

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR’S CORNER

Our job is still a big one....

February is upon us. As the saying goes, “Time flies when you’re having fun.” Well, we’ve been busy supporting America’s National Guard and Reserve units with their Annual Training, mobilization training and demobilization operations. And while the units may be smaller, the job we do is still a big one, so let’s stay focused and keep delivering the high-quality training and support for which Camp Shelby is famous.

Speaking of high quality training, if you’ve been watching the news lately, you know that Camp Shelby is now the home to some of the most technologically-advanced training facilities in this part of the country.

We recently held grand opening ceremonies for the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility and Live Fire Shoot House, and the Dismounted Soldier Training System is now online and ready for use. These new facilities not only enable us to provide cutting-edge training support to the Soldiers who mobilize here, but also to personnel from other branches and even civilian law enforcement units from around the country. With all of this available, it’s not a stretch of the imagination to say that if you can think of a training scenario, we can make it happen.



Cmd. Sgt. Maj Steven Chancellor

We recently honored the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by volunteering our time and skills to the R3SM Southeast Mississippi Volunteer House in Downtown Hattiesburg. More than 49 volunteers from Camp Shelby donated their personal time to show off their carpentry and painting skills, cleaning, grouting and moving furniture during “A Day On... Not a Day Off,” with some outstanding participation by our very own CSJFTC command staff.

A total of 362 hours were logged in for community service and labor. Thank you to all who volunteered their time and effort in helping to restore the volunteer house.

I cannot talk enough about safety. Just about any type of accident can be avoided or mitigated by adherence to established

safety standards, so make sure that the people in your sections know the standards and, more importantly, observe them. Get in the habit of attending the monthly Safety Thursday presentations at Dolton Hall.

The CSJFTC Safety Office works hard to ensure that we have all the information we need to operate safely, both on and off duty, and I strongly urge everyone to attend.

The Education Center is still working hard to support the educational and career needs of the Camp Shelby community, and if you haven’t made your way over to visit with them yet, I encourage you to make the time to do so.

Education is a vitally important part of your career progression, both in civilian and military life, so take full advantage of every benefit that you have earned. Education is a force multiplier, and helps us maintain our well-deserved reputation as the most highly trained and proficient Army in the world!

As always, be the Soldier that others look to for guidance. Know your job and do what is right, all the time, every day.

May God continue to bless you, your Families and all our brothers and sisters in arms, wherever they may be.

“SOLDIERS FIRST!”



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Kenny Hatten, CSJFTC Public Affairs
From left, AmeriCorps NCCC Team Leader Alexander Mace is pulled to the top of an obstacle by his fellow team leaders on the other side of the obstacle’s boundary fence, Ana Rea, Corey Hall-Martin, Julien Hill and Lydia Bootie as part of the Leadership Reaction Course at CSJFTC. Not pictured is Nate Peters.

AmeriCorps group trains at Shelby

By STAFF SGT. KENNY HATTEN
CSJFTC Public Affairs

Team Leaders of the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps campus at Vicksburg put their physical and leadership skills to the test in the Leadership Reaction Course at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center Jan. 26.

“We put our team leaders through a series of challenges to test their reaction times and leadership abilities in the NCCC program,” said Rich Smith, deputy regional director for programming at the Vicksburg campus. “Each of them will be leading a team of AmeriCorps and NCCC members for a 10-month period, so this is part of their month-long preparation process to make sure they’re ready lead a group of individuals, many of whom are their age or close to it, in multiple service projects throughout the southeast United States.”

The AmeriCorps and NCCC team leaders negotiated a series of challenging obstacles at the LRC, each with its own unique set of difficulties that required teamwork and communication to overcome.

“I really enjoyed this because of all the peer feedback we got,” said Ana Rea, of Greenville, Texas. “I’ve never done anything like this before, and it’s definitely physically challenging, but I think every single obstacle that we did incorporated not only the physical but also the mental side of problem solving, which really helped to push us to go above and beyond our own strengths.”

This event marked the first use of Camp Shelby facilities by AmeriCorps and NCCC personnel.

“Camp Shelby is an excellent training ground, and nowhere else can we find facilities like this at very little cost to our organization,” said Smith. “The Camp Shelby staff and Youth Challenge group here have been very hospitable to us and we hope that this will be a lasting partnership.”

The Vicksburg campus of the AmeriCorps and NCCC specializes in projects ranging from disaster response and long-term recovery to working for state parks, Habitat for Humanity, schools and a variety of other organizations and short-term service projects throughout the southeastern United States.

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