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*The Legacy of Excellence
Continues*



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Chairman's Message



The heat of summer is here and vacations, baseball, fishing and just plain relaxing is on the minds of everyone. I certainly hope you are taking advantage of whatever activity that suits you because you deserve it. Your board has however been quite busy from putting the final touches on our strategic plan to prepare for the annual golf tournament to introducing our new

Board members to their roles and responsibilities; all of which will make our organization more viable and resilient. Joining us are COL Karen M. Wrancher who will head Communications and Publications, COL(R) Angie Hemmingway who will lead our Membership Development, COL(P) Aaron Dean who will lead our Reserve and National Guard Affairs, and COL(R) Dorene Hurt, who will remain on the board but in a new role as the head of Programs and Strategic Planning. Each of these new members bring a fresh new level of energy that is necessary for our organization to be relevant and vibrant.

We have expended a great deal of energy in revising our Strategic Plan to ensure our road map to the future is relevant and viable. You can expect a finished product in the very near future. Ms. Delores Johnson-Davis and her team deserve kudos for this massive effort which will pay huge dividends as we move our organization into the future. Speaking of the future, I am pleased to announce that effective July 1, our partnership with AUSA has been finalized. We will have a separate announcement that will provide the specifics of this partnership.

Just as we focus on the future, we find that we must unfortunately bid farewell to several of our stewards and originating members. First is LTG(R) Andrew Chambers who passed on June 3. His many contributions to The ROCKS are chronicled in this edition but the one thing that stands out most of all is that not only was he a great leader but he also was just as great a mentor. Yours truly was one of the many who benefited from his mentorship and leadership. Another of our originating members who has departed us was COL(R) Clarence Barrens. This Korean War and Vietnam War Veteran was one of our early leaders whose quiet leadership laid the foundation of our organization and helped define the tenets of mentorship which serves as the cornerstone of our organization today. We owe a great debt of gratitude to these two ROCKS; although, they will not be physically with us but their presence will remain with us through the people they molded and touched as well as the impact they had on our organization. May they rest in peace.

We were also recently saddened by the loss of Mrs. Mildred "Millie" Robinson, the wife of the Army's first African American four-star General Roscoe Robinson. She will be remembered as a great 1st Lady, may she rest in peace. Her funeral will be on the 8th of August at the Old Ft Myer Chapel.

The ROCKS like any great organization is only as good as the people who are a part of it. One such person is BG Rich Dix. He is concluding a great career in our Army, his accomplishments are many but we would like to highlight several of his many contributions he has made to the ROCKS. He has been our messenger by conducting numerous mentoring sessions wherever he traveled around our Army. He is best known for the document he developed which enabled officers to understand, define, and describe their responsibilities, then articulate their achievements against the established standard. Congratulations on a great career and we look forward to you remaining a steadfast ROCK Leader in retirement.

A great ROCKS CONGRATULATIONS goes out to LTG Darrell Williams on his promotion to 3-star general and his appointment as the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency. LTG Williams has always been a strong mentor and leader, and we know he will continue that in his new role. We also like to congratulate BG Donna Martin who is the first African American female ever to serve as Commandant of the U.S. Army Military Police School at Fort Leonard Wood. We also would like to congratulate COL(P) Telita Crosland on her selection to Brigadier General. Congratulations are also in order for Dr. Janet Natasha Vaughn for her selection to Lieutenant Colonel. We are extremely proud of all our promotees.

I close by reminding everyone that we have fellow soldiers in harm's way, so I ask for your prayers for their safe return as they serve our Nation.

Earl Simms
BG USA (Ret.)
Chairman



ROCKET SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

As you help us coach, promote mentorship, networking, leader diversity, and professional development to a world-wide readership please adhere to the following:

- ✓ Submit articles in **MS Word Document Format Only**
(Do not include photos within body of text: please add photos to the end of the article)
- ✓ Article Header should be in Times New Roman Font; Font Size=14 and Bolded)
- ✓ Author/contributor credit reflected in following format:
Written by _____ (Font=Times New Roman Italics; Font Size = 10)
- Page Margins = 1" Left, Right, Top and Bottom
- The text should be Font=Times New Roman; Font Size=10. No special formatting. Use left justification. Maximum number of words=600 words
- Maximum number of photos per article = 3 (Include at the end of the article)
- Include photo captions under photo (Font=Times New Roman; Font Size=8)
- PDF document will NOT be accepted.
- Links to web articles will NOT be accepted.
- Articles should be written in 3rd party tense.
- If would like an article from another publication to appear in the ROCKET, you must obtain written permission from the author and forward it to nationalrocket@gmail.com along with the article in MS Word format.

DEADLINE FOR FALL EDITION: 15 SEPTEMBER 2017

A Fond Farewell

Written by COL (Ret) Dorene Hurt, USA



As I take my leave as your ROCKS VP for Communications and Publications, I want to take the opportunity to reflect on over a decade of service in this role, but more importantly, to introduce you to my replacement, COL Karen Wrancher.

COL Wrancher's no stranger to the Rocket Team. An extremely dedicated and talented ROCK, she volunteered to join the Rocket Staff several years ago, and has helped to ensure the publication of the Rocket for the last few years, including while she was deployed. I will be forever grateful that she was particularly instrumental in ensuring that the ROCKET was published during my recovery and rehabilitation from an accident and surgery.



As she takes the helm, I am asking that all ROCKS support her as she develops then implements, her ROCKS Communications and Publications strategy. I'm confident that she and her Team will enhance our communications and publications in a way that will more fully leverage social media, motivate more active and Reserve Component millennial officers to participate and support ROCKS, Inc. efforts, while simultaneously maintaining the support

of our senior officers and sponsors. She will also need your help to ensure that we reach out to our HBCUs and PMSs to support them and capture the many activities in which they are engaged in their ROTC programs and the community.

There are many lessons learned from over a decade of serving as your ROCKS VP for Communications and Publications. In my role as the Rocket Editor, the #1 lesson for me has been the importance of constantly reaching out to Chapters to encourage them to submit articles and photos to "Tell Your Story." No one knows more about what you are doing, why, how, and when, than you do. Some of you have told me that you didn't necessarily view what you were doing as significant. I beg to differ.

Conducting professional development sessions, mentoring, community outreach, promotion and retirement ceremonies, key reassignments, awarding scholarships, reaching out to veterans and assisting young people and their parents in navigating the ROTC Scholarship application process are all worthy of documenting in the Rocket. These are just a few of

the categories of information and activities that help our overall organization document our history and contributions.

The #2 lesson that I have learned is how critical it is to have ongoing engagement with our Army's senior leaders. It would be almost impossible to accomplish our goals without the support of our Army leaders since our primary focus on mentoring clearly aligns, but does not conflict with, the Army's mentoring goals. We currently enjoy the support of the Chief of Staff of the Army, our 2017 Honorary ROCK of the Year. The new Vice Chief of staff was previously the Army G1 and served as the CSA's primary POC with the ROCKS. Gen. McConville was fully engaged with us and has been extremely supportive. He has reiterated his support since becoming the Vice. We also work very closely with and enjoy the support of MG Hughes, a long-term ROCK, 2017 ROCK of the Year, and Commander of Cadet Command and the AUSA President, Gen. Carter Ham. It is imperative that all ROCKS leaders are aware of and understand the importance of strategic relationships with the Army and other entities.

Lesson #3 is about resourcing. No matter what great ideas and intent one has individually or as an organization, it is impossible to bring your strategy to fruition without ample resources. This makes something as simple as paying your local and National dues, donating to ROCKS efforts and supporting ROCKS initiatives absolutely critical. Nonprofit organizations such as ours rely on the ongoing support of its members. We also are increasingly reliant on sponsors that enable us to conduct more robust programs beyond our basic efforts. Garnering support from civilian companies is key to our long-term strategy. This ties directly to the importance of documenting your mentoring program and submitting your quarterly reports and articles and photos for the quarterly Rocket. Current and potential sponsors want evidence of what we are doing to ensure that it is in line with their values and community outreach goals, like supporting that conduct STEM projects with youths.

There are many more lessons but the last key lesson for this article is that there is no **US** without **YOU**. We need to hear more from you so that we are developing plans and programs that you are interested in, and are willing to support. The ROCKS National Board wants to ensure that our organization reflects your interests in terms of relevancy. Getting more of your ongoing input will go a mighty long way in helping us to remain responsible, relevant, and resourced!

Finally, I'm extremely grateful for the current and former ROCKS Chairmen having the faith in me to allow me to serve in that role for so long. I'm looking forward to my new role on the National Board and will endeavor to do my best to continue serving you. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OVER THE YEARS!**

TOP STORIES

Leading at the Tip of the Spear: GEN Vincent K. Brooks

*Article Submitted & partially written &
updated by COL (Ret) Dorene Hurt, USA*

On March 17, U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson met with Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, commander of the United Nations Command, Combined Force Command and U.S. Forces Korea after Japan held its first evacuation drill following the launch by North Korea of four ballistic missiles within 220 miles of the Japanese shoreline. Brooks is a 2014 ROCK of the Year.

Both of North Korea's latest actions were a violation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions. According to CNN, North Korea has fired 17 missiles during 11 tests in 2017. These tests add a volatile element to the new U.S. Administration's efforts to curb North Korea's determination to bolster its nuclear missile abilities according to the New York Times.



Friday, March 17, 2017 photo, U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, right, is briefed by U.S. Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, commander of the United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command and United States Forces Korea as a North Korean soldier, rear right, takes a photograph through a window at the U.N. Command Military Armistice Commission meeting room at the border village of Panmunjom, which has separated the two Koreas since the Korean War, South Korea. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man, Pool, File)

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson met Gen. Vincent K. Brooks with South Korean officials and discussed international efforts to end North Korea's nuclear weapons and missile programs. Tillerson hinted at striking North Korea during a news conference. He also urged the Chinese, South Korean, and Japanese authorities to step up pressure on the communist country to end its nuclear and ballistic missile programs. As commander of the UN and U.S. forces in North Korea, Brooks is responsible for making sure that North Korean aggression is

deterred, combat readiness is improved and South Korea is defended.

Brooks is a 1980 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point. In his senior year, he was selected to serve as the Cadet Brigade Commander of the U.S. Corps of Cadets—the highest military leadership position a cadet can hold at West Point. He was the first African American person to be selected for that position.



Gen. Vincent K. Brooks leads UN and U.S. forces in Korea during a turbulent time with North Korea. (Courtesy Photo)

During his nearly 37 years as a commissioned officer, including 14 years as a general officer, Brooks commanded two infantry companies, an infantry battalion, a heavy brigade, two divisions, and two theater armies. He has also served in many leadership positions, such as chief of operations spokesman for the United States Central Command during the Second Iraqi War in Doha, Qatar, and worked with “Operation Enduring Freedom” and “Operation Iraqi Freedom” campaigns during the Iraqi War.

Brooks currently serves as the eighth African American four-star general in the history of the U.S. Army. Gen. Brooks is the only four-star African American General remaining on active duty. During his service, he has earned a Master's of Military Art and Science degree from the School of Advanced Military Studies at the Army Command and General Staff College and an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the New England School of Law in Boston. He also served as a National Security Fellow at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and has been the recipient of numerous military medals including the Army Distinguished Service Medal (with three oak leaf clusters) and the Defense Superior Service Medal among others.

Brooks' promotion to brigadier general in 2004 along with the identical rank promotion of his older brother, Leo Jr., made the Brooks family the first African American family with three Army generals, including their father, Leo Sr., who was a brigadier general in the Army.

The Republic of Korea – U.S. Alliance is a partnership between South Korea and the U.S. forged during the Korean War in the 1950s. Because a peace treaty was never signed following the conflict with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, North Korea, the two nations are still technically at war.

Brooks has four priorities for the U.S. Alliance with South Korea, a partnership that provides stability on the ground for the Korean Peninsula and promotes economic success for the region. The priorities include:

- Sustain and strengthen the Alliance — A strong Alliance serves as the basis of stability and security on the Korean Peninsula and across the region.
- Maintain the Armistice — Be ready to “Fight Tonight” to deter and defeat aggression. Through a series of three annual multinational, combined, and joint exercises the commander enhances military readiness.
- Transform the Alliance for the future as it becomes stronger and more capable.

To sustain the force and enhance the command team, emphasis is placed on the importance of a healthy command climate.

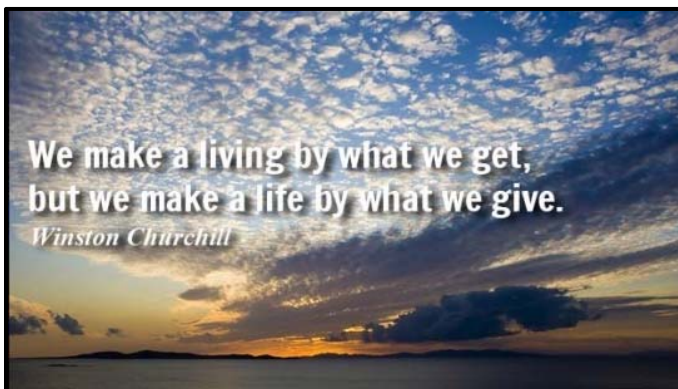
“We are role models to a lot of young people, not just African Americans and soldiers,” Brooks said.

To read more about the state of the Peninsula and Gen. Brook's, suggest that you review his posture statement:

*STATEMENT OF GENERAL VINCENT K. BROOKS
COMMANDER, UNITED NATIONS COMMAND; REPUBLIC
OF KOREA AND UNITED STATES COMBINED FORCES
COMMAND; AND UNITED STATES FORCES KOREA IN
SUPPORT OF U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND'S TESTIMONY
BEFORE THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
April 27, 2017*

LINK: https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2017%20USFK%20Posture%20Statement%20FINAL%20SASC_04-27-17.pdf

(It is partially reprinted from the March 28, 2017 AFROAMERICAN NEWSPAPER ARTICLE. PHOTO CREDITS LISTED)



LTG Williams Becomes the 19th DLA Director

Written by Dianne Ryder, DLA Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Darrell Williams was simultaneously promoted to lieutenant general and appointed the Defense Logistic Agency's 19th director in a ceremony, June 16 at the McNamara Headquarters Complex on Fort Belvoir.



DLA Director Army Lt. Gen. Darrell Williams takes the oath of office, administered by Army Gen. Vincent Brooks (on screen), commander of U.S. Forces Korea, with wife Carol Brooks at right. (Photo by Teodora Mocanu)

Williams previously served as commanding general of U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command/Sustainment Center of Excellence at Fort Lee, Va. This is his second assignment with DLA; his first was as commander of DLA Land and Maritime in Columbus, Ohio, from September 2010 to July 2012.

Despite the time difference, Gen. Vincent Brooks, commander, U.S. Forces Korea, officiated the promotion ceremony via video teleconference.

“I believe that Darrell Williams is probably the most well-rounded logistician I’ve encountered in my career — and that is tall praise with the people (present) in that room,” Brooks said. “Darrell is a unique package when you put everything together and look at all he’s accomplished, as a person and a professional.”

Brooks expounded on Williams’ varied experience at the tactical, operational and wholesale global levels.

“Pretty much, the whole world has been a place touched by Darrell Williams and his service,” Brooks said. “His institutional experiences are unparalleled, as well.”

Brooks joked that Williams “only had three master’s degrees” but noted the distinction of Williams’ selection as a small-group instructor at the Quartermaster School early in his career, where he trained fellow Service members to become proficient logisticians. Later, Williams graduated from Army’s Command and General Staff College’s School of Advanced Military Studies, where he learned the “art of war,” Brooks said.

“There are not many logisticians who have taken that course,” he said. “Darrell Williams is one of them, and has demonstrated his extraordinary knowledge in applying what he learned there time and time again.”

“Our nation has chosen well, and we will all be the beneficiaries because of this elevation that’s about to happen,” Brooks said. Brooks then administered the oath of office to Williams. After Williams’ wife, son and daughter affixed the shoulder boards of his new rank, Williams’ brother, James Williams, a Vietnam veteran, presented his brother with a beret with his new lieutenant general rank and saluted him.



*DLA Director Army Lt. Gen. Darrell Williams receives his three-star shoulder boards from (left-right) his wife Myra and his children.
(Photo by Teodora Mocanu)*

James MacStravic, performing the duties of the undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics, officiated the assumption of responsibility. He talked about DLA’s important role partnering with AT&L to support Defense Department goals.

“Your mission, expertise and experience will continue to be valued at the highest level,” he said. “Darrell, your expansive experience, demonstrated leadership qualities and absolute support to the warfighter will be a great asset here at DLA. You’ve been described as a great mentor and a ‘people first’ leader, and I have no doubt the DLA workforce will continue to thrive under your leadership.”

MacStravic then presented the DLA command flag to Williams, assisted by Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Tobin, DLA’s senior enlisted leader.

Williams opened his remarks to the audience by stating his leadership philosophy.

“If you take care of your people, the mission will happen,” Williams said. He pointed out that the ceremony was not about him. “It’s about God, it’s about family and it’s about service to nation.”

Williams said, early in his career, he had a hard time believing this promotion would come but said he now faces the opportunity with “confident humility — confident that the military has provided me with the requisite background experience, yet humbled by the enormity of the responsibility for leading a critical, global Department of Defense agency,” he added.

Williams highlighted the importance of his career success to his family.

“My task has been to take care of troops and their families, take care of my own family and to follow the dimly lit path in front of me,” he said. Williams thanked his immediate family members for their support. “(It’s) been a priceless asset to our military, and frankly, to my effectiveness as a military officer.” Williams recalled his initial service in ROTC as an obligatory means toward a scholarship, but noted, “Somewhere along the path, I fell in love with our troops and families and bought into the idea of service before self.”

Williams thanked troops and civilians and former agency directors, especially former DLA Director Air Force Lt. Gen. Andrew Busch, who retired May 11 and could not be present at the ceremony.

Previous DLA Directors Navy Vice Adm. Mark Harnitchek and Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson were in the audience.

As a Department of Defense combat support agency, DLA provides the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, federal agencies, and partner nations with a variety of logistics, acquisition and technical services. The agency sources and provides nearly all of the consumable items America’s military forces need to operate, from food, fuel and energy, to uniforms, medical supplies, and construction and barrier equipment. DLA also supplies 86 percent of the military’s spare parts.

Congratulations!

BG Hamilton Relinquishes Command

Written by COL Karen M. Wrancher, USA

BG Charles R. Hamilton relinquished command on the Defense Logistics Agency Troop support command on Tuesday July 11, 2017 in front of a standing room only crowd of more than 350 family, friends, fraternity brothers, service members and DoD Civilians.

Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support, headquartered in Philadelphia, supplies more than \$14 billion annually worth of food, clothing and textiles, construction and engineer equipment, medical supplies, pharmaceuticals and repair parts in support of America's warfighters worldwide and other federal customers.



*BG Hamilton receives a standing ovation following his last town hall meeting
(Photo taken by Ed Maldonado)*

Accomplishments during BG Hamilton's tenure as the DLA Troop Support Commander include:

- Oversaw the award of a \$26B Global Pharmaceutical Prime Vendor contract improving the agency's ability to provide pharmaceuticals to the warfighters and other DoD and federal beneficiaries
- Led the effort to roll out Radio Frequency Identification Tags to Recruit Training Center, estimated to save \$8M over six years
- Ensured personnel involvement in leadership development, improving the skill of the workforce and enhancing the focus on succession planning and mentorship for developing future leaders
- Oversaw the award of 40 continental United States DLA Subsistence prime vendor contracts projected to garner an annual savings of \$70M to the military services and other federal customers
- Directed the award of a long-term contract in support of Corpus Christi Army Depot that supports comprehensive

bench stock requirements resulting in a 99.5 percent fill rate to customers with 12,000 items supported.

LTG Darrel K. Williams, DLA Director credited BG Hamilton for supporting the creation of Troop Support's resiliency program, leadership development and his impact on mission support, including \$14.4 billion worth of materials provided to the services and other customers in 2016.

BG Hamilton thanked The DLA Troop Support workforce and encouraged them to "continue to do what you do," especially as his son, a 2LT with the Army's 101st Airborne Division. Prepares to deploy next summer.

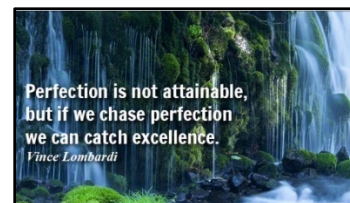
"That's my charge to you," Hamilton said. "Keep being innovative, don't rest on your laurels and never settle for status quo."

COL Mark T. Simmerly, DLA TS new commander said thank you to BG Hamilton for making it such a smooth transition.



*BG Hamilton passes his colors to LTG Williams
(Photo taken by Ed Maldonado)*

BG Hamilton, ROCK of the Year, in 2013 has been a stalwart supporter of the ROCKS. Even with his demanding schedule, he has been the epitome of a servant leader. He has given OPDs junior officers and spoken with senior leaders as he has traveled TDY to such places as Kuwait, Fort Campbell, Fort Bragg, Fort Carson as well as Cadets in such places as Hampton University and Rutgers University. BG Hamilton departs DLA Troop Support and goes on to serve as the U.S. Forces Korea's Senior Logistician.



BG Dix Says Farewell

Written by COL (Ret) Dorene Hurt, USA



MG (Ret) Abraham Turner retires BG Dix during his 17 July Retirement/Farewell Dinner at Rock Island, Illinois.

2011 ROCK of the Year BG Richard Dix, Commander of the Joint Munitions Command at Rock Island, Illinois was honored during a retirement and farewell dinner at the Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center in Moline, Illinois July 17. BG Dix relinquished command to COL Heidi Hoyle in a ceremony hosted by AMC Commander, Gen. Gus Perna July 18.

Fellow ROCK, MG (Ret) "Abe" Turner, a South Carolina State alumnae, and longtime mentor of BG Dix, served as the presiding official.



BG Dix and AMC Commander General Gustave Perna on Memorial Field during the 18 July Joint Munitions Command Change of Command Ceremony at Rock Island, Illinois. BG Dix was replaced by COL Heidi Hoyle.



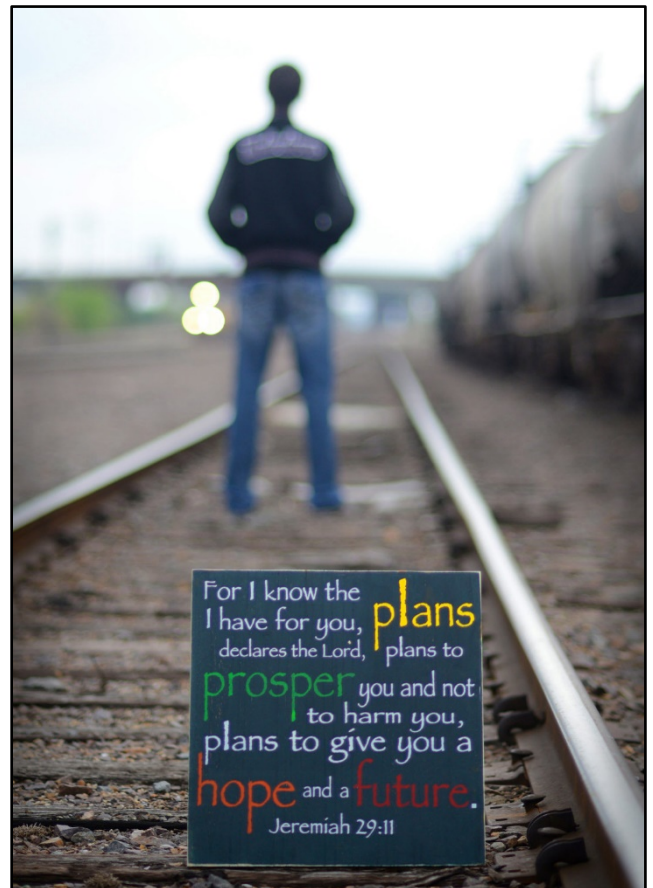
During the 18 July Joint Munitions Command Change of Command Ceremony at Rock Island, Illinois, BG Dix passes the guidon to AMC Commander General Gustave Perna.



The National Board of the ROCKS, Inc. Scholarship Programs

ATTENTION ALL CADETS!!!!

The application process for The ROCKS, Inc. scholarship programs will begin September 1, 2017. Information will be mailed out to participating colleges and universities next month. Stay tuned for more details in the Fall Edition of the ROCKET.



For I know the
I have for you, **plans**
declares the Lord, **plans** to
prosper you and not
to harm you,
plans to give you a
hope and a **future**.
Jeremiah 29:11

CADET CORNER

A Tragic Loss Robs Our Nation of A Talented Young Newly Commissioned Officer

Written by COL (Ret) Dorene Hurt, USA



2LT Richard Collins, III photo displayed at his funeral on May 26th.

Only days after being commissioned at Bowie State University as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, 2LT Richard Collins, III, 23, was standing at a bus stop on May 20th with two friends on the University of Maryland main campus when a man walked up to him and stabbed him in the chest, according to the University of Maryland (UMD) police. The alleged assailant, 22-year-old Sean Urbanski was linked with the “Alt-Reich: Nation” social media page.

UMD President Wallace Loh has initiated an action plan to combat hate and create a safer campus. “We all want a culture that rejects hate and forges a more perfect union in our nation’s rich multicultural and multiethnic diversity...but these are fraught times, on our campus, across the nation, and the world. It is on all of us to stand up and fight the racism, extremism, and hate that are cancers in our body politic,” Loh said.

The funeral for 2LT Richard Collins, III. was held on May 26th at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden, Maryland, four days before he was to walk across the stage during Bowie State’s graduation ceremony to claim his diploma. Pleas for justice but also racial reconciliation were expressed during the service. Hundreds of families, friends, classmates, police officers, local, state, and government officials, mourners, and even people who did not know 2LT Collins but who were struck by this brazen and horrific act attended the service. A letter to the family from Prince George’s County Executive Rushern Baker was read during the service stated: “Our hearts were shattered by this

tremendous loss to you, your family and our community. The story and the tragedy of his death have touched people all over this country. Since the day we learned of Richard’s death, so many of us have wondered how could this happen? He was a young man with so much promise. He was everything we want our youth to be a person with selfless devotion to his family, friends and to our nation.”



2014 ROCK of the Year, Lt. Gen. Gwen Bingham, Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, recalled how she commissioned Collins and his fellow Bowie State cadets during a ceremony the week before the stabbing—just two days before he was killed.

“The day of his commissioning ceremony, I vividly remember meeting him for the first time and what struck me with such great pride was his positive attitude, his vivacious smile and excitement,” Bingham said. Collins was set to join the military intelligence corps and would have soon reported for training at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri. Collins’ father and grandfather also served in the military. “He was so proud to wear the uniform, and he looked sharp in it,” she also stated.



MG Christopher Hughes, CG U.S. Army Cadet Command

2017 ROCK of the Year MG Christopher Hughes, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Cadet Command said he received dozens of letters from Collins’ peers praising him

as a natural leader and a reliable friend, often offering fellow cadets rides to the Metro and to physical fitness training. "Remember that this is the legacy of a young 23-year-old man who wanted to do something greater than himself. He wanted to serve something greater than himself," Hughes said, later adding: "Richard Collins III did more in his short life than most will do in a full lifetime. What distinguishes him was his character: a man of values; a man of morals."



Pallbearers carry the casket containing Lieutenant Richard Collins III, 23, after his funeral service at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden.
Photo credit: Algeria Perna / Baltimore Sun

The following week, receiving his diploma on their son's behalf was a solemn and gut wrenching task left to his family. A moment of silence was led by university president, Mickey L. Burnim, during the Class of 2017 commencement ceremony at Bowie State University to remember the life of Richard Collins III.



At the 2017 Spring Commencement on Tuesday, May 23, Bowie State University honored 2nd Lt. Collins by posthumously conferring his degree, a Bachelor of Science in business administration, and presenting it to his family. An empty seat, draped with his graduation gown, sat in the arena to honor him throughout the ceremony.

The First African American Rhodes Scholar

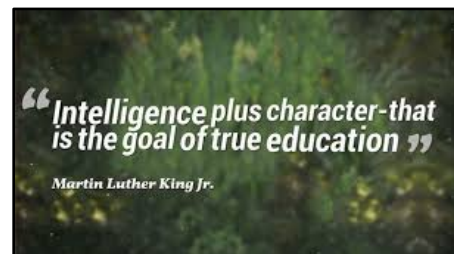
Written by COL (Ret) Dorene Hurt, USA



West Point Cadet Christian Nattiel, the U.S. Military Academy's first African American Rhodes Scholar and retired Army Major Pat Locke, the first female African American USMA graduate present a bust to Vice President Mike Pence during the Lieutenant Henry O. Flipper Dinner at the academy in West Point, N.Y., Feb. 9, 2017 as LTG Robert Caslen, West Point Superintendent and 2016 Honorary ROCK of the Year looks on. The dinner is held annually to commemorate the life of Flipper, West Point's first African-American graduate. Army photo by Carmine Cocchia

The ROCKS, Inc. extends sincere congratulations to Cadet Christian E. Nattiel on his selection as a 2017 United States Rhodes Scholarship Winner. Cadet Nattiel was a senior at the United States Military Academy at West Point and the first African-American cadet to be selected for the prestigious scholarship.

Cadet Nattiel was a double-major in mathematical sciences and philosophy. He has continued his interests in narratives of struggle, social justice, and self-determination. Christian served as the president of the Cultural Affairs Seminar, which has championed diversity and inspired cadets through mentorship and tutoring. He was awarded the Superintendent's Award for Achievement, the Distinguished Cadet Award, and the Black Engineer of the Year Award for Military Leadership. Christian was a member of the men's handball team. At the University of Oxford in England, he will pursue a Masters of Science in Comparative Social Policy followed by the Master of Public Policy.



Jackson State University Celebrates Golden Anniversary

Written by Major Bridgette R. Bell, USA

LTC Dexter M. Brookins, Life Member of The ROCKS, Inc., returned to his Alma Mater in 2015 to take over the position of Professor of Military Science. This year, JSU celebrates the 50-year legacy of the Tiger Battalion. The program has had a phenomenal year of events, community service, and leader development opportunities for the Cadets. There were 103 Cadets active in the program, with the number of officers produced annually averaging around 15. The JSU Army ROTC program began in 1968, with the inaugural class of Second Lieutenants commissioning in 1970.

In October, the inaugural Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was an integral part of JSU's homecoming activities. JSU President Emeritus Dr. John A. Peoples, Jr., the founder of the program, spoke of the trying and rewarding times spent pushing the Army to institute a program at Mississippi's top HBCU. Dr. Peoples' induction into the Hall of Fame was a staunch reminder of the many years of hard work and dedication rooted in the battalion's motto: Right Stuff, Tiger Tuff! Also inducted were three alumni who attained the rank of General: Brigadier General (Retired) Eddie Cain of the Class of 1971, Brigadier General (Retired) Robert Crear of the Class of 1975, and Major General Retired Reuben Jones of the Class of 1978. The Cadets could recognize trailblazers who broke barriers in their respective fields. Additionally, the battalion recognized the 30 years of service by Ms. Lynn Frazier Jacobs, the program's Human Resources Assistant.



JSU Army ROTC's inaugural Hall of Fame Inductees: President Emeritus Dr. John A. Peoples, Jr., founder of the Tiger Battalion; Brigadier General (Retired) Eddie Cain of the Class of 1971; Brigadier General (Retired) Robert Crear of the Class of 1975; and Major General (Retired) Reuben Jones of the Class of 1978.

The program held its annual dining-in formal in November and 48th Annual Spring Gala in April. Both events were well attended by alumni and JROTC students from the Jackson area. General (Retired) William "Kip" Ward served as keynote

speaker for the gala. Cadets Kelli Puckett and Diamond McCray received national recognition as recipients of The ROCKS, Inc. LTG Honor Award and BG Cartwright Award respectively.



General (Retired) Ward and LTC Brookins greet Cadet Ezra Jones, Fall 2017 Tiger Battalion Commander at the 2017 Spring Gala.

The Spring Commissioning ceremony was held on April 27, 2017, with thirteen Second Lieutenants being commissioned. The ceremony was hosted by LTG Stephen M. Twitty, Commanding General, First Army. General Twitty gave the Cadets and their families motivational words of wisdom to prepare them for their roles as Platoon Leaders. Six students from this class, who represented a 100 percent selection rate of those competing, were chosen for Active Duty through a highly competitive selection process. For those who chose to serve in the National Guard and Army Reserves, we have Cadets with promising careers lined up. Dallas Police Force, Wal-Mart, and many other top companies have offered these future officers job opportunities. These graduates will soon have the sacred responsibility to lead America's sons and daughters.

For many cadets, the rigorous training has pushed them to expand their notions of what is possible. "ROTC gave me the opportunity to learn how to balance my everyday life with my military responsibilities," said Cadet Kelli Puckett, who is graduating Tougaloo College and preparing to go to flight school to become an Army Aviation Officer. "This has been a great year for the Tiger Battalion. We had our first ever Hall of Fame induction ceremony and now we will commission one of the largest classes since 1990. These officers have worked so hard to make this a premier program; every one of them live their life through the Army Values" says Lieutenant Colonel Brookins. Brookins will commission 28 Cadets in the fiscal year of 2017.



General Twitty shares wealth of knowledge at Commissioning Ceremony.

MAJ Bridgette R. Bell is the Jackson State University's Army ROTC Executive Officer.

Commentary: It's time for every American to thank those who served in Vietnam

Written by General (Ret) Barry McCaffrey, May 2, 2017

Editor's note: The following is a guest commentary by retired Army Gen. Barry McCaffrey.

Combat in Vietnam produced vivid memories that are seared there forever. And when the veterans who fought in Vietnam returned home, they were mostly shunned by their fellow Americans. It hurt us then, and it still hurts us now.

But one federal organization – The Vietnam War Commemoration – is trying to remedy that. They are taking their congressional mandate very seriously. They are on a full court press thanking and honoring Vietnam veterans and their families for their service, sacrifice and valor 50 years ago. Indeed, across the nation, Americans are uniting to thank and honor Vietnam veterans and their families. Because of the challenges of the time, The Commemoration's efforts to thank Vietnam veterans and their families include all 9 million U.S. veterans who served from Nov. 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, and their families, regardless of location.

The President recently signed S. 305 – The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017. This established March 29 as the date, from here on, that all Americans can pause and consider the cost of that conflict to the lives of the many who fought there. In the years to come, many more will travel to the Nation's Capital and visit the Vietnam Veterans

Memorial. That sacred place is a reminder to its four million annual visitors of the service and sacrifice of more than 58,300 Americans whose names are on "The Wall." During a ceremony at The Wall on Memorial Day 2012, President Obama said "one of the most painful chapters in our history was Vietnam – most particularly, how we treated our troops who served there. You came home and sometimes were denigrated, when you should have been celebrated. It was a national shame and we resolve that it will not happen again."



Retired Army Gen. Barry McCaffrey. (Photo Credit: Alan Lessig/Staff) Gen. Barry R. McCaffrey is president of his own consulting firm based in Arlington, Virginia (www.mccaffreyassociates.com). McCaffrey received two Distinguished Service Crosses and two Silver Stars for valor in Vietnam. He commanded the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) during Desert Storm and led U.S. Armed Forces Southern Command.

A key to the Commemoration accomplishing its primary objective is its hometown-centric Commemorative Partner Program. To date, more than 10,000 organizations at the local, state and federal levels have committed to conducting two events per year, in their local communities, that recognize and honor Vietnam veterans and their families. We Vietnam veterans are proud we carried out our duty as the country ordered us to do. We fought for each other over there. We fought to stay alive. There were no parades when we came home, as there were for almost every other conflict America has fought in. Members of my company all went back to their homes, farms, families and carried on with life. Many Vietnam veterans stayed in the Army, the Marines, the Air Force, the Navy, the Coast Guard and helped forge the Armed Services into the amazingly effective fighting forces they are today.

Now is the time for all Americans to fully embrace the brave men and women who returned home from Vietnam, often to shame and disgrace, by publicly thanking them with honor and dignity, as well as recognizing the sacrifices of their families. To quote retired U.S. Army Colonel Albert Nahas, a Vietnam veteran, "We had no expectations but to serve where duty called us. We asked for no reward except a nation's thanks." Please join the nation...thank a Vietnam veteran! Find out more at www.vietnamwar50th.com.

Civil-Military Relations in Transition: Behavior of Senior Military Officers

Written by COL (Ret) Charles D. Allen, USA

On Inauguration Day 2017, President Donald Trump inherited from President Barack Obama's administration the current cohort of uniformed military leaders at the most senior levels across the Department of Defense (DOD). Over the previous two years, President Obama had selected an impressive group of military officers. This process included the emplacement of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) and of the Vice Chairman by the end of fiscal year 2015, and of Service chiefs by October 2016. Over the course of Obama's second term, these senior officers engaged with both the executive and legislative branches of the U.S. Government in the exercise of civil-military relations (CMR). At times, the relationship was contentious as the President formulated policies and strategies for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Likewise, military leaders advocated for relief from sequestration measures based on the Budget Control Act of 2011.²



On May 19, 2009, President Barack Obama met with new U.S. Commander for Afghanistan Lieutenant General Stanley A. McChrystal in Oval Office (White House/Pete Souza)

There have been continuing challenges to two aspects of CMR—providing best military advice and presenting dissenting opinions—in the 21st century. Such challenges support historian Richard Kohn's list of myths regarding CMR:

- "Everything is fine in the relationship."
- "Civil-military control is safe, sound, and inviolate—No coup, no problem."
- "There exists a clear bright line between military and civilian responsibilities."
- "The military is non-partisan and apolitical"; "The military is political and politicized."
- "There is a covenant between the military and the American people."

- "Civilian control is understood by both sides in the relationship and the American people."³

Current civil-military relations are challenged by the strategic uncertainty and fiscal austerity that affect the national military strategy and complicate its execution in such areas as readiness, force structure, and modernization of the joint force. The current cohort of senior officers must now continue to ensure the Nation's security in a time of divisive domestic politics and dutifully serve a new administration.

This article examines the behavior of our most senior military officers and reviews their impacts on CMR as they transitioned out of their senior leadership positions. It examines this behavior in a historical perspective. It describes how formerly privileged and private conversations may have become stridently public. It then considers how this more public role may affect CMR. This analysis is based on congressional testimony, press conferences, and media engagements, as well as news reports and journalist accounts of senior military leaders' statements.

Continued on page 35

Maximizing the Army's Logistics Talent

Written by Lt. Gen. Aundre Piggee, USA

Editor's Note: While Lieutenant General Piggee's article addresses maximizing talent in the logistics field, the point he outlines are applicable to talent management in any career field throughout the Army.

Planning the editorial content of Army Sustainment is a little like mentoring. The Army G-4 selects topics to send a clear message to every sustainer that this is what we need to focus on. In upcoming issues this year, we will tackle how the Army sustainment team can train, build readiness, and best support the Army in 2017. But first, there is no better way to start the year than with this issue's emphasis on talent management.

The Army's new talent management program is designed to improve how the Army matches Soldiers' knowledge and skills with emerging requirements. This effort could not come soon enough, as demands for the Army to support global contingency operations continue to grow. The Army has never faced a more diverse array of challenges than it does today—from where it will fight future wars to how it will fight them and what enemy it will face. In the headlines every day, we see continued instability in the Middle East, with massive numbers of refugees leaving and the consequences of that migration around the world. We see challenges in Europe caused by Russia's

aggression. In the Pacific, we see China's increased capabilities and North Korea's continued instability.

We face technological challenges as well. Rivals may not have greater capabilities than ours, but they are developing comparable ones. Our past dominance of land, air, sea, space, and cyberspace are all at risk.

How do we ensure the Army's greatest resource, talent, is not at risk, too? The Army has to do its part; this talent management program is a positive step. Soldiers must do their part by being fit, trained, and ready for duty. Leaders must also do their part by coaching, teaching, and mentoring.

Opportunities abound in the Army, and we have to keep asking, "How can we ensure our Soldiers are taking advantage of these opportunities so they can be their very best?" Many of my ideas on managing talent are not my own. They come from observing senior leaders and being encouraged by mentors to take different routes than I originally planned during my career. I tried what they suggested, and it has worked for me. In the spirit of sharing, here is what I have learned about managing talent.

USE KNOWLEDGE TO MENTOR

First, understand all the Army's programs, assignment processes, policies, and systems so that you can effectively counsel and mentor. You cannot mentor unless you have a solid baseline of knowledge. That knowledge affects what you can do for your Soldiers and what you can teach them.

You are always a mentor in some capacity, if not by your words, then by your example. Your Soldiers are paying attention to you and will learn from you--both the good and the bad. Make sure you engage in honest and fair counseling routinely--not just when appraisals are due. You need to have the hard conversations about performance and potential, which might be difficult for you and your Soldiers. This issue's hip-pocket guide provides a checklist with tips for improving counseling at all levels. Study it. Add it to your notebook. Refer to it often. Share it with your peers.

EMBRACE DISCOMFORT

Second, sometimes people want to remain in jobs where they feel comfortable and perform familiar roles. But as leaders you need to know your Soldiers' strengths and capitalize on those strengths by placing them in new jobs where they may be uncomfortable. This will teach them new skills and maximize their potential.

In addition to knowing your Soldiers' skills, you need to know your own. Personal growth results from placing yourself in unfamiliar situations. If you are an introvert, take on an extrovert's job. If you are good at tactics, take on a job where strategic skills are needed. As you learn and achieve success in

these situations, you will grow to be a better leader and a better person.

CONSIDER THE WHOLE PICTURE

Third, look at the whole picture when you advise. Consider your Soldiers' family situations. Manage talent from the perspective of what is right for the individual and their family circumstances. Sometimes small changes can help bring big performance improvements.

ENCOURAGE BROADENING

Fourth, understand and encourage Soldiers to participate in broadening assignments. Many Soldiers believe that these are positions entirely outside of their military occupational specialties, such as working in industry, serving as a congressional liaison, or going to graduate school. But broadening assignments are much more than those opportunities. They also include some tactical and institutional positions, such as serving in special operations units, at regionally or functionally aligned headquarters, or at training centers or schoolhouses. These jobs can stretch you professionally.

REDEFINE SUCCESS

Fifth, think anew about personnel management. The old personnel management framework created a highly-structured path with definite milestones. It was ultimately defined by progression up through the ranks. This led to an up-or-out system, one dependent upon a requirement to meet certain gates but bound by increasingly limited opportunities for advancement.

It is time to redefine what it means to be successful. With the new system, success will mean building an Army that acknowledges the skills and abilities that our Soldiers have. A National Guard member may speak the language of a country that we need to go to, or a reservist may have expertise from a civilian job about a product that we will need. These are the skills that will help us win on the battlefield in the future.

I truly believe managing talent is every leader's primary business. It is part of the Army's charter to take care of and provide world-class leadership for our daughters and sons, whose character and commitment led them to serve our great nation.

As I lead the G-4 team in creating the policies that you will use as sustainers, I want to hear from you. When I can, I will be stopping by to see firsthand how our policies affect your ability to train and build readiness. If you have ideas you want to share, let me know. Feedback is how we can all improve to meet tomorrow's challenges.

Lt. Gen. Aundre F. Piggee is the Army deputy chief of staff, G-4. He oversees policies and procedures used by all Army logisticians throughout the world.

Prior to joining the Army staff, he served as the Director of Logistics and Engineering for the U.S. Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida.

This article was published in the January-February 2017 issue of Army Sustainment magazine.

FINANACIAL PLANNING READINESS: Are You Ready?

Written by Col. (Ret) Mark D. Troutman, PhD., CFP®
and W. Kirk Taylor, CFP®

Editor's Note: The ROCKET is excited to introduce a series of articles in upcoming newsletters on the topic of Financial Planning Readiness by Colonel(R) Mark D. Troutman and Mr. W. Kirk Taylor.

Financial Readiness is defined as “the state of being fully prepared for something”, and preparing means being informed and being a student, as part of the planning process. The information shared in this article will educate you on the unique risks and opportunities you face as uniformed military personnel when it comes to dealing with personal financial matters.



You know from your life as a military professional that you make plans that work toward objectives, and that there are risks – things which might happen to threaten those goals that you can see and that you can prepare for. We also face uncertainty – changing conditions that we can't see, but for which we would like to have reserves to face those changing conditions when they happen. The same is true of our finances.

This is your first great advantage – you have training that you can apply to your financial lives as well. The principles may look a little different in your financial lives, but you already the mindset that you can make plans, and follow them through. You also have a few other advantages that can help you build financial readiness as you serve the nation.

- You have a steady and fairly predictable income stream that can help you make plans and monitor your progress over time.
- For those of you who choose the military as a long-term calling, you have a retirement system and medical care that allows you to think differently over the long-term. These programs may be changing, but they are still very valuable.
- You have access to well-run, low-cost programs such as the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) and The DoD Savings Deposit Program (SDP), that afford you a unique opportunity to build your financial readiness over time.
- Your military service affords you tax advantages that also factor into your plans and help you build financial readiness.

In subsequent issues, we'll explore basic topics related to saving, investing, taxes, retirement that help you realize your goals and protect your loved ones. Our hope is also that through consideration of these topics for yourself, you are also better prepared to serve in your role as a mentor to our soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, cadets and civilians whom you lead.

A Look Into the Future... It's to Your Advantage



If you are just starting your journey of service to the nation, you probably feel like there is an endless list of things to learn. Service in the military is enormously rewarding and demanding at the same time, particularly in the range of topics a leader must

master. So in this and future columns, we'd like to demystify some aspects of an important area – your finances – by providing some helpful ways to think and practical steps you can take to maximize your wealth.

So in this first column, we'd like to point out some powerful aspects of your pay, and how you can use them to your advantage. Specifically, your pay is predictable, you can chart its path over a relatively long time, and it contains a measure of inflation protection. With a little work on your part, you can harness these attributes and use them to your advantage as you seek to realize your long-term goals.

First, military pay and allowances follow a defined schedule built on a few key factors such as rank and years of service. Moreover, these tables are published and readily available, and you can also find past versions to identify trends. Given some knowledge of your circumstances and goals, you can use the features of your pay system to predict the stream of funds you will have available relatively far into the future. This predictability can help you plan and make key decisions over time.

Second, pay levels are largely set by rank and time of service, and these are factors that you know about yourself. Rank is generally the more influential determinant of your pay, and promotion provides the largest pay increases over time. Many aspects of promotion are set by the personnel system under which you operate, and a knowledge of the personnel system provides insight as to when promotions are likely to occur. With this in mind, you can identify key career decisions that will help promotion happen, perhaps earlier than expected.



Third, Congress sets pay for government employees and military personnel based on recommendations from the Department of Defense and other federal departments as part of their yearly budget process. The Federal Government generally tries to keep your pay consistent with changes that occur in the civilian sector. Sometimes they achieve this goal, and sometimes they don't. So, expect some generous years and some lean years. However, a quick survey of past pay decisions indicates that military pay has not gone down in recent memory

and it usually has increased from year to year. In fact, the average rate of rise over the last ten years for military personnel has been 2.2% per year. Therefore, your final advantage is that your pay is a stream of income that usually goes up over time and contains a measure of inflation protection.

These aspects provide you an opportunity to construct a relatively long term view of what your income is likely to be over time. You can make a few basic assumptions to set growth rates and your broad spending patterns based on past experience. This will give you an idea of savings you might have to work with for the long term. To help you visualize this, a simple example might help.

Let's take an example of Lieutenant Jones, who takes the oath of office and is commissioned on 1 January 2017. She elects to stay in the military for ten years and earns promotion at average rates. First Lieutenant comes after two years, Captain at four years of service. Further, she elects to save 10% of her gross pay, a decision she can make automatic by setting up a pay deduction her finance office sends to a financial institution of her choice. At the end of her tenth year, as she considers her options, what savings is she likely to have?

Given average promotion rates and historical pay raises over time, CPT Jones earns \$640,800.00 over the ten years of her service. The table below lays out the earnings and savings that she generates in each of those years. Because these are savings, assume that these amounts are available at the end of each year.

Table 1: Earnings and Savings Flows Over Time

Year	Initial Year	Year Two	Year Four	Year Eight	Year Ten
Salary	\$36,417.60	\$32,145.95	\$60,724.44	\$77,978.76	\$85,199.11
Total Earned	\$36,417.60	\$73,563.55	\$184,004.97	\$480,072.30	\$648,799.94
Total Saved	\$3,641.76	\$7,356.36	\$18,400.50	\$48,007.23	\$64,879.99
Portfolio (5% return)	\$3,641.76	\$7,538.44	\$19,603.86	\$55,655.92	\$78,651.06

This short exercise has a punchline in two parts. First, just by knowing a few facts, you can generate an accurate picture of what is available if you stick to some goals over time. And second, this picture is a start that can help you make decisions and work toward long term goals. With a bit of adjustment, we could build a similar picture for members of the civilian workforce.

Remember, this "thought exercise" merely identified resources you can make available through the predictability of your pay. We haven't yet put these funds to work to make them grow, but I've included a third line that gives you a hint of how the picture changes if you invested savings at a 5% average return over that ten-year period. More on that as we build this picture in later articles.

In subsequent articles, we'll review a few other aspects of your background that can assist you. The skills of discipline, risk assessment and planning that you use every day can also help you achieve goals over time. This first look highlights one of the very important advantages you have – the predictability of your income stream over time. So the next time you consider the advantages of service, you might count the ability to see ahead as one of them. You *can* look into the future... and it is to your advantage.



Col. (R) Mark D. Troutman, PhD., CFP® is Director, Center for Infrastructure Protection at George Mason University.

W. Kirk Taylor, CFP® is Executive Vice President at 1st Portfolio Wealth Advisors in Fairfax, VA. 1st Portfolio provides comprehensive wealth management services to business owners, entrepreneurs and transition and post-transition military personnel.

Quick Financial Tidbits

Americans Hold More Debt than Savings

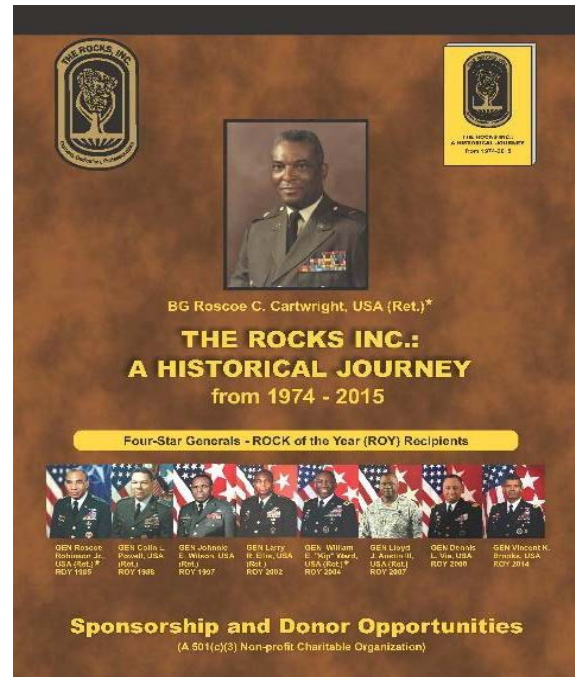
A great deal of Americans hold more debt in credit card and loans than for savings in an account for emergencies. About 30% of Americans say they have more debt in credits than money in a savings account.

Those Who Save Are Not Saving Enough

Americans that make an attempt to save are not as financially stable as you may believe. A study conducted by the Corporation for Enterprise Development released a report that stated 44% of households in America or liquid asset poor, or have less than three months of savings.

*Money is not the only answers,
But it makes a difference
--Barack Obama*

The ROCK, Inc.: A Historical Journey from 1974-2015



The Journey Book Project that has been authorized by The National Board of the ROCKS, Inc. to be published prior to the next Gala will showcase organization's progress from its inception in 1974 through 2015.

We have made significant progress in finalizing the written and pictorial portion of the book. Our next major effort is to obtain the necessary funds for publication of the book and we are well on the way.

We need **your personal pledge and each member's efforts** to encourage other members to pledge and make their payment in order to get the ROCKS Journey book published. Our goal is to raise \$60,000 to publish 1,000 books to sell to members, friends, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and other organizations. We encourage a one-time payment in the amount of \$120 or you may pledge to make a payment of \$10.00 per month for 12 consecutive months.

Your pledge to help get the Journey Book published will benefit your chapter as the proceeds from the sales of the books will kept by the chapters to be used for their approved programs. We are a IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization and your contribution to this project is tax deductible. Thanks.

COL (Ret.) Frank Francois, III, USA, ROCKS Historian
Chair of the ROCKS Historical Journey Book Project

FALLEN ROCKS

In Memoriam

Mrs. Mildred 'Millie' Robinson (Widow of GEN Roscoe Robinson, Jr.)

We regret to inform you of the recent passing of Mrs. Mildred "Millie" Robinson on 6 June 2017. Mrs. Robinson was the wife of the first African American four-star general in the U.S. Army: General Roscoe Robinson, Jr.

A native of St. Louis, General Robinson attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, graduating in the class of 1951. Shortly after graduation from West Point, he saw action in the Korean War. He served again in combat as a battalion commander in Vietnam. His awards and decorations included the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross and Bronze Star Medal. He retired in 1985 after thirty-four years of distinguished service. Following retirement, the Robinsons settled in Falls Church, Virginia. General Robinson died in July 1993 at the age of 64 after battling leukemia. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery where Mrs. Robinson will join him. General Robinson was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Born and raised in Tampa, Florida. Mrs. Robinson was a dedicated and supportive spouse to General Robinson and countless military families. They raised two children, Carol, who works in the Pentagon, and Bruce, who resides in Colorado.

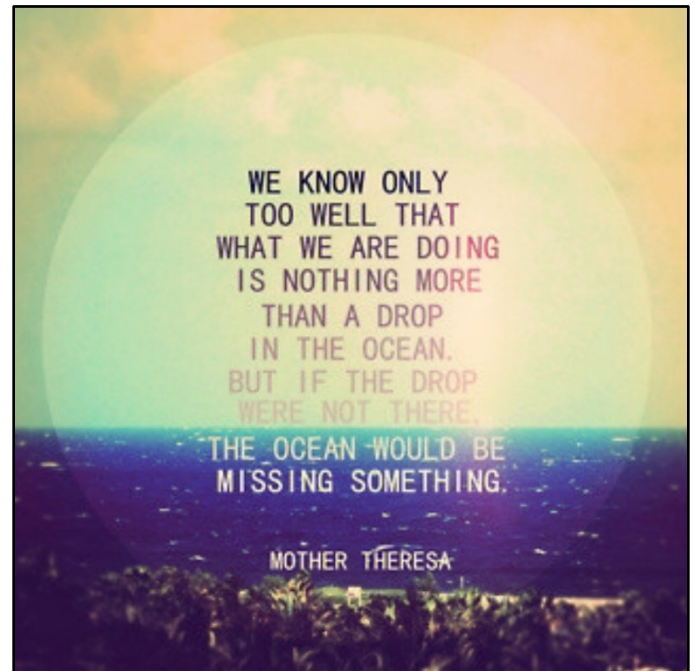
You are cordially invited to attend Mrs. Robinson's Memorial Service and funeral on **8 Aug. 2017** at the Old Ft. Myer Chapel. Respectfully request that you are seated NLT 0815hrs. The church is relatively small with seating for about 250 people. The service will begin promptly at 0900hrs.

If you are unable to attend the service, please join the family for the Repast after the interment at 1100hrs at the Pentagon City Sheraton Hotel, 900 Orme St., Arlington, Virginia (703-521-1900). There is limited meter parking on the street and hotel parking for a fee. Alternatively, if you have access to Henderson Hall, you may consider parking at the BX, then walking one block to the hotel.

Finally, please RSVP to Carol Robinson if you plan to attend the Repast so that she may give an accurate count of guests to

the hotel or if you have any other questions. Send her a note at charmedarmybrat@gmail.com or call her at [240-3618425](tel:240-3618425).

Greene Funeral Home, Inc
814 Franklin Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-4108
[\(703\) 549-0089](tel:703-549-0089)



Lieutenant General (Retired) Andrew Chambers

LTG (Ret) Andrew Phillip Chambers, 85, passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by his loving family on Saturday June 3, 2017.



*LTG Andrew Chambers
June 30, 1931 - June 3, 2017*

General Chambers was a member of the ROTC Bison Battalion and also a scholar-athlete at Howard University.

Andrew, also known as Andy, was born on June 30, 1931 in Bedford, VA to Charlotte Hadessa (Selden) & Lawrence Everett Chambers. He later

moved to Wash., DC, after the death of his father, with his mother and 4 siblings; Charlotte, Loretta, Lawrence, and Melvin.

Having attended Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School, Andrew earned an Army ROTC Scholarship and later enrolled at Howard University, from which he graduated in 1954. Andrew married Nora Elizabeth (Garner) on May 8, 1954. After being commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army, Andrew served his country with distinction for over 35 years achieving the rank of Lieutenant General.

Following his retirement from the U.S. Army in 1989, Andrew went on to lead a successful career as a civilian, working as the Director of Industry Operations for the Association of the United States Army. He later assumed the position of Director of Community Service for AmeriCorps. Andrew finished his extraordinary career in 2005 as the Vice President of University of Maryland University College Europe.

During his time at Howard University Andrew met his wife Norita. Through their union, Andrew became the loving father of five children; Andrew, Kathy, Linda Ware (William), Steve, David (Chris). He was adored by his grandchildren; Bryant(Tamyko), Andrew, Aaron, Emily, David, and Kyle and his four great-grandchildren; Xavier, Alexander, Christopher and Zachary.

Andrew is survived by his wife of 63 years, Mrs. Norita Elizabeth (Garner) Chambers, five children, grand and great-grandchildren, as well as three of his siblings, Loretta, Lawrence, and Melvin. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister Charlotte Walker.

Contributions may be made in honor of Lieutenant General Chambers at www.bisonfunder.howard.edu/andrewpchambers



Colonel (Retired) Clarence Barrens



*1998 ROCK OF THE YEAR
Colonel Clarence Barrens, U.S. Army, Retired*

Founding and Charter Member of the ROCKS and ROCKS Life Member, Colonel Clarence Barrens passed away peacefully Tuesday evening, May 23, 2017. Colonel Barren's homegoing service took place on Tuesday May 30, 2017 at the Fort Washington Baptist Church located at 11516 Fort Washington Road, Fort Washington Maryland. Colonel Barrens was interred at Arlington National Cemetery.

Clarence G. Barrens was born in Nacogdoches, Texas on September 14, 1929. He graduated from Prairie View A&M University, Texas on May 26, 1951. Having completed the Advance Course ROTC Program, he was concurrently commissioned a Second Lieutenant of infantry in the U.S. Army Reserve.

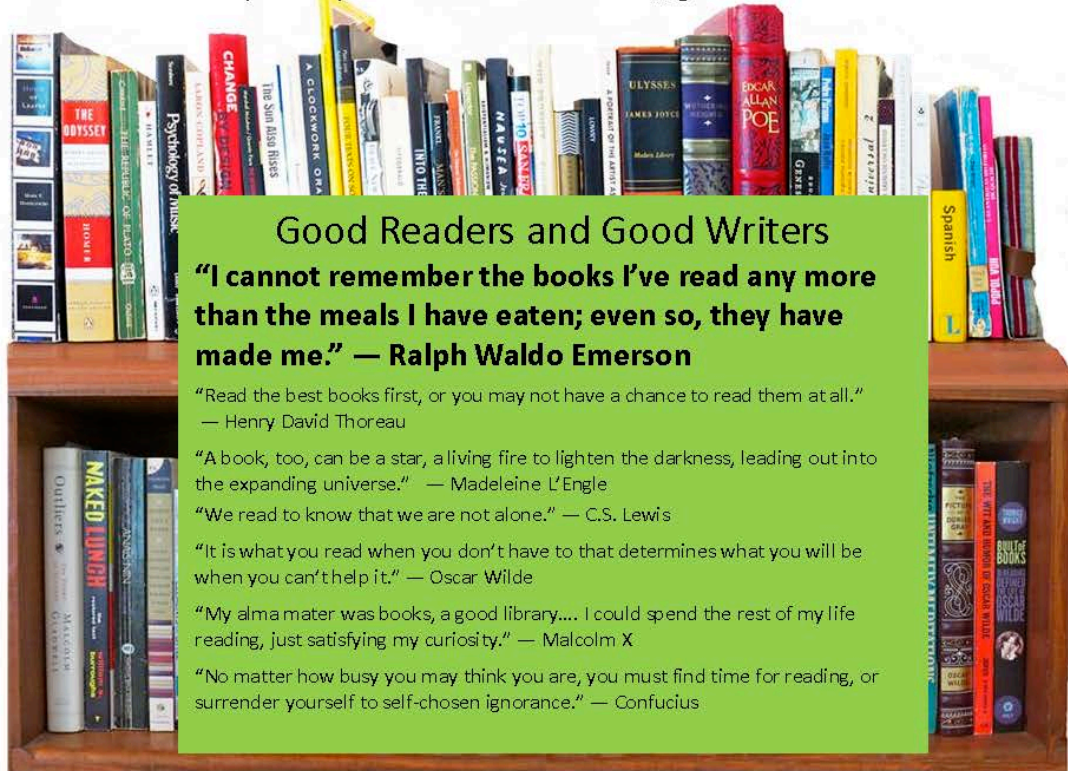
During the Korean conflict, Colonel Barrens served with the 160th Infantry Regiment, 40th Infantry division, followed by a long tour in Stuttgart, Germany. He served in the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) during the Vietnam war. Other notable assignments include those of Associate Professor of Military Science at Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Missouri; Chief, Force Structure Branch, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Headquarters, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C.; Commander 3rd Battalion, 3rd Basic Combat Training Brigade, Executive Officer and Commander, 2nd BCT Brigade, Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri; Member Suitability Evaluation Board, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C.; Commander, 5th Advanced Individual Training Brigade, Fort Dix, New Jersey; Commander, New York Area Command and Ft. Hamilton, and Commander, Fort Leslie J. McNair, Washington, D.C.

Subsequent to earning his Baccalaureate Degree, Colonel Barrens earned the Master of Education Degree from Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Missouri. He is also a graduate of the Infantry Officers Basic and Advanced Courses, Ft. Benning, Georgia and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE BOOK?

Whether you read hard copy, on your Kindle or iPad, everyone has a favorite book. One that inspired them or caused an epiphany. More importantly a good book provokes thought, teaches us something, causes reflection and even dares us to dream BIGGER dreams. So tell us what's yours? Tell us your favorite book and why and you'll see it in an edition of the ROCKET.

Send your response to VPComms4ROCKS@gmail.com.



Good Readers and Good Writers

"I cannot remember the books I've read any more than the meals I have eaten; even so, they have made me." — Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Read the best books first, or you may not have a chance to read them at all."
— Henry David Thoreau

"A book, too, can be a star, a living fire to lighten the darkness, leading out into the expanding universe." — Madeleine L'Engle

"We read to know that we are not alone." — C.S. Lewis

"It is what you read when you don't have to that determines what you will be when you can't help it." — Oscar Wilde

"My alma mater was books, a good library.... I could spend the rest of my life reading, just satisfying my curiosity." — Malcolm X

"No matter how busy you may think you are, you must find time for reading, or surrender yourself to self-chosen ignorance." — Confucius

Two books:

Scales of War by MG(R) Robert Scales. Offers a great perspective of war fare from the eyes and lives of the Infantry Soldier and draws a connection to innovation and force structure.

Passion for Leadership by former SECDEF Gates. Discusses leadership, organizational leadership and driving change. I found this to be a very good book for leaders at all levels--especially at the senior leader level.

Passion for Leadership was quite impactful, especially in the job. It helped me see how to establish goals, timelines and stick to it. Assess first and if deemed necessary, make changes. Most important (to me), establish priorities that nest to those of the higher command and drive on!!!

- BG Gary Brito
Commanding General, JRTC & Ft Polk

There are few books...one of my favorites is ***My American Journey*** by Gen Colin Powell. Gets to the greatness of America, the inspiration of hope and demonstrates that with vision and determination you can create your own opportunities. Also there are several examples of leadership throughout the book that we can all learn from. One of my favorite Colin Powell quotes is "There are no secrets to success: don't waste time looking for them. Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty to those for whom you work, and persistence."

The second would be, ***Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap... and Others Don't*** is a management book by Jim C. Collins that describes how companies transition from being good companies to great companies, Chapter 2 is my favorite from the book, focuses on Leadership. Mr. Collins discusses the quality of leaders, there intensity and humility. All great qualities we want in our leaders in the US Army. Additionally, the book gives some great anecdotes on how to learn how to build capacity and systems that will sustain over time.

- BG Charles R. Hamilton
Former Commander, DLA Troop Support



ROCKS INC. VIDEO CONTEST

SHARE YOUR STORY OF HOW THE ROCKS
HAS HELPED YOUR CAREER FOR A
CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE!



CONTEST ENDS SEPTEMBER 5
SUBMIT VIDEOS (90 SECONDS OR LESS) TO
ROCKSNATIONALBOARD@GMAIL.COM

Please do not submit anything that is copyrighted.

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2nd place - \$125

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FORMATS CAN INCLUDE .MOV .MP4

Learn more about THE ROCKS INC.
Please visit our website at www.ROCKSINC.org.



National Board of The ROCKS, Inc. Mentorship Program

Written by COL (Ret) Austin D. Bell III, USA
VP, Mentorship



Notes from the Mentorship Corner

As Chapters/Interest Groups continue to develop your respective mentorship programs, I will continue to provide information on why this endeavor is vitally important and should be made a high point of emphasis for your organizations.

This edition of mentorship notes provides a short tutorial on what effective mentoring looks like. As I've emphasized in previous editions, effective mentoring is a two-way street, meaning that both mentor and mentee must actively participate in the relationship to make it work. Your challenge continues to be the establishment of a framework that pairs willing mentors/mentees, so as to begin the mentorship journey that leads to improvement of mentee performances and overall advancement prospects. So, what would an effective mentoring relationship look like? Here are some signs...

1. The mentor and mentee look forward to their time together.

Mentoring shouldn't feel like a chore. Instead, both mentors and mentees should look forward to meeting and discussing progress and challenges, deepening the relationship, and enjoying lighthearted moments as well (e.g. laughter, good stories).

2. The mentee feels the transformative effect of mentoring.

An effective mentoring relationship results in the mentee's personal and professional transformation. When the mentoring relationship "is right," the mentee will feel this in much the same way a person knows when a new friendship or romantic relationship "feels right." The mentee is enthusiastic about the relationship, looks forward to meetings, is excited by the progress he/she is making, and so forth.

3. The mentee sees actual evidence of the transformative effect of mentoring.

Of course, effective mentoring is more than just a feeling. Over the course of relationship, the mentee will see actual evidence that she/he is transforming on a professional and personal level (i.e. the mentoring objectives the pair identified will be met). For example, if the mentee is working on feeling more self-confident and assertive in the military/civilian workplace, the mentee might find herself/himself advocating for greater leadership responsibilities.

4. The mentor does more than simply show up for the scheduled meetings.

Yes, the mentee does the heavy lifting in a mentoring relationship, but the mentor still plays a pivotal role, one that extends beyond the regularly scheduled meetings. The most effective mentoring relationships often involve mentors who remain involved beyond the meetings. They might text the mentee to see how his/her performance in that key training event went or share an article that might be relevant to the mentee in some way.

5. Both mentor and mentee provide detailed feedback to the mentorship program manager.

One sign of a good relationship is when the mentor and mentee have a lot to say to when the program manager conducts check-ins. Happy mentors and mentees typically *want* to share their experiences, including the positive changes that are happening and the challenges they've overcome.

6. The mentor and mentee don't avoid difficult conversations.

Effective mentoring doesn't mean everything is hunky-dory 100% of the time. Life happens. Challenges come up. Hard conversations sometimes need to happen. The mentors and mentees who have the most success are the ones who don't shy away from these things and who aren't afraid to ask for help from outside the mentoring relationship when necessary.

Making the ROCKS Part of Our Community's Foundation: Share Your Story

Written by COL Karen M. Wrancher, USA
VP, Communications & Publications



The purpose and central pillar to the ROCKS, Incorporated's existence is mentorship, mentorship to Cadets, Officers, DA Civilans and their spouses. The ROCKS, Inc. was created in response to nine field grade officers' need to support each other, not for personal gain or aggrandizement.

Founded in 1972 at Fort Leavenworth, these men were not just trying to survive but thrive as they attended Command and General Staff College. They formed a sort of community to support each to overcome obstacles in the face adversity. These bonds would take a formal structure with the creation of The

ROCKS, Inc. and since its inception the ROCKS has grown to over 1150 members with fifteen chapters worldwide.

Today, unfortunately, there are some misconceptions about the ROCKS, Inc. as to what a person can get or gain from joining the organization. For junior officers, the ROCKS provides an opportunity to get information on a variety of topics: leadership, evaluations, promotion boards, and more. In addition to getting information from senior leaders, members can gain insights into how senior leaders think when they take the time to give leadership development sessions. It is a resource, an affiliation and an multiethnic organization that can help provide you with information on how to be successful. That information at times includes how you avoid or negotiate around certain pitfalls that may come your way as you aspire to go higher in your service's or organization's ranks. Being a member is not a guarantee that you will reach the higher ranks, but it introduces you to a network of people who have already traveled down the road you are on as you go along your respective career path.

For senior field grades and higher it presents an opportunity to give back to the next generation of leaders and share your knowledge about leadership, tactics, teaching, coaching or introducing choices to junior officers to set them on a successful career path.

Regardless of where you fall within your organization's hierarchy, volunteering to help in the ROCKS or any organization is no substitute for hard work and earning your way. However, the great thing about the ROCKS is when a senior leader is providing good information, it is a great opportunity to listen, simply learn and equally importantly to ask questions in a non-attribution forum. It provides that window of opportunity to ask that question you had but didn't know who you could ask. We all continue to learn as we advance in the ranks.

The ROCKS was formed forty-three years ago and while our society has become more integrated accepting minorities and women, have we truly become an egalitarian society? Are our officer ranks a reflection of the demographics of ranks they lead? No, they are not. That is why the ROCKS is an important organization. It doesn't guarantee advancing to higher ranks, but it increases the likelihood of your advancement by affording access to individuals who can share "what right looks like." For the ROCKS to continue we need you not to shoulder a mountain of a burden but do a little. If all of us did a little, a little from hundreds of people would be much...adding up to a great effort yielding great results. Let's share your story, our stories, so that the knowledge and valuable information you have or your success story can reach another member in another state, country or corner of globe.

The ROCKET is a quarterly publication that serves a multigenerational organization. As we move forward we will

bring you articles from different publications and organizations as well as leverage different multimedia and mass media platforms. We invite you to like our Facebook page.

In addition, we are proud to announce our video contest, "Share Your Story". Tell us in 30-90 seconds how the ROCKS, Inc., has helped you or your career. Your story is integral part of our history and relays to our members why ROCKS, Inc is just as important today as when it was started 43 years ago.

Your opinion matters. Email your commentary/feedback on the ROCKET or requests on topics you would like to see to VPComms4ROCKS@gmail.com.

Get in Step: Navigating (Y)our Way to Sound Organizational Budgets!

*Written by COL Eric P. Flowers USA
VP, Finance*



As we steamroll our way through 2017, it's somewhat surprising the year is more than halfway done. Time truly flies, and it's true, 'time waits for no one.' Given this truism of life, we best serve our respective fiscal interests if we look to the future- now- and start preparing our chapters for 2018. For The ROCKS, prudent preparation entails sound programmatic and relevant financial planning. One way to achieve the second prong of this annual responsibility is through the thorough and comprehensive development of an organizational budget. Although many ways exist to develop an organizational budget, the ENFORCE method serves as one to best suit our needs.

ENFORCE is an acronym where each letter defines a specific step in a structured budget development process. Following those steps facilitates collaborative participation from key stakeholders and ultimately supports the executive level vision for the chapter during the upcoming year. Widespread adherence to the ENFORCE process will produce a replicable template that will help us in our fiscal managerial responsibilities, as well as our program development and assessment efforts. Subsequently, the prospects for enduring success lie in the meaning of each letter.

- Establish the organization's priorities (as determined by the Chapter President);
- Name supporting activities/programs/events to be executed to achieve those priorities;
- Formulate revenue & expense projections for each activity, program or event;

- Organize the revenue and expense projections into a consolidated spreadsheet;
- Review consolidated spreadsheet for adherence to the Chapter President's explicit and implicit intents;
- Convey the consolidated spreadsheet to the Chapter's Body for approval, and;
- Execute the approved budget during the applicable fiscal year.

The ENFORCE method is a participatory process and involves involvement from: the chapter's leadership; committee chairpersons and special event leads. From start to finish, the entire process should cover about four months, with chapter approval occurring at least thirty (30) days before budget execution. This timeline is applicable regardless of a chapter's fiscal year.

As I expressed in the previous ROCKET, if there is anything I can do to help promote the Chapters' pursuit of a healthy vision via a feasible budget, please contact me as soon as possible. I am here to help the chapters and members and will always do what I can to help fellow ROCKS.

Organizational Culture

*Written by Mrs. Delores Johnson-Davis
VP, Civilian Affairs*



Over the past several months, I have talked with many federal employees. One question always comes up in those discussions. Employees want to know what it takes to become a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES). We talk a lot about requirements for SES such as education, training, mentorship and a broad array of work experiences. What we don't talk about a lot is something that might be just as important. That is--how valuable organizational culture is to mentoring, coaching and your overall individual success.

Frances Hesselbein who knows a thing or two about leadership from her tenure with the Girl Scouts understands the value of organizational culture to the success of its employees. She says that "Dispirited, unmotivated and unappreciated workers cannot compete in a highly competitive world."

When we talk about organizational culture, we are really talking about an organization's ability to acknowledge trust and fear and how both operate to either undermine or strengthen the human energy an individual brings to the workforce. A strong

culture reinforces the values of the organization, values the human dignity and potential of everyone. Those values can be seen in the way decisions are made in the organization. A culture driven organization values and purpose are aligned causing the organization stand out from the competition. It is not hard to think of examples of culture/values driven companies: Apple, Twitter, Google, Facebook, Southwest Airlines, H.E.B., Wegmans, Nike and yes, USAA. The power of these companies is found in their team's purpose, combined with the employee talents, and a desire to work on something fun and satisfying. It's not complicated. As ROCKS Inc. transforms to achieve its goals and objectives, we must embrace our culture and values and remind our emerging civilian and military leaders that getting ahead not only requires education, training, mentorship, coaching and experiences, but at the heart of it, individuals soar in environments that are trusted, supportive, satisfying and fun. In the words of Marilyn Carson, ROCKS Inc. must work with our partners to "strive to create a great place for great people to do great work".

Professional Civilian Development Session II: 2 May 2017, Professional Self-Assessment: Are you on Track?

Over 21 Department of Defense employees (GS 12-15) attended the seminar. Mr. Don Salo, SES, Deputy Assistant Secretary Manpower and Reserve Affairs (Military Personnel and Quality of Life) led the three-hour discussion on career advancement. He sharing valuable information from his experiences, tips on resume writing and interviewing, advice got completing Executive Core Qualifications. Participants were thrilled to have such in-depth information from a current SES.

Save the Date: The next Professional Civilian Development Session III: Coaching and Mentoring, 7 Sept 2017, Location TBD.

New from Y(our) Membership Development Team

*Written by COL (Ret) Angie Hemingway, USA
VP, Membership Development*



As the new VP, Membership, I'm curious for your thoughts. What does member mean to you? Is the connotation of belonging most important? Or is a member simply someone who buys a membership? When our ROCKS forefathers met on December 1, 1974 to name our organization they met to bring more structure to an informal process they had in place. Their informal process became a formal process as we know the ROCKS today. Member must have been more than belonging or just buying a membership to our forefathers. To me our forefathers

demonstrated that membership is a resounding echo of our rich heritage, legacy and traditions of excellence they passed to us. The formal structure and processes they established have helped prepare us to make good career decisions and to respond to the challenges that often confront us as individuals and as an organization. It was our ROCKS leadership that helped us as mentors, helped us with networking and that kept us abreast of the rules which our professional readiness is being rated. It was their wisdom and vision that prepared us for situations before they occurred. We have been given tools and we must continue to use these and other tools to respond to challenges that confront us as an international organization. Given the many challenges that confront us daily, to include work, operational challenges, family, school, and social media among others, how often are you navigating the divide? ROCKS has many system processes in place to help navigate the divide and to respond to challenges that confront us as an international organization. Three system processes that will be mentioned here and talked about in future editions of the *ROCKET* include works of our previous Vice President (VP), Membership - COL Eric Flowers, the Local ROCKS Chapters and their role as a Center of Gravity for National ROCKS and leveraging Social Media to enhance our processes.

Elected as, VP, Finance, COL Flowers provided assistance to the newly elected VP, Membership. COL Flowers previously put processes in place to help chapters' recruit, reclaim and engage members. He is a ROCKS member who can be counted on to help set others up for success over the long run of a professional career. He put processes in place to address budget concerns. These processes will help with fiscal management while streamlining our financial processes at the local and national level. Thank you, Eric, for helping me to transition to the position of VP Membership.

Local ROCKS Chapters have great people who interact with each other through activities and programs. Local ROCKS Chapters are the center of gravity in moving membership development efforts forward. I look forward to your energy and ideas for increasing membership in ROCKS. Finally, Social media is all the rage, yet it can and has been the demise of many who do not respect its power. In future editions of the *ROCKET*, I want to explore how we are using social media as a platform to moving membership development efforts forward. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve at the pleasure of the members and the Chairperson of ROCKS, Inc. It is with humility and compassion that I accept BG (Ret) Simm's appointment to the position of VP, Membership. I deeply care about our organization and with God's help, I pledge to serve you to the best of my capabilities. Please let me know how I can be of assistance to you. I am reachable through the national website or at angiehemingway@hotmail.com.



Register for the 2017, DC ROCKS 5 Mile Race and 2 Mile Walk

Register Now!! We are looking forward to your participation in the Washington DC Chapter of the ROCKS, Inc. 26th Annual 5-Mile Run/2-Mile Walk. The race will take place on September 16, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. Come on out to the beautiful Burke Lake Park in Fairfax, VA and join old friends, new friends, neighbors, and Cadets from Howard University, Morgan State, Norfolk State, Bowie, VMI, Virginia State, and University of Maryland to name a few. Cheer for your favorite ROTC Battalion, as our military's future shows what it means to be 'Army Strong!' Our USA Track & Field Certified Course flows through scenic Burke Lake Park and is a great prep for the Army Ten-Miler! If you don't want to run, no problem, we welcome you to walk, volunteer, or participate virtually by donating at the registration link. All proceeds will support academic scholarships for U.S. Army ROTC Cadets.

Fees:

On or Before August 1, 2017

5 mile: \$30 / For Cadets - \$20 / For 14 & Under - \$15

2 mile walk: \$25

After August 1, 2017

5 mile: \$35 / For Cadets - \$25 / For 14 & Under - \$20

2 mile walk: \$30

ROCKS members use discount code **ROCKSRUN17** to receive a \$5.00 off registration. Register @ www.dcrocks.com or www.prraces.com

Please note that online registration closes on **Friday, September 8, 2017**; however, onsite registration will be available on race day from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Registration closes after 8:00 a.m. Register early so that we can order the T-Shirts size you need. The race will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m.

- ❖ 2017 Race Marshal: BG Earl Simms
- ❖ OPD Provided by: MG Leslie C. Smith

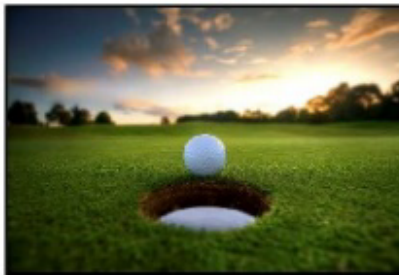
For more information contact the Race Chairman, MAJ Stephen Stanley, by phone at 504-570-3091 or e-mail at stanleysm3@gmail.com.



Third National ROCKS Inc. Golf Outing

**Friday, October 6, 2017
Sign in 7AM - Shot Gun Start 9:00AM**

**Fort Belvoir Golf Club
8450 Beulah St #2920
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060**



**Players and Sponsors Sign Up Online
WWW.ROCKSINC.ORG**

**For Additional Information or to Volunteer
Contact COL (Retired) Lucretia McClenney
lucretiamc@gmail.com or (703) 915-6446**

The ROCKS Inc. is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes. The organization has positioned itself as an essential leader in mentoring and coaching to members of the Army Officer Corps, ROTC and Academy Cadets, and DA Civilians.

The ROCKS Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization

THE MOAA MILITARY AND VETERAN NETWORKING FORUM

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Your attendance is requested at this complimentary,
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ROCKS' CHAPTER **ACTIVITIES**

Harry S. Truman ROCKS Awards Scholarships

Written by CPT Berline Marcelin, USA

The Harry S. Truman ROCKS Chapter at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri in collaboration with the Waynesville High School JROTC program facilitator COL (Ret) Charles Williams awarded two \$500 college scholarships to two very committed seniors and deserving JROTC Cadets. The chapter's president, LTC Shawn D. Sumter and vice-president, MAJ Adrien Humphreys participated in the event as the award presenters. This initiative was the first major engagement the chapter has had with the local high school, in hopes that it would become a stepping stone towards future mentorship efforts whereby the local chapter can partner with the high school. The first awardee, Celeste Montijo, awardee of the Super Cadet Medal and member of the National Honors Society, had a grade point average of 4.07 and as a future ROTC Nursing student plans to attend Temple University in Fall 2017. The second awardee, John Pollman, ranked 17 in his senior class with a 4.03 grade point average and as a future ROTC Cadet plans to attend the University of Missouri in Fall 2017.



LTC Shawn Sumter (far left) and MAJ Adrien Humphrey (center) present JROTC Cadets Celeste Montijo and John Pollman with \$500 dollar scholarships

MG Charles C. Rogers Chapter Stalwart Inducted into Alumni Achievement Hall of Fame

Written by COL (Ret) Charles Allen, USA



LTC Shawn Sumter addresses the crowd at Waynesville High Schools' Senior Honors Night



Mr. Edwin H. Lloyd, President of the National Alumni Association, presents Central State University Alumni Achievement Hall of Fame award to Dr. James Gordon.

Dr. James Gordon, long-time ROCKS member and stalwart of the Carlisle Barracks Chapter received another recognition of his years of distinguished service. Central State University and the National Alumni Association inducted Dr. Gordon into the Alumni Achievement Hall of Fame on March 7, 2017. The award citation notes "Dr. Gordon made history at the USAWC [US Army War College] as the first African American to be

Tenured Faculty, to hold Course Director positions in the Department of Distance Education and the Department of Military Strategy Planning and Operations. Additionally, he was the first African American at the College to be promoted to Professor.”

Hampton Roads Chapter Presents Outstanding Student Awards for Academic Year 2016-2017

Written by COL (Ret) Don Edwards, Jr., USA

The Hampton Roads Chapter (HRC) awarded twenty-seven (27) Outstanding Student Awards this spring to deserving Cadets at eleven (11) Hampton Roads, Virginia area high schools. The HRC's Outstanding Student Award was presented to high school JROTC students who demonstrated exceptional achievement in the areas of leadership, academics, community service and extracurricular activities. The program was established in January 2002, shortly after the Chapter was chartered, in support of the National Board of The ROCKS, Inc. Leadership Outreach Program that provides for professional career development and guidance to ROTC students. Not only does the Outstanding Student Award recognize and promote leadership and good citizenship, but it also allows visibility of the HRC at the high school (HS) level. Awardees this year were: Cdt/Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Noah Carter (Denbigh HS); Cdt/Lieutenant Junior Grade James Hoffman (First Colonial HS); Cdt/Lieutenant Commander Carlos Gonzales (Frank W. Cox HS); Cdt/Petty Officer First Class (PO1) Merrick Bedford, Cdt/PO1 Justin Henson, Cdt/PO3 Cayley Jobes, Cdt/PO2 Frances Manansala, and Cdt/PO3 Desmond Varner (Granby HS); Cdt/Ensign Charles Harris IV (Princess Anne HS); Cdt/Seaman Apprentice Julia Startt (Bayside HS); Cdt/Corporal Caleb Cruz, Cdt/Corporal Theron Blount, Cdt/Master Sergeant Zhakira Barrow, and Cdt/First Sergeant (1SG) Iziahn Moore (Smithfield HS); Cdt/PO3 Kenneth Baker, Cdt/Seaman Alissa Fernandez, Cdt/PO3 Semaj Lowe, and Cdt/PO3 Jaela Turner (Warwick HS); Cdt/Lieutenant Colonel John Walker (Western Branch HS); Cdt/1SG Kevin Mitchell, Cdt/First Lieutenant Teresa Otega, Cdt/Corporal Sydney Price, and Cdt/LTC Donnie Smith III (Woodrow Wilson HS); Cdt/CPO Christina Graves, Cdt/PO3 Graciela Lugo-Dealba, Cdt/Lieutenant Supamamaaya Prasad, and Cdt/Lieutenant Commander Alan Wyche (York HS). Presenting the awards this year for the Hampton Roads Chapter were: MG (Ret) Frank Batts, Chapter President; COL (Ret) Don Edwards Jr, Vice President for Operations; LTC Joe Harris, Vice President for Administration, LTC (Ret) Victor Holman (Member), LTC (Ret) Chailendrea Dickens (Member), and LTC (Ret) Lorenzo Riddick (Member). Another year of great opportunities to

strengthen the Chapter's commitment to excellence and community outreach presence.



COL (Ret) Don Edwards Jr. presents Cdt/Corporal Caleb Cruz (Smithfield HS) the Outstanding Student Award



LTC (Ret) Chailendrea Dickens presents Cdt/Lieutenant Commander Carlos Gonzales (Frank W. Cox HS) the Outstanding Student Award



LTC Joe Harris presents Cdt/Seaman Apprentice Julia Startt (Bayside HS) the Outstanding Student Award



HRC Rocks and Scholarship Awardees (from left to right). Back row: Chaplain Juan Crockett; COL (Ret) David Glover, CPT Timothy Rodgers, LTC (Ret) John James, LTC (Ret) Check Holden, LTC (Ret) Toney C. Mooney, MAJ (Ret) Ken Romney, COL (Ret) Julius Coats, and Reverend (LTC Ret) Earline Nelson. Front Row: COL Mary Woodard, COL (Ret) Don Edwards, MG (Ret) Frank Batts, Cadet Brandon Matherne, Cadet John Walker; Cadet Trevor Coon; LTC Joe Harris, and "Coach" H. Ellis Crum.



COL (Ret) Don Edwards Presents Cadet Markeil Blow the HRC Scholarship Award Certificate and "Big Check" during the I.C. Norcom High School Honors and Awards Assembly & Reception on June 2nd. Looking on are Dr. McChelle Blunt, Norcom HS 2017 Honors and Awards Day Committee Chair; and Dr. Laguna Foster, Norcom HS Principal.

Hampton Roads Chapter Awards Scholarships

Written by LTC (Ret) Toney C. Mooney, USA

The Hampton Roads Chapter (HRC) held its Fifteenth Annual Scholarship Award Ceremony on June 6, 2017, awarding scholarship to four outstanding Junior ROTC Cadets from the Hampton Roads Virginia area, who are going on to pursue college degrees and participate in Senior ROTC. The event was held, for the 3-consecutive year at the Newport News Virginia

Police Department Conference Facility in mid-town Newport News. The theme for the event was, "Pursuit of Excellence through Higher Education and Senior ROTC",

The HRC Scholarship Committee Chairman, and Master of Ceremony for the event, COL (Ret) David Glover opened the ceremony by welcoming family and friends to help celebrate the achievement and bright future of this year's awardees: Cadet Markeil Blow, I.C. Norcom High School, Portsmouth, Va.; Cadet Trevor Coon, Maury High School, Norfolk, Va.; Cadet Brandon Matherne, Landstown High School, Virginia Beach, Va.; and Cadet John Walker, Western Branch High School, Chesapeake, Va. Cadet Blow, whose high school graduation was held on the same evening as the HRC scholarship ceremony, did not participate. COL Don Edwards, Scholarship Committee Member, and Chapter Vice President for Operations, presented Cadet Blow her scholarship certificate at the IC Norcom Honors and Awards Assembly & Reception on June 2nd.

The evening started with an "ice breaker" social catered by Elegant Occasions by Krista, LLC. This allowed the HRC members and guest to mingle and meet one another, particularly the awardees and their family and guest. Afterwards, the formal portion of the ceremony begin with the presentation of colors by the Denbigh High School JROTC Color Guard, under the guidance of 1SGT Terry Smith (US Army Retired). Following the presentation of the colors was a superb rendition of the Star Spangled Banner by SSG Miguel Davis of the US Army School of Music in Norfolk, Virginia, followed by the Invocation by the HRC Chaplain, Chaplain (LTC) Juan Crockett, Command Chaplain, US Army Initial Military Training. MG (Ret) Frank Batts, HRC President, provided a brief history of the ROCKS, Inc., and recognized the founding members of HRC who were present.

COL Glover, acknowledge the efforts and personnel donations of the HRC members and friends of the chapter who help make the scholarship program viable. In addition to the personnel donations, LTC (Ret) Chuck Holden, HRC Parliamentarian, and General Council, recognize three corporate sponsors who made donations to the Chapter's Scholarship Fund: Health Partners Home Care, Inc.; Dominion Physical Therapy; and State Farm Insurance.

COL Edwards, introduced the Guest Speaker. "Coach" H. Ellis Crum, Army Capability and Integration Center, US Army Training and Doctrine Command, Ft. Eustis, Va. Coach Crum is an international award winning keynote speaker, leadership coach, and entrepreneur, who for more than 25 years has been a driving force in the field of personnel growth, relationship enhancement and leadership development. Coach Crum provided an outstanding, thought provoking, and encouraging message to the awardees.

Cadet Trevor Coon plans to attend Virginia Military Institute with a degree focus on English and Psychology; Cadet Brandon Matherne plans to attend Old Dominion University where he will pursue a Mechanical Engineer degree; Cadet John Walker plans to attend Texas A&M University where he will pursue an Aerospace Engineering degree; and Cadet Markeil Blow plans to attend George Washington University where she will pursue a degree in Computer Science.

Members of the HRC Rocks Scholarship Committee are: COL (Ret) David Glover (Chairman); MAJ (Ret) Hubert Becton; COL (Ret) Julius Coats; COL (Ret) Don Edwards; LTC (Ret) Toney C. Mooney; and COL Mary Woodard.

Hampton Roads Chapter Installs Officers for 2017-2018 Election Year

*Written by COL (Ret) Don Edwards, Jr., USA
Photography by MAJ (Ret) Hubert Becton, USA*



Pictured from left to right are: LTC Toney Mooney (USA Ret), LTC (CH) Juan Crockett, LTC Joe Harris, MG Frank Batts (USA Ret), COL Don Edwards, Jr (USA Ret), LTC Chuck Holden (USA Ret)

On 2 May 2017, Major General Wallace C. Arnold (USA Ret), Hampton Roads Chapter (HRC) of The ROCKS, Inc., installed chapter officers for the 2017-2018 Election Year. MG Arnold provided words of wisdom and inspiration as he charged the officers to execute their duties in a professional and excellent manner as they lead the HRC, ROCKS, Inc. in furtherance of the overall vision and mission of the ROCKS, Inc. *More specifically, the officers pledged to faithfully execute the duties of their respective office, to the utmost of their abilities, to obey the laws of our country and the By-laws of the HRC organization, and to exemplify to all in their conduct, good citizenship, good fellowship, and all the ideals upon which the Rocks, Inc. was established.* The following officers will serve in the noted positions for the 2017-2018 Election Year: President, Major General Frank Batts (USA Ret); Vice President of Operations, COL Don Edwards, Jr (USA Ret); Vice President of Administration, LTC Joseph (Joe) Harris;

Correspondence Secretary, LTC Toney Mooney (USA Ret); Parliamentarian & General Counsel, LTC Chuck Holden (USA Ret); Chaplain, Chaplain (LTC) Juan Crockett; and Treasurer, CW2 Ketura Mosley.

Discovering Faith in Our Millennials

Written by COL (Ret) Charles D. Allen, USA

Reprinted with permission from *The Sentinel*, 28 April 2017

Spring is traditionally viewed as a season of renewal and promise.

As the 2016 [- 2017] academic year comes to close with May-June graduations ahead, transitioning students are understandably anxious as they complete one phase of their lives and move onto the next. Such is the case with both high school and college seniors who will transition to the real world this summer.

Much has been made of generational differences, especially between the baby boomers and millennials (ages 18–34 years old). I offer that most of the anxiety of the millennials experience has been instigated by my generation of baby boomers who are currently “in charge” of our American society. A recent U.S. Census Bureau report highlights the differing perspectives of what it means to be an adult: “getting married, having children, getting a job, and living on your own.” We boomers expect and hold the millennials to our standard, but “the percentage of Americans achieving all four of those milestones by age 34 dropped from 45 percent in 1975 to 24 percent in 2016.” And so, boomers may be dismissive of this important rising generation of American citizens.

In the past year, I have had the privilege of engaging with millennials in several venues across American high schools, service academies, and universities. Once again, the Carlisle Exchange Club invited me to speak as it recognized three Youth of the Year awardees. They are very remarkable young people, each in their own right — Korrin Henneman (Big Spring High School), Emily Miller (Boiling Springs High School), and Grace Echevarria (Carlisle High School).

They are all bright with grade point averages of 3.9 and higher. They are accomplished, having received numerous academic, civic, music, and athletic awards. They are driven to service as illustrated by their involvement in several clubs and activities. Our Carlisle awardees have been accepted and will head to college at the start of the next academic year.

While participating in conferences on leadership and ethics, I have met with cadets at the United States Air Force Academy

and Virginia Military Institute as well as midshipmen of the United States Naval Academy. These young people from varied segments of our society — and all millennials — are developing the competency, character, and commitment to join the military of a nation that has been at war for most of their lives. I am especially proud of my cousin Julian Turner who will be commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Navy when he graduates from Annapolis in May with the Class of 2017. I also had the privilege of meeting Army Captain Jake Miraldi who is developing West Point cadets. Jake, a Purple Heart recipient from operations in Afghanistan, served under two of my U.S. Army War College students.



COL (Ret) Chuck Allen with Carlisle Exchange Club Awardees and his cousin now an Annapolis Graduate

From my encounters, I am greatly encouraged by the millennials I have met. In a world that appears to be turned upside down, they are talented, full of potential, and our hope for the future as they shape the generations that follow.

Millennials have been watching us boomers and taking notes about what we say, what we value, and what we actually do. Our generational responsibility — for boomers and millennials alike — remains to instill values and demonstrate three very simple ways to live: Do the right thing, Respect others, and Do your best.

I am confident that millennials can and will make the world a better place if we just get out of their way.

COL Charles D. Allen, U.S. Army, Retired is a Professor of Leader and Cultural Studies at the U.S. Army War College.

Continued from Page 15

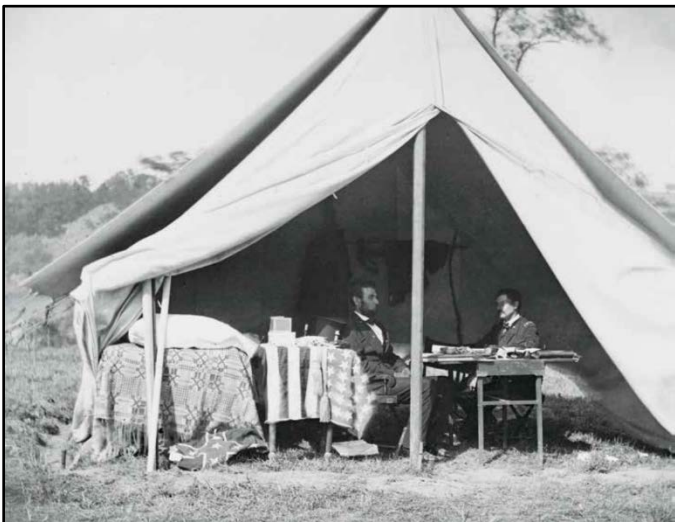
U.S. History of Civil-Military Tensions

From the inception of this nation, our military has struggled to find the proper balance of CMR. As commander of the fledgling U.S. Army, General George Washington addressed his officers in Newburgh, New York, to quell the Newburgh Conspiracy.⁴ When the Congress of the Confederation considered rescinding its commitment for back pay and pensions, officers threatened to disobey orders to disband the standing Continental Army. Some proposed a mutinous march on the capital to demand their due. Washington's March 1783 speech at the New Windsor Cantonment reminded these disgruntled officers of their professional obligation to the civilian leaders of the Nation. Seven months later, in his final speech as the military commander in chief, Washington reinforced the principle of the military's subordination to the new government and its Congress. He modeled this principled behavior by resigning his military commission in December 1783.⁵

At the onset of the American Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln wrestled with two problems. First, he needed a strategy to defeat the Southern secessionists (he refused to acknowledge "the Confederacy") to preserve the Union. Second, he needed to find the general who would execute such strategy and defeat the secessionist forces. For a time, that officer was General George B. McClellan, who had served as the General-in-Chief for the Union Army and then commanded the Army of the Potomac. After President Lincoln had devised a strategy, McClellan did not agree with it and failed to aggressively engage the enemy. Upon his relief from command, McClellan actively challenged the President while in uniform. He then became Lincoln's Democratic political rival in the election

campaign of 1864, pledging to end the war through negotiations with the Confederate States of America.

Arguably, General George C. Marshall serves as the exemplar of proper military behavior in CMR. As Chief of Staff of the Army at the start of World War II until its conclusion, he established a relationship built on confidence and trust with Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman—as well as with Congress. While candidly blunt in his advice to civilian leaders,⁶ Marshall clearly understood and respected their constitutional authority.⁷ As historian Mark Stoler's book title asserts, Marshall was the "Soldier-Statesman for the American Century," having continued his postwar service to the Nation as Secretary of State and then Secretary of Defense. Even with his formidable reputation, Marshall's professional advice was overruled by U.S. Presidents on at least three important issues: advocating for a cross-Channel invasion of Europe in 1942–1943, shifting the U.S. war effort to the Pacific rather than "Germany first," and, as Secretary of State, opposing the recognition of the state of Israel in favor of establishing a United Nations trusteeship.



If Marshall is the exemplary, then General Douglas MacArthur, also a former Army Chief of Staff, provides the counter-example of inappropriate civil-military behavior. As a national hero and savior of the Pacific theater in World War II, MacArthur was called upon to reverse the 1950 North Korean invasion of South Korea as the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, and Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers. Feeling constrained by President Truman on his strategy and operations, MacArthur chided "temporary occupants of the White House,"⁸ who, he claimed, ignored his military savvy. MacArthur violated direct guidance from the President by speaking out to the press and threatening offensive operations against Chinese forces. In his diary, Truman wrote, "This looks like the last straw. Rank insubordination," culminating the series of confrontations over

the 5-year relationship with MacArthur.⁹ After his relief from command and forced retirement, MacArthur addressed a rare joint session of Congress to deliver his farewell address in which he set forth the risks of political indecision and Presidential restraints in the Korean campaign, which he claimed prevented decisive military operations.¹⁰ Like McClellan in the prior century, MacArthur was insubordinate toward his commander-in-chief and entertained presidential aspirations. He certainly did not intend to "just fade away."¹¹

Evolution of Theory

For military officers, the detailed analysis of military campaigns and the performance of the generals and admirals who lead them is part of their professional studies. The cases of the four generals—Washington, McClellan, Marshall, and MacArthur—are familiar to Army officers. Perhaps more important for their education in the profession of arms is the study of civil-military relations. World War II and the Korean War have provided the context for theories and prescriptive models of civil-military relations proffered by Samuel Huntington¹² and Morris Janowitz.¹³ While military leaders seem to embrace Huntington's "principle of objective civilian control," civilian leaders rarely simply assign missions, provide resources to the military, and then defer planning and execution to military professionals. Implicit in this principle is loyalty to the commander in chief and Secretary of Defense, exemplified by military leaders who "stay on message."

Huntington, however, asks a question that continues to complicate CMR: "What is the proper course of professional behavior when called before a congressional committee and invited to criticize the President's recommendations?"¹⁴ Equally challenging is Janowitz's call for military leaders to become political agents who exert their outsize influence on the national policy formulation and strategic decision making. He boldly asserts that military leaders "must make the management of an effective military force compatible with participation in political and administrative schemes."¹⁵

Contemporary political scientists have tended to challenge the precepts of the earlier predominant theories. Eliot Cohen argues that, in practice for democracies, there is subjective control of the military aligned with the principle of civilian control—what he calls "an unequal dialogue" between the head of state and the most senior uniformed military leader.¹⁶ Peter Feaver reframes CMR as a principal-agent relationship in which principal civilian leaders have limited knowledge and expertise on the employment of military power and thus must engage with and manage their uniformed military agents.¹⁷ This management requires monitoring and taking action to ensure the behaviors of military leaders support goals of civilian political leaders rather than pursue their parochial military interests. In the 21st century, the theories of Cohen and Feaver

are more pragmatic for U.S. CMR. Indeed, the actions of civilian leaders performing as principals have recently led to the forced retirements and firing of several senior military officers.¹⁸ Two of the most prominent cases were General David McKiernan and General Stanley McChrystal, who both served as commanding generals of U.S. forces in Afghanistan for an operational theater of war.¹⁹



Supreme Allied Commander General Douglas MacArthur signs Instrument of Surrender on board USS *Missouri*, Tokyo Bay, September 2, 1945 (U.S. Army Signal Corps)

Patricia Shields recently approached CMR theory from a public administration perspective. She focuses on three areas that are informative for military professionals, political scientists, and military sociologists. Specifically, Shields examines “(1) the relationship between civilian elites and military leaders; (2) military leaders and their profession; [and] (3) military institution and society.”²⁰ In this analysis, civilian elites are those executive branch leaders who are the civilian Service secretaries and the Presidents’ Secretaries of Defense.

DOD civil-military relations are enabled by dialogue, debate, and eventual consensus that conveys the best military advice of its senior leaders—the Secretary of Defense and CJCS—to the Nation’s commander in chief and chief executive, the President of the United States. The interactions among executive branch leaders and uniformed senior officers are only two legs of the CMR trinity. Embedded in our constitutional form of a democratic government is the tension between the commander in chief’s charge to lead the Armed Forces and the congressional responsibility to provide funds to resource our military. Additionally, Congress has the constitutional responsibility to provide legislative oversight of the military.

Article Notes on page 43.

COL(R) Charles D. Allen is an Associate Professor of Leadership and Cultural Studies at the US War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

In the next edition of the ROCKET

Civilian-Military Relations in Transition - Roles and Functions & US Civilian- Military Tensions

Don’t wait to read the article in its entirety then go to <http://dtic.mil/doctrine/jfq/jfq.htm> and look at JFQ86.



- ✚ Volunteer to serve on the Leadership Outreach and Cadet Enhancement Team
- ✚ Attend chapter meetings
- ✚ Be accessible and become a mentor
- ✚ Volunteer to address chapters (General and Senior Officers are especially needed)
- ✚ Serve as a resource for referrals on branch peculiar and other professional development issues
- ✚ Encourage mentoring/coaching for all officers and set the example
- ✚ Volunteer to lead and/or participate in Committees
- ✚ Donate to our scholarship funds and sponsor a cadet to attend various events
- ✚ Volunteer to provide your expertise and guidance in assisting officer transitioning from military service
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- ✚ Become a Corporate sponsor

ROCKS ON THE MOVE

COL(P) TELITA CROSLAND, MD: African-American Female Doctor Selected for Brigadier General!

Written by COL (Ret) Dorene Hurt, USA



COL Telita Crosland, MD. was selected for Brigadier General. She presently serves as the G3/5/7 at the Office of the Army Surgeon General. She has had multiple commands to include the hospitals at Fort Campbell, Kentucky and Heidelberg, Germany. In addition to her Doctorate of Medicine, Crosland has degrees in Public Health and National Resource Strategy. She is certified by the American Board of Family Medicine, is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians and is a recipient of the Surgeon General's "A" proficiency designator. Crosland is a former senior medical officer with the Office of the Surgeon General and was most recently assigned as the Chief of Medical Corps Branch, Human Resources Command, Fort Knox. Her promotion ceremony will be held sometime in mid-July in the DC area.

LTC Natasha Clarke's Promotion

Written by COL (Ret) Dorene Hurt, USA

The Pentagon Hall of Heroes was packed to the gills with a standing room only crowd there to witness the promotion of Major Natasha S. Clarke on June 8th. A ROCKS Bobby Burke awardee and ROCKS National Board Volunteer, Major Clarke has been a stellar member of the ROCKS, Inc. Many ROCKS members were present at the ceremony, including the Board

Chairman, BG (Ret) Earl Simms. Presiding over the ceremony was Lt. Gen. Gwen Bingham, Assistant Chief of Staff, Installation Management. Also participating in the ceremony was Major Clarke's long time mentor and former commander, BG Charles Hamilton.

LTC Clarke was born in Clanton, Alabama but considers Winston-Salem, N.C. her home. She's earned a BS in Public Relations from NC A&T University, and an MM in Human Resource Management from the University of Phoenix. She enlisted into the USAR in the fall of 1997 through the Simultaneous Membership Program while attending NCA&T University. She was commissioned as a 2LT in 2002.



L to R: MAJ Tamisha Norris, MAJ Mishenda Siggall, LTG Gwen Bingham, LTC Natasha Clarke and to far right spouse, LTC(R) James Clarke speaking with guests at ceremony.

She's performed exceptionally in every assignment beginning with Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer, and Rear Detachment Commander in the 11th/377th Transportation Company in Germany. During OIF I and III she served as the Bn S4 and 46th Transportation Company Commander under the 498th Combat Sustainment Bn. She also served as the Bn Executive Officer for the 101st Special Troops Bn, 101st Sustainment Bde, Ft Campbell, Kentucky. She deployed to Afghanistan in support of OEF 13-14.

She served in the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, J4 in the Distribution cell, where she was recognized for her outstanding performance, then handpicked to serve as the Executive Assistant to the Deputy J4. Prior to her current assignment as a Special Assistant to the Director of the Army Staff in the Executive Communications and Control Center, she was LTG Bingham's Assistant Executive Officer. Already selected for Bn command in Korea in 2018, LTC Clarke is married to LTC (Ret) James Clarke, Jr. who is the ROCKS National Board Secretary. They have two children, Jasmine and James, III.

"Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence" -- Helen Keller

Dr. Vaughn Promoted to LTC

Written by COL (Ret) Dorene Hurt, USA



Major Janet Vaughn

Congratulations to Dr. Janet Natasha Vaughn. Dr. Vaughn a longtime supporter of the ROCKS was selected for promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Born in Sumter, South Carolina on May 11, 1980 and the oldest of five children, she enlisted in the Army as 92G, Army Food Service Specialist in 1998. MAJ Vaughn earned her Bachelors of Arts in History graduating Magna Cum Laude from Livingstone College in 2002. After receiving an educational delay, she completed her master's degree in Social Work in 2004. She continued her educational pursuits earning her doctorate in Social Work from Morgan State University in 2014.

Her dissertation was entitled "The Lived Experiences of Military Lesbians Who Served in the Military During Don't Ask, Don't Tell." She recently departed her assignment as the Chief of the Family Advocacy Program at Ft. Carson, Colorado.

She is a fellow's graduate of the National Capital Consortium for Child and Family Practice. Her previous assignments include Walter Reed Army Medical Center as the supervisor for the medical surge team for inpatient and outpatient social work services. She was the past Chief of the Family Advocacy Program at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. She worked at Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center, FT Hood, TX. She was a social work officer doing assessment for allegations of child and spouse abuse. She was also the Sexual Assault Care Coordinator and provided case management and counseling for victims of sexual assault. She deployed with the 215th BSB 3rd Brigade 1st Cav.

Laziness may appear attractive, but work gives satisfaction. – Anne Frank

Major Siggall Checks Off Major Bucket List Item

Written by COL (Ret) Dorene Hurt, USA

June 22 could have been like any other day for Major Mishenda Siggall, however, she was determined to take advantage of a unique opportunity to check a major dream off her bucket list. So she started off her day by tandem jumping out of a perfectly good airplane with a U.S. Army Golden Knight! According to Major Siggall, "It was so awesome, peaceful and beautiful. Words can't fully express how the earth looks from the sky."

On the special occasion of her meeting one of her life's goals, the ROCKS, Inc., would like to sincerely thank Major Siggall for her steadfast commitment to the ROCKS. Special thanks are extended to her selfless service as a Volunteer on the ROCKS National Board, both of the ROCKS National Board-led Golf Tournaments, as a Co-MC of the highly successful 2017 Spring Gala, and during numerous other activities requiring motivated volunteers. Best wishes and prayers are extended to her as she PCSs to South Korea for her new duty assignment later this summer.



Major Mishenda Siggall tandem jumps with a U.S. Army Golden Knight on 22 June 2017

Live life for the moment because everything else is uncertain! – Louis Tomlinson

SUPPORT THE ROCKS, INC. THE NEXT TIME YOU TRAVEL

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1. Go to <https://www.stayfaster.com/>
2. Click the square box in the top right corner with three lines and select "Create an Account".
 - a. Enter Promo Code for your chapter (shown below)
 - b. First and last name
 - c. Email address
 - d. Password (must be 8-20 characters)
3. Once account is established, go back Login page. Login and fill in profile data.
4. Now go back to web link "Stay Faster- The Fastest Way to Book Your Next Hotel"
5. Follow instructions by providing requested info, then hundreds of hotels to select from will appear. Select your hotel and Book your reservation.
6. A confirmation notice from "Front Desk" will be sent to the email address you provided.
7. The more you book through this site will increase the "royalty" to your Chapter.
8. Safe travels and remember this is a fundraiser. Encourage friends and family to use it as well using your chapter's promo code.



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Notes from Article “Civil-Military Relations in Transition: Behavior of Senior Military Officers

¹ David Barno and Nora Bensahel, “The New Chiefs in Town,” *War on the Rocks*, June 30, 2015, available at <<http://warontherocks.com/2015/06/the-new-chiefs-in-town/>>.

² Budget Control Act (BCA) of 2011, Pub.L. 112-25, S. 365, 125 Stat. 240, enacted August 2, 2011.

³ See video, “Richard Kohn on Civil-Free Press, 1960). Civil Military Relations,” posted September 16, 2013, available at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8MDZCOCatw>.

⁴ Richard H. Kohn, “The Inside History of the Newburgh Conspiracy: America and the Coup d’Etat,” *William and Mary Quarterly* 27, no. 2 (April 1970), 187–220.

⁵ The officers of the Continental Army sent a letter to Congress March 20, 1783, detailing their concerns. See “Washington’s Resignation Speech (Final Draft),” December 23, 1873, Annapolis, MD, available at <<http://maryland-statehouse.blogspot.com/2012/07/george-washington-resigns-speech-returns.html>>.

⁶ Mark A. Stoler, *George C. Marshall: Soldier-Statesman for the American Century* (Woodbridge, CT: Twayne, 1989).

⁷ See the Constitution of the United States of America, Article I, Section 8: “The Congress shall have Power . . . To declare War, To raise and support Armies . . . To provide and maintain a Navy.” Article II, Section 1: “The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America.” Article II, Section 2: “The President shall be the Commander in Chief of the Army and the Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States when called into actual service of the United States.”

⁸ This line was offered by the main character in the film *MacArthur*, Universal Pictures, 1977.

⁹ “Diary Entry of President Harry S. Truman, April 6, 1951,” Truman Papers— President’s Secretary’s Files, Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, available at <www.trumanlibrary.org/whistlestop/study_collections/trumanpapers/psf/diaries/index.php?documentVersion=transcript&documentid=hst-psf_976232_02>. See also H.W. Brands, *The General vs. the President: MacArthur and Truman at the Brink of Nuclear War* (New York: Doubleday, 2016).

¹⁰ “General Douglas MacArthur Farewell Address to Congress delivered 19 April 1951,” American Rhetoric Top 100 Speeches, available at <www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/douglasmacarthurfarewelladdress.htm>.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Samuel Huntington, *The Soldier and the State: The Theory and Politics of Civil-Military Relations* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1957).

¹³ Morris Janowitz, *The Professional Soldier: A Social and Political Portrait* (New York: The

¹⁴ Huntington, 416.

¹⁵ Janowitz, 418.

¹⁶ Eliot A. Cohen, *Supreme Command: Soldiers, Statesmen, and Leadership in Wartime* (New York: The Free Press, 2002).

¹⁷ Peter Feaver, *Armed Servants: Agency, Oversight, and Civil-Military Relations* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2003).

¹⁸ Donald Drechsler and Charles D. Allen, “Why Senior Military Leaders Fail: And What Can We Learn from Their Mistakes,” *Armed Forces Journal*, July 1, 2009, available at <<http://armedforcesjournal.com/why-senior-military-leaders-fail/>>; Charles D. Allen, “Lessons Not Learned: Civil-Military Disconnect in Afghanistan,” *Armed Forces Journal*, September 1, 2011, available at <<http://armedforcesjournal.com/lessons-not-learned/>>.

¹⁹ Allen, “Lessons Not Learned”; Marybeth P. Ulrich, “The General Stanley McChrystal Affair: A Case Study in Civil-Military Relations,” *Parameters* (Spring 2011), 86–100.

²⁰ Patricia Shields, “Civilian-Military Relations,” in *Encyclopedia of Public Administration* (forthcoming).



RMOA BUSINESS INSTITUTE (RBI) For Business Ownership Training

RBI: Experience-Based and Personalized

The Retired Military Officers Association (RMOA, www.rmoa.org or www.rmoaba.org) offers the RMOA Business Institute (RBI) for Veterans seeking to become entrepreneurs. The knowledge, skills, and leadership abilities acquired during military service help Veterans to become successful entrepreneurs. Most RMOA members are Veterans who parlayed their military service into prosperous companies. [RMOA was established by members of the ROCKS who desired to start and grow their own businesses.](#)

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Veterans interested in enrolling in RBI should print and complete the attached one-page Application form. Applications for RBI are accepted year round. All Applicants are contacted to schedule a confidential interview (preferably an in-person meeting) during the Intake and Assessment phase. Applicants receive RMOA's enrollment decision soon after the interview.

Applications may be completed online at www.rmoabusinessinstitute.org

OR

Emailed to:
jgeorge@msti-net.com as an attachment with the
Subject line: RBI Application.

OR

May be mailed to:
RMOA Business Institute
3701 Pender Dr., Suite 505
Fairfax, VA 22030
Tel: 703-989-5878

Applications must be complete, signed, and dated in order to be considered.

Questions?

For further information, please contact:

COL (Ret) James T. George

jgeorge@msti-net.com

703-989-5878

OR

Alan Hamlin, ceed2000@aol.com, 202-832-1555

Mark Brown, embrown1@aol.com, 301-466-3332



RMOA BUSINESS INSTITUTE (RBI) APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT

Date _____ How did you learn about RBI? _____
First Name _____ M.I. _____ Last Name _____
Branch _____ Rank _____ Dates of Service _____
Address/City/State/ZIP _____
Home # _____ Cell # _____ Email _____

Describe your primary reason for applying to RBI and your expectations of the program.

What type of business would you like to launch, why, and when?

Describe your non-military business experience (total # of years and any supervisory positions).

Circle the selection that describes your personality with regard to launching a new business.

1 = Low risk-taker 2 = Moderate risk-taker 3 = High risk-taker

In your opinion, what qualifications and character traits does a successful entrepreneur possess?

In your opinion, what elements of your military service will help you to be a successful entrepreneur?

-

Applicant Signature _____ **Date** _____

Office use: Approved/Disapproved _____ **Date** _____ **RBI Signature** _____

The National Board of the ROCKS, Inc.

Membership Application

Mail or Fax or Apply Online at www.rocksync.org

Post Office 47435, Forestville, Maryland 20753

Phone: 301-423-5500 / Fax: 301-856-5220

Email: rocksnationalboard@gmail.com



PLEASE SELECT ONE: ☐ NEW MEMBER ☐ RENEWAL SPONSORED BY _____

Rank: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____

Birthday: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)-year optional Chapter Affiliation (if applicable): _____

Spouse Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

Branch/Specialty: _____ Current Position: _____

College/University Attended: _____ Degree/Year: _____

Graduate School Attended: _____ Masters/Year: _____

National ROCKS Membership Dues

04, GS13 & Above (incl. SES)

☐ 1 Year – \$58.00

03 & Below, GS12

☐ 1 Year - \$33.00

☐ Cadet Member – 1 Year = \$20.00

☐ National Life Member = \$650.00

Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Method of Payment: ☐ Check/Money Order ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX (OR pay online at www.rocksync.org)

Credit Card Number															

Expiration Date				CV # (from the back of the card)

Make all checks payable to “National ROCKS, Inc.” and mail to:
ROCKS, Inc.

c/o WSC Associates, LLP

Post Office Box 47435

Forestville, Maryland 20753

NOTES

- Local membership fees are not included.
- Life members are still required to pay local chapter dues.
- Current members** who are deployed personnel may send an email to rocksnationalboard@gmail.com to be exempt from membership fees during the period of deployment.