



# BRIEFS

PUBLISHED FOR THE GEORGE WASHINGTON/FAIRFAX-LEE AUSA CHAPTERS

SEPTEMBER 2009

AUSA AWARD-WINNING NEWSPAPER

## AUSA George Washington Chapter Sponsors Two Teams for Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Tournament

**M**G Craig Bambrough, USA (Ret.) and CPT Court Vanzant, USA represented the George Washington Chapter of the Association of the United States Army in a fly fishing fundraiser held at Rose River Farm in Syria, VA. The second annual tournament was organized by Project Healing Waters, a national non-profit organization chartered to introduce Wounded Warriors to the beneficial effects of beautiful scenery and tranquility associated with fly fishing.

Twenty two Wounded Warriors left behind their

normal routines of physical therapy, medical treatment, and rehabilitation to take part in the transcendent experience of coaxing giant trout from the shadowy river bottom onto the waiting angler's fly.

A steady rain storm settled into the lush mountains ringing Rose River Farm. The fish were unaffected, but competitors donned outer jackets to stave off the rain, which one light-hearted young Soldier referred to as "liquid sunshine." That type of positive outlook and resilient spirit seemed to define the group gathered from Walter

Reed.

Each one of the Wounded Warriors has sustained life-altering injuries due to hostile action during overseas service. All of them have unique personalities, experiences, and backgrounds yet they share a common denominator which revealed itself during the course of the day.

Indomitable spirit. From the outset, it became apparent that these men and women would not be deterred in their pursuit of the goal—whether it be catching fish on

**PROJECT HEALING WATERS**  
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Wounded Warriors from Walter Reed Army Medical Center compete in Fly Fishing Tournament to benefit their fellow soldiers.



COL McGuinness congratulates awardees and their parents at the chapter's recent scholarship awards luncheon at Fort Belvoir.

## AUSA Fairfax-Lee Chapter Supports Area Scholars

**A**USA Fairfax-Lee Chapter's annual Scholarship Luncheon was held on 30 June 2009 at Fort Belvoir with twenty-seven area scholars receiving more than \$18,000 in financial assistance. The recipients ranged in scope from active duty soldiers to children of military and civilian members.

Jennifer Wood and Sarah Roser each received a \$1,500 award sponsored by AM General, Julia McCullohs a \$1,500 award co-sponsored by Lockheed Martin and AUSA. Zachary Hunter received a \$1000 scholarship sponsored by Peduzzi Associates.

In addition, the chapter distributed three \$750 scholarships and sixteen \$500 awards.

Over 150 people attended, including 60 soldiers from various units on Fort Belvoir.

PM Soldier Equipment – COL John J. McGuinness, addressed the audience on work on-going within PEO Soldier and assisted Chapter President Mark Wise and Vice President Dave Barber in handing out scholarship checks to 15 proud students and parents. The chapter distributed over \$18,000 in scholarships to area scholars, among them soldiers and AUSA family members.



COL John J. McGuinness, PM Soldier Equipment, addresses the overflow crowd of family, friends, and soldiers attending the AUSA Fairfax-Lee Chapter's annual Scholarship Luncheon.

# George Washington Chapter's 22nd Annual Golf Tournament a Resounding Success

Our 22nd Annual Scholarship & Family Support Golf Tournament was held on August 5th at Fort Belvoir. This year saw a slight departure from our past tournaments as we pared back the field and only used the Woodlawn Course. Alas, it turned out to be one of our most successful tournaments—we had 120 participants representing 21 different companies/organizations and thanks to all who participated we raised over \$16,000. Congratulations to the winning team representing SAIC: Tom Molino, George Krivo, Mike Hogan (Boeing), and LTC Bill Fuller.

This year we were pleased to be joined by 9 Wounded Warriors from Walter Reed, 5 Soldiers from the Old Guard, and special guest golfer, former Redskin Charley Taylor. The weather was beautiful, albeit a little warm, but all of our participants truly seemed to enjoy themselves. In a very special touch, at the conclusion of our awards presentation and raffle drawing, LT Matt Levine (Wounded Warrior guest) offered up for auction a golf cap autographed by many Redskin greats. The proceeds of the auction will benefit the Salute Military Golf Association (smga.org), a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation whose mission is to provide rehabilitative golf experiences for combat-wounded veterans in an effort to improve the quality of life for these American heroes. Lt. Levine and many of the Wounded Warriors in attendance have benefited greatly from this organization. Mr. Robert Speer from PriceWaterhouseCoopers won the auction with a

generous bid of \$500.

A special thanks also to SMA (Ret) Jack Tilley and the American Freedom Foundation which donated a flat screen TV, the signature raffle gift. As fate would have it, MG (ret) Galen Jackman won the TV. He immediately donated it to a soldier from The Old Guard.

Thanks to all the companies who helped to make this year's tournament a success: Agility, ATK, AUSA National, CACI, Calibre, Clark Realty, DRS Technologies, Eggs & Bacon, Elbit Systems of America, General Atomic, General Dynamics, Hughes, ITT, PWC, Rapiscan Systems



MSG Laura Paz is flanked by Ken Wanless and Bill Stramm at the 10th tee during the GW Chapter Golf Tournament.



Bob Speer is surrounded by LT Matt Levine and the Wounded Warriors to celebrate the auction result.

Inc, Raytheon, RVA Inc, SAAB Security, SAIC, Signature Government Solutions, and VSE Corporation.

A very special thanks to the following: Long Drive and Closest to the Pin Sponsors—Agility, General Dynamics and PWC; Beverage Cart Sponsors—ATK and DRS Technologies; Box Lunch Sponsor—Boeing; Dinner Beverage Sponsor—RVA; Dinner Sponsor—VSE Corporation; those

companies that made additional monetary contributions—Clarke Cares Foundation and PFCU; and those companies that donated giveaways—Agility, ATK, PWC and SAIC.

In all, it was a terrific tournament which had many memorable moments. And, because of the participation and generosity of the attendees, we raised a significant amount of money for the George Washington Chapter. We thank you all.

## PROJECT HEALING WATERS

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an impossibly thin fly-line or mustering the personal courage to fight to adapt to their injuries.

Ostensibly, sponsors of the tournament, like AUSA, allocated resources that enabled Wounded Warriors to enjoy the camaraderie of being together during a

carefree day on the water. Mission accomplished and much appreciated by all in attendance! However, the unexpected outcome is one that may have an even broader impact. Participating in an event like this, where we saw our Soldiers, who represent the best in our society, persevering despite daily challenges many of us will never know, showed the

true mettle of humanity.

Through programs like Project Healing Waters with the continued support of AUSA, Wounded Warriors will not only heal, but they will inspire others with the positive lessons of perseverance and personal courage that many may never be privileged to witness.



Base Camp Briefs is the quarterly newsletter of the George Washington and Fairfax-Lee Chapters of the Association of the United States Army. It is published by Silver Communications, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and are not to be considered an official expression by the Department of the Army. The appearance of advertisements in this publication, to include all inserts and supplements, does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army of the products or services advertised.

*Comments and letters to the editor may be addressed as follows:*

## Base Camp Briefs, AUSA George Washington Chapter

**Dave Scarbalis**

Editor

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# Fairfax-Lee Chapter's Golf Tournament a Success, Good Time Had by All



The AUSA Fairfax Lee Chapter 2009 Golf Tournament was a great success! Nearly 150 golfers participated in this annual event at Fort Belvoir and thanks to the 26 corporate

sponsors, the chapter raised a sufficient funding to provide for continued support for student scholarships, the Ft. Belvoir Warrior Transition Unit, and numerous other activities supporting soldiers

and soldier-families in the National Capital Region.

Given the significant growth at the Fort Belvoir WTU, this year's tournament was of even greater significance to the chapter. Our greatest joy

was the ability to host 24 soldiers from the Fort Belvoir community, including soldiers from the WTU, Dewitt Army Hospital, and various units throughout Fort Belvoir.

The chapter's commitment

is to support the soldiers and families of Fort Belvoir and it was our pleasure to be able to provide a day of recreation for these outstanding Americans.



## REPORT FROM THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER PRESIDENT



**Ken Wanless**  
President  
George Washington Chapter

As we all know, summer brings many changes to the Washington DC area and this year has been no exception. From the Chapter's perspective, we have said goodbye to several Board Members who served the soldiers and the National Capitol Region for many years. These members include Doug Stewart, Dr. Robbie Perna, Sandy Watkins-Peay, Mike Carter, Jeff Nickel, and Megan Jans. We thank them for their service and their outstanding support throughout the years. We want to welcome new Board Members Tom Molino, Dave Scarbalis, Tom Balish, Ron Primm and Craig Bambrough.

From a military community perspective, we have seen changes in leadership at the JFHQ/NCR, the 3rd Infantry Regiment, and at Howard University. We welcome BG Karl Horst and CSM Michael Williams at the JFHQ/NCR, COL David Anders and CSM David Martel at The Old Guard, and LTC Landy Dunham and MSG Ivory Hallmon at Howard University. We look

forward to working with these soldiers in continuing to support their organizations and programs.

I also want to thank all of our member companies and individual members who turned out for our Annual Golf Tournament and Fund Raiser. Because of you and your sponsorship and involvement, the Chapter raised almost \$17K to support our programs. A special thanks to Renee Lyles, who organized and coordinated the tournament.

In the rest of this newsletter you will read about the activities of the George Washington Chapter. We continue to be very active and look for additional opportunities to help our Wounded Warriors and the soldiers and families in the NCR. We know that our service is not accomplished without your help and support. We thank you for this and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Hooah and Army Strong!

# 2009

## UPCOMING GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER EVENTS

### 11 September

*Spirit of America*  
10:30 am and 7:30 pm  
George Mason Patriot Center

### 12 September

*Spirit of America*  
2:00 pm and 7:30 pm  
George Mason Patriot Center

### 17 September

*Officers' Wives' Club*  
*Greater Washington Area Meeting*  
  
10:30 am - 1 pm  
Ft. Myer Officers' Club,  
Koran Room

### 17 September

*PFCU Military Heroes Golf*  
*Tournament*  
10:15 am - 6 pm  
Westfields Golf Club

### 23 September

*Quarterly Luncheon*  
*MG Robert Lennox, Director*  
*Army QDR*  
11:30 am - 1:30 pm  
Army Navy Country Club

### 4 October

*Army 10 Miler, HOOAH Tent*  
8 - 11 am  
Pentagon South Parking Lot

### 5 - 7 October

*AUSA Annual Meeting*  
See AUSA web for event  
details ([www.ausa.org](http://www.ausa.org))  
Washington, DC Conv. Center

### TBD

*Wanna Be a Santa Party for*  
*Wounded Warriors*  
7 - 9 pm  
Mologne House, Walter Reed



## REPORT FROM THE FAIRFAX-LEE PRESIDENT



**Mark Wise**  
President  
Fairfax-Lee Chapter

Thank God for this great nation and the magnificent young men and women serving in our Armed Forces. Much has been done and much more needs doing in difficult places around the world to ensure our freedoms and provide for this country's security. The Army along with its sister services has more than met the call. We owe all who are serving today and all who have served in the past our respect and thanks. AUSA is dedicated to doing our part to make sure this nation's leaders and citizens never forget the service and sacrifices our soldiers are making and the need to continue our steadfast support for them and their families. Your Fairfax-Lee chapter continues to do its part in supporting this nation wide effort through our interaction with AUSA

National on issues relating to the Associations message to Executive and Legislative branches of our government and grassroots interaction with Active, Guard and Reserve Soldiers, Families, Warriors in Transition, Veterans, ROTC, Recruiting Command missions and memberships in our area as you'll read about in this edition. We are committed to making a difference and are proud of our accomplishments, however much remains to be done. We are always in need of and welcome new volunteers to our mission. If you are interested in becoming more involved in your chapter, please visit the chapter website at [ausafairfaxlee.org](http://ausafairfaxlee.org) or contact me directly at [mark.wise@us.thalesgroup.com](mailto:mark.wise@us.thalesgroup.com).

Army Strong!

# 2009

## UPCOMING FAIRFAX-LEE CHAPTER EVENTS

### 16 September

*Salute to Soldiers!*  
For more info:  
[ausafairfaxlee.org](http://ausafairfaxlee.org)

### 30 September

*Last Wednesday*  
For more info:  
[ausafairfaxlee.org](http://ausafairfaxlee.org)

### 5-7 October

*AUSA Annual Meeting*  
For more info:  
[ausa.org](http://ausa.org)

### 15 October

*Chapter Board Meeting*  
For more info:  
[ausafairfaxlee.org](http://ausafairfaxlee.org)

### 28 October

*Last Wednesday*  
For more info:  
[ausafairfaxlee.org](http://ausafairfaxlee.org)

### 10 November

*Chapter Board Meeting*  
For more info:  
[ausafairfaxlee.org](http://ausafairfaxlee.org)



# Delta Dawgs Sweep Old Guard's Soldier and NCO of the Year Competition



GW Chapter Board Member MG (ret) Craig Bambrough congratulates PFC Michael Hartz and Sgt. Sean McAlpine for winning the The Old Guard's Soldier and NCO of the Year competition.

It was 5 a.m. on a Tuesday. Ten Old Guard Soldiers lined up at Fort A.P. Hill, Va., to take an Army physical fitness test. It was the start of what would be a grueling three days for the Soldiers – a test to find the best noncommissioned officer and junior enlisted Soldier in the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard).

Two hours after the physical fitness test, the Soldiers gathered for the next event, a 6.2-mile ruck march. For the event, the Soldiers were required to carry a ruck sack packed with a 40-pound sandbag and an MRE. They each wore individual body armor and an Army combat helmet, and carried an M-4 rifle. Altogether, their gear weighed about 70 pounds.

As the contestants marched, temperatures rose. The heat was too much for three of the marchers; they were unable to complete the ruck march and were eliminated from the competition. One Soldier was injured during the event, and was also eliminated. By the time the last competitor

crossed the finish line, temperatures had risen to 90 degrees, and the Soldiers were drenched in sweat and ready for a break.

They were allowed a short amount of time to catch their breath while medics from the 529th Regimental Support Company examined them for injuries, but as soon as the medics were finished, the Soldiers were on to the next event – an essay in which they described two things they would change about the Army if given the chance.

After the essay, the Soldiers were able to have lunch as they prepared for the Warrior Tasks portion of the competition. In the wood line of Fort A.P. Hill, 10 stations were set up for the competitors to demonstrate their proficiency at common Soldier tasks, such as administering first aid, operating a combat communications system, and operating in an environment contaminated with chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear weapons.

Although they had been awake for 12 hours by the

time they were finished with the Warrior Tasks, the Soldiers were not finished for the day – there was still a written exam about Army history, tactics and policies they had to complete before they would be allowed to rest.

By the end of the day, about 10 p.m., five Soldiers remained in the competition – the others were eliminated when the heat and intensity forced them to fall out.

Wednesday morning arrived, and the Soldiers went to a firing range to show their expertise with their M-4 rifles. After running in full gear for about 1000 meters, the Soldiers zeroed their rifles, then qualified with 40 rounds in the standard Army rifle marksmanship qualification. Sgt. Sean McAlpine of Company D, 1st Battalion proved to be the best marksman of the group, hitting 31 of the 40 targets.

From the qualification range, the competitors sprinted to the next range, where they demonstrated their ability to pick out and

shoot a specific target at the reflexive firing range.

The marksmanship trials marked the competition's midway. The Soldiers were exhausted, but they maintained their motivation. "If you put your heart and mind in it, anything is possible," said Spc. Gitana Cobb, a human resources specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

Keeping the competition intense and fast-paced was necessary to find the best Soldiers, said Sgt. 1st Class William Cramer, the coordinator of the competition. "It's going to weed out those who don't have the intestinal fortitude to be in it for the long haul," he said. "It's the total Soldier concept. The ideal winner is physically fit, tactically and technically proficient, and knowledgeable about Army regulations and history."

The Soldier and NCO of the Year should also be ready for anything that is thrown at them. To ensure the Soldiers could take on tasks with little warning or preparation,

Cramer organized a mystery event to be held after the marksmanship portion of the competition. The Soldiers vying for the Soldier of the Year title were given a box full of parts from four different weapons. They were told to assemble the weapons and perform a functions check on each of them within 15 minutes.

After the Soldiers completed the task, with Pfc. Michael Hartz of Company D winning the round, assembling all four weapons within 6 minutes, 32 seconds, the NCOs were given their mystery event – leading a team of Soldiers through a simulated danger zone and reacting to an improvised explosive device.

Urban orienteering followed the mystery event. Urban orienteering tested the Soldiers' ability to navigate in unfamiliar urban environments. The Soldiers walked for three hours, finding five points.

## New Leadership Team Assumes Command of JFHQ/NCR

**B**rig. Gen. Karl R. Horst became commander of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and Joint Force Headquarters National Capital Region June 23, 2009.

Enlisting in the Army June 22, 1973, Brig. Gen. Horst completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Dix, N.J. He attended the United States Military Academy Preparatory School at Fort Belvoir, Va., and subsequently received his bachelor's degree and commission from the United States Military Academy in 1978.

Brig. Gen. Horst has held infantry leadership and staff positions at all echelons and, prior to this assignment, BG Horst was the deputy commanding general, XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg. Brig. Gen. Horst's military education includes the infantry officer basic and advanced courses, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the Army War College. His civilian study includes a master's degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.

Brig. Gen. Horst's awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Legion of Merit (4 Oak Leaf Clusters), and the Bronze Star Medal (2 Oak Leaf Clusters). He has earned the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Combat Action Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, and the Army Ranger Tab.

Command Sergeant Major Michael W. Williams enlisted in the U.S. Army in January 1978, completed Advance Individual Training at Fort Sill, O.K. and began his career as an Artilleryman shortly thereafter.

On July 13, 2009, CSM Williams was assigned as the Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and Joint Force Headquarters - National



Brigadier General  
Karl R. Horst



Command Sergeant Major  
Michael W. Williams

Capital Region in Washington, DC.

He has held every leadership position possible in his career field throughout his career. CSM Williams is a graduate of the Primary Noncommissioned Officer Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Advance Noncommissioned Officer Course, First Sergeant Course, Master Fitness Trainer Course, Battle Staff Noncommissioned Officer Course, Basic Airborne Course, Air Assault Course, 82d Airborne Division Jumpmaster Course, and the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy.

His awards and decorations include two Bronze Stars (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Medals (3 Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal (Silver Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Achievement Medal, Master Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab, Combat Action Badge and Air Assault Badge.

Both the George Washington and Fairfax Lee Chapters welcome BG Horst and CSM Williams to their new assignments and look forward to continuing and expanding our programs that support soldiers and their families under their leadership.

## Fairfax-Lee Chapter Recognizes Corporate Member of the Quarter

**L**ockheed Martin (LM) Corporation is one of the Fairfax-Lee Chapter's go-to corporate members. We have had a long and we believe mutually beneficial relationship with LM. Beyond monetary support, they have generously provided manpower and leadership support to the Chapter staff.

Headquartered in Bethesda, MD, Lockheed Martin is a global security company that employs about 146,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services. The corporation reported 2008 sales of \$42.7 billion.

- Coordinates, Manages, and Markets to the Executive Branch

- Develops and Executes Legislative Strategies

- Manages Washington-based Customer Interfaces

- Conducts Regulatory and Commercial Affairs

- Develops LM Washington Policy

- Oversees State & Local Government Affairs

As valued AUSA Corporate members and sponsors they are always on hand to support the Chapter Mission whether providing support to the Golf fund raiser, the scholarship program or the Warrior Transition Holiday Party. They remain active participants in the quarterly



The Washington Operations for Technology Services (Wash Ops) arm of Lockheed Martin supports the Fairfax-Lee mission. Their business focus remains fixed on providing service to their Federal Government customers in the areas of in legislative affairs, security policy, budgetary affairs, and systems integration. Wash Ops:

luncheon program and regularly contribute seats from their season table to deserving soldiers. Corporate members like Lockheed Martin allow the Fairfax-Lee Chapter to conduct our mission, "Supporting Soldiers and their families".

For more information contact Mr. Ken Gele at 703-413-5763 or kenny.gele@lmco.com.



Special Edition - 24K  
Gold Plated - \$10

## Support Our Soldiers (SOS) Pins for Sale

Profits to support  
"Operation USO Care Package"  
and the Fisher House  
at Walter Reed Hospital

Sponsored by AUSA Fairfax-Lee Chapter



Antique - \$5

See our website for more information: [www.ausafairfax.org](http://www.ausafairfax.org)



## Marriott Ranch BBQ and Rodeo for Wounded Warriors

On May 31st, 2009, the George Washington Chapter of the AUSA hosted a day at The Marriott Ranch in Hume, Virginia, for Wounded Warriors from Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Nestled at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Marriott Ranch

(originally known as Fairfield) was purchased in 1951 by J. Willard Marriott, Sr., the founder of Marriott International. With over 1,500 head of cattle, the 4200 acre working farm continues to serve as a respite to the Marriott family, friends and associates. It is rumored that

Jesse James spent the summers there with his Godfather who had a cabin on the property.

And just as Mr. Marriott retreated and rode the ranch with U.S. Presidents and business leaders from around the world, Marriott Ranch provided the perfect setting for our soldiers to

unwind and enjoy a country BBQ, blue grass music by the Shenandoah Travelers Band and an authentic Western rodeo. It is uncertain whether the soldiers or the cowboys and Marriott staff had more fun meeting each other. One thing is for sure, everyone had a great day;

especially Sgt. Heidi Anthony and her husband, who were celebrating their honeymoon with us.

*Submitted by Valerie Beall  
Vice President, Programs  
George Washington Chapter AUSA*

# George Washington Chapter Helps Wounded Warriors Gain Additional Mobility

The George Washington Chapter continued our support the Segs4Vets organization by contributing a Segway during a May 14th event at the Marine Corps Memorial. The Chapter President, Ken Wanless and former Chapter President, Ed Dauksz were on hand as 38 Wounded Warriors and one civilian were presented with Segways. Many of the recipients are still undergoing rehabilitation and treatment

(DRAFT), the organization that provides these mobility devices. "Many of us who are disabled are alive today because of the sacrifices made by disabled American veterans from World War II, Korea and Vietnam," said Kerr. "These veterans changed the world for people with disabilities. Disabled vets are responsible not only for advances in rehabilitation technology and medicine, but also for transforming the perceptions of society towards those with



From left to right: COL (Ret) Barney Barnum, Ed Dauksz, Ken Wanless, GEN (Ret) Eberhart, Jerry Kerr



Wounded Warrior recipients with their Segways

at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center but others have returned to active duty. Also in attendance were General Ralph "Ed" Eberhart USAF (Ret), former Commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command and Marine Corps COL (ret) and Medal of Honor recipient, Barney Barnum who helped create the Segs4Vets program.

Jerry Kerr, who himself is disabled and uses a Segway, is the President and founder of Disability Rights Advocates For Technology

disabilities."

Since its inception in 2005, DRAFT has awarded more than 340 Segways to military veterans, active duty service members. To date the Chapter has purchased 4 SegWays and will continue to contribute to this terrific organization and the brave soldiers who deserve our gratitude and support. If anyone is interested in participating in this program, please contact either Ed Dauksz or Ken Wanless.

## Thurman Describes Era of Persistent Conflict

by Regen Wilson, SAIC

**M**aj. Gen. J.D. Thurman, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army and the current G-3/5/7, described what he called an age of "persistent conflict" at the May 13 chapter luncheon.

"Globalization, natural disasters, technology, terrorism, population growth, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the demand for resources characterize what we are calling an era of persistent conflict," the nearly 35-year veteran said to the quarterly gathering of defense industry professionals. "Persistent conflict has many forms, namely competition and friction, which manifest in countless ways as interests collide across the globe.

"We are witnessing this every day."

The Oklahoma native went on to discuss how during nearly eight years of war the Army has had to



MG Thurman addressing the AUSA GW Luncheon

"simultaneously and swiftly adapt our doctrine and organizational structure" in order to effectively respond to a broad range of operational environments. After touching on the consistent effort to stabilize the deployment schedule, Thurman closed by talking about the Army's ongoing modernization strategy, specifically citing the accelerated spin out of unmanned systems to all 73 brigade combat teams.

"It is clear, the Army must continue to modernize, adapt our institutions, and transform soldier and leader development," he said.

The quarterly luncheon followed tradition by including a number of "Wounded Warriors" who were transported from Walter Reed for the event and sat amongst the audience.

Retired Army colonel and SAIC vice president Tom Molino opened the luncheon, the second his company has organized. Color guard duties were performed by the 3rd Infantry Regiment's Old Guard.

The chapter's next quarterly luncheon is slated for Sept. 23 at the Arlington Army Navy Country Club and will feature an address by Maj. Gen. Robert Lennox, assistant G-3/5/7 and director of the Quadrennial Defense Review.

## GW Chapter Recognizes Young Musicians

The competition is stiff and the auditions were tense and in the final analysis, the winner was “too close to call” in the 4th Annual Young Artist Competition sponsored by the U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own”. As a result, MSG Laura Knutson and the selection committee announced that Angelina Savoia (harp) and Steven Tavani (violin) would be the first place winners of the competition. The second place winner was Lauren Song (violin) and the third place winner was Kenneth Liao (violin).

the level of musicianship was exceptional. We really had some tough choices to make but, in the end, the two winners deserved the recognition.”

After the performances, Mr. Wanless said, “The George Washington Chapter will continue our support and sponsorship to this wonderful competition. The members of U.S. Army Band are true ambassadors of the Army and should be proud of its mentorship of these many gifted and talented young musicians”.

This is the 4th Annual Young

*The competition this year was outstanding.*

*These high school students are extremely talented and the level of musicianship was exceptional.*

These young artists were featured at the May 3rd U.S. Army Band Concert at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center on the University of Maryland.

Ken Wanless, the President of The George Washington Chapter, presented a total of \$1000 in award checks to the winners. According to MSG Knutson, “The competition this year was outstanding. These high school students are extremely talented and

Artist Competition where high school students from the Metro DC area competed. The competition is open to strings, woodwinds, brass, guitar, and percussion instruments and draws competitors from over 30 high schools. During the selection process Army Band members function as judges and mentors to the competitors, thus providing professional review and support to every high school student who participates.



From left to right: MAJ Paul Bamonte, Steven Tavani, Angelina Savoia, Kenneth Liao and Lauren Song.

photo: SSG Chris Branagan

## Fairfax-Lee Chapter Supports National Guard Enlisted Family Day



From left to right: SGM John Edwards, COL (Ret) Stanley Crow, AUS (Ret.) representing Fairfax-Lee Chapter, and MSG Manuel Almanza.

The Fairfax-Lee Chapter was honored to help co-sponsor the Army National Guard Readiness Center Enlisted Family Day. This event was held on July 17th, 2009 at Anderson Park, near Davidson Army Airfield. There were over 200 Soldiers and family members in attendance with plenty of food and activities. SGM John Edwards expressed their appreciation for the chapter's support by presenting a certificate to the Chapter.

## Night of Heroes Gala Recognizes Those Who Served and Still Serve

June 4th, 1944 D Day, Normandy Beach – June 4, 2009, The Night of Heroes hosted by the Pentagon Federal Credit Union Foundation and supported by the George Washington Chapter brought that historic day back to reality at the “Night of Heroes” gala at the Ritz Carlton, Tysons Corner. This gala honored some of our nation’s celebrities who stepped up as served in the military when America truly needed them during WWII and afterwards. Those honored included Bob Feller, Cleveland Indians Hall of Fame pitcher and baseball’s first enlistee in the US Navy after Pearl Harbor; Hugh O’Brien, Captain, USMC and TV’s Wyatt Earp; General Dick and Vicky Cody, Family of the

CBS anchor, and General Barry McCaffrey. Each of these heroes shared some of their personal stories and reflections about service to their country during times of need.

The 82nd Airborne chorus and the Dixie Belles, spanned the years with their military renditions bringing the audience to a standing ovation when the over 20 Wounded Warriors were introduced and asked to stand. Vice Chief of Staff, General and Beth Chiarelli, Ken Wanless, Bill Stramm, Peter O’Rourke, Valerie Beall, and Ed Dauksz joined in the HOOAH’s throughout the night.

The event raised over \$400,000 thanks to the PFCU Foundation.



Bob Feller shares his WWII story at the Night of Heroes Gala.



Hugh O’Brien receives award from GEN Barry McCaffrey.

## Fairfax-Lee Chapter Recognized by National Organization

AUSA chapters worldwide develop programs and activities that provide community support for America's Army through individual and corporate members and serve as the liaison between the Army and local civilian communities. Chapter activities include general membership meetings with high profile guest speakers, community involvement events supporting soldiers and their families and special events honoring

the Army and outstanding soldiers. AUSA National monitors these activities and recognizes chapters who stand above the crowd. The AUSA Fairfax Lee Chapter is proud to announce that it has been recognized by the national organization in twelve different areas:

- Army Birthday
- Family Programs
- ILW
- Take the Hill
- Star Chapter

- Special Award
- Chapter of Excellence
- Superior Chapter
- Merit Chapter
- Support to Recruiting Command
- Army History
- President's Club Gold

Congratulations to AUSA Fairfax-Lee Chapter President Mark Wise and his leadership team for earning this distinctive recognition!

Martha Granger, a student in Landmark Education, asks for your support of her Community Project to send the 700 Wounded Warriors at Walter Reed with a family member or care provider to a Redskins home game this season. There are eight home games and 1,000 tickets on sale for each game.

To join this project, simply purchase a pair of tickets for any regular season home game from [www.stubhub.com/washington-redskins-tickets](http://www.stubhub.com/washington-redskins-tickets) (or donate your own tickets) and mail them to:

Linda K. Rasnake  
FRSA/Warrior Transition Brigade  
Walter Reed Army Medical Center  
Abrams Hall, Room 1020  
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20307

Along with the tickets, include your name, mailing and email address, phone number, dollar value of tickets, and Project Soldiers & Skins. For more information, contact Martha Granger at [granger\\_martha@yahoo.com](mailto:granger_martha@yahoo.com).

## Project Soldiers & Skins Support



## Fairfax-Lee Chapter Plans Salute to Soldiers at Fort Belvoir

The Fairfax-Lee Chapter of AUSA is sponsoring a Salute to Soldiers on 16 September at the Fort Belvoir Golf Course. This event will feature free appetizers, live entertainment and free beverages for soldiers and their families from 6 PM until 8 PM at the clubhouse patio area. Door prizes will be given away every half hour.

Chapter executive committee

members will be on hand to address current AUSA efforts underway and to discuss where else we may be able to positively influence the lives of soldiers and the families here within the greater Washington area. The Fairfax-Lee Chapter of AUSA contributed nearly \$60,000 to the Fort Belvoir community this past year and remains committed to supporting soldier and family

programs within the area.

Please join us at the Fort Belvoir Golf Course on Wednesday, September 16th as we celebrate the brave men and women of the Fort Belvoir community! For more information concerning this event, please contact Ken Britt at: [Kenneth.britt@us.army.mil](mailto:Kenneth.britt@us.army.mil)



# Fort Belvoir

## Fairfax-Lee Celebrates Year of the NCO

In celebration of "The Year of the NCO," the Fairfax-Lee Chapter held its quarterly membership luncheon in honor of the Army's Non-Commissioned Officers at Fort Belvoir on 29 April 2009.

The Fairfax-Lee Chapter has been hosting a large number of Soldiers for our quarterly luncheons. However, this particular event was superb, with over 150 Soldiers and NCO's from the installation attending.

The guest speaker for the event was the 12th Sergeant Major of the Army (ret.), Jack L. Tilley who provided moving remarks as he reflected on his life in the Army. SMA (ret.) Tilley shared that the sacrifices taking place every day by NCO's and Soldiers has had a profound impact on our country. In addition, he described how NCOs serve as the backbone of the Army, and how the NCO corps plays such a huge role in the lives of the individuals.

Following the remarks, several NCO's provided a motivating description of what they believe are the key attributes of an effective Army NCO. SMA Tilley presented each of these NCO's with an AUSA coin, and his appreciation for their service to our nation.

The Chapter's ongoing efforts to show support for the soldiers in the Ft. Belvoir community are making a difference and this was a day to remember.

## Fairfax-Lee Chapter Supports 10-Miler

The Fairfax-Lee Chapter will support the 2009 Army Ten Miler by sponsoring a HOOAH tent. These tents support both Soldiers and civilians alike and are used to inform both participants and visitors about the activities of their chapter, Division or unit. Race-day attendees are encouraged to enjoy all that the Hooah Tents offer, especially the abundance of food and entertainment.

The chapter was among the first organizations to secure a HOOAH tent for this year's race, anticipated to be the largest ever with over 30,000 runners

The Chapter's HOOAH tent will support

the Fort Belvoir community runners and showcase the many contributions of the community. Fairfax-Lee's corporate sponsors are joining forces to provide

a premier gathering place Fort Belvoir's runners and their supporters. We look forward to seeing you at the race!



## George Washington Chapter 2009 Scholarship Program

The George Washington Chapter awarded \$10,000 in scholarships for the 2009 fiscal year. The chapter wishes to express its gratitude to those golfers who sacrificed their time and effort to play in the annual golf tournament, the major fundraiser for the chapter's scholarship program. We also remain indebted to Rockwell Collins for its annual scholarship contribution donated for a student who is majoring in the hard sciences. This year's recipient of the Rockwell Collins scholarship is Jawaan Thomas, an ROTC cadet at Howard University. The chapter extends it sincerely

congratulations to the other recipients:

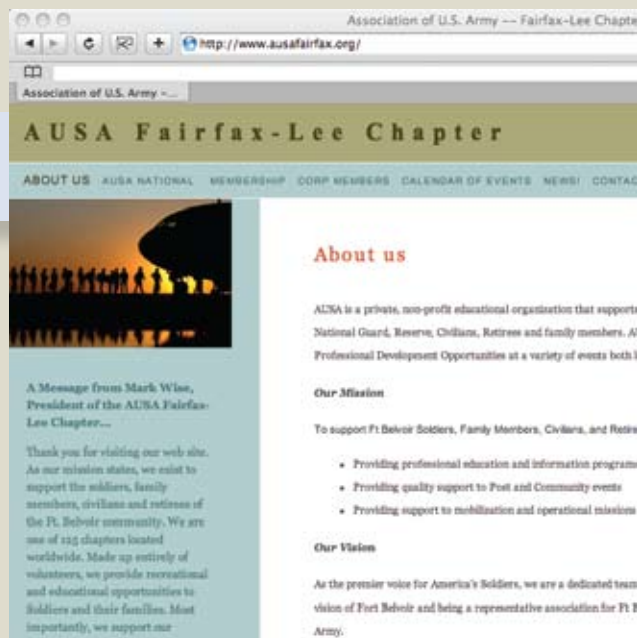
- Benjamin Bechtold
- Lindsey Bechtold
- Donovan Dance
- Lauren Hamilton
- Tiffany Hunter
- Joshua Johnson
- Sarah Kester
- Barbara Luckett
- Daniel Luckett
- Adam Neiman
- Noelle Savage
- Jawaan Thomas
- Jeffrey Thomas

The 2010 scholarship season will

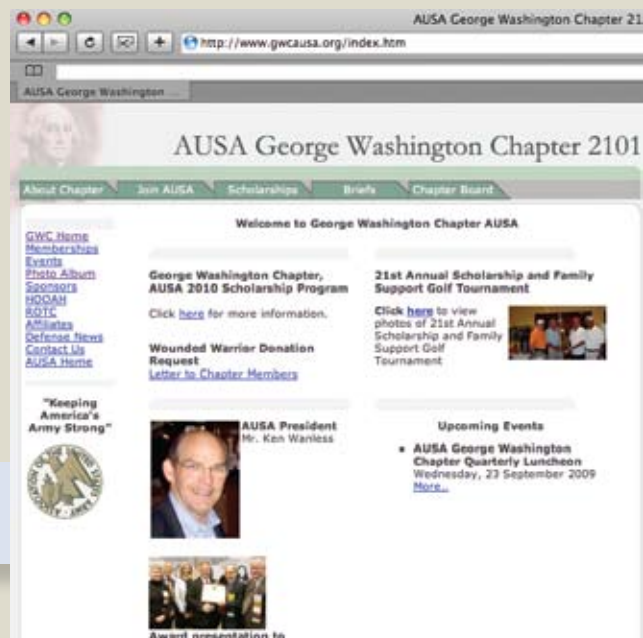
move into full swing...to borrow a phrase from our golfing colleagues, early in January 2010. The chapter website, [www.gwcausa.org](http://www.gwcausa.org), will have the specific requirements for the 2010 Scholarship Program.

Dr. Robbi Perna is retiring as the chapter's Scholarship Vice President but will remain a member of the Board of Advisors. LTC Bobbie Williams will be assuming the duties of VP, Scholarships for the Chapter. She has enjoyed working as the Scholarship VP for the past five years in identifying so many deserving young men and women to receive financial support.

# PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITES!



Fairfax-Lee Chapter  
[www.ausafairfax.org](http://www.ausafairfax.org)



George Washington Chapter  
[www.gwcausa.org](http://www.gwcausa.org)

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## DELTA DAWGS continued from page 5

The next morning, the Soldiers were awake early to look sharp for the board portion of the competition. They presented themselves to a board of first sergeants and a sergeant major and answered questions about topics ranging from the Uniform Code of Military Justice, drill and ceremony, and battle focused training. The board portion of the competition measured the competitors' knowledge, appearance and composure.

"The board was the most difficult part," said McAlpine. "I know that in the physical events I can push myself and receive the outcome I want from it. As for the board, it's all knowledge and studying – either you know it or you don't."

After the board, Cramer announced the winners of the overall competition – Sgt. Sean McAlpine for The Old Guard NCO of the Year, and Pfc. Michael Hartz for The Old Guard Soldier of the Year. Both winners came from Company D, 1st Battalion.

Capt. Justin Michel, company commander of Company D, was not surprised that two men from his company were named the top Soldier and NCO in the regiment.

"That's how we try to set the conditions in Delta Company – by preparing these young Soldiers to be physically fit, and challenge them to be mentally tough through troop leading procedures and the missions that come down in The Old Guard," said Michel.

"We picked these two Soldiers who are best in the company – voted by their peers and leadership, and here in the Year of the NCO, we asked them to do one thing – to represent themselves, Delta Company – the Doghouse – 1st Battalion, and The Old Guard," said Michel. "They went down there and showed they were capable of completing whatever task that was put in front of them."

Hartz was quick to point out that although he won the competition, it was not without the help of his fellow competitors. "Everyone had different

experiences to bring to the table, and we were able to share our knowledge with each other," he said. "Even though we were competing against each other, we helped each other."

Being The Old Guard's NCO of the Year is an honor, said McAlpine. But being an NCO is an even better privilege, he said. "I love being an NCO. I love to train Soldiers, to carry on the tradition of the NCO," he said. "We're the backbone of the Army, training and taking care of Soldiers."

Having won The Old Guard's Soldier and NCO of the Year competition, Hartz and McAlpine will go on to represent The Old Guard in the Joint Force Headquarters, National Capital Region Military District of Washington Soldier and NCO of the Year Best Warrior Competition, to be held in July at Fort A.P. Hill.

"I think they're going to take it, both of them," said Michel, speaking of the competition ahead for his Soldiers. "They're capable. It's going to be tough, but they're up to the challenge."

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## Thanks for Your Support ...

Jim Baker, Bakersfield Photography, has donated his talents and provided superb photography support for the George Washington Chapter events over the past year. A special Thanks and Army "Hooah" to Jim for his time and creative skills.

