

# Army Engineer Spouses' Club Castle Gram

Volume IV, Issue VII

April, 2014

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Please save the date:  
Scholarship  
Lunch  
May 4, 2014**

**More details will  
Follow by email.**

**UPCOMING BOARD  
MEETINGS:**

**May 7 (Wednesday)  
And  
June 3 (Tuesday)**

*March was a busy month for the Engineers!*



Above: March 15 Beer Tasting Event at Mad Fox Brewing Company  
Below: March 19 bake sale at Knollwood  
See inside for more photos!



**"Keeping our worldwide Engineer family connected -  
through the years and across the miles."**



**Kathy Moakler**  
President

## The Gavel



### ...a note from our President

Dear Friends:

It's almost April and still, winter clings to us. They say the cherry blossoms will bloom on time but they'll be wearing their ear muffs and mittens.

Spirits were warm at the beer tasting held on March 15th. Rosemary Davis organized a fun afternoon at the Mad Fox brewery in Falls Church and we experimented with 4 types of beer. I know I had never tried stout before and I enjoyed their version. Some beers we liked better than others but we all found at least one we liked and it is a place we will go back to. The food was delicious as well.

Our annual trip to Knollwood for the bake sale was a great success thanks to Priscilla Noah's usual organized efforts. We were able to make a sizeable donation to the Knollwood social fund on behalf of the club.

Bette Meuleners is still beating the bushes for board members - please contact her if you would like to serve. She carried on despite some health problems with her husband Mike. Bette is steadfast and determined and nothing stands in her way. And we are happy that Mike is on the mend.

Please keep two long time board members in your thoughts and prayers. Betty Swygert and Joyce Rebh will not be returning to the Board next year. They have been stalwart supporters for as long as I have been connected with the club and their wise counsel will be missed.

Kudos to Laura Putnam for an efficient system of judging our scholarship applicants. We had a huge field to judge but she put her committee to work, including yours truly, and we completed our task in record time. Congrats to all the awardees.

I'm a little distracted this month – my daughter is getting married on April 26 so we are caught up in the usual wedding madness and merriment.

Essayons!  
Kathy Moakler

*Our March board meeting was cancelled because of inclement weather!*





*On March 15, the Army Engineer Spouse Club enjoyed good food and great company at the Mad Fox Brewing Company. Attendees enjoyed sampling various beers and side dishes. Thanks to everyone who planned and attended this event, and special thanks to Connie Semonite for sharing her photos.*



Beer Tasting at Mad Fox Brewing Company



Beer Tasting at Mad Fox Brewing Company







## 2013-2014 AESC OFFICERS

**2013-2014 AESC****ELECTED OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT – KATHY MOAKLER

VICE-PRESIDENT – ROSEMARY DAVIS

SECRETARY – ALLISON CHAMBERLAYNE

TREASURER – DEBBIE RAPP

AEMA CHAIRPERSON – HOLLY SCHERER

**APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS**

PARLIAMENTARIAN – ROZ RILEY

MEMBERSHIP – JACKIE CALDWELL

HOSPITALITY – LYNDA FLOWERS

AEMA SCHOLARSHIP – LAURA PUTNAM

MEDIA TEAM: PUBLICITY/HISTORIAN – GLENDA HUDSON

NEWSLETTER – KAREN ANDERSON

WEBMASTER – SUSAN WRIGHT

FACEBOOK – ELIZABETH HILL

CIRCULATION – KARA ANDERSON

RESERVATIONS – ANITA LINK

WAYS AND MEANS – CONNIE SEMONITE

WELFARE/SERVICES – MOLLIE O'NEILL

LIAISON CHAIR: KNOLLWOOD – BETTY SWYGERT

FAIRFAX – JOYCE REBH

KNOLLWOOD BAKE SALE – PRISCILLA NOAH

NOMINATIONS – BETTE MEULENERS

NOMINATIONS &amp; AD HOC VOLUNTEER—PAT O'NEILL

AD HOC VOLUNTEER – GENE VILLIVA

BETH MAZZANTI

ADVISORS

RENEE BOSTICK - SPOUSE, CHIEF OF ENGINEERS

VICKY GRONINGER - SPOUSE, CSM OF ENGINEERS

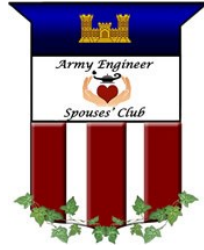
JACKIE CALDWELL- SES SPOUSE, DIRECTOR- MILPO

JOAN STOCKTON-SES SPOUSE, DIRECTOR-CEO



APRIL 2, 2014 AESC BOARD MEETING





## **Nominations Report March-April 2014**

As per AESC's Constitution and By-Laws, in March the Nominating Committee presents a slate of officers for the upcoming year (2014-2015).

At the April function, we conduct our election. After the election, the newly elected President appoints the committee chairmen, often with the help of the Nominating Committee. (Please note: we are planning for the election to be held during the annual scholarship luncheon on May 4.).

**The following are the committee's nominations for the elected officers:**

**President – Connie Semonite**

**Vice President/Secretary\* – Allison Chamberlayne**

**AESC Treasurer – Kathy Moakler**

**AEMA Chairman/Treasurer – Holly Scherer**

\*Allison volunteered to switch to the VP position and still cover the duties of the Secretary. If you might have an interest in taking over as Secretary, please let Bette know!

**The Nominating Committee will give the new President the names of volunteers for most of the committee chairperson positions. If you're interested in being on the board, we do have a few empty slots ... let Bette Meuleners know! The committee chairpersons will be announced in the Castle Gram.**

**Bette Meuleners**  
**AESC Nominating Committee Chairperson**  
[bmeuleners@gmail.com](mailto:bmeuleners@gmail.com)  
**571-235-3566**

**AESC NONIMMATIONS**

## KNOLLWOOD BAKE SALE

*On March 19, 2014, members of AESC visited Knollwood for the annual bake sale. The residents (and even the construction workers on site) were thrilled with the offerings. The bake sale made \$450 which was sent to Knollwood for those who need monetary assistance.*







*Thank you to Priscilla Noah for all her hard work in coordinating this event. Thanks, also, to everyone who volunteered by attending and/or providing goodies for the Knollwood Bake Sale.*



KNOLLWOOD BAKE SALE

## APRIL: MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

### THE OFFICIAL FLOWER OF THE MILITARY CHILD IS THE DANDELION. WHY?

Dandelions put down roots almost anywhere and it's almost impossible to destroy. It's an unpretentious plant, yet good-looking. It's a survivor in a broad range of climates.

Military children bloom everywhere the winds carry them. They are hardy and upright. Their roots are strong, cultivated deeply in the culture of the Army..... planted swiftly and surely. They're ready to fly in the breezes that take them to new adventures, new lands, and new friends.

Military children are well-rounded, culturally aware, tolerant, and extremely resilient, they have learned from an early age that home is where their hearts are, that a good friend can be found in every corner of the world.

They learn that to survive means to adapt, that the door that closes one chapter of their life opens up to a new and exciting adventure full of new friends and new experiences.





*Birthdays.....*



**April**

Michelle DiCiro	April 1
Sally Ball	April 2
Jackie Beck	April 8
Carol Pawlowski	April 9
Jackie Danielson	April 12
Mary Scott	April 15
Lee Boutin	April 18
Susan Oliveri	April 20
Mary Lorber	April 23
Dolores Felch	April 29
Jennifer Riordan	April 30

**May**

Renee Johnson	May 6
Kathy Candido	May 9
Mary C. Pratt	May 9
Lynda Flowers	May 13
Ruth Bond	May 18
Donna Dabbieri	May 18
Kathy Moakler	May 22
Allison Chamberlayne	May 24
Debbie Rapp	May 26
Bette Meuleners	May 28
Emily Jansen	May 29

\*Please let me know if I have missed your Birthday!



**Thank you to the Engineer Command Council (ECC) for their recent contribution to the Army Engineer Spouse Club!**



**MEMBER CELEBRATIONS**

## OBITUARY

Georgia Keck Witherspoon, an Engineer spouse, passed away on March 17th. An Army wife for 29 years beginning immediately after her marriage in 1966, she made significant contributions to the welfare of soldiers, Army civilians and their families in assignments from Australia to Saudi Arabia and 15 other locations between. This service was recognized with the Commanders Award for Public Service presented to her by the US Army Chief of Engineers in 1995. At every military assignment and after the Army as a "civilian wife" in New Orleans and finally Greenville, she made many close friends and was continually involved as an active participant in organizations that provided support to needy or health challenged people. In this work, she always strove for excellence and rarely missed the mark.

Condolences can be sent to Georgia's husband, BG (retired) Eugene Witherspoon, 215 Siena Drive, Greenville, South Carolina 29609, or [eswitherspoon@charter.net](mailto:eswitherspoon@charter.net). A celebration of Georgia's life and gathering of family and friends took place on Sunday, March 23 at Yount's Conference Center, Furman University. In lieu of flowers, Georgia would have welcomed a contribution to Foothills Family Resources, P.O. Box 246, Slater, SC 29683, the last of many organizations she supported with her time and talent.



Our condolences go out to Roz Riley on the loss of her father, who died on March 1. He was surrounded by his loving family.





### Brigadier General Philip Boerger

Brigadier General Philip T. "Pete" Boerger, US Army, died March 25, 2014 at The Fairfax in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Born on May 3, 1924 in Milbank, South Dakota, he was the second son of the late Frank and Jeanette Boerger and the brother of the late Frank C. Boerger. He was drafted into the Army in WWII, graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1947, was commissioned in the Army Corps of Engineers and served overseas in Alsaka, Korea, Germany, Iran, and Vietnam. He retired as a brigadier general in 1975. He earned graduate degrees from the University of Minnesota and the George Washington University. General Boerger was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with three oak leaf clusters, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the National Security Merit Medal (Korea). Additionally, he was a 32nd Degree Mason and a Shriner. Upon his retirement from the Army, he was employed in the private sector in Washington, DC; Beaumont, Texas; and Los Alamos, NM. In 1986, he moved with his wife Betty to Carolina Trace in North Carolina. He was a volunteer firemen, served on the Carolina Trace Volunteer Fire Department Board, was a volunteer instructor in Adult Basic Education at the Central Carolina Community College, sang in the Lee County Community Chorus, the Get Happy Chorus, and with the Trace Players, as well as serving on committees of the Carolina Trace Country Club. He and Betty moved to The Fairfax, Fort Belvoir, VA, in 2006 where he formed and led the Fairfax Chorus. He was also elected to the Residents' Council and to the Board of Directors of the Army Retirement Residence Foundation- Potomac. General Boerger was preceded in death by his daughter, Judi. He is survived by his wife of sixty-seven years, Betty; a son, Tom and his wife, Tana of Carolina Trace; a son-in-law, Bob Humphreys of Herndon, VA. He was "Bompa" to a grandson, Trevor, and great-grandson, Cody, and a great granddaughter, Stella, of Washington, DC; and granddaughters Deni Cunningham and Keri Staley of Northern Virginia, and twin great-grandsons, Austin and Clark Staley and great-granddaughter, Joelle and great-grandson, Coulter Cunningham. His family requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to your favorite charity. General Boerger's Celebration of Life will be held at The Fairfax on April 5, 2014. An inurnment at West Point will follow at a later date.

OBITUARY

MEDIA



## Army Engineer Spouses Club



**The Army Engineer Spouses' Club welcomes membership from spouses of all U.S. Army Engineers and civilian employees of USACE and, with approval of the Executive Board, other persons who are associated with the Corps of Engineers.**

### **2013-2014 AESC MEMBERSHIP**

**This is an exciting year for AESC membership. We now have two options for submitting our 2013-2014 membership and dues.**

<http://www.armyengineerspouses.com/online-membership-form.html>

- 1. An electronic membership form with paypal on the AESC website!**
- 2. Our traditional mail-in membership form.**

**We look forward to receiving many electronic memberships. As always, our AESC post office mailbox will be checked frequently for mailed memberships.**

**Jackie Caldwell  
Membership Chair**



**"LIKE" us on Facebook!**





## AESC 2013-2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PRINT NAME as you would like to be listed in the Castle Directory (The Redbook)

Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

The Castle Gram is sent to you via email unless you request a mailed copy  .

Your Birthday (month/day only) \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:  New member  Returning member  Rejoining member

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: Is Spouse:  Active  Retired  Deceased

Spouse's title/rank/job assignment or firm \_\_\_\_\_

By sending this application, you agree to have the above information listed in the Castle Directory.

Membership runs from July 1, 2013 until June 30, 2014. Membership information received by Oct 31st,

2013 will be included in the 2013-2014 Castle Directory. Thank you.

Annual dues + 1 copy of the Castle Directory \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Castle Directory: Each \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to AESC and mail to:

AESC MEMBERSHIP

P.O. Box 6332

Alexandria, VA 22306-6332

Join online at [www.armyengineerspouses.com](http://www.armyengineerspouses.com)

The AESC mission is to keep our Army Engineer family connected. We value membership as a way of keeping Army Engineer friendships alive through member information in the Castle Directory. We welcome your active participation. Let a board member know if you would like to:

- write regular or occasional articles for the Castle Gram,
- volunteer your computer skills,
- host an AESC-sponsored activity or fund-raising event in your area,
- provide pictures of member weddings, births, retirement, or other events of interest to the Army Engineer family.

MEMBERSHIP



AESC  
P.O. Box 6332  
Alexandria, VA 22306-6332