



JOURNAL OF THE WILLIAM C. WESTMORELAND CHAPTER, ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

The President's Message — Fall 2018



Since the last issue of the Warrior our Chapter has been busy hosting the first Joint Picnic which was held on June 23rd at Bartley Ranch in Reno. Over 70 members of AUSA, the Navy League, MOAA and the Vietnam Veterans of America attended. Students from the local Job Corps provided the preparation and cooking of the picnic fare. Bernie Stolzman was instrumental in having three members, including the skipper, of the crew of the USS Nevada, a nuclear submarine, in attendance. The success of the picnic insures it becoming an annual event.

In early October I attended the Annual Meeting of the AUSA in Washington, DC. Other members of the Chapter in attendance included Brigadier General Mike Hanifan, Bob Fritz and Sharlee Smith. Total attendance exceeded 31,000, the largest gathering in the history of the event. We were educated and entertained by the highest echelons of the Army, as well as the Secretary of Defense. Highlights for me included the hours spent in Presidents' training, the address by General Miley, Chief of Staff of the Army at the Eisenhower Luncheon, and the awarding of the Marshall Medal to Martha Raddatz, the ABC foreign correspondent. Her acceptance speech was superb. Several streamers were awarded to the Chapter which will be added to our flag at the Veterans Day Dinner.

Which brings me to our next event, our annual Veterans Day Dinner which will be held Sunday evening, November 11, 2018 at the Tamarack Junction. Reservation forms have gone out to all our members and we are hoping for a large attendance. The guest speaker is Caleb Cage, the Chief of the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. Caleb is an excellent speaker and holds an important position in our State.

Have a pleasant Holiday Season. Hope to see you at our Dinner celebrating Veterans.

Jenny Logan, Chapter President

SGM Lloyd Rahlf (R) Receives Prestigious Award

By Jack Logan



On August 17, 2018 at the 101st Airborne Division Association's annual reunion in Chicago, Illinois, Sergeant Major Lloyd Rahlf was awarded a Lifetime Membership Achievement Award. The citation reads "in recognition of your years of steadfast dedication to membership recruiting, retention and support on behalf of the 101st Airborne Division Association. Thank you for your selfless service to the Association and your continued outreach efforts on behalf of the 101st Airborne Division Association."

In past years, Sergeant Major Rahlf has received recognition and several awards as the most successful recruiter for the Association. Congratulations, Lloyd!

Newsletter Design by Bernie Stolzman

A New Professor of Military Science at Nevada — Lieutenant Colonel (P) Tom Galli

By Jack Logan



Following an early morning run with his cadets, Lieutenant Colonel Galli sat down with me for an informative interview. Tom was born just outside New York City in Jersey City in 1973. It wasn't long before his family relocated to Princeton, New Jersey where he attended a private school from kindergarten through his senior year of high school, graduating from Princeton Day School.

His college began at Rutgers University where he completed one year before gaining admission to West Point where he graduated with the Class of 1996. It wasn't long before he married Stephanie who had graduated from Marist College about 20 miles from West Point permitting them to date while he was a cadet. Upon graduation Tom selected the Corps of Engineers as his branch. His first tour of duty took Tom and Stephanie to Panama where they spent two and a half "delightful years" discovering the Army, learning the duties of a junior engineer officer and welcoming their son into the world.

Following Panama, Tom, Stephanie and young Sean moved to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, for an assignment as a company executive officer and later Battalion S3 in a basic training battalion followed by a year of attendance at the Engineer Career Course. Now a captain, Tom and his family began the next adventure with an assignment to Anchorage, Alaska. Hoping for command of an engineer company, he was instead assigned to the Department of Public Works where he learned about installation management and infrastructure among other civil engineering functions.

Eager to return to the field, Tom took command of a construction company at Fort Richardson. The year was 2004 and our Army in Iraq needed engineer units which resulted in Tom's unit being deployed, the first from Alaska, where he finished his company command tour with an additional six months of staff duty. He returned to Fort Richardson where Stephanie and the family resided in his absence. By now the family included daughter Julia. To complete his final year and a half of duty in Alaska he was selected as the Aide to the Commanding General of the US Army Alaska, a two-star boss.

Returning to the lower 48 Tom was selected to attend the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. After graduating, he and the family remained at Fort Leavenworth with his assignment to the School of Advanced Military Studies which permitted him to earn a Master's Degree in Military Art and Science.

In 2008 Tom and the family relocated to Fort Hood Texas to initiate what became a six-year residency. That is misleading as Tom deployed to Iraq for a second tour and once to Afghanistan during the six-year period. Stephanie remained at Fort Hood during Tom's deployments as they welcomed Anna to complete the family. When not deployed, Tom filled a number of career enhancing positions to include working for the III Corps G5 in the Plans Division. He also served as the S3 (Operations) and executive officer for an engineer battalion.

His opportunity to command a battalion came when he was assigned to Fort Carson as a member of the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team in the 4th Infantry Division. As a compliment to his experience and leadership, he was given command of a battalion composed of several different elements to include engineer, military intelligence, signal, and maintenance companies. As part of his 21 months in command, Tom deployed the battalion to Kuwait as the Middle East continued to be a very dangerous place.

Upon his return, Tom was assigned to the Pentagon in the Army's Legislative Liaison Office where he served until moving to Reno in July of this year. The small world syndrome was alive and well as Tom encountered Colonel Mike Minaudo, a former PMS at Nevada. In conversations about assignments, Tom listened carefully to Mike who praised the opportunity afforded by an ROTC assignment to mentor future officers of the Army. He applied to be a PMS with Nevada heading up his list of preferred schools. As they say, "and the rest is history" as Tom begins his fifth month of duty in Reno.

When I asked Tom about his goals for the program at Nevada he said "my time as a battalion commander provided the opportunity to observe and mentor many young officers, some of whom excelled and others who failed. I want to work to ensure the graduates of our program have the talents to excel."

As Tom and his family were unpacking during their move to Reno, he received a call informing him that the new list of those selected for promotion to colonel contained the name of Thomas L. Galli with the new eagles going on in January of next year. Once again we are blessed to have a talented and dedicated individual guiding the men and women who have chosen to be career Army officers.

JROTC in the Field

By Lieutenant Colonel (R) Nicole Sarafolean

AUSA's Westmoreland Chapter embraces the Senior ROTC program at the University of Nevada at Reno and all the JROTC high school programs in Northern Nevada. Last spring, the chapter donated funds to the JROTC program to assist with sending high school cadets to a leadership camp in Portola CA. The camp, also known as Sierra Nevada Journeys, was 3 days and two nights. Hug High School and Reno High School each sent 22 cadets to the camp. At camp, cadets were pushed outside of their comfort zones, while negotiating obstacles and overcoming some of their fears. The group dynamics and team building that occurred during the camp enabled cadets to see and recognized the importance of working together and working towards a greater goal. Events included archery, kayaking, an alpine tower, high-ropes course and basic team- building exercises. The funds that the Westmoreland chapter donated helped make this camp possible. Hug High School is a title-one school, which means there is a high percentage of students from low-income families. Most of the cadets that went to the leadership camp from that school had never left the city of Reno.

Pictured below is a photo of cadets sitting in a circle during a team building exercise, cadets kayaking from one end of a lake to another and at the archery range.



Here, you see team-building event where cadets had to work together to build a shelter that would with-stand high winds and weather and enjoying the finished shelter.

JROTC Up in the Air

By Lieutenant Colonel (R) Nicole Sarafolean



Cadets overcame any fear of height on the high-ropes course, while in the “Leap of Faith” they had to leap off a platform almost at the top of a telephone pole, and try to touch a hanging buoy. The “Alpine Tower” was another event where cadets had to overcome their fear of heights, climbing to the top of a tower.

Reno’s Veterans’ Guest House Expands

By Noreen Leary

This summer the Veterans Guest House opened the doors of its expansion facility to our veterans and families. The expansion adds 12,000 sq. ft. of space to the existing house on the corner of Locust and E. Taylor. A hallway connects the two houses making it a large home away from home. The House now occupies three lots and faces E. Taylor Street while keeping the 880 Locust Street address. The expansion has added 21 beds to our inventory. This brings to 33 the maximum number of guests the house can host at any given time.

The expansion has a large great room so that guests can gather during the day. A large living room allows for television viewing, a quiet conversation or a comfortable place to sit and read a book. The large dining room also accommodates television viewing (you know that morning news with that cup of coffee and Danish) and lots of great conversation. A beautiful double kitchen provides the opportunity for guests to fix their own meals and allows groups or individuals to prepare and present beautiful dinners to our veterans and family members. An outside patio and additional parking complete the complex. The new house will certainly make viewing the Army vs. Navy game this year an enhanced experience.

Just like in the existing house, most of the rooms are semi-private (two twin beds) with a shared bathroom for two rooms. The expansion also has private bedrooms to accommodate guests with special needs, e.g. PTSD, feeding tubes, etc. 10 of our beds are in rooms that are outfitted as ADA rooms.

During the last 24 years over 80,000 heads rested on pillows in the Guest House. On December 14, 2018, the Guest House will begin its 25th year of operations. That says so much about our community and the support that it gives our veterans and their families. Thank you AUSA-General Westmoreland Chapter for all you do for the Veterans Guest House!



Salute & Support Our Veterans

———— Veterans Guest House ————
\$10,000 RAFFLE
 Grand Prize \$7,500 and Five \$500 Prizes

\$100 Raffle Tickets
Only 500 will be sold!

Tickets may be purchased at:



The Flag Store
 155 Glendale Ave., Sparks
 775-355-0506



PJ&Co. Restaurant Saloon
 1590 South Wells Ave., Reno
 775-323-6366



St. Ives Florist
 700 S. Wells Ave, Reno
 775-333-9190



Steve's Army Surplus
 2200 E. Plumb Ln., Suite C, Reno
 775-828-1199



Veterans Guest House
 880 Locust Street, Reno
 775-324-6958
www.veteransguesthouse.org

Winning tickets will be drawn
Saturday, December 8, 2018 during the



Army vs Navy



Football Game Party
at the Veterans Guest House
Party starts at noon!

(need not be present to win - must be 21 years old)

Our vision... To provide U.S. Military service Veterans and their families with caring support during times of medical need.

The Veterans Guest House Inc. is a Nevada 501(c)3 non-profit
 Tax Exempt #94-3160109. Your donation may be tax deductible, please consult a tax professional.

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Coming Events

11 November AUSA Veterans' Day Dinner

1800 Tamarack Junction,
13101 S Virginia St, Reno

Speaker: Caleb S. Cage,

Chief of the Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security Advisor

05 December MOAA Holiday Dinner

1800 Elks' Lodge
597 Kumle Lane, Reno

Program: Installation of 2019 Officers & Directors

09 December Navy League Holiday Brunch

1100 Tamarack Junction,
13101 S Virginia St, Reno

Speaker: Captain Edward "Alan" Schrader, USN

Commanding Officer, Naval Base Kitsap (former Commanding Officer USS Nevada)