

Army Engineer Spouses' Club Castle Gram

Volume V, Issue I

August, 2014

Inside this issue:

Welcome	1
The Gavel	2
AESC Board	3
Upcoming Events	4-7
August Board Meeting	8- 10
SAME Conference	11
August Fun Facts	12
Member Celebrations	13
Media	14
Membership	15

Welcome to the 2014-2015 membership year!

Thank you for trusting me to be your editor for a second year. Our new AESC Board is in place, and we are ready for an exciting year.

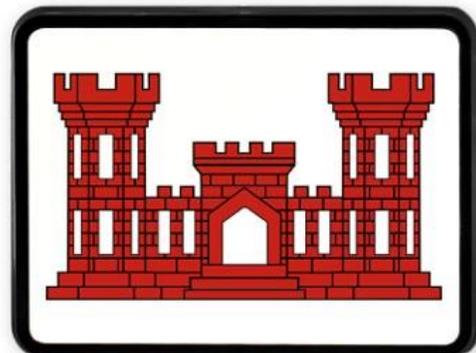
Why should an Engineer spouse join AESC? In addition to invitations to our social functions, membership includes a copy of our directory of members, called the Red Book. And, by joining our organization, you contribute to our Army Engineer Memorial Awards, given annually to qualifying high school seniors. AESC also supports retired Engineer spouses who live in Knollwood and The Fairfax retirement homes. These are fantastic reasons to join (or re-join) the AESC.

If you have not yet joined AESC for this year, please find the membership form located at the end of this newsletter. Or, visit our website at armyengineerspouses.com, where you will find a membership link.

Please help us spread the word about AESC with Engineers who are serving or retired worldwide.

Happy Fall!

Karen Anderson



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



The Gavel



...a note from our President

Army Engineer Spouses' Club Members and Friends:

Welcome to the 2014-2015 Club year! I am confident that the coming months will be exciting and informative, and will pass by much too quickly. Your Vice-President, Allison Chamberlayne, has a number of wonderful events planned for the months ahead. Watch for details and information on each event in the monthly newsletter and posted on-line. The AESC Board is anxious for you to join us for as many events as possible - whether you live in the DC area or are visiting at just the right time.

Please mark your calendars for October 25, which is the date for the Army Engineer Memorial Awards Annual Cocktail Party. The Chief of Engineers, LTG Thomas Bostick, and his wife, Renee, have kindly offered to host our event on beautiful Ft. McNair once again. As you may know, this major fundraiser supports our scholarship efforts through generous donations during the evening. Holly Scherer, your AEMA Chairman, will have information and photos of our past awardees on display and would love to speak with you about the volunteer opportunity of Scholarship Chair. Please feel free to contact us right now through our website, www.armyengineerspouses.com, for more information on this exciting and very important position. (First contact - first consideredhurry, we need YOU!). We will also have our Castle Boutique items on display and available for purchase. Just a reminder that our boutique exists to fund AEMA awards. If you are unable to join us for the evening, our Castle Boutique and the opportunity to do a direct donation are both easily found on our website.

Speaking of our website have you visited lately? Laura Putnam, our AESC WebMaster, has been hard at work and is doing a wonderful job! She is posting the most current and relevant events for your information. Be sure to check back frequently as she has a fantastic vision that incorporates fun changes and updates galore. Oh, and did I mention that she has a toddler at home, as well as an upcoming PCS ... our AESC volunteers are amazing!

We are excited to have you as a member and want you to take on the challenge of telling at least one person about our organization this month. The Board considers it their challenge to offer you a memorable year and looks forward to your input and attendance. We want to get to know you!!

Warmly,
Connie

2014-2015 AESC BOARD

Elected Officers

PRESIDENT – CONNIE SEMONITE
 VICE-PRESIDENT – ALLISON CHAMBERLAYNE
 SECRETARY – ALLISON CHAMBERLAYNE
 TREASURER – KATHY MOAKLER
 AEMA CHAIRPERSON – HOLLY SCHERER

APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

PARLIAMENTARIAN – ROZ RILEY
 MEMBERSHIP – JACKIE CALDWELL
 HOSPITALITY – LYNDA FLOWERS
 AEMA SCHOLARSHIP – VACANT
 MEDIA TEAM: PUBLICITY/HISTORIAN – GLENDA HUDSON
 NEWSLETTER – KAREN ANDERSON
 WEBMASTER – LAURA PUTNAM
 FACEBOOK – LISA STEVENSON
 CIRCULATION – KARA ANDERSON
 RESERVATIONS – ANITA LINK
 WAYS AND MEANS – VACANT
 WELFARE/SERVICES – KIMBERLY OBORSKI
 LIAISON CHAIR: KNOLLWOOD – VACANT
 FAIRFAX – JOYCE REBH AND KAY BURLIN
 KNOLLWOOD BAKE SALE – PRISCILLA NOAH
 NOMINATIONS – BETTE MEULENERS
 AD HOC VOLUNTEER—PAT O'NEILL AND
 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



2014-2015 AESC BOARD

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting

Please join us at our upcoming Board Meeting

AESC Board Meeting

September 3

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

At the

Fairfax Village Neighborhood Center

10265 Fairfax Drive

Fort Belvoir, VA

Refreshments provided by Allison and Karen

Note: We are going to make a slight change to our Castle Gram publishing schedule this year. The deadline for submissions to the Castle Gram will now be on the first Wednesday of each month. This will allow Castle Gram contributions to be collected at our monthly Board meetings. This will also result in your Castle Gram arriving in the middle of the month instead of the beginning of the month. Please join us for future board meetings! Our next meeting will be on September 3.

Upcoming Events

Save the Date

Engineer Round-Up –

Thursday, September 25th at 5pm - Crystal City Gateway Marriot, near the atrium lounge. Let's join our spouses for this monthly event sponsored by OCE. We'll drum up some membership, open the Castle Boutique and enjoy cocktail and shop talk!

Annual Cocktail party –

Saturday, October 25th 5-7pm -

At the home of
LTG and Mrs. Tom Bostick,
Quarters 7, Fort McNair
Washington, DC

This event will be held at the home of the Chief of Engineers. This is our signature event. Please join us as we welcome our new members and engineer families across the area. Additional information will be in next month's newsletter.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Spy Museum

Become a Spy for the day!
Join AESC in a fun filled morning at the International Spy Museum.

Wednesday August 20, 2014 at 10:00am
800 F Street, NW between 9th and 8th Streets

We have two options for the day:

1. OPERATION SPY – We clandestinely enter a fictitious country searching for a nuclear triggering device. We will become spies to save the world by lunchtime! Cost is \$14.95. Tickets are timed so if there are no available tickets when we arrive we will tour the...
2. MAIN EXHIBIT – Guide ourselves through the main exhibit. The cost is \$15.95 payable at the door.

We will choose our mission when we arrive and see which tickets are available and best meet our group's needs.

The International Spy Museum is easily accessible by Washington, DC's Metrorail system. The closest Metro station is the Gallery Place/Chinatown stop, served by the RED, YELLOW, and GREEN lines. Also nearby is the Metro Center station, served by the ORANGE, BLUE, and RED lines. If you prefer to drive, you can use the Verizon Center or the Spy Museum has a partnership with Panda Parking. See here for details: www.parkingpanda.com



Upcoming Events

Lunch after Spy Museum

Afterwards, join us for lunch at Rosa Mexicano!
575 7th Street at F Street NW
12:00pm

Rosa Mexicano

Come for the museum, or lunch, or both, but please come join us for our first event of the year!

No reservations required, but if you can let Allison know you are coming she can give the restaurant a heads up so they are prepared for us. allison@chamberlayne.net.

Again, our timing depends on ticket availability at the museum, so check in with Allison if you are trying to meet up with us at lunch
540-449-3061

UPCOMING EVENTS

Past Events

Past Events:

The first AESC Board Meeting of the 2014-2015 year was held on August 6, 2014, from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

*At the
Fairfax Village Neighborhood Center
10265 Fairfax Drive
Fort Belvoir, VA*

The meeting was hosted by Connie Semonite. Refreshments were provided by Laura and Lisa





AESC Board members were hard at work during the August meeting!



AUGUST BOARD MEETING

AUGUST BOARD MEETING

August Board Meeting



The food at the August Board meeting was delicious! Thanks, Laura and Lisa!



"I hope this bullhorn will make this meeting a little less boring."

Past Events:



Vicky Groninger, Connie Semonite, and Charlee Semonite represented the Army Engineer Spouse Club at the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) conference!



SAME CONFERENCE

AUGUST FUN FACTS

AUGUST FUN FACTS

- Origin of August's name: August was the 6th month in the early Roman calendar, named after Julius Caesar Augustus.
- August's flower: Gladiolus.
- August has two birthstones, PERIDOT and SARDONYX: **Peridot** is among the oldest known gemstones. It ranges from olive to lime green, sometimes with a brownish tinge. **Sardonyx** is a gem with white and brown bands and it is believed to have mystical powers: it eliminates negative thinking!
- National Watermelon Day is on August 3rd.
- August 13th is Vinyl Record Day
- August 13th is National Lefthander's Day
- Lemon Meringue Pie Day is on August 15th.
- On August 20, 1630, Lemonade was first served in Paris, France.
- August 24th. On this day in A.D 79, Mount Vesuvius erupted and destroyed the cities of Pompeii, Stabiae and Herculaneum.
- August 30th is National Toasted Marshmallow Day.

- **JOKE: WHY SHOULDN'T YOU TELL SECRETS ON THE FARM? BECAUSE THE CORN HAS EARS, THE POTATOES HAVE EYES AND THE BEANSTALKS.**

*Birthdays.....***August**

Glenda Hudson	Aug 01
June A Suerman	Aug 06
Donna B Leketa	Aug 07
Anne M Yandoupe	Aug 08
Helen G Sanford	Aug 10
Donna Winzenried	Aug 13
Kitty Heiberg	Aug 19
Sarah Pearce	Aug 21
Linda Caver	Aug 23
Mary G Parket	Aug 23
Kara Anderson	Aug 24
Jackie Caldwell	Aug 24
Mary Lou Lee	Aug 27
Tawanda Agee	Aug 29

September

Maria Cahill	Sept. 2
Pat Williams	Sept. 2
Kimbel Treat	Sept. 3
Noah Burt	Sept. 3
Barb Comiso	Sept. 8
Felicia Geary	Sept. 14
Nancy Graves	Sept. 16
Betty Ann Akiyama	Sept. 19
Barbara Pavlick	Sept. 19
Elsie Mersereau	Sept. 20
Susan Sullivan	Sept. 22
Cheryl Gill	Sept. 28
Tonyi Pelham	Sept. 28



MEMBER CELEBRATIONS





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.

2014-2015 AESC MEMBERSHIP

There are two options for submitting 2014-2015 membership forms and dues.

- 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.



"LIKE" us on Facebook!

AESC 2014-2015 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

Your Birthday (month/day only) _____

Check one: New member Returning member Rejoining member

Spouse's Name _____

Check one: Is Spouse: Active Retired DeceasedSpouse'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, 2014 until June 30, 2015. Membership information received by Oct 31st, 2014 will be included in the 2014-2015 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

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