

Army Engineer Spouses' Club Castle Gram

Volume II, Issue IV

November 2011

Inside this issue:

Note from Honorary Advisor	2
The Capital Connection	3
Welcome Cocktail Party	4
Welcome Cocktail Party	5
Women and War	6
Member Celebrations	7
Sharing	8
Community Event	9
Scholarship	10
Membership	11

The Relationship between the Corps of Engineers and College Football = Part 3

One of the players who Neyland coached when he was an assistant at West Point was Garrison H. Davidson, an end in the class of 1927. Gar Davidson scored the first Army touchdown in the newly-dedicated Michie Stadium during the 1924 season. Upon graduation he intended to go into the infantry, but his coach, Biff Jones, suggested engineers. From 1927 to 1929 Davidson was in the 1st Engineer Regiment, Fort DuPont, Delaware, and served as an assistant coach to the Army football team. From 1930 to 1932 he was in the Physics Department and continued as an assistant coach. West Point hired him as head coach in 1933. He was a 1st Lieutenant of Engineers. His first team was undefeated until the last two minutes of the last game when Notre Dame blocked a kick and won 13 to 12. Davidson coached through the 1937 season, and his record of 35 wins, 11 losses, and 1 tie rank him among the top three Army coaches with Biff Jones and Earl "Red" Blaik. In 1938 Davidson went to Hawaii as a company commander in the 3d Engineer Regiment, and early in World War II he was working for Leslie Groves building the Pentagon when George Patton selected him to be deputy engineer for Western Task Force in the invasion of North Africa. He was Seventh Army Engineer for the Sicily campaign and served in that capacity to the end of the war. He went to Korea as Assistant Division Commander of the 24th Infantry Division in 1950, and after a two-year tour as Commandant of the Command and General Staff College, he returned to West Point as Superintendent in 1956. He then commanded the Seventh Army in Germany and the First Army in the United States and retired in 1964 as a Lieutenant General.



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



.....a note from Nancy Temple

Hello Everyone,

Here we are at the beginning of all the fall/winter festivities, and what better way to start than with the Month of the Military Family. We mark the passing of time with special days like Halloween, All Saints Day and Thanksgiving. A common thread amongst these is our coming together and sharing. With a month to celebrate our special connections with each other, surely we can do something meaningful. I personally don't limit family to my blood relations, but it's okay if you do. The simplest thing to do is share a meal. A recent study reported that a major predictor of good family dynamics is how much time is spent eating together. It doesn't have to be a formal meal - a hotdog at the ball field can accomplish the same thing. The critical part is taking the time (you have to stop to eat anyway), focusing on who you are with, asking questions and listening to answers. The military has it right. How many dining outs, formals, unit picnics, etc. have you attended? These are food centered activities but I'll bet you can't recall what you ate. Now, think about who you saw/chatted with that evening. I'll bet you can name someone from every event. What really matters sticks with you, or your child, or your friend, or your coworker. You get the idea. The AESC uses the same techniques. Our monthly meetings end in lunch together and our first event is the cocktail party. Besides how wonderful the Flower's home is (thank you again, Lynda and Bob), the most overheard comment has been how nice it is to see new, younger members. Perfect example of what I'm writing about. Food brings us together giving us time to make friends. So don't let these opportunities slip by. Use the small moments to make a difference. Celebrate!

A special note about our member, Betty Swygert. At the cocktail party she had a misstep and fell, injuring her leg and requiring surgery. Reports are she is doing well but appreciates calls and visits but call first to see if she is "receiving". We are all looking forward to seeing her back on two feet soon - we love and miss you Betty!

Until we can have a chat and bite together, take care,

Nancy





- November 15 Cooking Class at National Harbor
November 29 Women and War lecture at the Pentagon
December 3 Christmas Tour Homes
- Old Town Alexandria

Women and War Lecture Series

First Lecture 29 November
2-4 pm @ The Pentagon
“Women and Military
History”

by

LTC Robert F. Whittle Jr.

Military ID card holders only

Maximum 40 attendees

rsvp kmwhittle@yahoo.com before 22November

BOARD MEETING
2 NOV 2011 1100-1300
Home of Sarah Pearce
5389 Ashleigh Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-447-0621
Members Are Welcome

THE CONNECTION

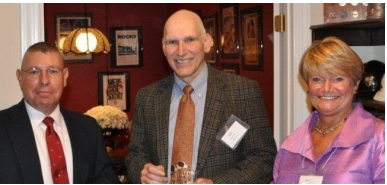


Welcome Cocktail Party





Welcome Cocktail Party



Sat,
1 Oct
2011





WOMEN AND WAR

Army Officer to Army Spouse by Elizabeth Hill

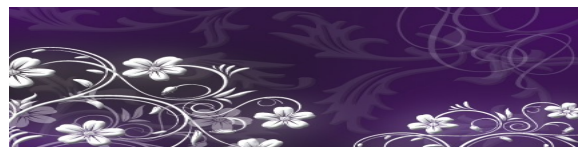
When first asked to write an article about the transition from Army Officer to stay at home Mom I wasn't sure I would know what to write. Yet as I thought about it more, I realized that serving in the Army helped prepare me to be a mom. More than most other jobs, both of these occupations require servant leadership. I also realized that instead of serving the Army as a Soldier, I now have the privilege to serve as a spouse. Although it was hard to leave something I loved so much, now my calling is to raise our children and serve the Army in different ways.

I commissioned through ROTC and was stationed at Fort Riley, KS with my husband, an Engineer. I served for four years at Fort Riley with my last assignment being the Public Affairs Officer and then Current Operations Officer at the 1st Engineer Battalion. I deployed to Iraq with the 1st Engineer Battalion from 2009-2010 as well. I loved my time in the Army. I was proud to put on the uniform every day and I sincerely believed that I was making a difference in the world. My fellow Soldiers made my time in the Army enjoyable and rewarding. Three fellow female officers and I have a unique bond strengthened by supporting each other through the good days and the hard times of a deployment. After fulfilling my four year commitment I decided to resign my commission in order to have children and stay at home with them. Our son, Colin, was born on July 15th -just two months after my final day in the Army.

First, although I am still very new to motherhood, I am reminded everyday of the ways in which the Army and being a mom both require servant leadership. Effective leaders and mothers seek the good of their Soldiers and children above their own. They ensure that everyone is fed before they eat. They sacrifice their own needs and comforts for the good of those in their charge. They continually work longer hours without seeking acclaim, recognition, or thanks. They don't complain about their duties; they joyfully fulfill their roles without complaint. Both callings have tremendous weight and importance: lives are in the balance. When I am tired from nighttime feedings and diaper changes I remember the long hours I worked in the Army and pushing through the fatigue. The Army helped prepare me to be a mother.

Second, in many aspects I have not left the Army. As an Army spouse I serve in different, but just as important, facets. While deployed I realized even more how important support systems are to Soldiers. Soldiers would check the mail every day waiting for the letters and care packages from their spouses, parents or friends. The smallest things were big deals: getting homemade brownies or my favorite face wash made my day. Letters of support from my family reminded me of their love. I want to support my husband's career and make sure that my children know that Daddy doesn't just work to support our family but he protects us and our country. Having deployed before I can better understand what my husband is going through when he has to deploy in the future. I can serve the Army by supporting him and other Soldiers.

I look forward to growing in my new role as a mother. I hope to instill in my children the same values that I learned in the Army. Although at times I miss my life in the Army, seeing Colin smile makes it all worth it. I love it and wouldn't trade him for any career in the world. For now my job is to pour myself into the lives of the next generation of Americans. And, who knows, maybe a future Army Engineer.



Birthdays

Happy Belated to:

<i>Glenda Hudson</i>	<i>August 1</i>
<i>June Suermann</i>	<i>August 6</i>
<i>Helen Sanford</i>	<i>August 10</i>
<i>Donna Winzenried</i>	<i>August 13</i>
<i>Linda Caver</i>	<i>August 23</i>
<i>Mary Parker</i>	<i>August 23</i>
<i>Mary Lou Lee</i>	<i>August 27</i>

<i>Maria Cahill</i>	<i>September 2</i>
<i>Nancy Graves</i>	<i>September 16</i>
<i>Betty Ann Akiyama</i>	<i>September 19</i>
<i>Barbara Pavlick</i>	<i>September 19</i>

<i>JoAnn Cheatham</i>	<i>October 29</i>
-----------------------	-------------------



Leanne Ogden	November 4
Kristine Schuster	November 4
Pat O'Neill	November 18
Marjorie Williams	November 18
Carolyn Wallace	November 21
Karina Hunter	November 22
Jacqui Ellis	November 23
Jacki Dixon	November 25
Norma Irwin	November 28
Nancy Temple	November 28

Janice Smith	December 4
Devorah Waesch	December 6
Jay Burcham	December 7
Shelley Hatch	December 7
Jenny Offringa	December 10
Isabel Stevens	December 15
Nancy Donahue	December 19
Heather Wagenaar	December 23
Martha Lavion Soo	December 24
Jill McCoy	December 26



MEMBER CELEBRATIONS

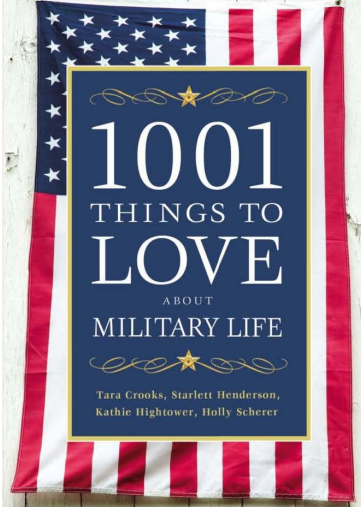
SHARING

ARMY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION (AEA) FUNDRAISER SEP 2011



**4,600 MAILINGS
GREAT TEAMWORK!!**





Star Henderson and Holly Scherer are two Engineer spouses and members of our **Army Engineer Spouse's Club (AESC)**.

They have joined forces with Tara Crooks and Kathie Hightower in bringing this first-of-its-kind celebration of military life, *1001 THINGS TO LOVE ABOUT MILITARY LIFE* chronicles some obvious and not-so-obvious traditions, advantages and experiences military members, veterans and their families share.

The book is an inspirational look into the lives of heroes who selflessly serve our country and the families who sacrifice so much to stand with them, *1001 THINGS TO LOVE ABOUT MILITARY LIFE* is full of heart-warming vignettes, laugh-out-loud lists, stories and quotes from military members and family members, and photos that speak a thousand positive affirmations.

Star and Holly, and the other two authors, pulled from their own experiences as military spouses and veterans, along with hundreds of interviews, to compile this representative list of the many positives of military life. You will even find stories from other Engineer families like MG(R) Don and Roz Riley.

Due for release nationally on November 2nd

This book is a true tribute to the dedication of America's Service men and women and their courageous families, *1001 THINGS TO LOVE ABOUT MILITARY LIFE* should hold a place on every American bookshelf!

~ MORE ABOUT OUR AESC MEMBERS ~

Star Henderson is a military veteran and married to an Army Engineer for over 16 years. She has her master's degree in Counseling. Her desire to counsel and uplift military families led her to teaming up with Tara Crooks. Together they founded *Army Wife Network* to combine their radio show, column, *Field Exercises* conferences for military spouses, and *Loving a Soldier* blog, providing interactive empowerment for Army wives by incorporating the power of social media. She has devotionals published in the latest edition of *Battlefield and Blessings* series. Recently she was awarded the FINRA Education Foundation's 2011 Military Spouse Fellowship, which provides training to earn the Accredited Financial Counselor® (AFC®) designation. Star and her family live in Waynesville, MO.

Holly Scherer married her Army Engineer over 28 years ago. She is presently the Treasurer for AESC. She has her master's degree in Human Development and Family Relations. In addition to her work in education and research, Holly has always been an active volunteer in her military community. She has received numerous awards for her contributions to military families worldwide, from Volunteer of the Year, to the Army Engineer Association's prestigious *Essays Award*. She has spent over a decade with her co-author and motivational speaker, Kathie Hightower, presenting their trademark workshop, *Follow Your Dreams While You Follow the Military™*, to military spouses of all services throughout Europe, Japan, Korea, and all over US including Hawaii. They were frequent contributors to military publications, including years of columns in *Air Force/Army/Marine Corps/Navy Times* newspapers, *Military Money* magazine, *Military Spouse* magazine, and *Military.com*, they are also coauthors of *Help! I'm a Military Spouse—I Get a Life Too!*, in its second edition. Holly lives in Warrenton, VA with her family.



COMMUNITY EVENT

AOWCGWA PRESENTS
2011 JBMHH HOLIDAY TOUR OF HOMES

DECEMBER 12, 6PM- 9PM

This year's tour will benefit TAPS...\$10 suggested donation.

The Tour is Open to all Military ID holders with limited space for guests.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Reservations myerhometour@gmail.com

If you don't have email

703-743-9765

RSVP starting 1 Nov, 2011

Laura Putnam

Nancy Temple

SCHOLARSHIP

ARMY ENGINEER SPOUSES' CLUB
Army Engineer Memorial Awards
Geraldine K. Morris Award

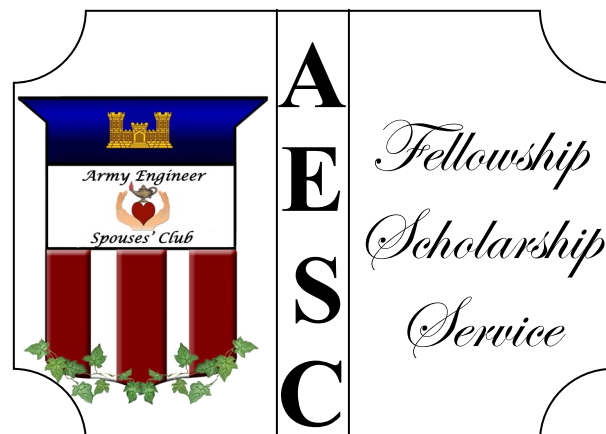
The Army Engineer Spouses' Club announces the Army Engineer Memorial Awards and the Geraldine K. Morris Award for 2012. The AEMA award is available to qualifying high school seniors who plan to continue their education at an accredited college, university, technical school, or vocational school. The Geraldine K. Morris Award is available to a graduating high school senior who intends to enroll in a program leading to a nursing degree or certification. Applicants may apply for both of the awards, if qualified, but can only be awarded one of the scholarships.

The AEMA award was established in 1973 as a living memorial to Army Engineer Officers killed in Vietnam and is given annually to honor all Engineers who died in the line of duty. This award is open to students in all fields of study.

The Geraldine K. Morris Award was established in 2006 to honor the service and memory of Mrs. Morris, a former Army nurse and Army wife. The awardee must be enrolled in a program leading to a nursing degree or nursing certification. The Geraldine K. Morris Award is renewable annually, based on GPA, provided a student maintains full-time enrollment in a nursing program.

Both awards are based on academic and extracurricular achievement during high school, along with a written essay. Awards must be applied toward tuition or scholastic expenses at a two-year or four-year college or university, technical school or vocational school. Applications must postmarked by February 29, 2012.

For more information, please contact the Scholarship Committee, c/o Nancy Temple, P. O. Box 6332, Alexandria, VA 22306-6332; or e-mail scholarships@armyengineerspouses.com. In your e-mail subject line, please indicate 2012 AEMA Award. The application will be available on the AESC website at www.armyengineerspouses.com in November 2011.



AESC 2011-2012 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

Last _____ First _____

Nickname _____ If you are in the military, list your rank & job title

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____ E-mail _____

The Castle Gram (in color) is sent to you via email. If you do not have email, a black and white copy will be sent to your home address.

Your Birthday (month/day only) _____ Anniversary Date _____

Preferred method of contact:

E-mail Home phone Cell phone Do not contact me

Check one:

New member - I was invited by _____

Returning member

Eligibility Information:

Spouse's Name _____

Check one: Is Spouse: Active Retired Deceased

Spouse's title/rank/job assignment _____

If retired, use current firm, if any. If active duty, use official abbreviation.

By sending this application, you agree to have the above information placed in the Castle Directory and/or Castle Gram, our monthly newsletter. Membership runs from July 1, 2011 until June 30, 2012. Membership information received by Oct 31, 2011 will be included in the 2011-2012 Castle Directory. After that date, new and renewing members will be announced in the Castle Gram. Thank you.

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

Additional Castle Directory(ies) : Each \$5 _____

Total: _____

Please make check payable to AESC and mail to: AESC MEMBERSHIP
P.O. Box 6332
Alexandria, VA 22306-6332

You may also print the membership application online at
<http://armyengineerspouses.com>.



Jackie Caldwell
Membership
Chairman

UPDATE:

The 2011-2012 Red Book will be mailed in November. Memberships (new as well as renewal memberships) received by Oct 31, 2011 will be included in the 2011-2012 Red Book.

“Join today
and invite a friend!”



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