur Price, Crowley TX - Stephen F. Austin State University



**North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Isabella E Olivieri - Grandchild of CW4 Johnny Dixon, North Richland Hills TX - Texas A&M University



**North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Harrison P Hamre - Son of 1LT Jason Hamre, Flower Mound TX - University of Kansas



**North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kyra G Johnson - Daughter of Ms. Jennifer Johnson, North Richland Hills TX - University of Alabama



**North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Samuel Bryan Hanna - Son of LTC Chris Hanna, Waxahachie TX - Texas State University



**North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Evan Olson, Plano, TX - Samford University



**Phantom Corps Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Isabelle Fontenot - Daughter of MAJ Jacque Fontenot, Belton TX - University of Texas at Austin



**Phantom Corps Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Caden M Hanks - Son of MAJ Daniel Hanks, Harker Heights TX - Brigham Young University



**Prairie Soldier Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Christopher D Gaston - Grandchild of Capt Leonard Whiteing, Omaha NE - Purdue University



**Prairie Soldier Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Breiana N Gray - Daughter of COL Richard Gray, Raymond NE - University of Nebraska - Lincoln



**Prairie Soldier Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Autumn G Cary - Daughter of CSM William Cary, Syracuse NE - University of Tennessee-Martin



**Prairie Soldier Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Bricen M. Wilkie - Son of LTC Dustin Wilkie, Grand Island NE - University of Nebraska Lincoln



**Prairie Soldier Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Alivia L Hartmann - Daughter of CW4 Zachary Hartmann, Seward NE - Kansas University Medical Center



**Prairie Soldier Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Hannah M Greathouse - Daughter of CW4 Matthew Greathouse, Giltner NE - University of Nebraska Kearney



**Savannah Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Connor Byrne, Savannah, GA - Harvard Business School



**Savannah Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kaitlyn E James - Daughter of COL Jeremy James, Evans GA - Brigham Young University



**Savannah Chapter Matching Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Aerin A Plotner - Daughter of CW4 Michael Plotner, Pooler GA - Georgia College and State University



**AAAA Top AAAA Chapter Scholarship - Jersey Chapter**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Lauren R Rautenberg - Daughter of LTC Erik Rautenberg, Phillipsburg NJ - Purdue University



**AAAA Top Chapter - Mohawk Chapter**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Shea R Ferreira - Daughter of LTC Kevin Ferreira, Schenectady NY - Elmira College



**AAAA Top Chapter - Savannah Chapter**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Hannah Herrmann - Grandchild of MAJ Dale Hungerford, Savannah GA - University of Mary Washington



**AAAA Top Master Chapter Scholarship - Gold Standard Chapter**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Tiffany D Jessop, Rineyville, KY - Western Kentucky University



**AAAA Top Senior Chapter Scholarship - Prairie Soldier Chapter**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - John L Mieras - Grandchild of Capt Leonard Whiteing, Omaha NE - South Dakota State University



**AAAA Top Super Chapter Scholarship - Tennessee Valley Chapter**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kevin L Lanyi - Son of Mr. Balazs Lanyi, Madison AL - University of Alabama



**AAAA 1LT Joel R. Graft Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Jennifer L Freeman - Daughter of 1SG Daniel Freeman, Edinburg IL - University of Missouri



**AAAA Life Member COL John O. Turnage Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Joshua C Stewart - Son of SGM Michael Stewart, Newport News VA - Virginia Tech



**AAAA Life Member LTC Lester R. Kerfoot, Jr. Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Gabriella E Northcutt - Daughter of Mr. Jeffrey Northcutt, Harvest AL - University of Alabama in Huntsville



**AAAA Life Member LTC Peter M. Kracht Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sarah R Brigham - Daughter of CW3 Sean Brigham, Braselton GA - Seton Hall University



**AAAA Life Member LTC Thomas W. O'Connor Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Jack Christopher Boren - Son of Mr. Jason Boren, Elizabethtown KY - Eastern Kentucky University



**AAAA Life Member LTC William T. McMahan Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Mary B Brightman - Grandchild of BG Bradford Brightman, Mobile AL - Auburn University



**AAAA Life Member Mr. Thomas M. Tkach Memorial Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Sydney R Currie - Grandchild of CW4 Robert McFall, El Paso TX - Florida State University



**AAAA Tennessee Valley Chapter Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Emma G Maher - Daughter of COL John Maher, Gurley AL - Auburn University



**Airbus Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year - Kamryn Pestel - Grandchild of CW4 Terrence Pestel, Lombard IL - Virginia Tech

# AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2024 Awardees



**Airbus Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Kathryn A Woodward  
- Grandchild of COL James Holden, Richmond VA - College of William and Mary



**Airbus Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Reagan Patrick -  
Daughter of LTC Nathan Patrick, Bluffdale UT - Concord University



**Airbus Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Samuel J Pavelites  
- Son of Mr. Joseph Pavelites, Homestead FL - Princeton University



**Airbus Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Jeffrey James Hansen  
- Grandchild of Capt Michael Law, New Braunfels TX - Brigham Young University



**Bell Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Connor M Johnson  
- Grandchild of Capt William Johnson, Lake Jackson TX - Georgia Institute of Technology



**Bell Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Jenelle K Botts -  
Spouse of CW5 Seth Botts, Spring Lake NC - Appalachian State University



**Bell Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Darissa Harkey -  
Spouse of CW3 Jason Harkey, Noble OK - Southeastern Oklahoma State University of Oklahoma



**Bell Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
David J Perales, APO, AE - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University



**Bell Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Michelle A. Pollok -  
Daughter of CW2 Ray Pollok, Granada Hills CA - California State University, Fullerton



**DigiFlight, Inc. Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Joseph J Pavelites  
- Son of Mr. Joseph Pavelites, Homestead FL - University of South Alabama



**GE Aerospace Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Georgia M. Wojtkowski -  
Daughter of MAJ Freddy Wojtkowski, Due West SC - University of South Carolina Beaufort



**GE Aerospace Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Dylan C. Weakly -  
Grandchild of COL Matthew Brockway, San Antonio TX - University of Northwestern - St. Paul



**GE Aerospace Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Tristan G Navarro -  
Daughter of LTC Michael Navarro, Madison AL - Mississippi State University



**Ostovich Enterprises, Inc. OEI Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Bailey D Huss -  
Grandchild of LTC Ronald Maxson, Napa CA - University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine



**Strata-G Solutions, LLC Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Ally M Fogarty -  
Daughter of CW5 Shawn Fogarty, San Antonio TX - Texas A&M University



**Systems Studies & Simulation, Inc AAAASFI Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Jasmine N Bowen -  
Daughter of Mr. Jerome Bowen, Suffolk VA - Virginia Commonwealth University



**Systems Studies & Simulation, Inc AAAASFI Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Nathaniel T Peacock  
- Son of COL Tanya Peacock, Montgomery TX - Virginia Military Institute



**Systems Studies & Simulation, Inc AAAASFI Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Megan F. Worch,  
Yorkville, IL - University of South Florida



**Systems Studies & Simulation, Inc AAAASFI Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Crystal I Pardo -  
Grandchild of CW2 James Steele, Cedar Park TX - Prairie View A&M



**Systems Studies & Simulation, Inc AAAASFI Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Lindsay G Fleming -  
Grandchild of CPT Lawrence Fleming, Jupiter FL - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University



**Systems Studies & Simulation, Inc AAAASFI Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Tiernan C Richards -  
Son of SFC David J. Lewis Ret., Enterprise AL - Marion Military Institute



**Systems Studies & Simulation, Inc AAAASFI Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Kaelyn H MacGregor -  
Daughter of LTC Kent MacGregor, Enterprise AL - Enterprise State Community College



**Systems Studies & Simulation, Inc AAAASFI Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Reese C Crain -  
Daughter of CW5 Cory Crain, Eldridge IA - Wartburg College



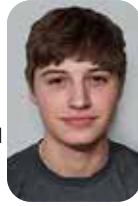
**Systems Studies & Simulation, Inc AAAASFI Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Elyssa K Hanks -  
Daughter of MAJ Daniel Hanks, Harker Heights TX - Brigham Young University



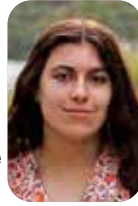
**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
William Marvin Bratt  
- Grandchild of COL Donald Nelson, New Albany OH - Miami University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Shane P Glasgow -  
Grandchild of LTG Daniel Petrosky, Huntsville AL - University of Alabama



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Baker K Calvert -  
Grandchild of CW2 Robert Calvert, Palestine IL - Purdue University



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Joslyn G Guttau -  
Grandchild of Capt Michael Guttau, Treynor IA - University of Northern Iowa



**Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association VHPA Dinner Concert Scholarship**  
\$1,000 for 1 year -  
Courtney M Tsakanikas  
- Grandchild of 1LT Maurice Geldert, Roswell NM - The University of South Carolina

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## ► From the Field



# The Joint Firepower Course – Where Army Aviators Learn to Integrate Joint Capabilities

By LTC Dan O'Donnell



An enemy armored regiment prepares to invade a United States ally. An armored brigade combat team (ABCT) occupies defensive positions to defeat the enemy invasion. The ABCT S2 assesses that the enemy is comprised of main battle tanks, self-propelled cannon artillery, unmanned aircraft systems, and mobile air defense systems. To defeat the threat, the ABCT must integrate organic field artillery systems, four sorties of close air support (CAS), four unmanned aircraft systems, and one company of AH-64s in a direct support relationship.

This is the scenario presented to Joint Firepower Course (JFC) students during the 9-day course's culminating practical exercise (PEX). JFC teaches Joint and coalition service members a doctrinal overview of planning and integration of Joint air and surface fires in support of ground maneuver operations. Instructors from the Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps provide experience to expand on doctrinal principles with real-world examples.

Army Aviation planners learn a great deal during JFC. In addition to learning course material, Army Aviation planners have the opportunity during the PEX to coach fellow students on how to properly integrate Army Aviation into combined arms and Joint operations. However, Army Aviation student plans during multiple iterations of the JFC PEX reveal four large scale combat operation (LSCO) planning gaps prevalent across the force.

### Planning Gaps

The first identified trend is that many aviators select *inappropriate combat formation sizes* for LSCO environments. Many Aviation planners default to selecting the typical counter insurgency (COIN) combat formation of two AH-64s employed in an attack weapons team (AWT). ATP 3-04.1, *Aviation Tactical Employment*, states, "Proper use of formations maximizes unit

*Left: Joint Firepower Course students receive a lecture on key components of the Army Air-Ground System.*

*Right: JFC students from the Army, Air Force, Marines and Royal Australian Air Force conduct Joint firepower integration planning during the practical exercise.*

flexibility, maneuverability, firepower, and survivability." The manual goes on to state, "LSCO often require pure company and battalion formations to mass effects." The ABCT commander's intent during the JFC PEX requires Army Aviation to mass effects to a degree AWTs simply cannot achieve.

Additionally, larger combat formations free up aircrews to conduct BP security, an often-overlooked aspect of attack Aviation planning. Inadequate BP security planning leaves combat formations vulnerable to surprise enemy contact. When the ground force commander requires Army Aviation to defeat an armored regiment, the limited firepower and security of an AWT is inferior to employing larger combat formations of platoons or companies.

The second identified trend is that most JFC *students lack experience planning tactical movement* in LSCO environments. During the JFC PEX, Aviation planners tend to display a conceptual understanding of the terrain flight modes of low-level, contour, and nap-of-the-earth flight. On the other hand, most JFC students plan to solely utilize the traveling movement technique at high rates of speed. Aviators must consider all three movement techniques: traveling, traveling overwatch, and bounding overwatch.

When operating past the forward line of own troops (FLOT) in LSCO environments, aviators should expect enemy contact. The JFC PEX scenario should lead Aviation planners to consider the bounding overwatch technique. When utilizing bounding overwatch, "from a concealed position, the overwatching element monitors the progress of the bounding

element” (ATP 3-04.1). Bounding overwatch increases the probability of aircrew survival when enemy contact is expected.

The third identified trend is a *lack of knowledge on how to employ Army Aviation assets using event-based triggers*. During the JFC PEX, students learn how to integrate fixed-wing close air support (CAS) into Army operations. Planners submit DD Form 1972 Joint Tactical Air Strike Requests early enough in planning for sorties to be allocated by the Joint Force Air Component Commander (JFACC) and published on the air tasking order (ATO). If approved, those fixed-wing aircraft will check on station at the time requested on the DD Form 1972. Unlike fixed-wing CAS platforms, JFC instructors emphasize to students that Army Aviation is a *maneuver force*. Therefore, when employing AH-64s during the PEX, combat formations are more lethal if launched on event-based triggers.

According to ATP 3-04.1, “a trigger is an event, such as enemy crossing a terrain feature, that signals initiation of fires.” JFC students must select an indicator to trigger the launch of AH-64s during the PEX. Selecting a poor trigger could lead to mission failure if AH-64s launch at an inopportune time. Aviation planners must synchronize with the information collection staff section to ensure a collection asset identifies the indicator. The most effective indicators identify a specific number of high payoff targets (HPTs) that the ABCT commander tasks AH-64s to engage.

The fourth, and most important, Aviation planning consideration identified by the JFC PEX is that *planners must expect the enemy to specifically target Army aircraft*. During the JFC PEX Aviation planners assist with the production of a modified combined obstacle overlay (MCOO). By analyzing terrain, Aviation planners identify optimal locations to emplace AH-64 BPs. On the terrain used for the JFC PEX there is

one location that is clearly optimal for AH-64s to engage targets from a masked position. Because of the tactical advantage provided by the terrain, almost every JFC student emplaces a primary BP in the exact same location.

If Aviation planners are analyzing terrain to identify AH-64 BPs, then we must anticipate that enemy planners will do the same. Therefore, Aviation planners must assume that the enemy may template pre-planned artillery targets or emplace enemy forces with manned portable air defense systems (MANPADs) near terrain that has tactical advantages for BPs. To account for this contingency, Aviation planners must plan for primary, alternate, and supplemental BPs and air corridors. These additional control measures provide flexibility in case any of the BPs or air corridors become compromised by enemy actions.

Aviation leaders should strive to send their planners to JFC. The course re-emphasizes and enhances lessons taught at other planning courses, such as the Air Cavalry Leaders Course (ACLC), battle staff course, and Joint Air Operations C2 Course (JAOC2C). Every fiscal year JFC hosts seven resident classes at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, NV. Prospective students reserve seats in resident classes through the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS) website. Additionally, instructors conduct six mobile training teams (MTTs) annually at Army installations. To reserve a seat during an MTT, prospective students must coordinate through the requesting Division or Corps headquarters. Graduates from JFC are better prepared to ensure Army Aviation’s lethality on future battlefields.

---

*LTC Dan O'Donnell is an instructor/curriculum developer on the Army Joint Support Team-Nellis at Nellis Air Force Base, NV.*

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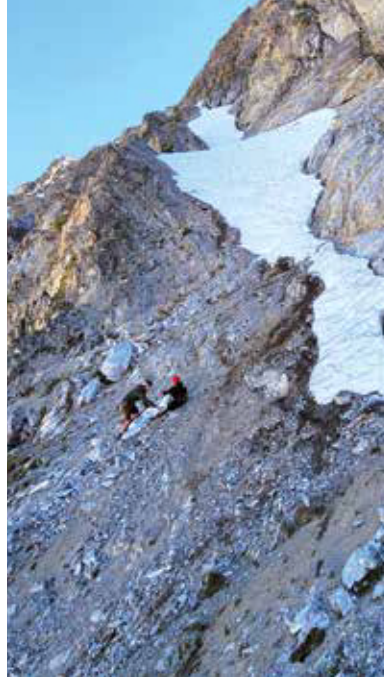


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## IDARNG Mountain Rescue

Courtesy Article by Idaho National Guard



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY IDARNG

*The Idaho Army National Guard's State Aviation Group assisted the Custer County Search and Rescue with the rescue of an injured hiker July 6 on Thompson Peak of the Sawtooth Range, outside of Stanley, Idaho.*

The Idaho Army National Guard's State Aviation Group assisted Custer County Search and Rescue with the rescue of an injured hiker July 6 on Thompson Peak of the Sawtooth Range, outside of Stanley, Idaho.

The hiker, a 19-year-old male, suffered an ankle injury following a fall while rock-climbing near the mountain range's highest peak, located approximately 75 miles outside of Boise.

"Our crew did an incredible job under some very challenging environmental conditions," said CPT Katherine Smith, commander of Det. 1, Company G 1st of the 168th Aviation Regiment. "The rescue required a great deal of crew coordination, as well as teamwork with the highly proficient extraction team from the Custer County Sheriff's Office."

The flight crew consisted of pilots CW3 Theron Cameron and CW3 Brennan Hoover; two crew chiefs, SGT Adam Brundy and hoist operator SGT Jessica Adamson; and one medic, SFC Jared Gilstad.

The patient was initially located on a shear rock wall under a ledge. After locating him, crew members determined that there was no way to safely insert a hoist rider and extract him. The flight crew then flew to the

Stanley Airport and picked up a five-person technical rope rescue team from Custer County's search and rescue team.

"We were able to inert the team about 300 meters away from the patient using a two-wheel landing," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Theron Cameron, an Idaho Army National Guard UH-60 pilot.

The rescue team roped to the patient and relocated him to more favorable recovery site, where Adamson was able to lower Gilstad safely onto the ground near him. Gilstad quickly secured the patient and Adamson hoisted the pair back into the aircraft while the pilots kept the aircraft stable in challenging conditions.

"Due to the reduced power margins caused by altitude of more than 10,300 feet, the uneven terrain and the location of the extraction site, the aircrew was forced to pay extremely close attention to the aircraft limitations," said Smith. "Lack of situational awareness in these types of situations could lead to a loss of lift or even rotor drop, requiring the aircrew to have to execute an emergency procedure to maintain stable flight."

The flight crew transported the patient to the Stanley Airport, where he was transferred to civilian medical care.



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# TLC - The Definitions and the Differences

By MG (Ret.) Jessica Wright

### Trades

A trade is a job with specialized skills or crafts requiring advanced training and education at a trade school or institution, but not from a college or university degree-producing program (Associate, Bachelor, Master, or Doctorate). Trade workers may also receive portions of their education and training through apprenticeships, on-the-job training, specialized education programs, and/or vocational schools. The following are examples of a few trades: welders, dental technicians, paralegals, home inspectors, HVAC(R), paramedics, as well as countless others.

### Licensing

A license proves that you are qualified to work in a specific field and is typically awarded by Federal or State Governments after you undergo training and pass the individual exams. For example, you need a Federal or State license to be an electrician, commercial truck driver, real estate agent, beautician, teacher, nurse, etc. A License also applies to continuing education, transfer, and renewal upon relocation from one state to another, or within a specified timeframe.



APP PHOTO BY MIKE ULLENT

*TLC Foundation President, BG (Ret.) Steve Mundt, whoops it up after Michael Reynolds, with Concurrent Real-Time, Inc., refused the drawing proceeds when his name was picked by Scarlett Zink, daughter of SSG Matthew Lee Zink, USAR VP of Member Enrollment for the Gold Standard Chapter, during the Annual Summit Soldier Appreciation Dinner Concert on April 26, 2024. Holding the washtub is AAAA Executive Director, Bill Harris.*

### Certification

A certification is an official document from a professional organization that shows that you have the necessary knowledge and skills to be hired for a specific job. Examples of professional organizations are NASM (National Academy of Sports Medicine), ISSA (International Sports Science Association) for Personal Trainers, or AWS (American Welding Society) for Welders. Certifications involve meeting specific standards and usually passing an exam. The credential may be valid for a limited time and must be renewed periodically.

*Certificates* are typically awarded when you finish an educational program. Companies, schools, and other organizations can have certificate programs that students or employees can complete to improve their skills.

For example, you can earn a certificate in web design from your school or job. This type of credential shows that you have gained added knowledge in this area.

*Certifications* are earned when you complete an exam that confirms your professional development. They are often given by national organizations that set the standards for the industry and may be required for certain jobs. For example, you can be certified as a data analyst, computer network certification, or a personal trainer at a gym.

### How to Apply for a Grant

If you are not planning on attending college and want a job in the trades this is how you apply for a TLC grant:

### Who is Eligible

AAAA Members and Family Members

## Supporting Industry with Quality AAAA Workers

The AAAA Trade-school, Licensing, and Certification Foundation (TLC) was formed in 2021 as a 501(c)(3) Charity to benefit AAAA members and families. The TLC has two primary focuses. The first is providing financial grants for attaining a trade, license or certification (e.g., an FAA Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) license, Commercial Driver's License (CDL), welding certification, Real Estate License, Court Reporter, Medical Technician, etc. The second is providing a quality work force, from our membership to our Industry partners. TLC is seeking Industry partners and applicants for grants from our AAAA members, spouses and family members. We also need members from our AAAA Family to serve on the TLC Board.

### AAAA TLC Needs You!

- 1 We need Industry support and sponsorship with your leadership and your people involved in filling jobs within your organization. We need to know the critical jobs you need filled in the trades, licensing and certification areas. We want them posted on our website.
- 2 We need more applicants for these grants! It's free Money. Come on! Apply now at [www.quad-a.org/TLC](http://www.quad-a.org/TLC).
- 3 To make this program effective we need more board members for the 2024 to 2026 terms. Step up and volunteer to help make the AAAA TLC all it can be. We are looking for passionate individuals committed to improving other AAAA members' lives and their families' lives.

Once on the Board of Governors, we need you to serve on one of several committees, such as the Finance Committee, Fundraising Committee, Marketing & Publicity Committee, Policy and Strategic Planning Committee, and Nominations/ Voting Committee.

Our meetings are scheduled throughout the year and conducted virtually on Zoom. We encourage our Board to meet in person twice a year: in November at the Annual Cribbins Readiness Conference in Huntsville, AL, and at the AAAA Annual Summit. We know some of our Board cannot attend in person so we also provide a virtual capability.

To learn more, please get in touch with MG Jessica Wright, Ret., the TLC Secretary, at [Jessica.garfola.wright@gmail.com](mailto:Jessica.garfola.wright@gmail.com).

Thank you for considering this invitation to join the board and help shape the future of our AAAA family by spreading the word to other AAAA members that these grants are available. Apply today!

*Steve Mundt, Brigadier General U.S. Army Retired  
President, TLC Foundation*



## TLC FOUNDATION GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE

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Trade Schools, Licensing and Certification

– the spouse, son, daughter, or grandchild of a current AAAA member or deceased member.

#### **Criteria:** Applicants must be:

1. A current member or family member of the Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA). Membership information may be obtained on the AAAA website ([www.quad-a.org/tlc](http://www.quad-a.org/tlc))
2. A high school graduate or have your GED equivalent.
3. Enrolled in an accredited trade school, licensing test/course, or certification course.

**When to Apply:** Applications are accepted anytime.

#### **Where to Apply:**

<https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/81860-Army-Aviation-Association-Of-America>. If you have any further questions, please contact MG (Ret.) Jessica Wright at [jessica.garfola.wright@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.garfola.wright@gmail.com).

*MG (Ret.) Jessica Wright serves on the board of the AAAA TLC Foundation.*

## ► Historical Perspective

### 50th Anniversary of Women in Army Aviation

# 50 Years Ago – Women in Army Aviation: Aplomb!

By Mark Albertson

**W**hen one is able to achieve success with “aplomb,” he or she has done so with confidence, self-assurance, and even poise. The word “aplomb” is from the French, “a plomb,” the perpendicular, as verified, perhaps, by a plumb line, which determines vertical alignment.

For our purposes, here, that “vertical alignment” suggests the collective success of women in Army Aviation, spanning the ranks of mechanics and ground crew up to that of general.

Many of our individuals chosen here seem to reflect the self-assurance required for that coolness of personality which enables one to manage difficulties and stress under trying conditions; and perhaps do so with a certainty that comes with a refreshing lack of arrogance and conceit that seems to characterize many who are considered a success in their chosen career or profession.

Take Major General Laura Yeager, whose career began in 1986, following her commission “as a Distinguished Military Graduate from the Reserve Officer Training Corps Program at the California State University, Long Beach.”<sup>1</sup>

Her first assignment was as a platoon leader with the 423rd Medical Company, Fort Lewis, Washington; as well as the Initial Entry Rotary Wing Training School at Fort Rucker, Alabama; then it was on to service as an aeromedical evacuation pilot.

Yeager was later assigned to Walter Reed Army Medical Center as Assistant Floor administrator and company commander followed by assignment as an aeromedical platoon leader at Fort Hood, Texas and an instructor at the Army Medical Department Center and School at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

She transitioned to the National Guard in 1995, serving in both the Texas and California Guard. Yeager was deputy commander of the 40th Combat Aviation Brigade in Iraq in 2010-2011, and from 2017-2019, she was commander of the Joint Task Force North, USNORTHCOM, Fort Bliss, Texas. She was promoted to major general and made history on June 29, 2019 as she took command of the California Guard’s 40th Infantry Division becoming the first woman to command a United States Army Infantry Division. She retired on May 14, 2022.

Yet it is not unusual to find that when choosing a military career for themselves, women will make decisions along the lines of their male counterparts. An example here is CW4 Lola Lewis, who enlisted in the Army in 1998.

“I was not interested in attending college right after high school. I wanted a career where I could be financially independent while providing purpose and direction in my life. That was the beginning of my military career and I have never looked back.”

Lewis became an OH-58 Kiowa crew chief. But she sought to expand her horizons, becoming a warrant officer. In 2021, she was an “observer coach and trainer with the 2nd Battalion, 291st Aviation Regiment, 166th Aviation Brigade, First Army-Division West, validating mobilization aviation training for Army Reserve and National Guard aviation units at Fort Hood.”<sup>2</sup>

Sergeant Christine Chaney, Company C, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, had served in Afghanistan. A flight medic in the Army for more than five years, she had been an emergency room nurse in Germany. “The team provides group support to each other while on missions. It doesn’t matter if it’s a female medic or a male medic; what matters are patients receiving immediate care.” She added, “The hardest part about being a flight medic is treating injured children. My priority is treating the patient; their life is in our hands.”<sup>3</sup>

Diane E. Williams enlisted in the Army in 1973. She served Army Aviation at all levels, including “Davison Army Airfield; Evaluation and Standardization at Fort Rucker, drill sergeant at Fort Dix, First Sergeant of an aviation company, Mannheim, Germany, Command Sergeant Major, 1st Battalion, 222nd Aviation Regiment, Fort Eustis, VA, and 164th Air Traffic Services Group, Yongsan, Korea.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

CSM (Ret.) Diane E. Williams



ARMY PHOTO

PFC Cathy Pettingill receives her diploma from CPT David A. McClintock, on being the first woman graduate of the CH-47 Helicopter Repairman Course, USATSch, Ft. Eustis, VA.

“Completing the Sergeant Major’s Academy, she was assigned as the first female Command Sergeant Major of the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry and in 1998, she became the first female Command Sergeant Major of the Aviation Training Brigade at Fort Rucker. No Aviation school escaped her attention, including the Aviation Safety Course, and she also holds both bachelor’s and master’s degrees. She retired with 30 years of service and continued serving as a senior faculty advisor in the Leadership Division of the Sergeant Major’s Academy, Fort Bliss, Texas, for another 14 years. That is, “Army Aviation’s first female Command Sergeant Major, Diane Williams.”<sup>4</sup>

Jessica Day joined the Army in 2005. Her desire was to fly. Instead, Sergeant Jessica Day, attached to the 122nd ASB Kiowa helicopter unit, became an armament noncommissioned officer. “She chose to become a helicopter mechanic so she could learn more about the different types of aircraft.”

“I always knew from a young age that I wanted to fly helicopters,” Day said. “I chose to work on them so I could see what I wanted to fly.”

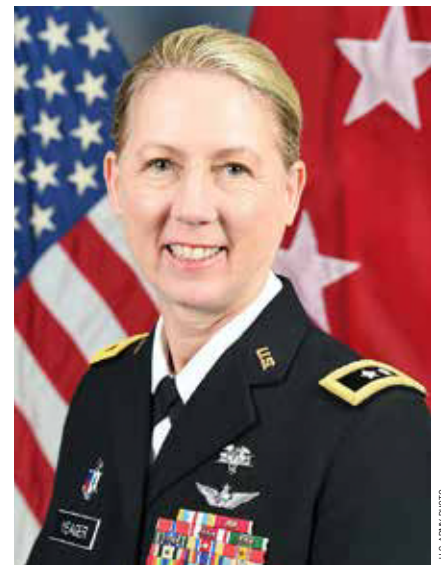
Sergeant Day, as well as the other women in this article, serve as a barometer of the evolving nature of

the Army. “When I first joined, I was the only female in the shop. Today, there are several females within this unit alone, who are working on various helicopters.”<sup>5</sup>

From enlisted ranks up through command, women are changing the face of the United States Army. At the same time, we are in the Technology Revolution and are witnesses to its unalterable effects on waging war; a stage in history in which women have a decisive role to play. For today’s Army is the most sophisticated in American history, requiring personnel trained to the highest standards possible. And here women are integral to not only maintain but raise those standards.

**Endnotes:**

- 1 See page 1, “Major General Laura I. Yeager,” [https://calguard.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/62/2019/07/Major\\_General\\_Yeager\\_BIO.pdf](https://calguard.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/62/2019/07/Major_General_Yeager_BIO.pdf)
- 2 See page 2, “Faces of the Female Force: Celebrating Women Making an Impact,” Fort Hood Public Affairs, by Brandy Cruz, March 25, 2021.
- 3 See page 2, “Female Soldiers Continue Footprint in Army Aviation,” Office of the Secretary of Defense Public Affairs, August 11, 2009.
- 4 See pages 7 and 8, “AAAA Banquet:



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

MG (Ret.) Laura Yeager

Introductions of Women Pioneers in Army Aviation,” May 6, 2009.

5 See page 2, “Women Make Their Mark in Combat Aviation,” by Sergeant April de Armas, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, February 26, 2013.

Mark Albertson is the award-winning Army Aviation Publications Historian and a contributing editor to ARMY AVIATION magazine.



# Museum Honors the 121st Assault Helicopter Company with Spectacular Legacy Display

By Mr. Fred McCarthy, Ed.D., "Viking 23"

*Editor's Note: This is the next in a series of articles throughout the year taken from the pages of The VHPA AVIATOR, the newsletter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association. Preserving the Legacy! Enjoy*

*CW4 (Ret.) Joe Pisano, RVN 1970-1971*

The 15th annual reunion of the flight crews and support units of the 121st Assault Helicopter Company was held this year at the mecca of American aviation ingenuity in Oshkosh, Wisconsin over three days in mid-September of 2023. The Experimental Aircraft Association, better known to aviators and enthusiasts as the EAA, honored the "World Famous Soc Trang Tigers" by rescuing from the boneyard a forgotten B Model Huey gunship from their Viking gunship platoon and authentically restoring the helicopter to its glory days of service in the Vietnam War. Hanoi Hanna was rumored to have blasted the airwaves over Vietnam giving these gunships and their flight crews an iconic name that will go down in infamy: "The Blue Diamond Devils of the Delta".

Mr. Chris Henry, EAA Museum Programs Coordinator, addressed the gathering of old war horses and their families/guests with enthusiasm and a memorable and dignified diorama-type display, that invites the public back to the "thrilling days of yesteryear." The museum was looking for that one unique aircraft for its expansive collection of vintage flying machines that could represent aviation's most memorable "helicopter war;" and to give it a distinctive central focus location for generations to come that



Education Programs Director, Chris Henry, invited flight crew members to sign their names, call signs, etc. on the inside of the aircraft commander's door to be left in perpetuity to celebrate this epic gathering of Vietnam Combat Veterans and dedication of the exhibit.

all might know and feel what it was like viscerally to fly one of these "bad ass" assault helicopters in combat. As Mr. Henry led the group personally into the inner sanctum of the museum's collection, past many aircraft of notable value and collector status, he deftly and knowledgeably described the details and rationale for each aircraft and its meticulous preservation. We rounded a corner and silence settled over the tour participants as we stared in awe at a seared in memory of 50+ years ago.

The B Model was resplendent in all of her combat regalia. . . the distinctive colorful Viking logo on the nose cone with arms filled to overflowing with 2.75 folding fin rockets . . . The rocket pods on which the crew chiefs and door gunners would climb out, held on only by a slender monkey strap, and would shoot covering fire from hand-held machine

guns under the aircraft as it broke from a tree top level gun run. They were covering our Blue Tiger and White Tiger slicks on a combat assault . . . the grenades along the rear padded wall of the cargo area that was filled to over gross weight with ammunition . . . the rocket sight in front of the right seated aircraft commander (AC) with its sighting reticle . . . the left seat of the pilot with its armored side panel and the second set of cyclic and collective controls . . . the cockpit with the hundreds of switches, breakers, and triggers we knew instinctively by feel . . . The radio panels where we listened to multiple transmissions above the background gunfire talking separately to the ground troops, our wing man, the commander, the transports, artillery, all the while listening to a sixties rock and roll song like "Light My Fire" over Armed Forces Vietnam radio . . . the



PHOTO BY BART POISSON, IVANG 21



PHOTO BY PAUL ROSING, BLUE TIGER 21



PHOTO BY PAUL ROSING, BLUE TIGER 21

obvious metal work on the fuselage where rounds had pieced the thin fuselage skin and been skillfully patched.

Some of our unit were interviewed by a local TV station and did an admirable job of capturing the feelings welling up inside of us as we sat in our former seats and signed our names and call signs on the inside of the AC's door for posterity and grandkids to see in a future museum visit.

The display includes a beautiful wall length mural that reminded some of us of the infamous seven mountains area where we resupplied special forces units . . . a replica aircraft control tower announcing the comings and goings of missions and mortar attacks were confirmed with a loud siren. The story of the Vietnam War and our contribution is told in high quality information panels and pictures strategically placed around the display. That night we were honored to sit in proximity to the aircraft highlighted by special effect lighting and enjoy a gourmet buffet

*Top left: Members and guests of the 121st Avn Assn attended a gourmet meal in the glow of the eerie green high intensity led lighting effects on the display aircraft reminding them of nighttime missions and mortar attacks at Soc Trang Airfield in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam.*

*Top right: Former flight crew members and guests from the 121st Assault Helicopter Company admire the restored B-Model Huey gunship in the EAA Aviation Museum, Oshkosh, Wisconsin; and discuss the diorama-type display with Mr. Chris Henry, Education Programs Director, EAA Aviation Museum, in blue shirt to the left in background.*

*Bottom photo: Proud family members, flight crew members, and support personnel of the 121st AHC and related units pose in front of the display aircraft in the cavernous museum surrounded by iconic aircraft elegantly restored and displayed by museum staff members.*

dinner. Mr. Henry invited us to vote on whether a fixed or hand-held machine gun would be in the display. We voted for both, one on each side.

As the reunion of a lifetime came to a memorable close, we were yet again surprised by a local chapter of lovely ladies from the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) who presented one of our leaders, Don Jackson, with a Vietnam memorial flag, and each of us with a special commemorative pin. A member of our unit was heard to say, "This was the welcome home some of us

didn't experience amidst the protests and controversies of our misunderstood war."

Those of us who flew these helicopters have many stories to tell. It was a unique experience to have such a respected organization as the EAA tell our story and present us with our own place in history that will endure far beyond our personal stories. We are all eternally grateful for the honor of this experience.

*Mr. Fred McCarthy, Ed.D., is a former CW2 and VHPA member living in Bellingham, WA.*



# AAAA

NETWORK | RECOGNITION | VOICE | SUPPORT



## AAAA Chapter Affairs By LTC (Ret.) Jan Drabczuk

*I greatly appreciate the support from LTC Paul Bailie, the Mohawk Chapter President for authoring and sharing this information to our membership.*



# The Mohawk Chapter

The AAAA Mohawk Chapter, located in Latham, New York, provides support to current and former Army Aviation members across the Greater Capital District.



15th annual Commanders Cup golf tournament at the Fairways of Halfmoon, Mechanicville, NY.

Initially established in the early 1980s, for a while the Chapter merged with the Empire Chapter. In December 2015, the AAAA National Office officially recognized the rebirth of the Mohawk Chapter, marking its resurgence with an initial membership of 29 active participants.

By capitalizing on initiatives such as AAAA's \$250 Lifetime membership drive in 2016 and other recruitment campaigns, the Chapter grew to 55 members within its first year of re-establishment. In recognition of its accomplishments over the years and the post-COVID environment, the Chapter was honored as Chapter of the Year in 2023. By December 2023, the Chapter achieved its goal of surpassing 75 members, enabling it to advance to senior Chapter status.

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.

### Key Events and Initiatives 2023-2024

In the summer of 2023, the Chapter welcomed back the 3-142 Assault Helicopter Battalion from their deployment supporting CJTF-OIR and assisted in deploying members from the 642 Avi-

ation Support Battalion to CJTF-OIR and Det. 2, Co. A, 1-224 Search and Security Battalion to the Southwest Border. In collaboration with the MacArthur Chapter, the Chapter cosponsored the recognition of the 3-142 Assault Helicopter Battalion, awarded the 2024 John J. Stanko Army National Guard's Unit of the Year.

Throughout the year, the Chapter continued to host events for its members, including the 15th annual Commanders Cup golf tournament at the Fairways of Halfmoon and the annual Holiday Party at Frog Alley Brewing in January. A significant highlight of November 2023 was the establishment of three enduring national match scholarships in memory of fallen members CW2 Douglas Jones, SSG Stanley Dake, and SSG Vicent D'Arrigo. In 2024, these scholarships were awarded to deserving recipients, underscoring the Chapter's commitment to service and remembrance.

### Tragedy and Resilience: March 8, 2024

On March 8, 2024, tragedy struck when Dover 14 crashed at the Southwest Border, resulting in the loss of CW2 John Michael Grassia III and CW2 Casey Nicole Frankoski. SFC Jacob Pratt was critically injured in the incident. In response, the Chapter rallied together, providing immediate support and resources to the affected service

members and their families during their time of grief and recovery.

During the solemn unit memorial ceremony on April 21, 2024, the parents of John and Casey were honored with the Order of Saint Michael. Looking forward, the chapter plans to establish the Dover 14 enduring national matching scholarship in 2025 to commemorate John, Casey, Jacob Pratt, and US Customs and Border Patrol Officer Chris Luna, who also tragically lost his life in the crash. These scholarships will ensure their legacies endure through educational support for future generations.

### Summary

The AAAA Mohawk Chapter remains steadfast in its mission as a pillar of camaraderie and support for Army Aviation members in the Greater Capital District. Its unwavering dedication to honoring the past, supporting the present, and fostering a vibrant community ensures its continued impact and recognition within the AAAA organization.

Feel free to contact me if you need help with your Chapter, establish a new Chapter, Executive Board support, would like your Chapter featured in the AAAA magazine or to obtain clarification of National procedures.

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

## ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL INDUCTEES

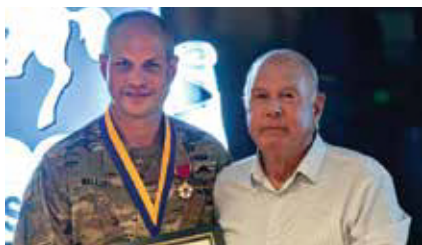
### National



160TH SOR (A) COURTESY PHOTO

BG (Ret.) John Dailey is surrounded by former 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) commanders following his induction into the Gold Honorable Order of St. Michael by GEN (Ret.) Bryan “Doug” Brown on May 30, 2024, at Fort Campbell, KY. From the left – LTG (Ret.) Dell Daily; BG Scott Wilkinson; COL Roger Waleski; BG (Ret.) Clay Hutmacher; BG (Ret.) John Dailey; BG (Ret.) Howard Yellen; and GEN (Ret.) Brown.

### Air Assault Chapter



CHAPTER PHOTO BY SCOTT HOLLINS WORTH

**COL Roger P. Waleski**, commander of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), is inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael by chapter president, COL (Ret.) “Hawk” Ruth at his change of command ceremony held at Fort Campbell on Monday evening, June 24, 2024. Waleski is being reassigned to U.S. Army Forces Command at Ft. Liberty, NC.

### Northern Lights Chapter



CHAPTER PHOTO BY SHELLY HANSEN

**COL Nate Surrey** is inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael by

chapter treasurer, Mr. Ski Marcinkowski and CW5 Dan Hansen, Division Standardization Instructor Pilot, 11th Abn. Div., on June 13, 2024 at Ladd Army Airfield, Ft. Wainwright, AK. Surrey was recognized for his many career achievements on the occasion of his PCS to serve as a professor of military science at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA.

### Tennessee Valley Chapter



CHAPTER PHOTO BY NELSON BALLEW

**CW5 (Ret.) Carlos Acevedo** is inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael by BG Cain Baker, Director of the Future Vertical Lift Cross-Functional Team on June 21, 2024 at Redstone Arsenal, AL. Acevedo was recognized for his support of Army Aviation over a career spanning 22 years culminating as the FTUAS experimentation lead for the FVL CFT.

FVL CFT, BG Cain Baker, on June 21, 2024 at Redstone Arsenal, AL. Janes was recognized for his 30 years of dedicated service to Army Aviation culminating as the FVL CFT lead for Degraded Visual Environment (DVE), and Lethality/Survivability.



CHAPTER PHOTO BY THOMAS J. COBBAR

**CW5 Patrick O’Neill** is inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael by MG Thomas O’Connor, commanding general of U.S. Army AMCOM, and CSM (Ret.) Randy Wise, chapter VP Awards on May 3, 2024 at Redstone Arsenal, AL. Also, on hand to congratulate O’Neill was CSM Bradford Smith, AMCOM CSM. O’Neill was recognized on the occasion of his retirement for his achievements as the Aviation Branch Maintenance Officer and Senior Warrant Officer Advisor to the CG.



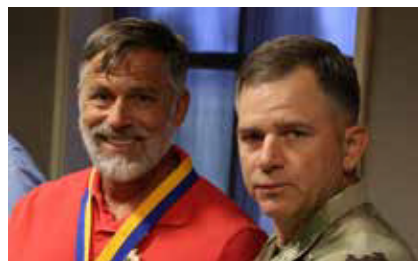
CHAPTER PHOTO BY NELSON BALLEW

**Mr. George “Dan” Bailey** was inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael by BG Cain Baker, Dir., FVL CFT on April 25, 2024 during the 2024 AAAA Annual Summit in Denver, CO. Bailey, a combat veteran, made significant contributions serving as an experimental test pilot and subsequently an Army civilian in U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command, PEO Avn. and FVL-CFT.



CHAPTER PHOTO BY DAVID HELTON

**CW5 John J. Ulmer** is inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael on June 21, 2024 by chapter president, Mr. Gary Nenninger, at Redstone Arsenal, AL. Ulmer was recognized for more than 23 years of service to Army Aviation culminating as the command chief warrant officer for Program Executive Office Aviation.



CHAPTER PHOTO BY NELSON BALLEW

**CW5 Randall Jaynes** is inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael by Dir.,



CHAPTER PHOTO BY SHERYL DORNER

**COL (Ret.) John E. Valentine** is inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael by LTC (Ret.) Jason Galindo, Vice-President of OSMs continued on next page



## OSMs Continued

Aviation Systems for Axient, on May 30, 2024 at the Back Forty Beer Company, Huntsville, AL. Valentine was recognized for his over 28 years as an Army Aviator and an additional 13 years of service as a DoD contractor in the PM ASE office. **Lora Valentine** was also



CHAPTER PHOTO BY SHERRY L. DORNER

inducted into the Honorable Order of Our Lady of Loreto during the same ceremony for her support of her husband, Army Aviation, and Soldiers and families.



CHAPTER PHOTO BY DANA OSBORNE

**MAJ David J. Lilja** is inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael by COL Danielle Medaglia, PM UAS on June 21, 2024 at Redstone Arsenal, AL. Lilja was recognized for his achievements as Assistant Product Manager for the Future Tactical Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (FTUAS) Rapid Prototyping (RP) project for the past three years. He is being reassigned to the Pentagon as a Department of the Army Systems Coordinator (DASC).



CHAPTER PHOTO BY AMY LEVINS

**Mr. Charles McClendon** is inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael on June 27, 2024 by LTC (Ret.) Tom Huff,

program integrator for Utility Helicopters PMO International Programs at Redstone Arsenal, AL. McClendon was recognized for significant and long-lasting contributions over the past 33 years to Army Aviation while assigned to multiple senior technical Army Aviation positions culminating at the Utility Helicopters Project Office (UHPO).



CHAPTER PHOTO BY NELSON BAILEW

**Mr. James Mitchell** is inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael by BG Cain Baker, Dir., FVL CFT on June 21, 2024 at Redstone Arsenal, AL. Mitchell was recognized for being instrumental in fostering emerging technology supporting Army Aviation over the last 20 years of service as a warrant officer, commissioned officer and contractor.

**LTC(P) Kelley Nalley** is inducted into the



CHAPTER PHOTO BY CAROLINE LUMB

Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael by chapter VP Communications, 1SG (Ret.) Matthew Shattuck, on June 10, 2024 at Redstone Arsenal, AL. Nalley was recognized for her significant contributions to Army

Aviation in both the Unmanned Aircraft Systems and Aviation Turbine Engine Project Offices. On hand to congratulate Nalley is Ms. Gina Bublitz, PM ATE.



CHAPTER PHOTO BY SHERRY DORNER

**Ms. Anette Carnes** is inducted as a Knight of the Honorable Order of St. Michael by LTC (Ret.) Jason Galindo, VP, Aviation Systems, Axient on June 26, 2024 at the Back Forty Beer Company, Huntsville, AL. Carnes was recognized for providing twelve years of dedicated support across Army Aviation to include service supporting PM UAS, PM UH, and PM ASE.



CHAPTER PHOTO BY BELINDA BRUNET

**Mr. Robert Domitrovich** and his wife, **Margo**, were inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael and the Honorable Order of Our Lady of Loreto, respectively, by COL Daniel Thetford, Project Manager, Apache Helicopters, on June 21, 2024 at Redstone Arsenal, AL. Bob was recognized for over 41 years of service culminating as the product director of the Apache sensors portfolio; and Margo, for her more than 38 years of faithful service to U.S. Army Aviation Soldiers and families.

## AAAA Chapter News



CHAPTER PHOTO BY MAJ BETH SCOTT-HOLLINGSWORTH

### Air Assault Chapter Quarterly Meeting

Four 101st Combat Aviation Brigade soldiers were inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael during the 2nd Quarter chapter meeting on June 18, 2024 at Ft. Campbell, KY. Pictured are (l to r): CSM Marcus Pitts, 101 CAB CSM; **CW4 Glenn E. Stewart**; **CW4 Lawrence W. Ward**; COL (Ret.) "Hawk" Ruth, chapter president; **SFC (Ret.) Seth A. Brown**; **SSG Michael A. Anderson**; COL Clint R. Cody, 101 CAB Cdr., and CW5 Robert B. Phillips, 101 CAB Command Chief Warrant Officer.

Chapter News continued on page 137



# AAAA Awards



## Order of St. Michael Inductees

### Silver

*Air Assault Chapter*  
 CW4 Robert J. McCurdy  
*Aloha Chapter*  
 MAJ Daniel L. Ball  
*Aviation Center Chapter*  
 CW5 Randy Noble, Ret.  
*Colonial Virginia Chapter*  
 LTC Robert K. Beale  
 LTC Jason C. Brubaker  
 CSM Joseph B. Warren II  
*Gold Standard Chapter*  
 CW5 Douglas S. Johnson  
 CW5 Scott M. Osborne  
*Keystone Chapter*  
 COL Keith M. Graham  
*Morning Calm Chapter*  
 COL Benjamin S. Boardman  
 LTC Ty Huffman  
 CSM James E. Lowery  
 CSM Freddy Rivera Melendez  
*Mount Rainier Chapter*  
 COL Mitchell R. Sieglock  
 CW5 Barry L. Sledd Jr.  
*Phantom Corps Chapter*  
 CW5 Eric Anderson  
*Ragin' Cajun Chapter*  
 LTC James B. Polk  
*Tennessee Valley Chapter*  
 Jeffery P. Herman  
 CW5 Randall D. Jaynes  
 CW5 Patrick O'Neill

### Bronze

*Air Assault Chapter*  
 CW4 Wesley R. Adams  
 CW4 Christopher Brooks  
 1SG Christopher G. Burlee  
 SFC Phillip Cales  
 SFC Kyle W. Gardner  
*Aviation Center Chapter*  
 CSM Ramon CasesTorres  
 CW4 Blake Gailey  
 Warrick A. Lewis  
 CW4 Travis L. Plummer  
 SFC Robert Riley  
 MAJ Aaron E. Scully  
 CPT Jacob Shores  
 SFC Michael A. Stocker  
 SFC Cedric Taylor, Ret.  
 SFC Nicholas Woods  
*Colonial Virginia Chapter*  
 SSG William D. Eagen III  
 SFC Joshua Layne  
 1SG Jeremy T. Lowery  
 CSM Marcus Mierta  
 SFC Bernice Myers  
 SFC Rafael Orona  
*Flint Hills Chapter*

CW3 Jerry L. Jordan  
 SFC Ashlar Olson  
 1SG Matthew R. Smith  
*Grizzly Chapter*  
 CW5 Anthony L. Lambert  
*Iron Mike Chapter*  
 CW2 Victor A. Andrews  
*Jimmy Doolittle Chapter*  
 CW4 James B. Cox  
 CPT Colton M. Hyer  
*Keystone Chapter*  
 SFC Timothy Koser  
 SFC Derick E. Noel  
*Morning Calm Chapter*  
 SFC Eddie L. Castro  
 CSM Gwee Young Jeong  
 LTC Hoon Sik Lee  
 COL Dong Won Shin  
*Mount Rainier Chapter*  
 SFC Nicholas R. Bertiaux  
 CW3 Robert D. Brew  
 LTC David R. Hampton  
*North Country Chapter*  
 SFC Michael A. Baffa  
 CSM Jon Fritz  
 MAJ Daniel T. Liebetreu  
 SSG Joshua M. Payne  
*Northern Lights Chapter*  
 CW3 Tyketon Barger  
 SFC Christopher Belevan  
 1SG Kade Poore  
 SFC Jonathan K. Sellers  
 1SG Joshua Young  
*Rio Grande Chapter*  
 CW3 Delandrius M. Allen  
*Tennessee Valley Chapter*  
 Gerry R. Cox  
 LTC Michael J. Rigney  
*Zia Chapter Chapter*  
 Randal A. Gillespie



### Knight

*Aviation Center Chapter*  
 LTC Garrett W. Holt  
 CPT Alain Vermeer  
*Griffin Chapter*  
 COL Wilbur Hsu  
 COL Robert S. McChrystal  
*Morning Calm Chapter*  
 LTC B. Paola Benson  
 COL Lucas S. Hightower  
 Dr. Sang Kyu Hyun  
 Dr. Jin Soo Kim  
 COL Alexander R. Lee  
 Ho Joon Lee  
 MAJ Oziel Rodriguezgamez  
 COL Brendan P. Toolan  
*North Country Chapter*  
 MAJ Sean Screen  
 MAJ Joshua Stokes  
*Phantom Corps Chapter*  
 MAJ Benjamin C. Dudley  
*Tennessee Valley Chapter*

MAJ Christopher Dichiaro  
 Misty N. Glover



## Our Lady of Loreto

*Air Assault Chapter*  
 Andrea Dadisman  
*Morning Calm Chapter*  
 Teresa Marie Gale  
 Sarah Huffman  
*North Country Chapter*  
 Kristin Booth  
 Jessica Cavallo  
 Emily E. Gazda  
 Lucie Gill  
 Valerie Hayward  
 Holly Imbriaco  
 Laura Kazmarek  
 Cristin A. Stapler  
 Angela Tichenor  
 Charlotte Lynn VanMeter  
 Pamela Zotter  
*Phantom Corps Chapter*  
 Jamie Crivello  
 Karissa Dolan  
 Yaelmie Gomez

## FALLEN HEROES

*AAAA is saddened to announce the recent loss of an Army Aviation flight instructor.*

### CONUS

The Department of Defense announced one contractor flight instructor was killed and a military student pilot sustained minor injuries during a routine training flight at Fort Novosel, AL.



*CW3 (Ret.) Munger*

***CW3 (Ret.) Daniel Lee Munger***, 46, from Enterprise, AL, died when the AH-64 Apache crashed at approximately 13:40 local time on August 7, 2024.

The accident is presently under investigation.

May he rest in peace.

*(Information from Defense Department news releases and other media sources.)*

## IN MEMORIAM



Chief Warrant Officer Five  
 Karl Hans Maier,  
 U.S. Army Retired

It is with great sadness that AAAA announces the passing of CW5 Karl Maier, a pioneering helicopter pilot and 2015 Army Aviation Hall of Fame inductee on August 9, 2024.

Maier's impact on Special Operations Aviation over more than three decades has been immeasurable. He served the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) in every capacity from platoon instructor pilot to the first Regiment Chief Warrant Officer. His involvement in every combat operation since 1987 thru his retirement placed him at the pinnacle of Special Operations experience.

His impact on the 160th SOAR(A) extended far beyond his personal achievements. He was a mentor and advisor to multiple generations of Aviators, Commanders, and enlisted Soldiers. He helped to pioneer and prove in combat many of the night vision goggle (NVG) tactics techniques and procedures (TTPs), and Aircrew Training Manual (ATM) tasks which define modern Army Aviation.

Maier's legacy will continue for many years to come as the numerous Night Stalkers he has mentored over his career continue to uphold the high standards to which he trained them and they instill in future generations. It is impossible to overstate the significance of his 38 years of active service to Army Aviation, the United States Army, and the Nation.

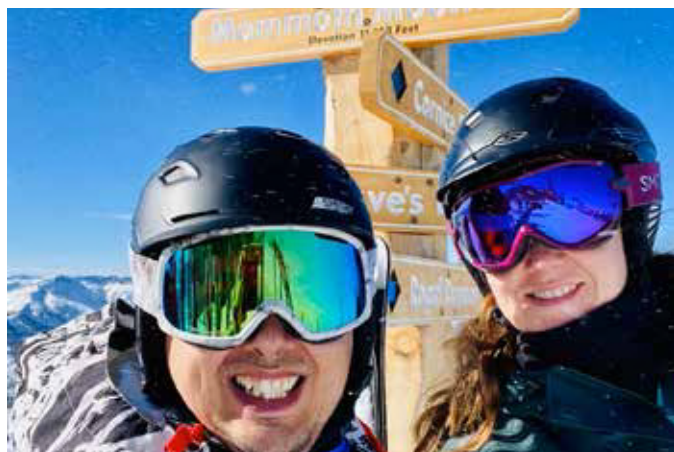
A memorial service was held at the GEN Bryan "Doug" Brown Compound at Fort Campell, KY on Monday, August 19, 2024, and interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a future date.

May he rest in peace.



AAAA **Membership Update** By CW4 (Ret.) Becki Chambers

# The Membership Corner



Justin and Erin Heiser

PERSONAL PHOTOS

I met CW3 Justin Heiser, and his wife Erin, when I transferred to the Reserve unit at Fort Liberty, NC. I've always admired Justin & Erin for how much they love doing outdoor sports together.

CW3 Justin Heiser grew up in the Austin, TX area until he was 16, and then he and his father moved to Oviedo, FL. They stayed there until Justin graduated from the University of Central Florida in 2010. Erin grew up in Southern California in the Santa Clarita Valley and lived there until she left for college in 2006.

CW3 Heiser joined the Army on August 10, 2010, and enlisted as a 12W, Carpentry and Masonry Specialist. He attended basic training at Fort Jackson, and AIT in Gulfport Mississippi at the Seabee Base. After 3 years of being a 12W he started WOCS in October of 2013. After finishing up flight school, he moved back to Texas. When Justin followed Erin to North Carolina, he transferred to Alpha Company, 2/135th, flying the UH-60 Black Hawk. He has participated in a wide variety of missions, most recently being Defender Europe 2024 in Sweden. On the civilian side, Justin is a First Officer for Frontier Airlines flying the Airbus A320/321.

Erin and Justin met in the spring of 2012. Justin was the Intern of Rice Outdoor Pursuits and Education (R.O.P.E.) at Rice University in Houston Texas. When he finished up Army Flight School in February of 2015 he moved back to Houston. When he returned, he reached out to anyone that he knew still in the Houston area to go climbing and hang out. Erin by this time was the Graduate Assistant of the Outdoor Adventure program at the University of Houston. Justin sent Erin a message and they went climbing at a local rock-climbing gym. During their first climbing session they spent about 5 hours at the gym, mostly just a lot of talking and laughing. Soon after they were frequently climbing together

and hanging out multiple times a week. They started dating in April of 2015. After graduating in May with her master's degree in Sports and Fitness Administration, Erin was offered the position of Coordinator of Outdoor Adventures at North Carolina State University. She moved in July of 2015 to Raleigh, and Justin quickly followed. He knew it wasn't every day that he would meet a girl who does all the same outdoor sports that he does so he couldn't let her get away.

Their favorite activities include climbing, skiing, mountain-biking, stand-up paddleboarding and backpacking, along with canoeing and kayaking. They look forward to sharing these sports with their soon-to-be born baby girl.

Justin would like to thank the following mentors: "Definitely My Family (Grandpa and Dad) for giving me the drive and encouragement to pursue Aviation in the military and civilian side. On the Military side among the biggest are two retired CW4s from my unit that I still call up and ask questions of to this day: Rob Pettit and Becki Chambers. Additionally, CW3 John McElwee, who was an SP for a while at my unit. He saw the best in me and really encouraged me to be the best pilot that I could be."

Why should people join AAAA: "Organizations like AAAA are important because they provide a great resource for networking as well as getting questions answered. If you try to do everything on your own it will be almost impossible for you to really get anywhere. Sure, you can succeed and do it on your own, and more power to you if you can do that. But an organization like AAAA has people that can easily help you out, answering questions, getting you set on the right path, along with networking and letting you meet people with similar interests and passions. Don't go at it alone if you don't have to."

If you feel there is an outstanding member of our Army Aviation community you believe should be highlighted in the Membership Corner, please send me an email: [beckichambers@quad-a.org](mailto:beckichambers@quad-a.org)

CW4 (Ret.) Becki Chambers  
AAAA Vice President for Membership



**New AAAA Life Members**

*Air Assault Chapter*  
 MAJ Jon Thompson  
*Aviation Center Chapter*  
 CW4 Butch Daniel  
 CSM Joshua Prescott  
*Idaho Snake River Chapter*  
 CW4 Craig L. Wheeler, Ret.  
*Narragansett Bay Chapter*  
 CPT Alexander Kowalski

**New AAAA Members**

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 CW4 Devan G. Williams  
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 W01 Ahmed Akinloye  
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 W01 Chance A. Atchison  
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 W01 Stevie M. Cavan  
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 2LT Julian A. Cohen  
 2LT Aiden C. Coolidge  
 2LT Kade R. Coons  
 W01 Jarrett J. Cormier  
 W01 James T. Crocco

**Chapter News** *Continued*

**Aviation Center Chapter Presents Leadership Award**



CHAPTER PHOTOS BY JASMIN VECHIONE

**SSG Mark E. Aescht II** (left) and **SGT Daniel L. Crollett** (right) were recognized as the top students in the USAACE NCOA Senior Leaders and Advanced Courses 24-004, respectively, on June 14, 2024 at Ft. Novosel, AL post theater. Chapter Senior VP, CW5 (Ret.) Sam Baker, presented certificates and a one-year free AAAA membership to both.

2LT Izabelle F. Cunningham  
 1LT John T. Darden  
 2LT Benjamin P. David  
 W01 Andrew S. Davis  
 W01 Mark U. De La Rosa  
 W01 Seth R. Demerly  
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 W01 Giovanni I. Dominguez  
 2LT Nicholas A. Dvenas  
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 W01 Carlos E. Falcon  
 W01 Savahana D. Fine  
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 2LT John F. Flynn

W01 Isaac B. Franco  
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 W01 Rhys Goodman  
 W01 Alexandria K. Graham  
 W01 Dylan C. Granza  
 2LT Laura M. Greathouse  
 W01 Joshua D. Gresham  
 2LT Reagan E. Henry  
 W01 Tabatha D. Henry  
 W01 Armando C. Hernandez Gonzalez  
 W01 Noli D. Herry  
 W01 Thorn L. Hiatt

**Black Knight Chapter Recognizes Top USMA Aviation Cadet**



CHAPTER COURTESY PHOTO

**Cadet Aiden Hopping** was presented the AAAA 2024 Outstanding USMA Cadet of the Year award on April 18, 2024 at the Class of 2024 Aviation sendoff in Eisenhower Hall on West Point by chapter president, COL Rich Melnyk. Hopping graduated on May 25, 2024 and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Aviation Branch.

W01 Aaron Hinkelman  
 W01 Zachary C. Holten  
 2LT Alexander J. Hunt  
 W01 Tawni A. Hunt  
 W01 Dale F. Jackson  
 W01 Lamar E. Jackson  
 Mr. Eddy E. Jenkins  
 W01 Riley D. Jones  
 2LT Allison R. Klebs  
 2LT Bianca C. Klepper  
 2LT James C. Knight  
 2LT Jonathan T. Langston  
 1LT Austin A. Lasater  
 2LT Samuel J. Lee  
 2LT Caden C. Lerum

W01 Ethan E. Locklear  
 CPT Daniel W. Logsdon  
 W01 Alex Lopez  
 2LT Dalton G. Manning  
 W01 Micheal N. Maragh  
 W01 Terry L. Martin  
 Mr. Nolan A. Masiker  
 2LT Aaron B. Mason  
 W01 Jacob C. Maune  
 W01 Tanja W. Mayer  
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*Continued on next page*

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**New AAAA**

**Members** *Continued*

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 2LT Cassidy Murphy  
 WO1 Michael D. Myers  
 WO1 Taylor A. Nazarek  
 WO1 Ian A. Nogle  
 WO1 Brent J. Noonan  
 Mr. John Nyman  
 WO1 Joseph A. Palumbo  
 WO1 Christopher Parrales  
 2LT Bhavan D. Patel  
 2LT Caleb E. Phelps  
 2LT Isabella L. Piccirilli  
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 WO1 Zachary N. Saterfield  
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*Bavarian Chapter*  
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 Matt Bastin  
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*Central Florida Chapter*  
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 Mr. Brian Comer  
 Mr. Joseph M. Ford  
 CDT Ashley Garcia

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 Ms. Kim Kisselstein  
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For more information about the Foundation or to make a contribution, go online to [www.quad-a.org](http://www.quad-a.org); contributions can also be mailed to AAAA Scholarship Foundation, Inc., 593 Main Street, Monroe, CT 06468-2806.



# AAAA Family Forum By Judy Konitzer

*I gratefully acknowledge information obtained from DoD MSEP, military.com, Blue Star Families, Hiring our Heroes, ACP, and AAAA's TLC. I encourage spouses to delve into their websites and discover for themselves the many resources available to them.*

## Military Spouses Employment Challenges and Opportunities



U.S. Department of Defense



*The Military Spouse Employment Partnership, part of the Defense Department Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program, offers comprehensive information tools and resources to support military spouses in meeting their career and educational goals.*

Military spouse unemployment, which stands at 21% compared to their non-military counterparts, is a well-recognized problem that contributes to retention difficulties, depression, and food insecurity.

When military spouses can't supplement their Soldier's income, it creates financial challenges that directly impact military readiness.

Researching military spouses who hail from diverse occupational backgrounds requires a special effort from companies. This is especially true for local, hybrid, and remote positions, and even more so for securing employment for spouses stationed abroad.

Military.com, a news and resource website established in 1999, added a first-time salute for their Top Spouse Employers. The site provides daily defense news, benefits information, veteran employment resources, spouse and family resources, and specialty newsletters. This year they selected their Top 24 companies for 2024 Military Spouse Employers. Their selection process was helped by adopting 3 pledges created by the DoDs Military Spouse Employment Program (MSEP), Hiring our Heroes, Joining Forces ACP and Blue Star Families. These organizations in December 2023 created and launched a 4+1 Commitment: The Formula for Military Success, by creating a voluntary pledge asking companies to adopt at least 1 of 4 employment policies.

1 – "Belong to the Team." Companies

demonstrated a commitment to spouse employment through membership to existing government groups, spouse-friendly messaging for job listings on their broadcasts and websites, and the hiring of additional military spouses.

2 – "Offer Hybrid or Remote Work."

Most companies offered this highly desirable benefit with an exception for medical providers as these workers must be present to do their work. Extra credit was given for hiring spouses overseas because it is most challenging.

3 – "Host Recruiter Training." Companies that trained recruiters to find and assess military spouse candidates were favored, with bonus points for those with military spouse recruiters on their teams.

4 – "Provide Paid or Permissive Permanent Change of Station (PCS) leave."

Go to the Military.com website for a full list and contact info of the Top 2024 Companies

Another program called the **DoD Military Spouse Career Accelerator Pilot** in its first year offered career ready military spouses a 12-week paid fellowship in the private-sector with a goal of full employment at the end of the program. By January 2024, over 250 companies had committed to providing employment opportunities to

85% of over 500 military spouses who participated in the program.

While there are no guarantees that every spouse looking for employment will be successful initially, the opportunities for this are gaining traction. DoD and other private organizations provide resume building, mentoring, career coaching, interview skills training, scholarships for financial assistance for licensing, certifications, and tuition for trade schools and associate degrees, fellowships, job listings, help for licensing and transfer support, and education and career guidance tools for all stages of career progression.

Employers can become a DoD MSEP partner at [www.militaryone-source.mil](http://www.militaryone-source.mil) or by calling 1-800-342-9647. This centralizes the process for job-seeking spouses and allows companies to start hiring, retaining, and promoting military spouses immediately.

Other helpful websites for spouses and employers are: [www.hiringourheroes.org](http://www.hiringourheroes.org), [Bluestarfam.org](http://Bluestarfam.org) and [American Corporate Partners at acp-usa.org](http://AmericanCorporatePartners.acp-usa.org).

And remember AAAA's Trade, Licensing, and Certification Foundation with details highlighted in this as well as future issues of our magazine.

As more companies step up to hire spouses and veterans, I am optimistic that they'll be recognized with superlatives by Military.com in the years to come.

*Judy Konitzer is the family forum editor for ARMY AVIATION; questions and suggestions can be directed to her at [judy@quad-a.org](mailto:judy@quad-a.org).*

# 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.*

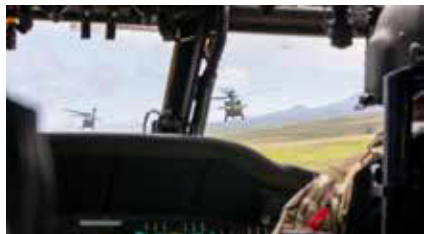
## FLRAA Reaches Milestone B



BELL COURTESY PHOTO

Bell Textron Inc. announced on August 4, 2024 the United States Army has approved the Milestone B decision for the Future Long Range Assault Aircraft (FLRAA), marking the beginning of the weapon system's Program of Record (PoR). As Bell and the FLRAA team enter into the Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) phase, Bell's focus will be on continued design maturation and prototyping.

## Army Awards Improved Threat Detection System OTA



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SFC SEAN WALKER

The U.S. Army Project Manager Aircraft Survivability Equipment (PM ASE) and Army Contract Command-New Jersey recently entered into an Other Transaction Agreement (OTA) with Northrop Grumman and Lockheed Martin for a potential Improved Threat Detection System (ITDS) missile warning solution. ITDS is the next generation Missile Warning and Threat Detection System. It will provide a higher resolution two color infrared sensor suite with a threat agnostic approach to aircraft survivability. ITDS is intended to field on multiple Army Aviation platforms and is currently funded and approved for Phase 1 of the OTA effort to conduct a technology demonstration and maturation effort to evaluate vendor solutions and technical maturity. ITDS will be a Future Airborne Capability Environment (FACE) conformant and Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA)-compliant system, able to operate on current Army aircraft and the Future Long-Range Assault Aircraft.

## Boeing Delivers First CH-47F Block II

Boeing has delivered the first CH-47F Block II Chinook. The aircraft is one of up to 465 in the Army's fleet



BOEING COURTESY PHOTO

that will be modernized to the new Block II configuration. With an improved drivetrain, a reinforced airframe and enhanced fuel system, the CH-47F Block II provides for an additional 4,000 pounds of max gross weight and extends the mission radius for nearly all payloads. In addition to the capability improvements, the aircraft's design enables future technology upgrades.

## Leonardo DRS Delivers 1,000th Infrared Sensor Key



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

Leonardo DRS, Inc. announced on July 2, 2024 that it has provided the 1,000th advanced sensor package which is at the core of BAE Systems' 2-Color Advanced Warning System (2CAWS), a next-generation missile warning and hostile fire detection system. The advanced DRS 2-color infrared detector package is integrated into BAE Systems' 2CAWS system for the U.S. Army's Limited Interim Missile Warning System (LIMWS) Quick Reaction Capability program.

**Contracts** – (From various sources. An "\*" by a company name indicates a small business contract / "\*\*\*" indicates a woman-owned small business)

**Rockwell Collins Inc.**, Cedar Rapids, IA, was awarded a \$36,057,868 cost-plus-fixed-fee contract for Common Avionics Architecture System updates; work locations and funding will be determined with each order, with an estimated completion date of Aug. 2, 2027.

**Walsh Federal LLC**, Chicago, IL, was awarded an \$83,267,000 firm-fixed-price contract for an aviation complex; work will be performed at Fort Riley, Kansas, with an estimated completion date of July 21, 2026.

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## People On The Move

### Aviation General Officer Promotions/Assignments



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

The Chief of Staff of the Army announced the assignment of MG Jamelle C. Shawley, commander (Inactive Ready Reserve), Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa, Operation Enduring Freedom-Horn of Africa, Djibouti, to deputy director, Strategic Initiatives, J-5 (Individual Mobilized Augmentee), Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced that the president has nominated BG Philip J. Ryan for appointment to the grade of major general; Ryan is currently serving as commanding general, U.S. Army South, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

### Aviation Senior Enlisted Promotions/Assignments

The Sergeant Major of the Army announced the selection of the following aviation nominative assignments:



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

CSM Stephen H. Helton, United States Army Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth, KS, has been selected as the Command Sergeant Major, United States Army Futures Command, Austin, TX.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

CSM Bradford L. Smith, U.S. Army Aviation & Missile Command, Redstone Arsenal, AL, has been selected as the Command Sergeant Major, U.S. Army Test Evaluation Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

### UPCOMING AAAA EVENTS

#### OCTOBER 2024

14-16 AUSA Annual Meeting, Washington, DC

#### NOVEMBER 2024

10 AAAA National Executive Board & Scholarship Foundation Board of Governors Meetings, Huntsville, AL  
11-13 AAAA Cribbins Readiness Conference, Huntsville, AL  
28 Thanksgiving

### Changes of Command/Responsibility

#### Partridge Takes Command of Wings of Destiny



COL Tyler Partridge receives the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade colors from MG Brett Sylvia, commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), during a change of command ceremony on June 28, 2024 at Fort Campbell, KY, as outgoing commander, COL Clint Cody (back to camera) and 101 CAB CSM Marcus Pitts standby. Cody was inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael preceding the ceremony by AAAA Air Assault Chapter President, COL (Ret.) Hawk Ruth.

#### CCAD Welcomes Consedine



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY BELLA ADAME

COL Kevin J. Consedine receives the Corpus Christi Army Depot colors from AMCOM Commanding General, MG Thomas W. O'Connor during a change of command ceremony held July 3, 2024 aboard Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, TX as outgoing commander, COL Kyle Hogan (left) and depot senior enlisted advisor, SGM Jon Trawick, stand by.

# 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.*



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

### 16 Officers June 27, 2024

#### Class 24-017

##### Commissioned Officers

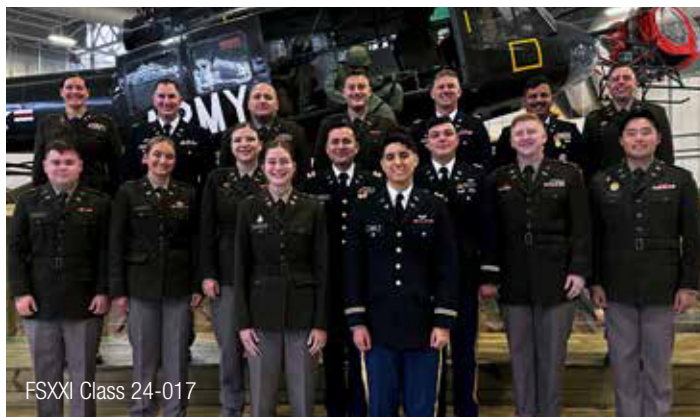
- 1LT Hammel, Margaret E. \* -HG
- 1LT Chasse, Brandon M. \*
- 2LT Grimmes-Amon, Isabelle R.
- 1LT Leon-Kelly, Anais L. \*
- 1LT Shin, Seungnak \*

##### Warrant Officers

- WO1 Birch, Nathaniel D. -HG
- WO1 Butler, Jasper F. \*
- WO1 Carpenter, Steven D.
- WO1 Dickson, Hunter A. \*
- WO1 Garretson, Caitlin C.
- WO1 Gilliam, Jonathan D. \*
- WO1 Gonzalez, Julio C. \*
- WO1 Jimenez, Julio C.
- WO1 Mc Nerney, Michael D.
- WO1 Tapia, Heriberto J.
- WO1 Wells, Daniel E.

- WO1 Dolan, Ryan M. \*
- WO1 Ford, Jordan P. \*
- WO1 Juge, Kelly S. \*
- WO1 Lane, Sean M. \*
- WO1 Long, Ryan H.
- WO1 March, Joshua A.
- WO1 Miller, Brandon D. \*
- WO1 Nizzardo, Michael P. \*
- WO1 Pesonen, Steven J.
- WO1 Reidy, Matthew J. \*

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



FSXXI Class 24-017

### 41 Officers July 11, 2024

#### Class 24-018

##### Commissioned Officers

- 1LT Mitchell, Jacob D. -DG
- 2LT Brauckmuller, Wyatt J. -HG
- 1LT Donahue, Shannon M. -HG
- 2LT Goodman, Zachary L. -HG
- 2LT Everett, Tristan H.
- 1LT Garcia, Efen J.
- 2LT Isidoro Galeno, Jorge I.
- CPT Kemp, Kelley A. \*
- 1LT Landers, Grace V. \*
- 1LT Maier, Joshua S.
- 1LT Mesalucha, Adrian Troy D.
- 1LT Mumma, Zachary M.
- 2LT Mutnansky, Fredrick L.
- 1LT Neville, Charles B. \*
- 2LT O'Gorman, Ciaran M. \*
- 2LT Olson, Sean C.
- 1LT Radke, Amanda E.
- 1LT Romero, William R.
- 1LT Schwarting, Kaitlyn P.
- 1LT Sharpe, Paul S.
- 2LT Voss, Forrest D.
- 1LT Wyman, Cole S.

##### Warrant Officers

- WO1 Avery, Timothy N., Jr. -DG
- WO1 Brown, Matthew R. -HG
- WO1 LeGoubin, Robert J. -HG
- WO1 Baer, Silas P.
- WO1 Baker, Joseph L.
- WO1 Barfield, Joshua W.
- CW2 Basenfelder, Megan E.
- WO1 Britt, Lance R.
- WO1 Dickey, Brian A.



FSXXI Class 24-018

## United States Naval Test Pilot School Graduates



U.S. NAVY PHOTO

AAAA congratulates the following Army graduates of the Engineering Test Pilot Course at the United States Navy Experimental Test Pilot School, at Patuxent River, MD.



### 4 Graduates, 14 June 2024 Class 164

- CW4 Matthew T. Clevenger
- CPT Frank E. Arnold
- CPT Christopher J. Smith
- CPT Zachary M. Bell

# People On The Move

## 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. Novosel, AL.

### AH-64 Attack Helicopter Repairer (15R)

Class 022-24  
 PV2 Igor Pshenichnikov \* -DG  
 PV2 Sebastian Joseph Antoine  
 PV2 Jalen D Norris Ray Bragg  
 PFC Kevin Austin Divil  
 SPC Zachary Ryan Dunn  
 PV2 James Philip Finke  
 SPC Gyujoong Hwang  
 SPC Aiden Jacob Mcnitt  
 PV2 Blain Ryan Moore  
 PV2 Jared Fausto Vargas  
 Class 024-24  
 PV2 Julio Cesar Gachuzo \* -DG  
 SPC John Thomas Bivens  
 SPC Eugene Ivan Kachele  
 SPC Cameron Lucas Lord  
 PFC Joshua Miguel Luna  
 PV2 Jariel Ordehi

### UH-60 Helicopter Repairer (15T)

Class 038-24  
 PV2 Isaiah Ryan Smith \* -DG  
 PV2 Michael Vincent Celeste  
 PV2 Trenton Michael Christy  
 PFC Emmah Joyce Harris  
 PV2 Jake Jackson Hurst  
 PFC Jack Andrew Long  
 PV2 Caleb Israel Neely  
 PV2 Ryan Lowell Nettesheim  
 PV2 Joseph David Reynolds  
 PV2 Eric Lee Ybarra, Jr  
 Class 039-24  
 SPC Benjamin M. Carper \* -DG  
 SSG Bader M Alanazi  
 SPC Jennifer Lynn Boettinger  
 SPC Wyatt Earl Brooks  
 SPC Anthony Joseph Camino  
 PV2 Brayden Thomas Clapp

PFC Josiah Cole Davis  
 PV2 Caleb Jordan Elder  
 PFC Henry Briam Espinoza  
 SGT Gilbert Pilar Gomez  
 PV2 Dawson Benjamin Melody  
 PV2 Braiden Robert Michel  
 Class 202-24

PFC Juan Carlos Lasso \* -DG  
 PFC Rachel Michelle Creswell  
 PV2 Derrick Sekilo Farior  
 SPC Tanner Blake Jasinski  
 PV2 Harrison Ethan Kootstra  
 PFC Chasidy Ane Lucas  
 PFC Walker Dayton Mcinnis  
 PV2 Caden Michaelburke Perry  
 PFC Marissa Annette Velez  
 PFC Ian Christopher Wehner  
 PV2 Domenic Edward Wesley  
 Class 203-24

PV2 Owen Reon Anderson \* -DG  
 PFC Henry Alan Bowman  
 PV2 Anthony Mark Cislo  
 PFC Christopher Alexander Hale  
 PV2 Ethan Blu Johnson  
 PV2 Zachary George Macleod  
 PV2 Heinrich Reilly Myers  
 PFC Juan Jose Paris Rodriguez  
 SPC Hasnain Ali Qureshi  
 PFC Jaeden Kalani Steinhoff

### Cargo Helicopter Repairer (15U)

Class 017-24  
 SPC Phuwadol Viroonluecha \* -DG  
 PFC Eliot Michael Addington  
 PFC Fred Henley Applegate, Jr.  
 SPC Sean Daniel Casey  
 SPC Kevin Livan Cervino Perez  
 PV2 Christopher J. Chambers, II  
 PV2 Mervie Kent Tantano Cui  
 PFC Maverik Mark Malm  
 PV2 Eric Daniel Schmid  
 PFC Samuel Webster Schmitz  
 PFC Austin Gary Walker  
 Class 018-24  
 PV2 Gavin Michael Freeman \* -DG  
 SPC James Russell Bates  
 SPC Timothy Samuel David Gregory  
 PV2 Kolomona Leo Kinoshita  
 PV2 Lillian Ann Lozier

PFC Ian Paul Mcdonald  
 PV2 Peter Juan Diego Perea  
 PFC Alexander Eric Smyth  
 PV2 Ryan James Suder  
 PV2 Kenny Tran  
 SGT Mario Valero De Leon  
 PV2 Christian Jay Bongcaron Yasay

### Aircraft Powerplant Repairer (15B)

Class 004-24  
 SPC Mohammad M. Rahman \* -DG  
 PV2 Orlando Yunior Bernabel Perez  
 PFC Levi Jamison Burke  
 SPC Christopher Jordan Francis  
 SPC Nathan Michael McMahan  
 SPC Marco Yamil Terrazasgonzalez  
 PV2 Benjamin Garrett Thomas

### Aircraft Powertrain Repairer (15D)

Class 003-24  
 PV2 John Zachery Cooper \* -DG  
 SPC Tristan Diego Centeno  
 SPC Aliya Nurfa Fareed  
 PFC Arath Gudino  
 PV2 Angela Sabrina Ann Hood  
 PV2 Colin James Masseur  
 PV2 Hunter Bryce Donald Nicholson  
 PFC Darko Petrevski

### Aircraft Electrician (15F)

Class 007-24  
 PFC Mitchell Mikenmoka \* -DG  
 PV2 Shayne Michael Abear  
 PV2 Emely Yarivet Contreras  
 SPC Byungmin Koh  
 PV2 Lydia Rose Pelletier  
 PFC Schnell Melinda El Reid  
 PV2 Sebastian Andre Roman Rivera

### Aircraft Structural Repairer (15G)

Class 005-24  
 PV2 Jacob Ray Draper, Jr. \* -DG  
 PV2 Matthew Paul Ciampa  
 PV2 Frederick Don Fernandez  
 PV2 Breyden Cash Hightower  
 PV2 Gavin Lee Johnson

PFC Marvin Langie  
 PFC Delibethzabeth Lemus-Mateo  
 PFC Brent Lee McBride  
 PV2 William Edward Milligan, Jr.  
 PV2 Theodore Byron Morfe Miras  
 PFC Eli James Reichley  
 SGT Ian Rice  
 PFC Justin Anthony Sassaman  
 SGT Joshua Delane Taylor

### Aircraft Pnedraulics Repairer (15H)

Class 004-24  
 SPC Kenrick Delano Johnson \* -DG  
 PFC Sean Antuane Foster, II  
 SGT Brandon Melchie Lories  
 PVT Colton Xavier Lesta Ollis  
 PV2 Gabriel A Ortez Aparicio  
 SPC Shamal Raj  
 SPC Samuel Sterling Walker

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

Class 007-24  
 PFC Bjorn Christian Armstrong \* -DG  
 PV2 Brian Alexis Aguilar  
 PV2 Wyatt Mckay Anderson  
 PV2 Landen Taylor Bailey  
 PFC Sebastian Ethan Christianson  
 PV2 Donamic Matthew Farley  
 PFC Alec Raven Wesolowski  
 PV2 Donovan Lee Wooton  
 Class 008-24  
 PV2 Nathaniel R. Hollingsworth \* -DG  
 PV2 Kaden Xavier Fonseca  
 SPC Alexandar Lee Jorgenson  
 PFC Andrew Louis Leatherbury  
 SPC Dawid Israel Lopez  
 PV2 Jayden Michael Mauser  
 PV2 Edill Andres Melendez Davila  
 PFC Julian Antonio Rosales  
 PV2 Juwelty Santos Gonzalez  
 SPC Dylan Jordan Wyant  
 SPC Gavin Alexander Yennie

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



## AAAA NATIONAL AWARDS ARE OPEN!

Awards To Be Presented at the 2025 Annual Army Aviation Mission Solutions Summit:

- Joseph P. Cribbins Department of the Army Civilian of the Year
- Robert M. Leich Award
- James H. McClellan Aviation Safety
- Army Reserve Aviation Unit of the Year
- Henry Q. Dunn Crew Chief of the Year
- John J. Stanko Army National Guard Aviation Unit of the Year
- Army Aviation Soldier of the Year
- Active Army Aviation Unit of the Year
- Rodney J.T. Yano NCO of the Year
- Outstanding Army Aviation Unit of the Year
- Michael J. Novosel Army Aviator of the Year

**January 1 Suspense [quad-a.org/awards](http://quad-a.org/awards)**

**Recognize Our Soldiers and Units! Send in Your Nominations Today.**



# AAAA Legislative Report

By LTC (Ret.) Patrick “Josh” Baker  
 AAAA Representative to the Military Coalition (TMC)  
[josh.baker@quad-a.org](mailto:josh.baker@quad-a.org)

## Senate Armed Services Committee NDAA Mark Up – Where is the Love?

The Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) was NOT generous when it came to their National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) markup of the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Army Aviation budget request. The SASC authorized additional funding above the Army’s budget request for only four programs. The good news is the SASC didn’t cut any programs. Aside from the four adds captured in Figure 1, the SASC marked up to the Army’s budget request.

Remember that funding tables in the NDAA do not represent fully appropriated funding (budget authority) for program execution. Real funding comes from the Defense Appropriations Bill. An old saying goes “you can’t spend an authorized dollar.” However, in this case the SASC NDAA marks could be a leading indicator of what the Senate, in general, is thinking about various programs. Following this logic Army Aviation may not receive many appropriations increases above the request. Hopefully, this scenario won’t be the case. SAC-D Mark Up of the Budget Request is scheduled for the end of July.

## “History doesn’t repeat itself...but it does rhyme.” – Mark Twain (Supposedly)

Members of Congress are motivated by whatever it takes to keep their jobs. History validates that the Defense Committees will push conferencing the Defense Bills (NDAA and Appropriations) until after the election cycle in November to avoid negative press. Especially if it comes in the form of a controversial position related to National Defense. This delaying tactic is something that both parties get behind. This is exactly what is expected following the Senate Appropriations Committee-Defense (SAC-D) markup of the Defense Appropriations Bill – another continuing resolution (CR). This delaying tactic is something that both parties get behind. Pushing conference actions of the Defense Bills into next calendar year, or after the election, reduces risk for Members. The irony is that Members aren’t doing their

Fiscal Year 2025 NDAA SASC Marks				
PROCUREMENT (Proc)				
NDAA				
Program	Requested	HASC	SASC	SASC Comment
Small UAS (SUAS)	\$69,573	\$69,573	\$79,573	Co sUAS (UFR)
Apache Mods	\$81,026	\$81,026	\$94,326	Improved Tail Rotor
Blackhawk Helicopter Mods	\$34,565	\$34,565	\$44,565	Lakota Life Cycle
RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT TEST & EVALUATION (RDT&E)				
Program	Requested	HASC	SASC	SASC Comment
Future Vertical Lift Advanced Technology	\$140,578	\$150,578	\$145,578	Cyber and Electro protection

Figure 1

FY 25 Defense Bills Status	NDAA		Defense Approps	
	HASC	SASC	HAC-D	SAC-D
Committee Mark Up	Green	Green	Green	Red
Floor Vote	Green	Red	Green	Red
Conference	Red	Red	Red	Red

Figure 2

job – to potentially keep their job. Keeping their jobs, or their respective Parties’ majority in the House or Senate, overrides the dire need for timely passage of the Defense Bills. The pending election cycle has a lot at stake for both parties. The Republicans hold a razor thin Majority in the House, and Democrats the same in the Senate. Control of the House, Senate and Presidency is up for grabs. FY25 National Defense authorizations and appropriations can wait.

## What to Expect When Conference Activities Commence?

Guessing the length of an assured continuing resolution is one thing. Determining how Army Aviation will fare during conference following what is predicted to be a heated election is best left up to a psychic. Control of the House, Senate and Presidency can significantly shape the outcomes of both Defense Bills. However, from an optimistic perspective, the House and Senate versions of the FY 25 NDAA are not too controversial from a policy perspective. Especially when compared to the FY24 version. Social justice reforms seem to be replaced by Soldier quality of life initiatives related to pay increases and better housing. Perhaps the NDAA will be an easy conference. What’s to be determined is how far apart the HAC-D and SAC-D marks will be

when considering the latter isn’t public record yet. Regardless, Army Aviation Branch will likely go “REDCON 3” 30 September awaiting the conclusion of another CR and moreover, the fallout of the pending election.

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[ARMYAVIATIONmagazine.com](http://ARMYAVIATIONmagazine.com)

# 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 August/September 1999

### 1,000,000 Drug Prescriptions

The prescription drug provider, Merck-Medco Managed Care, LLC, reported that by late June it had filled more than 1,000,000 prescriptions for the DoD's National Mail Order

Pharmacy (NMOP) program. The firm provides mail service prescriptions to all eligible retirees and those still on active duty and their families and performs this service on a worldwide basis. Details pertaining to the program are available at the Merck-Medco Managed Care Online website, [www.merck-medco.com](http://www.merck-medco.com).

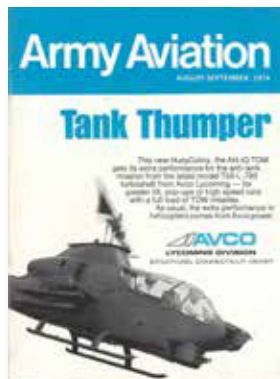
### Partnership

DoD and NAPA, the National Automobile Parts Association, have come together to enable military motor pools and other units to obtain large discounts, as well as access to a huge reservoir of parts inventories and delivery service. The arrangement is managed by the Defense Logistics Agency's Defense Supply Center in Columbus, Ohio. Registered units can save from 20 to 50 percent on repair parts by using their government credit cards. Access to some 230,000 parts is managed through a distribution network of 9,200 NAPA dealers and 71 regional distribution centers. Necessary parts in-stock can be delivered in minutes, with special orders filled within 24 hours.



### Postal Service

The U.S. Postal Service unveiled a new stamp. The new issue features a hovering UH-1H helicopter, suggesting the contribution rendered by Army aviation during the Vietnam War. The new issue was designed by Carl Herrman of Laguna Niguel, California. Please see page 81, "U.S. Postal Service," Army Aviation, August-September 1999.



## 50 Years Ago August/September 1974

### Shake and Bake?

Wrapped and waiting as if to be shipped, this Army Cobra sat at Fort Hood for forty-five days. Such was a test of the form-fitted DriClad system. The plastic wrap is part of a

test conducted by MASSTER to find a method to prevent rust and corrosion in aircraft stored for various periods of time. A dehumidifier inside the cocoon warms and recirculates the air and is monitored by a control box located at the lower right.



### To the Boneyard

Captain James N. Baird (left) and Michael R. Cullen (right) conduct final checks on an Army Beaver. They are to make a long, final flight, one lasting 18 hours over three days, from the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland to the final destination,



Davis Air Force Base in Arizona. Baird and Cullen will alternate piloting the Beaver to its final resting place. The plane in question was one of the four U-6As remaining in Army inventory.

### Women in Army Aviation

PFC Bobbie J. Skar of Yakima, Washington (left), is considered the first woman to enlist specifically for the AH-1G Helicopter Mechanics Course at U.S. Army Transportation School and, the first to graduate from said class on August 1. Private Suzanne K. Garrett was the first woman to complete the OH-6 Helicopter Mechanic Program at Fort Eustis. She is also the first woman from the Florida Army National Guard to undergo such training.



Celebrating the 50th  
Anniversary of the Army  
Aviation Hall of Fame



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 Novosel, AL.

The deadline for nominations for the 2026 induction is June 1, 2025

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

# Army Aviation Hall of Fame

## Igor Ivanovich Sikorsky

By Mark Albertson



Igor Ivanovich Sikorsky was born in Kiev, Russia, May 15, 1889. The youngest of five children, he became a consummate reader at a very young age; often reading to his three sisters and brother. It was Igor's mother who planted the seed that would eventually blossom into a passion for aviation, regaling her son with stories of Leonardo da Vinci and his drawings of flying machines. He also ingested the writings of Jules Verne, particularly interested in Verne's ideas for a helicopter.

He attended the Russian Naval Academy at St. Petersburg, 1903-1906; then, entered the Polytechnic Institute in Kiev, 1907.

Sikorsky put aside his ideas for the helicopter, devoting himself to the development of fixed wing, producing numerous models with a myriad of designs, including both single and multi-engine aircraft.

In 1912, his energies were focused on his creation known as the Grand, the world's first four-engine airplane, complete with a forward balcony and sixteen wheels. The marvel flew on May 13, 1913. It became known more popularly by another name, the Ilya Muromets, the world's first four-engine bomber.

Sikorsky left Russia in 1914 and journeyed to the United States by way of France for a new homeland, a new career, a new life.

On March 5, 1923, he formed the Sikorsky Engineering Corporation, starting with \$800 in cash and several thousands in pledges for stock. And by the late 1930s, he was on the cusp of a dream . . . his helicopter, for he achieved stability with his design known as the VS-300, September 14, 1939.

"On May 26, 1940, at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio, he showed a film on the VS-300 to an audience from the Army Air Corps' Material Division. The pitch to get Washington to open its wallet worked. Funds, though, were limited since the Army was already invested in the XR-1 from the Platt-Le Page Aircraft Company. Nevertheless, Sikorsky submitted a proposal to produce another design, the VS-316 for

\$50,000. The Army agreed, and a contract was signed on January 10, 1941."<sup>1</sup>

"The original VS-316 design featured three tail rotors, a vertical rotor mounted in the center flanked by horizontal rotors. The design change to a simple vertical rotor added \$10,000 to the original contract. Approximate development costs for the follow-on experimental XR-4 amounted to some \$200,000."<sup>2</sup>

On May 20, 1942, the Army agreed to order 15 XR-4s for development. Fourteen more were ordered in January 1943. And during World War II, Sikorsky's R-4 would become the world's first production helicopter. For Igor Sikorsky and his namesake company, the R-4 was only the beginning. The R-5 was a helicopter that helped to showcase the future of rotary wing aircraft in a combat environment, Korea, as did the multi-purpose H-19 Chickasaw. The follow on H-34 would become the first helicopter approved for Army use as a presidential executive shuttle.

The Sikorsky CH-37 medium cargo and the CH-54 heavy lift helicopters showcased Sikorsky's evolutionary design prowess with the rapidly changing nature of mobile warfare.

His many awards included the National Defense Transportation Award in 1952 and Man of the Year by the Air Force Association in 1966. He was inducted into the first class of the Army Aviation Hall of Fame in 1974, as representative of the pre-1942 period; an exclusive club to be sure.

Igor Sikorsky, a man who played a decisive role in the Army's quest for airmobility, died October 26, 1972. He was 83 years old.

### Endnotes

1 – See page 1, "Saga of the Eggbeater," *World War II History*, by Mark Albertson, October 2016.

2 – Ibid.

---

*Mark Albertson is the award-winning Army Aviation Publications Historian and a contributing editor to ARMY AVIATION magazine.*



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to provide the country with  
the best defense.



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on next-generation propulsion and  
aircraft systems.



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