

Army Engineer Spouses' Club

Castle Gram

Volume I, Issue VI

March 2011

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MacArthur at West Point



MacArthur's Corps of Engineers
Castle Insignia
The GOLD castles worn by the
Chief of Engineers belonged to
MacArthur and are passed from
Chief to Chief.

General MacArthur was an Engineer

In 1944, in the midst of his campaigns against the forces of Japan, Douglas MacArthur characterized the conflict in the Southwest Pacific as “distinctly an Engineer’s war.” The general knew more than a little about military engineering—he began his Army career as an engineer.

Graduating at the top of his class at West Point in 1903 entitled MacArthur to a commission in the Army’s elite Corps of Engineers. The lieutenant’s first assignment was with the 3d Battalion of Engineers in the Philippines. Other duties in the land for which he developed a lifelong attachment included surveying various camps and over-seeing the construction of wharves, sea walls, and roads.

Returning stateside in 1904, MacArthur was sent to San Francisco. Among his responsibilities there was service on the Corps’ California Debris Commission. In 1905 he became acting chief engineer of the Pacific Division. The commander of the division was his distinguished father, General Arthur MacArthur, who secured for his son an appointment as his aide-de-camp. The pair embarked on an extended tour of the Far East.

In 1906 MacArthur graduated from the Engineer School of Application at Washington Barracks and briefly served as aide-de-camp to President Theodore Roosevelt. Next he had charge of river and harbor improvements along Lake Michigan. From 1908 to 1912 the young officer (promoted to captain in 1911) was stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where he again served with the 3d Battalion of Engineers, taught in the Army Service Schools, and published a manual entitled Military Demolitions. During this period he also instructed troops at the Mounted Service School at Fort Riley, Kansas, and participated in exercises with the Maneuver Division at San Antonio, Texas.

MacArthur’s intellect and ability drew praise from his superiors. Some, however, noted disturbing tendencies—verging on insubordination—to balk at unwelcome duties and to seek special privileges.

Participation in real hostilities came with America’s entry into World War I. In peacetime, service in the Corps of Engineers offered a desirable career path, but the ambitious Major MacArthur knew that in wartime command of troops offered the best road to rapid promotion and honors. Accordingly, he secured a commission as a colonel of infantry in 1917.

There followed a spectacular and often controversial rise to prominence in three wars that made General of the Armies MacArthur the most visible and decorated soldier in America. Congress added to his laurels when, in an act of 1943, it designated a lock being built on the Saint Mary’s River in Michigan as “MacArthur Lock.” His retirement in 1951 closed out a career that began almost fifty years earlier when MacArthur was a promising officer of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

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



**Roz Riley
President**

"The club has continually strived to be relevant to the times."

The Gavel ...a note from our President

Wish you were here with me, I hear birds chirping and the sun is gloriously shining through the windows...signs that spring is coming!! To me, this time each year is encouraging that the grey and gloomy winter is about over (but not to pack away the sweaters and snow shovels just yet), exciting that beautiful spring colors will soon be seen everywhere on the landscapes, and inspiring to that creative streak (that becomes somewhat lazy and dormant after the holidays) needs to wake up and get busy!

And busy is what your board has been!

On page 9 of this issue, you will see a mail-in ballot. This is a first for our membership. In the past, things presented to the general membership for voting would be presented at events where members were physically gathered; much of our general membership was not able to cast their yea or nay vote. Your board wants you to be involved in the significant changes to our Constitution and Bylaws. Please review the ballot, mark your votes (anonymously), put in an envelope, and mail it. Write your name **ONLY** on the outside of the envelope. Please post-mark by 22 Mar 2011.

The changes in the Constitution and Bylaws are result of comparison to the entire Engineer Corps. The motto, BUILDING STRONG, has many applications, not just to the uniformed and civilian men and women who ARE the Engineer Corps and USACE, but also to the families who support them in their work and careers. The Army Engineer Spouses Club (AESC) desires to embrace the philosophy of the Corps: One team.

Our club has gone through numerous changes/adaptations since its inception in 1953 and has continually strived to be relevant to the times. Remember when: there were no *wives* that worked? there were no active duty members? there were no male members?

Last year we changed our membership eligibility to offer our support to our NCO spouses, as we had to our officer and civilian spouses. Your board now wishes to welcome the entire Engineer family, to include all ranks, military and civilian.

Your continued support and encouragement is critical to our club's intent: FELLOWSHIP...SERVICE...SCHOLARSHIP.

Enjoy the arrival of your spring!

As always, I am grateful for the relationships with my Engineer family!

Roz

The following quote was an encouragement to my daughter's high school soccer team as they conditioned, trained, and achieved:

"To have something you have never had before, you must be willing to do something you have never done." Anonymous

Recipes...

Giant Ginger Cookies

- 4 ½ cups all purpose flour
- 4 teaspoons ground ginger
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 ½ teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground cloves
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 ½ cups shortening
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup molasses
- ½ cup diced candied ginger pieces (optional)
- ¾ cup coarse Demerara, turbinado or granulated sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. In a medium bowl stir together flour, ginger, baking soda, cinnamon, cloves, and salt: set aside.

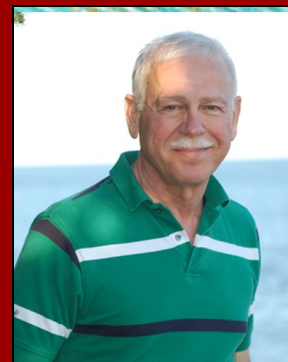
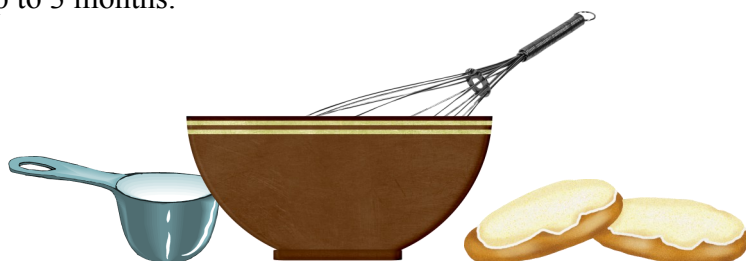
In a large bowl beat shortening with an electric mixer on medium or high-speed for 30 seconds. Add the 2 cups granulated sugar. Beat until combined, scraping side of bowl occasionally. Beat in eggs and molasses until combined. Beat in as much of the flour mixture as you can with the mixer. Using a wooden spoon, stir in remaining flour mixture.

Place the ¾ cup Demerara sugar in a small bowl. Using a #20 ice cream scoop or a ¼ cup measure, shape dough into 2 inch balls.

Roll balls in coarse sugar to coat. Place 2 ½ inches apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. (I chose to create 1 inch balls spaced about 2 inches apart on the cookie sheet. These are a good serving size for most uses and it makes about 6 dozen.)

Bake in a preheated oven for 11 minutes or until bottoms are lightly browned and tops are puffed (do not over bake). Cool on cookie sheet for 2 minutes. Transfer cookies to a wire rack to cool. Makes 24 cookies.

To store: Place cookies in layers separated by waxed paper in an airtight container; cover. Store at room temperature for up to three days or freezer for up to 3 months.



Gene Villiva

These cookies were enjoyed by the board members at a recent board meeting. Although Gene is quite a chef, he says, **“My wife is the cookie baker.”**

Corrections to the Red Book

We'd like to welcome the following new or returning members!

Carolyn Hudson
10185 Forney Loop
Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060
703-781-3972 / 571.335.2356
carolyn.hudson@us.army.mil
Birthday: May 17th
Spouse: LTC John L. Hudson
Lead Engineer - JCASO-DLA

Holly Scherer
4405 Bill Ct
Warrenton, VA 20187
703.753.2162 / 901.674.1212
holly@militaryspousehelp.com
Birthday: Dec 21
Spouse: COL Jack V. Scherer

Carolyn Wallace
5505 Seminary Road 2105N
Falls Church, VA 22041
703.820.0049 / 703.508.2351
BWAC02@earthlink.net
Birthday: Nov 21
Spouse: COL (Ret) Robert Wallace

Jane Van Epps
PO Box 573
Brisbane, CA 94005
415.330.9747 / 415.606.9747
Birthday: Oct 25
Spouse: COL (Ret) Jim Van Epps
Project Manager - Honolulu Rail Project

Corrections:

Roslyn Riley (Roz)
8047 Fairfax Road
Alexandria, VA 22308
703.768.8047 / 703.231.6891
Spouse: MG (Ret) Don,
Sr VP and Director of Business
Development, Dawson & Associates

Barbara Willey
2794 Hyson Lane
Falls Church, VA 22043

Sandra Loew
2024 Daffodil Road
Port Republic, MD 20676
202-531-6614

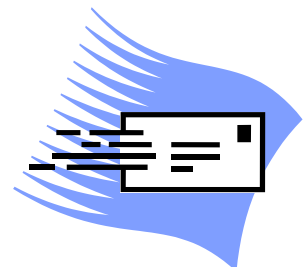
Please make the following email corrections:

Julie Reichling's
is msn.com not man.com

Helen Sanford's
is fcps.edu not frps.edu

Devorah.I.waesch@us.army.mil

Diana.webster@us.army.mil



Birthdays.....

Anna Marie Cox	26 March
Barbara Fleming	8 March
Diane Messinger Galloway	11 March
Jytte Hambric	27 March
Susan Hill	22 March
Paula Katers	16 March
Cara Lindstrom	5 March
Tammie Morris	17 March
Mollie O'Neill	20 March
Roz Riley	16 March
Wendy Ruch	31 March
Marie Rundle	5 March



MEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND NEWS

In Memory of

Virginia Morsey Wheeler Talley

February 18, 1919 - February 18, 2011



Virginia Morsey Wheeler Talley died after a very brief illness on February 18, 2011, exactly 92 years to the day after she was born. She had been a remarkable human being, a true emissary of Light, who graced the world with her calm and fearless presence. Her academic and professional accomplishments were extraordinary, but her fondest memories were of her two wonderful marriages and families. Virginia had the distinction of being the only woman in her law class of 1942 at Washington University in St. Louis, graduating Valedictorian, Phi Beta Kappa, and Order of the Coif. She was also voted the Editor in Chief of the Law Review Quarterly, the first woman to hold that position. Her professional career included 5 years with the Rural Electrification Administration, 12 years with the World Bank, and 15 years as a consultant to the United Nations and World Bank on matters usually concerning water resources development. Her contributions to her local communities were plentiful. Virginia inherited children and grandchildren through both her marriages and was genuinely loved by all. Her greatest gifts were her deep sense of peace within herself, the equanimity with which she viewed all peoples, her fearlessness and her compassion. Virginia's was truly a life well lived. A memorial service was held at Knollwood on February 26th to honor Virginia's memory. Her cremated remains will be interred at Arlington Cemetery in the spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Virginia M. Talley Endowed Scholarship Fund in the School of Law. Please send bequests to: Washington University School of Law, Campus Box 1202, Alumni Development, 1425 Forsyth Blvd. Suite 2300, St. Louis, MO 63105.

*Virginia was the wife of our 36th Chief of Engineers, Raymond Albert Wheeler who served from October 1945 to February 1949.



KNOLLWOOD SERVICE PROJECT

NEW DATE

Knollwood Bake Sale April 27, 2011

We are delighted to have the opportunity to revisit Knollwood, with baked goods, hors d'oeuvres and special goodies for diabetics. Knollwood is the home for retired military and their spouses. Our special treats are sold with all the revenue to return to Knollwood for the benefit of residents who need some financial assistance. We Engineers love to take care of our military families. So start making all types of baked goodies, hors d'oeuvres and other snack mixes. Please bring the goodies to Knollwood already priced.

Bar Cookies and Brownies - 50¢

Cupcakes -50¢

Mini Loaves \$2.00 each

Cheese, Sausage, or Spinach Balls - 12@ \$2.00

Mini Quiches - 4 @ \$2.00

Snack Mixes \$1.00/bag

Appetizers & Other Cocktail-Hour Nibbles - 6 @ \$1.50

Cookies - 1 dozen @ \$1.50 - \$2.00 depending on cookie size

We hope many of you will come join us for a fun day. Please plan to stay for lunch in the dining area.

If you can't make it to Knollwood (6200 Oregon Ave NW, Washington, DC 20015) on the 9th of March but would like to donate baked goods, give Priscilla Noah a call at 703-505-3182.

Reservation Information

Last Names
beginning in

A-M Pat O'Neill
(703) 378-3624
pponeill6@aol.com

N-Z Sarah Pearce
(703) 815-7365
pearcesall@cox.net

YOU CAN HELP TOO!!!

**EVEN IF YOU DON'T LIVE IN THE DC METRO AREA OR CAN'T
DONATE BAKED GOODS, YOU CAN STILL HELP US WITH OUR
KNOLLWOOD SERVICE PROJECT.**

**WE ACCEPT ANY DONATIONS TO SUPPORT THE RESIDENTS OF
KNOLLWOOD.**

**Make checks payable to AEOWC (Knollwood Bake Sale) and mail to
P. O. Box 6332 Alexandria, VA 22306.**



This Year's Planned Programs for the DC Metro Area

April 20 - 10:30am -1200pm Farewell for Paula Van Antwerp

Home of the Noahs

April 27 - 10:00am Knollwood Bake Sale

May 1 - 1:00pm AESC Awards Brunch, The Fairfax

May 3 - LTG Van Antwerp's Retirement

AESC February 2010 Wine Tasting

On February 12th AESC members & their spouses met at the Total Wine & More store in Chantilly for a private wine tasting. We arrived around 7 pm with appetizers in hand and were greeted by our wine instructor Trey and a table filled with bottles of 8 different wines from Australia and New Zealand. The theme for evening was a "Tour Down Under" featuring red and white wines from famous growing regions in those countries ranging in price from \$9.99 up to \$49.99.

For 2 hours we were guided through our tasting. Just imagine, we had glasses of a sparkling white (Brut), Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, 2 different Shiraz, Cuvee and Cabernet Sauvignon. If you're wondering which specific wines, the Cuvee for example was a Shotfire Ridge Barossa Cuvee from the Barossa Valley in Australia. This wine has been featured as one of the 500 values for \$20 or less.

Trey provided us with lots of information on the wines that we tasted and on wine in general. Did you know that some of the oldest grape vines are in Australia? Or what the value is in decanting wines? Also many, many questions were asked by those of us attending and every one was answered. It was a fun informative evening where we enjoyed good food, good wines and of course, good company!



THE CAPITOL CONNECTION



Bette Meuleners
Nominations
Committee along
with Mollie O'Neill



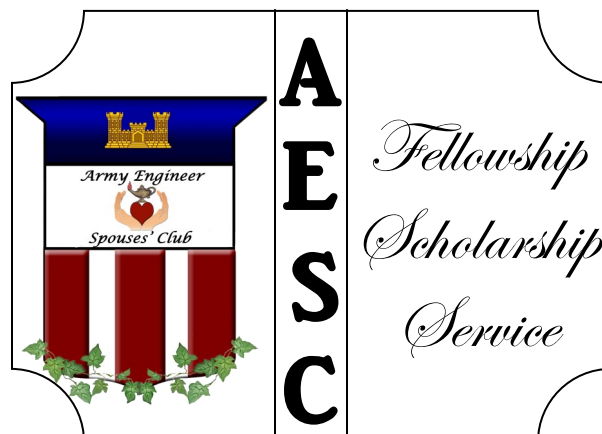
Contact Bette
Meuleners at
bmeuleners@
gmail.com or Mollie
O'Neill at
jomo67@aol.com
if you can help out
on the board next
year.

We need YOU to volunteer!!!

President
Vice President or co-VP
Treasurer
AEMA Treasurer
Castle Gram Editor
Membership (also does Red Book)
Publicity/Historian
Co-Hospitality
Parliamentarian
Services/Welfare (job recently split from Ways and Means)

These are the board positions we are still trying to fill for next year. Most of them are key positions and we won't have a board without them. If you want to get involved (even share a position with a friend) we would welcome your help.

We need you to volunteer!!



Voting Ballot for Proposed Changes to AESC Constitution and Bylaws

APPROVED CHANGES TO THE AESC CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
Approved by the Board on February 2, 2011

All dues-paying members of AESC may vote on the following proposed changes. Please enclose the ballot in an envelope with your name on the envelope but not the ballot and return it to AESC Ballot, P.O. Box 6332, Alexandria, VA 22306-6332. The envelope must be post-marked by March 22, 2011.

Constitution:

Section II (page 36): Change to **remove the words “military-connected” to define our service and welfare projects.** (Yes ___)(No ___)

Section IV(2) (page 36): Change to read: **The spouses of the following shall be honorary advisors to the Club: the Chief of Engineers, the Command Sergeant Major, the Director of Civil Works, and the Director of Military Programs.** (Yes ___)(No ___)

Bylaws:

Section I.A(2) (pp.37-8): Change to **open Club membership to the spouses of all U.S. Army Engineers and to the spouses of all civilian employees of USACE.** (Yes ___)(No ___)

Sections VI.A and VI.B (pp.41-2): Change to **separate the current “Service/Welfare” committee into “Ways and Means” and “Service/Welfare”.** (Yes ___)(No ___)

Section X (p. 44): Change to **open the eligibility for candidates for both the AEMA awards and the Geraldine K. Morris Award to include any high school senior who is a U.S. citizen and whose sponsor is a U.S. Army Engineer or Department of the Army employee of USACE. The sponsor may be on active duty or currently employed by USACE, retired, or deceased.** (Yes ___)(No ___)

Section X (p.44): Remove the following two sentences from the bylaws: **Selection shall be made by evaluators appointed by the AEMA Chairman, with the consent of the Executive Board. This panel shall be made up of persons from outside AESC.** (Yes ___)(No ___)



**Isabel Stevens
Parliamentarian**

We need you to send
in this ballot to vote
for changes to the
AESC Constitution
and Bylaws by March
22, 2011.

“Let your voice be
heard!”



AEOWC
P.O. Box 6332
Alexandria, VA 22306
armyengineerspouses.com

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY