



# Army Engineer Spouses' Club Castle Gram

VOLUME LXIII ISSUE 1 | August 2016

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## Our Executive Board:

### President

Launa Klimowicz-Brown

### Vice President

Carolyn Hudson

### Treasurer

Jessica Gregris

### Secretary

Laurel-Lee States

### AEMA Chairperson

Erica Shaw

## Welcome to AESC!

Whether you are new to Army Engineer Spouses' Club or have been a member for years, we welcome you to the first edition of the Castle Gram for the 2016-2017 club year. Inside, we hope you will find the perfect mix of AESC/Army Engineer history, current events, club news and news from around the Corps of Engineers.

If you haven't done so, yet, please log on to our website, [www.armyengineerspouses.com](http://www.armyengineerspouses.com) to renew your membership or join. AESC is open to spouses of all U.S. Army Engineers - active duty, reserve, National Guard, retired and deceased - as well as spouses of civilian employees of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. It is through your membership support that we continue our mission to support the spouses and family of our Army Engineers. We do so through local programming, academic awards for the children of Army Engineers through the Army Engineer memorial Awards, our coveted Red Book (membership directory), and through this publication.

If you live in the National Capital Region, please join us on Wednesday September 14th at our New Comer's luncheon. This was a widely popular and well attended event last year, so please grab an Army Engineer Spouse and head on down to Sine in Pentagon City! See the flyer on page 3 of the Castle gram.

Finally, I have a request! I challenge each one of our members to connect to AESC through this newsletter. Send us pictures of what is going on in your Army Engineer corner of the world! Send your submissions to [newsletter@armyengineerspouses.com](mailto:newsletter@armyengineerspouses.com). We look forward to hearing from each of you as we strive in our goal...

**“Keeping our worldwide Engineer family connected through the years and across the miles”**

-Allison Chamberlayne, Editor

## ***AESC Timeline***

***1953 - Engineer Officers' Wives' Club of Washington D.C. was Founded***

***1968-69 - Name changed to Army Engineer Officers' Wives' Club of Washington D.C.***

***1978 - Army Engineer Memorial Awards program founded to honor the memory of Engineers who died in Vietnam***

***2007 - Geraldine K. Morris Award begins. Award given to a qualified HS Senior entering a nursing program***

***2010 - Changed name to Army Engineer Spouses' Club and membership eligibility changed to include NCO/GS-7***

***2012 - Membership eligibility changed to include ALL ranks and ALL civilian grades.***

## **Welcome to the AESC!**

We trace our proud history back to 1951 when Mrs. Lewis A. Pick, wife of the Chief of Engineers at the time, invited her fellow Army Engineer Officer Spouses to coffees, luncheons and service projects supporting wounded Korean War veterans at Walter Reed Army Hospital. In 1953, the *Army Engineer Officer Wives' Club* was officially founded, and consisted of about 400 wives of Corps of Engineer officers throughout the world.

Over the years we have gone through many changes, but our core mission remains the same. We extend our hand in friendship and service to all Engineer Spouses throughout The Corps. We seek to provide a connection both locally and world wide.

AESC is open to all spouses of any U.S. Army Engineer - active duty, Reserve, National Guard, retired and deceased - as well as spouses of civilian employees of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. We hope you will join as through the years and across the miles!

### **Benefits of Membership**

- The Castle Gram - This monthly newsletter will attempt to keep you informed, entertained, and connected to your Engineer Family
- The Redbook - This annual publication includes our coveted membership directory. Many members order an extra copy for their Engineer Spouse! Consider it an annual update to where your engineer friends have landed!
- The Castle Boutique - Our boutique is available both online and at live events throughout the year. You may find us at HQ, the annual cocktail party, AEA... you never know where we will pop up or what new goodies we will be offering. Each month we feature certain items available to members only.
- Monthly events and programs in the DC area. The first Wednesday of every month, the board members meet at the Fairfax Village neighborhood center on Ft Belvoir at 10am. All members are welcome to attend. In addition, we host several activities such as museum visits, lunches, bowling, you name it! We also look forward to our annual events such as AEA Envelope Stuffing, Welcome Cocktail Party, Knollwood Bake Sale, Wine Tasting and the AEMA Awards Lunch.
- The children of our members are invited to apply for the Army Engineer Memorial Awards. In our 2015-2016 Club year, we awarded 13 students with awards totaling over \$14,000.

*Army Engineer Spouses' Club*



**NEW TO THE DC AREA?**

**“LET’S DO LUNCH”**

JOIN US AT

~ SINE IRISH RESTAURANT ~

*(SINEIRISHPUB.COM)*

PENTAGON CITY MALL

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

11:30 A.M.

*CHANCES ARE, YOU’LL SEE A FAMILIAR FACE  
FROM A PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT*

OPEN TO ALL ENGINEER SPOUSES OF ACTIVE DUTY,  
RETIRED, RESERVE, NATIONAL GUARD, AND SES

PLEASE RSVP BY SEPT. 9

HOSPITALITY@ARMYENGINEERSPOUSES.COM

*2015-2016 Army  
Engineer Memorial  
Awards Recipients*

**Emma Chamberlayne**  
University of Virginia

**Lindsay Hrbovsky (GKM)**  
University of Louisiana at Monroe

**Thomas Gaines**  
Mississippi State University

**Lindsey Williams**  
Carson-Newman University

**Katherine Koprowski**  
Duke University

**Kayla Toy**  
University of California, Berkley

**Kayla Master**  
Rutgers University

**Margaret Anderson**  
Auburn University

**Kelsey Anderson**  
Washington & Lee

**Ryan Sullivan**  
Texas A&M

**Kathryn Graham**  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**Daniel Sparks**  
University of Texas, Austin

**Peter Finley**  
Linfield College

## Army Engineer Memorial Awards



In 1967, our organization began recognizing high school seniors of Engineering Officers for their outstanding academic achievements.

Then in 1973, we officially made these awards part of our mission by establishing the Army Engineer Memorial Awards to honor the memory of Engineer officers who died in Vietnam. And now, to honor all Engineers who have died in the line of duty.

The awards we present are available to children of all U.S. Army Engineers - Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard - serving, retired or deceased, and all current Department of the Army employees of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. It is very important to note that the awards are merit-based. Our AEMA chairman, Eric Shaw, is charged with forming a committee to process applications. Weighted scoring is placed on grade point averages, national testing, leadership roles, extra-curricular activities, sports, awards and employment. There are absolutely no points given for a sponsor's rank, position, time in service, etc., but the number of moves during the high school student's career is taken into consideration. Our required essay is sent to educators outside of the club membership for scoring. All of the applications remain anonymous throughout the ranking process. In fact, our board learns the names of the recipients the same day as the recipients do. This process is quite lengthy, tedious and detailed. Erica and her committee do a fabulous job!

If you would like to support our mission to reward our outstanding high school students as well as honor our fallen Engineers, please consider a donation to AEMA. You can do this via our website:

[www.armyengineerspouses.com/please-donate](http://www.armyengineerspouses.com/please-donate).



# Save the Date

**Sept 7**  
AESC Board Meeting

**Sept 14**  
NewComers' Luncheon

**Oct 5**  
AESC Board Meeting

**Oct 15**  
Cocktail Party

**Nov 1**  
AESC Board Meeting

**Dec 7**  
AESC Board Meeting



## Nuts & Bolts

The AESC Board meets the first Wednesday of each month. Board meetings are open to all members.

This year, we will be trying something new! We will be altering the times of our meetings to accommodate our volunteers that work or home school during

the day and find evenings a better time to meet. Our last board meeting was held at 7pm on August 9th in the conference room or Memorial Chapel on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

Our September board meeting will be held at 10am on September 7th in the home of Sheila Kelly (Springfield, VA). Please contact Launa if you would like to attend any of our meetings and she will provide you with details. She can be reached at [president@armyengineerspouses.com](mailto:president@armyengineerspouses.com).



# 2016-2017 Volunteers

## Parliamentarian

Roz Riley

## Membership

Jackie Caldwell

## Hospitality

Terri Stevens

Lynne Jackson

## Historian

Lisa Stevenson

## Castle-Gram

Allison Chamberlayne

## Webmaster

Laura Putnam

## Circulation

Kara Anderson

## Castle Boutique

Sheila Kelly

## Welfare Services

Open

## Retirement Residences

### Liaison

Kay Burlin

## Knollwood Bake Sale

Pricilla Noah

## Nominations

Bette Meuleners

## Scholarship Committee

Marguerite Theissen

## Volunteer Spotlight

Welcome Carolyn Hudson to the AESC Executive Board! Carolyn has graciously volunteered to serve as AESC Vice-President. This means she will lead the charge on our signature events such as the annual Cocktail Party and the AEMA Awards luncheon as well as our monthly local events and outings.



*Hometown: (you pick... where you were born, where you live now or your heart's home)* Bethesda, MD

*Family: (kids, pets, however you define it, let us know about it)* John and I have four kids - Daniel is 14, William is 12, Elisabeth is 9 and Josh is 7.

*How long have you been an Army Engineer Spouse:?* 20 years!  
*How did that happen?!*

*How long have you been a member of AESC?* 2 years

*How many places have you called home?* We have lived in 11 places, and had 13 homes

*In the spirit of "Bloom where you are planted", what was your favorite thing about your least favorite duty station?* We have truly enjoyed each place we have been stationed. I love that each place we live is an opportunity to try something new! I've learned to ski, golf, quilt, try new foods - all based on where we have been and the opportunities that are available at each place!

*Hit shuffle on your music playing device... What song is playing? Don't have a device? Then what was the last thing playing on your car radio?* Right now I'm listening to the soundtrack from Hamilton - my oldest got me hooked on it. I love the music and I'm amazed at how much information is packed into the lyrics.

*What's for dinner tonight?* Trying a new recipe - we're having baked fish with peppers from our garden.

*What's the last game you played? (card, board, sport...)* Monopoly

# Castle Boutique

Stainless steel bottle opener laser engraved with the Engineer Castle. This credit card size bottle opener makes a perfect hostess gift or favors for your dinner guests. The durable construction and high quality will make a gift that your recipient will define as practical and classy.



Want a sneak peak at what the Castle Boutique has in stock? The best way to be the first to get one of our exclusive Army Engineer items is to volunteer at one of our live sales. Please contact Sheila Kelly and add your name to the people she calls first when we are looking to staff one of our booths.

[castleboutique@armyengineerspouses.com](mailto:castleboutique@armyengineerspouses.com)

Did you know that almost all of our items are available for purchase online at [www.armyengineerspouses.com/castleboutique.com](http://www.armyengineerspouses.com/castleboutique.com)? HOWEVER, some of our wares are reserved for our members only. You will need a password to enter that portion of the website. When you join online, the password is sent to you in a welcome letter from our President, Launa. If you are a member and didn't get the password, just contact [membership@armyengineerspouses.com](mailto:membership@armyengineerspouses.com)



# Local Events

**August 12 -21**

Bethesda Montgomery County  
Restaurant Week

**August 12 - 20**

Montgomery County  
Agricultural Fair

**August 19 - 29**

Alexandria Restaurant Week

**August 27**

Capital Dragon Boat Races

**August 27 - October 23**

Maryland Renaissance Festival

**September 3 -4**

Virginia Scottish Games

**September 3**

DC Blues Festival

**September 8 - 11**

Prince George's County Fair

**September 10**

Frederick's In the Street  
Festival

**September 11**

Adams Morgan Day

## Around Town

Living in the National Capital Region puts you within a stones throw of many military installations serving all branches of the military. As such, there are numerous clubs and organizations hoping to gain you as a member. While I certainly can't list them all, here are a few of the most popular choices:

- Army Engineer Spouses' Club (AESC) - Have you renewed your membership? Please visit our website so you can continue to receive the many benefits of membership!  
[www.armyengineersouses.com](http://www.armyengineersouses.com)
- Army Officers' Spouses' Club of the Greater Washington Area (AOSCGWA) - While their title is a mouthful, this is one of the largest clubs in our area. They offer friendship, Special Activities and volunteer opportunities. Additionally, there are Zip Code Groups to make it easier to connect to the military spouses who live near you. Their volunteers organize fun activities and share information about unique opportunities available in the Washington, D.C. area. Funds are raised through the Fort Myer Thrift Shop in order to provide scholarships and community grants. If you love being with people and want to help raise money to better our military community, this is the place for you. The welcome coffee is September 15th at 10am in the Ft. Myer Officer's Club. Visit [www.aoscgwa.org](http://www.aoscgwa.org) for more details.
- Belvoir Officers' Spouses' Club (BOSC) is a volunteer driven, private, 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization providing information, philanthropic and social opportunities to our members while making charitable contributions to our military and local communities. Super Sign Up is September 13th. Please see [www.belvoirsc.org](http://www.belvoirsc.org) for more details.
- The Belvoir Enlisted Spouses' Club (BESC) strives to award military dependents with higher-education scholarships. They understand the importance of community involvement and participate in many Club outreach opportunities. They believe that the sacrificing lifestyle that the military families choose can be alleviated due to our aid and support. Please see [www.belvoiresc.org](http://www.belvoiresc.org) for more information.



# Do You Know...

Every Army Engineer is familiar with the deFleury Medal. The Army Engineer Association sponsors the main Engineer Regimental professional excellence award - the de Fleury Medal. The award supplements the U.S. Army awards system, but is not an official part of that system. However, do you know who this prestigious award is named after?



Francois Louis Tesseidre de Fleury was a French Engineer who volunteered to serve with the American Army in its fight for independence from Britain during the American Revolutionary War. de Fleury fought bravely in Brandywine, Germantown, the Siege of Fort Mifflin, the Monmouth Campaign and in Rhode Island. But it is the battle of Stony Point that de Fleury's courage under fire that won him accolades fro Congress.

In June 1779 two small American forts were being established on the Hudson River at Stony Point and Verplanck's Point, about 30 miles from Manhattan Island. A large British force easily captured both sites. The enemy began building a strong defensive perimeter around Stony Point.

General George Washington was disturbed by the capture of the two forts. British occupation gave them control of a vital segment of the river and rerouted American communications, supplies and troops moving between New England and the other colonies. Worse, General Washington was convinced the enemy was preparing to strike West Point, less than 15 miles upriver.

American reinforcements were quickly moved into position north of Stony Point, but Washington thought there was no hope of recapture. A recently formed light infantry corps led by the daring Brigadier General "Mad" Anthony Wayne, consisted of hand picked combat veterans. The group was made up of four regiments of about 340 men each. Colonel Christian Febiger headed the 1st Regiment with de Fleury as second in command.

On July 15 the Corps, except for a small diversionary force, unloaded weapons and turned in their ammunition. Secrecy was so tight the troops did not know they were going to attempt to recapture Stony Point. For such a risky assault, surprise was vital; and the attack was to take place in total darkness. Fixed bayonets and hand-to-hand combat were the orders of the day. Wayne's column had no sooner sloshed into the waist-deep water before a British picket sent up an alarm. During the fierce fighting, Wayne and Febiger both suffered stunning head wounds.

The Continentals scrambled up the rocky slope with de Fleury in the lead. First over the wall, de Fleury was followed by a wave of American bayonets. Rushing to the flag pole, de Fleury cut the British colors from their staff. In addition to the recapture of Stony Point, the defeat of the British fired the Americans' determination and lifted their morale. And it showed the enemy that the colonies had an able fighting force.

So it was that on 1 October 1779, de Fleury stood before the Continental Congress to be praised for his valor at Stony Point by the men who had penned the Declaration of Independence and would later sign the Constitution. For his intrepid behavior, the Continental Congress awarded a medal struck in his honor.

# Photo Gallery

Please enjoy these photos of our recent events!

These are some pictures of our events this summer.

Want to see more? check out our web site

[www.armyengineerspouses.com](http://www.armyengineerspouses.com)

Or like us on FaceBook

[www.facebook.com/ArmyEngineerSpousesClub](http://www.facebook.com/ArmyEngineerSpousesClub)



Coffee With Connie - A welcome event hosted by AESC for a new Chief of Engineer's Spouse, Connie Semonite!



AESC hosted the Castle Boutique at headquarters in August and found Bobber the Water Dog!



AESC Members greeted 70 veterans on an Honor Flight from Missouri at Reagan National Airport.



# *Keepers of the Castle*

Keeper's of the Castle is an Engineer Spouses' Club located in Fort Leonard Wood Missouri. They welcome members from Active Duty army, National Guard, Reserve, Retired, allies and sister services. They aim to Instill pride in Engineer spouses through camaraderie by educating, sharing, and embracing our roles – past, present, and future. Connect with the Keeper's Of the Castle on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/KeepersOfTheCastle](http://www.facebook.com/KeepersOfTheCastle) or via email [FLWKeepers@gmail.com](mailto:FLWKeepers@gmail.com).

## **KEEPERS OF THE CASTLE**



**WANTS YOU**

**ALL ENGINEER SPOUSES, ALL RANKS TO JOIN US FOR OUR  
FIRST MEETING OF THE 2016-2017 YEAR.**

**Building Teams and Regimental Pride**

**ONLY 4 MEETINGS THIS YEAR SO DON'T MISS OUT!**

**AUGUST 18, 2016**

**6PM-8PM**

**REGIMENTAL ROOM, ENGINEER MUSEUM**

**14296 S. DAKOTA AVE. FLW**

**POT LUCK: SWEET AND SAVORY**

Coming soon:

November: Servant leadership

February: Regimental Week Prep fun

May: Progressive Dinner Party

**Pre order forms will be available for T-shirts.**





# *Army Engineer Spouses Group - Europe*

The Engineer Spouses Group - Europe hosts a monthly coffee on the third Tuesday of each month from September to May. Their next coffee will be Tuesday September 20th at 7pm. For more information on joining this active group, contact Michelle Tyler at [mtylerr1015@aol.com](mailto:mtylerr1015@aol.com) or request to join them on Facebook - AESG-Europe. Here are a few pictures of their past events.





# Chit Chat

## Get to know our members!

This section is all about you! Tell us where summer PCS season took you, fun summer plans or vacations you enjoyed.... We'd love to see what you, your Engineer unit or Coffee Group is doing. Send all pictures and submissions to Allison Chamberlayne [newsletter@armyengineerspouses.com](mailto:newsletter@armyengineerspouses.com).



## **WANTED! Send in pictures of your Coffee group or FRG!**

If you don't want to go to the trouble of sending me pictures, just invite me to join your Facebook Group and I'll snag them myself! You can find me on Facebook as Allison Thorborg Chamberlayne or click <https://www.facebook.com/allison.chamberlayne>

There is always the option to send any submission to:

[newsletter@armyengineerspouses.com](mailto:newsletter@armyengineerspouses.com)

# Membership

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

Questions?

Contact our  
Membership Chair

Jackie Caldwell  
[membership@armyengineerspouses.com](mailto:membership@armyengineerspouses.com)



## AESC 2016-2017 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  Reserve/National Guard  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, 2016 until June 30, 2017.

Membership information received by Oct 31st, 2016 will be included in the 2016-2017 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



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

