

Army Engineer Spouses' Club Castle Gram

VOLUME LXIV ISSUE 1 | September 2017

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A Note from the Newsletter Chair:



I'm Jessica Gregris and I have the privilege of taking over as the AESC

Newsletter Chair from Allison Chamberlayne. I will do my best to meet the high standard set by Allison, but it will be challenging since she did such a wonderful job. To assist me in excelling I encourage spouses from our entire Engineer family to reach out through this newsletter. Submissions for the Castle Gram should go to newsletter@armyengineerspouses.com.

Welcome!!!

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer and got some relaxation time! Our board members are planning an exciting year and we kicked it off with a Welcome for Kim Houston the spouse of our new USACE Command Sergeant Major. Next up is our New Member Welcome luncheon on the 5th of September. You will see the flyer in this issue of the Castle Gram.



We've added some new members to our board this year. I would like to Welcome Rosemary Davis as our new Vice President and Kimberly Oborski is our new Treasurer. Kendra Lewis is our new Ways and Means Chairperson. Lois Cook is joining us as our new Publicity Chairperson. And Kimberly Houston is our new Honorary Vice President. Some of our board from last year have changed positions and some have stayed on in the positions they held last year. See a full list in this issue of the Castle Gram.

Laura Putnam our fabulous webmaster diligently keeps the information on our website <http://www.armyengineerspouses.com> up to date, check out the Members Only tab! We've added our Redbook online!!! You can also find some Castle Boutique items and sometimes sales and discounts!

Save the date, September 16th for our Annual AESC Cocktail Party!!! You all are invited!

We are looking forward to a fun filled year and seeing you all at some or every event this year!!!

Sincerely,

Launa
President, AESC

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

Date: Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017

Time: 11:30

Army Engineer Spouses' Club
Newcomers'
Luncheon

*New to the Capitol Region?
Let's Do Lunch!*

*We Welcome all
Army Engineer Spouses*

*Please RSVP by Sept. 3rd to:
hospitality@armyengineerspouses.com*

JOIN US AT

SINE

IRISH RESTAURANT

PENTAGON CITY MALL

Plenty of parking

Easy access via Metro Blue Line

(www.sineirishpub.com)



Cocktail Party



The Army Engineer Spouses' Club
cordially invites you and your spouse/guest
to join us at our annual

Welcome Cocktail Party

Saturday, September 16, 2017
6:00 to 8:00 PM
at the home of

LTG and Mrs. Todd Semonite
Quarters 7 Fort McNair
Washington, DC

Coat and Tie

Please RSVP by September 3rd to:
RSVP@armyengineerspouses.com

Voluntary donations to Army Engineer Memorial Award
will be accepted at event or
<http://www.armyengineerspouses.com/please-donate.html>

Suggested: \$20 per person

Membership

The AESC 2017 - 2018 membership drive is going on now!

We are excited that you are interested in becoming a member of the Army Engineer Spouses Club. To be eligible you must be a spouse of a U.S. Army Engineer who is Active Duty, Reserve/ National Guard, retired, deceased or a civilian employee of USACE and, with approval of the Executive Board, other persons who are associated with the Corps of Engineer.

Full Year Memberships are now available! Our club year runs from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. For just \$25 Membership includes:

- Inclusion of membership information in the Castle Directory (The Red Book)
- One copy of the Castle Directory (The Red Book)
- E-mailed copy of the monthly newsletter, "The Castle Gram"
- Access to the Members Only page on the AESC website which includes member only specials for the Castle Boutique, archived files from past Castle Grams and meeting notes, and the current digital version of the Castle Directory (The Red Book)
- Invitations to our monthly programs, luncheons and special events
- Children of our members are invited to apply for the Army Engineer Memorial Awards

Membership applications received after Oct. 31, 2017 will not be included in the Castle Directory (Red Book).

ONLINE membership application and payment can be done at <http://www.armyengineerspouses.com/online-membership-form.html>.

Or

Fill out the 2017-2018 membership form included in this edition of the Castle Gram and make a \$25 check payable to AESC. Mail everything to:

AESC MEMBERSHIP
PO Box 6332
Alexandria, VA 22306-6332

Not sure if your membership is current? Verify the status of your membership with our membership chair, Jackie Caldwell, by emailing membership@armyengineerspouses.com.

Need an extra copy of the Castle Directory (Red Book)? For an extra \$5 each, you can order as many as you need with your membership. Don't forget, 1 copy is included with your membership.

AESC Save the Date

September 5

Newcomers' Luncheon
Sine Irish Pub & Restaurant,
Arlington, VA

September 16

Cocktail Party
Quarters 7, Fort McNair,
Washington, DC

September 21

Visit the AESC table at the
Army Spouses' Club Fall
Kickoff (AOSCGWA)
Spates Community Center,
Fort Myer, VA

September 26

Provide meal for Fort
Belvoir Fisher House
Volunteers needed



AESC expresses our concern and well wishes to those affected by Hurricane Harvey, and engaged with supporting relief efforts.



176th Engineer Brigade,
Texas Army National Guard
in support of relief efforts
after Hurricane Harvey



Notes from AEMA Award Winners...

Dear Ms. Brown,

I am writing to thank you for selecting me to receive the Army Engineer Memorial Award. I am extremely happy and thankful for your gratitude in giving this scholarship. It will help me be able to continue my education at Virginia Tech.

At Virginia Tech, I am a General Engineering major with intentions in selecting either mechanical or aerospace engineering in my second year. Like many other schools, engineering students take the same courses their first year before selecting their specific engineering discipline.

I am from a small town right outside Philadelphia in New Jersey. I grew up playing sports and boating with my family. As I became older, I began to tinker with things and enjoyed figuring out how things work. In high school, I was extremely active with various clubs and service organizations. I was also heavily involved in scouting and earned my Eagle Scout in October of 2016.

Again I would like to thank you for your gratitude in selecting me for the Army Engineer Memorial Award. It will allow me to better focus on my schooling. I hope to be in the position one day to be able to do what others have done for me and continue to live by Tech's motto of *Ut Prosim*, (That I May Serve) and help others.

Sincerely,

Peter Gioia
Virginia Tech Class of 2021

AESC
Save the
Date -
continued

October 4

AESC Board Meeting
Fort Belvoir, VA

October 5

Olio Olive Oils & Balsamic
Vinegar Tasting
Alexandria, VA

October 25 (Tentative)

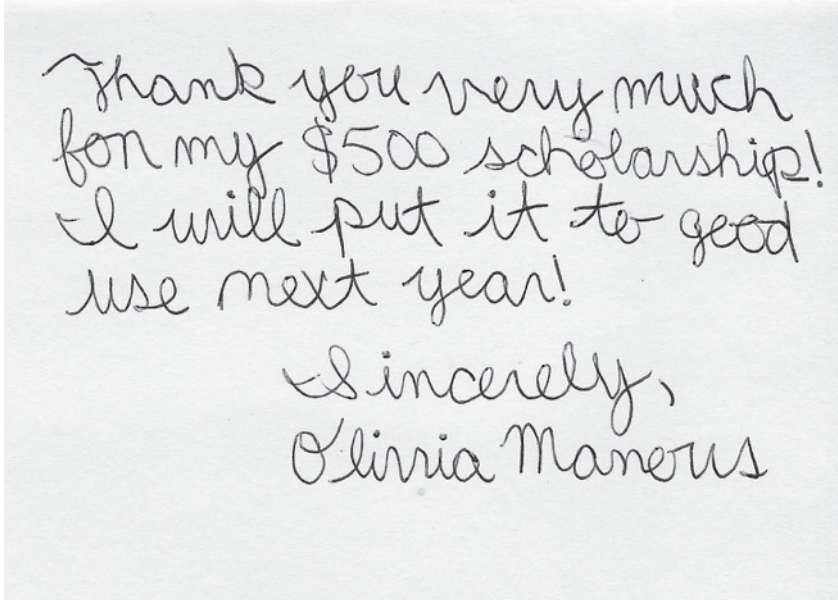
Tour DC Design House
Potomac, MD

November 1

AESC Board Meeting
Fort Belvoir, VA

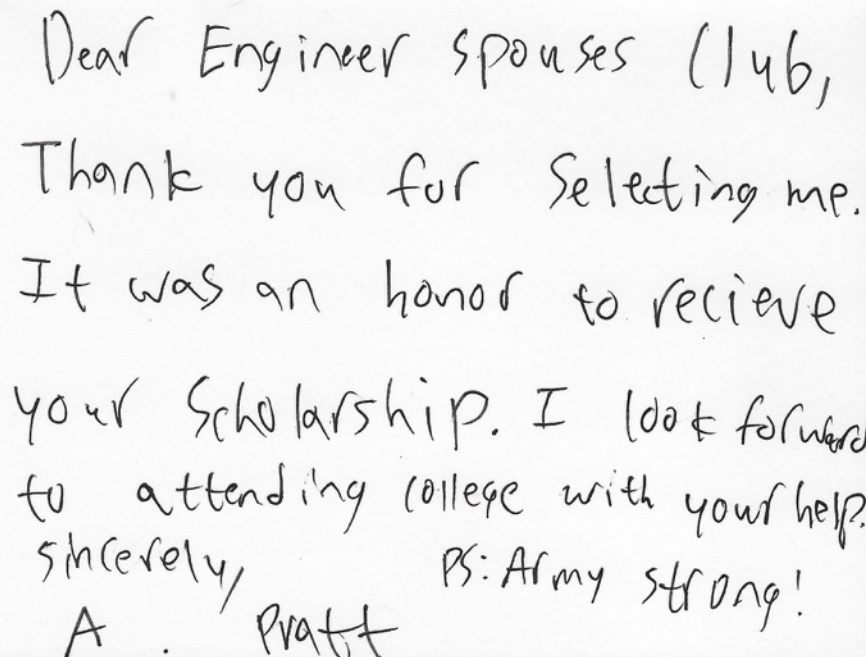
December 6

AESC Cookie Exchange
Quarters 7, Fort McNair, VA



Thank you very much
for my \$500 scholarship!
I will put it to good
use next year!

Sincerely,
Olivia Manous



Dear Engineer Spouses Club,
Thank you for selecting me.
It was an honor to receive
your scholarship. I look forward
to attending college with your help.
Sincerely,
A. Pratt

PS: Army strong!

AESC Executive Board Meetings are always open to the general membership, and prior coordination of attendance is not required. If you are curious about the AESC Executive Board or think you might want to assist please come join us.

The next **AESC Board Meeting will be on October 4th, 10 am, at the Fairfax Village Neighborhood Center** which is located at 10265 Fairfax Drive, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060.

Welcome Kim Houston

spouse of the new USABE Command Sergeant Major



L to R: Kim Houston, Connie Semonite and Launa Klimowicz-Brown



Kim Houston and Bobby Buxbaum



AESC Castle Gram

Stylin' at the Engineer and Army Balls in DC



LTC Brian and Lisa Stevenson



COL Sebastien and Vanessa Joly



COL Ed and Allison Chamberlayne



Army Birthday Ball: (L to R) COL Tim Holman, BJ Holman, LTG Semonite, Connie Semonite, Christy Preston, LTC Scott Preston, LTC Jessica Gregris, LTC Mark Gregris



Sharon Padgett and Launa Klimowicz-Brown

Welfare & Service

AESC continues to provide monthly meals to the families staying at the **Fort Belvoir Fisher House**. The following dates are now available:



- September 26
- October 24
- November 28
- December (TBD)
- January 23
- February 27
- March 27
- April 24
- May 22

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about how you can support the Fisher house, please contact our Welfare Services Chair, Vanessa Joly at service@armyengineerspouses.com

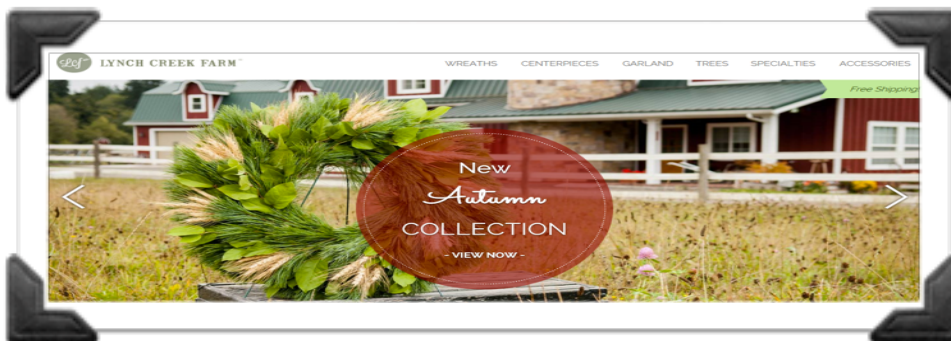
AESC has a new fundraiser!

Yankee Candle has become the #1 most-recognized name in the candle business and the country's best-selling candle brand by sharing our customers' "passion for fragrance" in every product we bring to market.

To support this fundraiser go to www.yankeecandlefundraising.com and use Group #999972278. For every sale made Yankee Candle will give 40% to AESC.



Coming Soon - Another fundraiser that will directly support our service projects and AEMA.



Lynch Creek Farm handcrafts traditional and decorated Christmas wreaths, fresh centerpieces and other beautiful holiday gifts.

Local Events

September 4 - 8

America's Tall Ship Eagle
Alexandria, VA

September 8 - 10

Defenders' Day, Fort McHenry,
Baltimore, MD

September 15

Patriot Pride Run/Walk
Fort Myer, VA

September 16 - 17

Colonial Market & Fair
Mt Vernon, VA

October 11 - 14

AUSA Conference
Washington Convention
Center, Washington, DC

October 14

Scottish Heritage Day
Carlyle House Historic Park
Alexandria, VA

Around Town

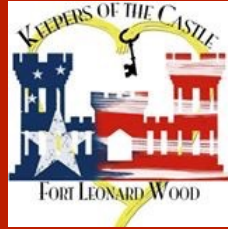
America's Tall Ship Eagle!



Alexandria, Virginia hosts the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Eagle, September 4 - 8 as part of a tour of the Eastern U.S. Coast. Eagle, also known as "America's Tall Ship," is the largest tall ship flying the U.S. flag and the only active commissioned sailing vessel in American military service. Built in 1936, the Eagle is the seventh U.S. Coast Guard cutter to bear the name in a proud line dating back to 1792. As a training vessel and goodwill ambassador, Eagle has offered generations of Coast Guard Academy cadets and officer candidates an unparalleled experience at sea. Admission is free. The exterior of the vessel may be viewed from Point Lumley Park at any time during its visit. On board public tours will only be on Monday, September 4th from 1 - 7 pm, and Wednesday, September 6th from 10 am - 7 pm. To learn more about the Eagle visit <http://uscga.edu/eagle>.

Defenders' Day at Fort McHenry

A star-spangled banner weekend commemorates Defenders' Day in Baltimore at Fort McHenry, September 8-10. Soldiers from The U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" and the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) will take part in festivities Sept 9. Park fee is \$10 for adults 16 and older. Children 15 and younger are free. A free, annual pass is provided for current U.S. military personnel and their families. See <https://store.usgs.gov/pass>. Defenders' Day is Baltimore's oldest holiday: it honors the successful defense of the city from British attack, the writing of the National Anthem in 1814, and the centennial of the U.S. entering World War I. There will be a large fire-works display, a symbolic ship-to-shore "bombardment" and living history programs.



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 or via email FLWKeepers@gmail.com.

A quarterly social was held on August 24th by Keepers of the Castle to welcome new spouses and catch up with returning members as summer break draws to a close. The next social will be in November.



AESC Castle Gram



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. For more information on joining this active group, contact Michelle Tyler at mtyler1015@aol.com.



Early in the summer AESG-Europe sponsored a retro Mad Men Cocktail Party which was a HUGE success!



AESG-Europe had a wonderful outing at a Wine Festival in Wiesbaden.



Castle Boutique



I enjoy hanging out with the AESC President, Launa Klimowicz-Brown (center), Sheila Kelly (right) and Kendra Lewis (left). Thank you Sheila for your service, and welcome Kendra, our new Ways & Means Chair (aka Castle Boutique)!

Castle Boutique with USACE Rangers from the St. Louis District



Labor Day Weekend Sale!

Take 25% off all castle items
Use Code: LABOR DAY
SHOP AT
armyengineerspouses.com

Sale starts 9/1/2017 and ends 9/4/2017



AESC Executive Board

2017-2018

Elected Officers

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>President</i> | <i>Launa Klimowicz-Brown</i> |
| <i>Vice President</i> | <i>Rosemary Davis</i> |
| <i>Secretary</i> | <i>Christy Cramer Preston</i> |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | <i>Kimberly Oborski</i> |
| <i>AEMA Chair</i> | <i>Kara Anderson</i> |

Appointed Board Members

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>AEMA Assistant</i> | <i>Marguerite Theisen</i> |
| <i>Circulation</i> | <i>Sheila Kelly</i> |
| <i>Corresponding Secretary</i> | <i>Laurel-Lee States</i> |
| <i>Facebook/Publicity</i> | <i>Louis Cook</i> |
| <i>Historian</i> | <i>Lisa Stevenson</i> |
| <i>Hospitality</i> | <i>Terri Stevens</i> |
| <i>Knollwood</i> | <i>Priscilla Noah</i> |
| <i>Membership</i> | <i>Jackie Caldwell</i> |
| <i>Newsletter</i> | <i>Jessica Gregris</i> |
| <i>Nominations</i> | <i>Bette Meuleners</i> |
| <i>Parliamentarian</i> | <i>Roz Riley</i> |
| <i>Reservations</i> | <i>Lynne Jackson</i> |
| <i>The Fairfax</i> | <i>Kay Burlin</i> |
| <i>Ways & Means</i> | <i>Kendra Lewis</i> |
| <i>Webmaster</i> | <i>Laura Putnam</i> |
| <i>Welfare/Service</i> | <i>Vanessa Joly</i> |

Honorary Advisors

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Honorary President</i> | <i>Connie Semonite</i> |
| <i>Honorary Vice-President</i> | <i>Kim Houston</i> |
| <i>AEMA Advisor</i> | <i>Bobby Buxbaum</i> |
| <i>SES Spouse Advisor</i> | <i>Jackie Caldwell</i> |

Membership

Join online at
www.armyengineerspouses.com/membership.html

Questions?

Contact our
Membership Chair

Jackie Caldwell

membership@armyengineerspouses.com



AESC 2017-2018 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, 2017 until June 30, 2018.

Membership information received by Oct 31st, 2017 will be included in the 2017-2018 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

