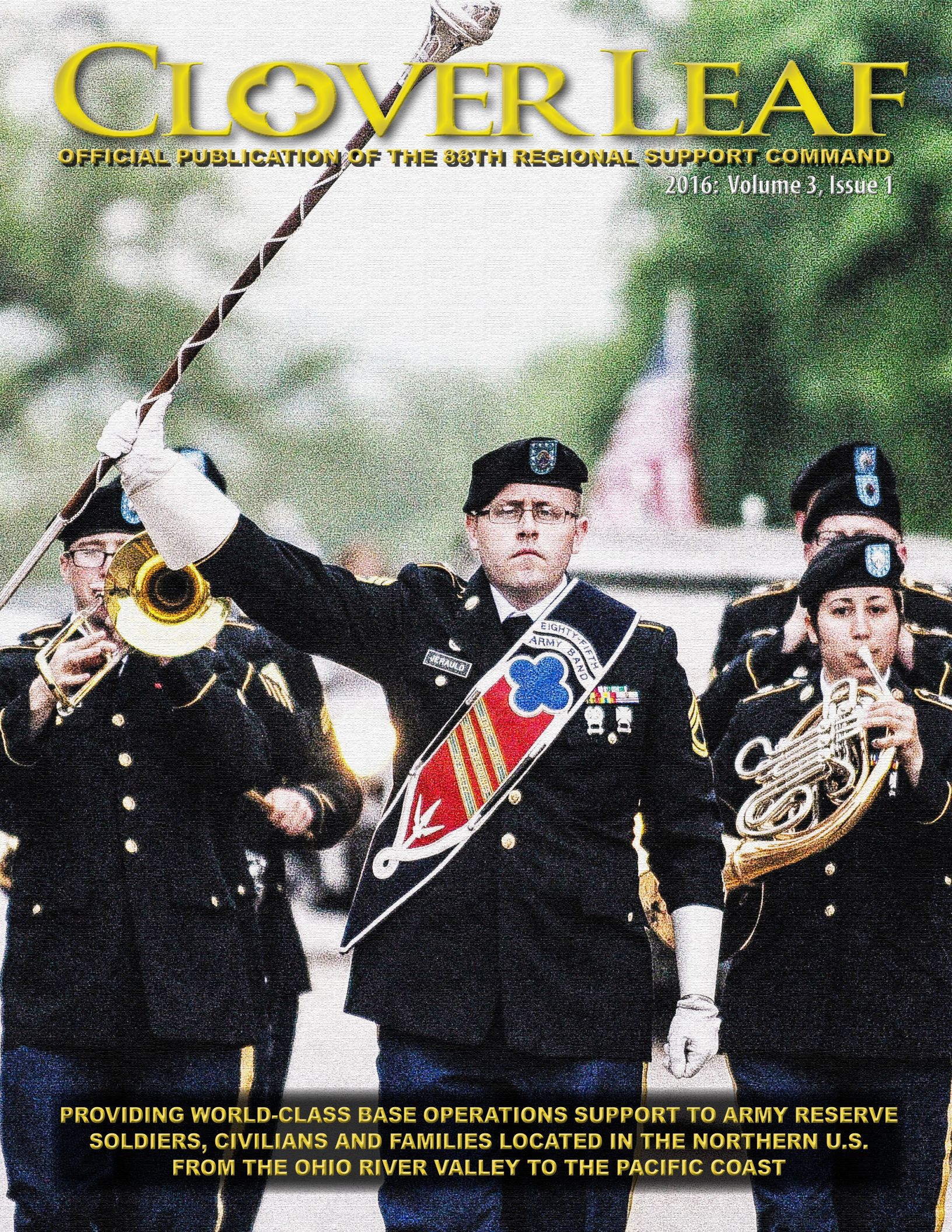


# CLOVER LEAF

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE 88TH REGIONAL SUPPORT COMMAND

2016: Volume 3, Issue 1



PROVIDING WORLD-CLASS BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT TO ARMY RESERVE  
SOLDIERS, CIVILIANS AND FAMILIES LOCATED IN THE NORTHERN U.S.  
FROM THE OHIO RIVER VALLEY TO THE PACIFIC COAST



# CLOVERLEAF CONTENTS

## 4 | 88TH RSC CHANGE OF COMMAND

The 88th RSC bids farewell to Maj. Gen. Karen Ledoux and welcomes in Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert as the new commanding general.

## 6 | 88TH RSC RESOURCE GUIDE 2016

The Resource Guide is designed to give our customers an easy to use guide to services and support the 88th RSC provides in our 19 State Region.

## 8 | 88TH RSC STRIVES FOR EXCELLENCE EVERY DAY

“The point is not to win an award, it is merely a by-product of what we are trying to achieve...”

## 10 | BECOME A FAN OF THE 88TH RSC

Join the more than 11,000 fans already following us on Facebook to stay up to date with the 88th RSC at [www.facebook.com/88RSC](http://www.facebook.com/88RSC).

## 11 | YELLOW RIBBON EVENT A FIRST FOR MANY

“The Yellow Ribbon Program is critical to building and maintaining the resilience of our service members and their families...”

## 12 | DPW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SPECIALISTS

Army Reserve works with Fish and Wildlife Service to conserve Northern Long-Eared Bat.

## 14 | PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

“These events give us a chance to meet with communities who are very interested in keeping the memory of our past presidents alive...”

## 18 | 88TH RSC NEW EQUIPMENT FIELDING FACILITY

The 88th RSC NEFF facilitates training for Soldiers on the Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station, or CROWS.

## 22 | 88TH RSC SUPPORTS MEMORIALIZATION PROGRAM

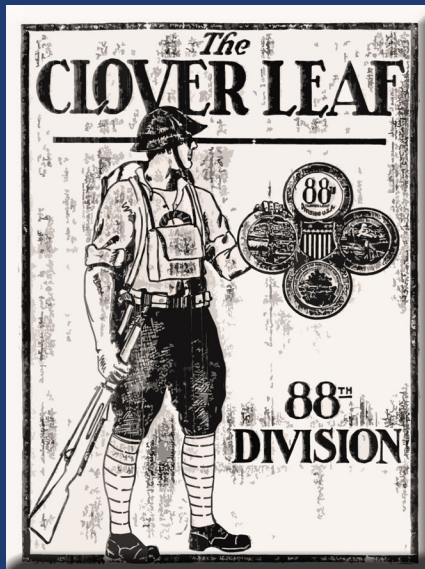
The 88th RSC manages a small, but crucial part in The Army Memorial Program which honors fallen Soldiers by memorializing facilities in their name.

## 26 | 88TH RSC DPW FACILITY COORDINATORS WORKSHOP

Being designated a facility coordinator for an Army Reserve Center can be a daunting task. The 88th RSC DPW makes it easier.

*The 88th RSC is a two-star command which provides services and base operations support to more than 55,000 Army Reserve Soldiers, Families and Civilians serving in 633 units at 278 sites in 345 training facilities dispersed across 19 states in the northern U.S. from the Ohio River Valley to the Pacific Coast.*

(Cover illustration) Sgt. 1st Class Eric Jerauld leads the 85th Army Band as they perform in a Memorial Day parade in downtown Sparta, Wis., May 26, 2014. The 88th RSC coordinates Army Music support to the 19-State region with the command and control of six Army Bands located in seven different locations. The Bands provide music throughout the full spectrum of military operations to instill in our Soldiers the will to fight and win, foster the support of our citizens, and promote our national interests at home and abroad. Photo illustration by Catherine Threat



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
88TH REGIONAL SUPPORT  
COMMAND  
2016 ~ VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

Commanding General  
Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert

Deputy Commanding General  
Col. (P) Stephen E. Strand

Command Sergeant Major  
Command Sgt. Maj. Earl G. Rocca Jr.

Chief of Staff  
Charles C. Hudson

Design, Layout, Editor-In-Chief  
Catherine Threat

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88th Regional Support Command  
Commanding General  
Major General Patrick J. Reinert

The 88th RSC is a fully committed readiness partner which provides best in class services and base operations support for the Army Reserve Soldiers, Civilians, Families and units within the command's 19-state area of responsibility.

Our mission is to ensure our supported units are ready, accessible and available for any contingency to complement the Active Army and Joint Force by providing the necessary human resource services, medical administrative support, funding, physical security, facilities, environmental, training areas, safety, force management, equipment maintenance and storage, and other support services needed.

We are a committed, customer-centric organization that will use every opportunity to listen to and communicate effectively with our customers in order to provide the best possible facilities, programs and services while maximizing the safety and security of the personnel and units in our region. We will be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us and will meet the high priority needs of our customers while eliminating redundancies, mitigating risk, and optimizing return on investments. The 88th RSC is committed to supporting your unit's readiness.

Together we will ensure the Army Reserve is ready to meet any and all global requirements in support of Nation's strategic priorities. Please let us know how we can better serve you.

~Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert

## 28 | PRESIDENT BENJAMIN HARRISON

“President Harrison was a man who showed us what it meant to act with integrity, how to do what was right for the people and the nation...”

## 32 | CIVILIAN HUMANITARIAN SERVICE MEDAL

Kurt St. Martin is awarded for his selfless actions to save a woman's life and help apprehend the man who had just murdered her 11-month-old child.

## 33 | I AM THE FORCE BEHIND THE FIGHT

Take the pledge to be the force behind the fight to eliminate sexual harassment and assault from our community.

## 35 | LEGAL SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE

Legal Support and Assistance for Army Reserve Soldiers and Units is only a click away thanks to USARLC site.

## 36 | ARMY RESERVE AMBASSADORS

Army Reserve Ambassadors provide strategic outreach, advocacy, and advisory support to AR units, Soldiers, and Families.

## 38 | YR CREATES OPPORTUNITY AND CONNECTION

Yellow Ribbon events help service members and loved ones connect with local resources before, during and after deployments.

## 40 | THE 88TH RSC RETIREMENT SERVICE OFFICE

Retirement is a process, not an event. The 88th RSC Retirement Service Team is dedicated to helping you get it right.

## 41 | 88TH RSC LOCAL TRAINING AREAS

Training areas are located throughout the northwest region to provide units with venues to conduct field training closer to home.

## 44 | 88TH RSC PREPARES FOR THE UNEXPECTED

A Continuity of Operations Plan ensures vital functions continue in the event of a natural, manmade or technological disaster.

## 50 | STRONG BONDS VITAL FOR SOLDIERS

The Strong Bonds program aims to increase Soldier and Family readiness through relationship education and skills training.

## 53 | MOTORCYCLE SAFETY COURSES

Rider safety courses are mandatory for Soldiers and free through the 88th RSC Motorcycle Safety Program.

## 54 | PRESIDENT WILLIAM MCKINLEY

The 88th RSC remembers the life and legacy of President William McKinley during an annual wreath laying ceremony.

## 56 | WE STAND UP FOR LIFE

Prevent suicide. It is your responsibility to stand up for your fellow Soldier. No Soldier Stands Alone!

## 58 | THE 88TH RSC NEEDS YOUR FEEDBACK

Please visit our Interactive Customer Evaluation site. Your feedback is critical to our ability to provide you the best service.

## 59 | REGIONAL SUPPORT INDEX

The 88th RSC has many resources to serve you - here are the contact numbers to speak to them directly!



# 88th RSC Change of Command

## Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert Celebrating Two Great Leaders

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Corey L. Beal, 88th RSC Public Affairs

Army Reserve Soldiers and civilians of the 88th Regional Support Command bid farewell to Maj. Gen. Karen Ledoux and welcomed in Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert as their new commanding general during a change of command ceremony on Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, Dec. 4.

you. Thank you to the organization, thank you to the Soldiers, civilians, contractors, and the families who support them to make this country great.

LeDoux, who had served as the 88th RSC commanding general for the past three years, paid tribute to the command's Soldiers and civilians

"Command is always a privilege and commanding the 88th RSC has been my honor," said Ledoux. "Today I am proud to be followed in command by a Soldier's Soldier, Maj. Gen. Patrick Reinert."

"This command is central to creating and sustaining readiness of the 55,000 Soldiers and 633 units in our 19 state region. We are a critical component to readiness – and I know we are up to the challenge."

Reinert took command of the 88th RSC acknowledging the complex world we live in and the necessity to having an Army Reserve which

is ready to answer the nation's call whenever needed.

"This command is central to creating and sustaining readiness of the 55,000 Soldiers and 633 units in our 19 state region," said Reinert. "We are a critical component to readiness – and I know we are up to the challenge."

Reinert concluded by making clear that the 88th RSC's true focus remains

on enabling the U.S. Army Reserve to meet America's requirements at home and abroad.

"Together we can ensure our supported units are ready, accessible and available for any contingency anywhere to complement the active Army and joint force," said Reinert.

"I look forward to meeting this challenge with all of you. All standing orders remain in effect."



Major General Patrick J. Reinert was selected to become the 88th Regional Support Command Commanding General on 4 December 2015. He began his military career as a ROTC scholarship cadet at Iowa State University in 1979. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. As a distinguished military graduate, Major General Reinert was commissioned in 1983 as a military intelligence officer. He also holds a Law degree from the University of Iowa.



Maj. Gen. Peter Lennon, U.S. Army Reserve commanding general for support, presided over the ceremony and served as the continuity of leadership between the outgoing and incoming commanders during the symbolic passing of the colors.

Today is a day we celebrate two great leaders – we celebrate an organization, we celebrate our country," said Lennon. "It's also a day to say thank

who have made it successful.

"During my tenure as the 88th RSC commander, I have truly been blessed to be surrounded by such energetic, focused and proficient leaders, civilians and Soldiers," said Ledoux. "Any achievement that I have had is due to your hard work and efforts – and it has truly been my pleasure to serve together and enable readiness for our Army Reserve units."



Maj. Gen. Peter Lennon, U.S. Army Reserve commanding general for support, speaks to the friends, families, civilians and Soldiers of the 88th Regional Support Command during a change of command ceremony on Fort McCoy, Wis., Dec. 4. "Today is a day we celebrate two great leaders – we celebrate an organization, we celebrate our country," said Lennon.

(Photo Above) Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert, the new commanding general of the 88th Regional Support Command, speaks to the friends, families, civilians and Soldiers of the organization during a change of command ceremony on Fort McCoy, Wis., Dec. 4. Reinert took command of the 88th RSC acknowledging the complex world we live in and the necessity to having an Army Reserve which is ready to answer the nation's call whenever needed. "This command is central to creating and sustaining readiness of the 55,000 Soldiers and 633 units in our 19-state region," said Reinert. "We are a critical component to readiness, and I know we are up to the challenge."



Here's how we Support You!



*Bringing to you the very best in class services and base operations support in the Northern U.S. from the Ohio River Valley to the Pacific Coast.*

This Resource Guide is designed to give you - our customers - an easy to use guide to the vast array of class services and base operations support which the 88th Re-gional Support Command provides in our 19 State Region. In the following pages you will find key resources categorized into 10 chap-ters: Administrative Services; Community Outreach; Environmental Responsibility Equipment Support and Services; Facility Management; Functional Training; Honor-ing our Fallen; Medical Programs; Safety and

**The Resource Guide gives our customers an easy to use guide to services and base operations support we offer.**

Occupational Health; and Special Pro-grams and Services. In an effort to make these resources more accessible, we have included all proper points-of-contact, e-mail address-es, phone numbers, and web sites. Additionally, we have included a chap-ter with an overview of the 88th RSC to provide you our organization's guiding principles. All of this has been done to fulfill our ob-ligation to those we serve and honor our social obligations as stewards of sacred resources. <https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/28949>

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# Army Communities Of Excellence

## Winning is Not the Goal 88th Strives for Excellence Every Day

Story and photos by Catherine Threat, 88th RSC Public Affairs

The 88th Regional Support Command conducted an Army Communities of Excellence Organizational Assessment Course based on the Baldrige Excellence Framework at RSC headquarters, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, Feb. 1-5. Dr. James Foot, senior analyst/strategic planner, Army National Guard Business Transformation Office, instructed more than twenty-five 88th RSC personnel from the headquarters, RPACs, AMSA and ECS shops.

By using criteria established for the Malcom Baldrige National Quality Award as a framework for performance assessment, the ACOE program helps participating Army installations and organizations focus on providing excellence in facilities and services in support of Soldiers, Families, and Civilians. Baldrige-based performance assessments provide opportunities to identify best practices in installation management and reveal potential opportunities to apply appropriate performance improvement tools.

“The use of a fact based criteria such as the Baldrige

Framework for Performance Excellence frames the basic business model for the 88th RSC,” Foot said. “It is critically important for all levels of the organization to understand this business model in order to contribute to its continuous improvement.

Bringing individuals from different levels and different areas serves to connect them and their organizations to the 88th RSC enterprise and to help them understand and hopefully appreciate business decisions that are made at higher levels. It is somewhat like bringing parts of a puzzle together to help them develop a clearer picture of the 88th and how they fit into that picture,” said Foot.

ACOE Awards, which have been presented since 1989, are given annually to the Army installations scoring highest in the Army Communities of Excellence competition.

Thomas Helgeson, 88th RSC DPW deputy director and ACOE program manager, spoke to attendees Thur. morning, pointing out that winning an award wasn’t the only goal.



Thomas Helgeson, 88th RSC DPW deputy director and ACOE program manager, speaks at an Army Communities of Excellence Organizational Assessment Course at the 88th RSC headquarters, Fort McCoy, Wis., Feb. 1-5., pointing out that winning an award isn’t the only goal. “The point is not to win an award,” Helgeson says, “it is merely a by-product of what we are trying to achieve.” Helgeson states that everyone can effect change. “Process improvements don’t just effect ACOE results,” Helgeson says, “they can save lives, I’ve seen it.”



“The point is not to win an award,” Helgeson said, “it is merely a by-product of what we are trying to achieve.”

Helgeson went on to state that everyone could effect change.

“Process improvements don’t just effect ACOE results,” Helgeson said, “they can save lives, I’ve seen it.”

ACOE packets can be submitted every year, but organizations can only win the completion in non-consecutive years. The 88th RSC has won The Army Communities of Excellence Award for 2011, 2013 and 2015.

“The submission of the packet on “off” years is important for multiple reasons,” Helgeson said. “First, as the packet is evaluated, we receive valuable feedback on both our Opportunities For Improvement or OFI’s and our strengths.

This feedback is provided by the same Baldrige/ACOE Criteria trained evaluators who select the overall winners each year, so we place a high value on their comments. By incorporating this feedback into our processes, we make ourselves better each year. It has never really been about winning, it’s about systematically improving our processes, resulting in our organization remaining the “best in class”.

It also keeps us in tune with the annual changes in the criteria and hones our ability to document our successes in the application. Every year there are subtle changes in what evaluators like to see in our packet and by annually submitting a packet, we keep our writing skills sharp.

Winning the competition is also important because it provides the tangible evidence that we are indeed continuously improving,” Helgeson said.

Win or lose however, I’m really proud to be part of an organization that is focused on being the best provider of BASOPs services in the Army Reserve.”



88th RSC personnel from the headquarters, RPACs, AMSA and ECS shops create process maps to identify new ways of assessing and improving existing processes during an Army Communities of Excellence Organizational Assessment Course at Fort McCoy, Wis., Feb. 1-5.

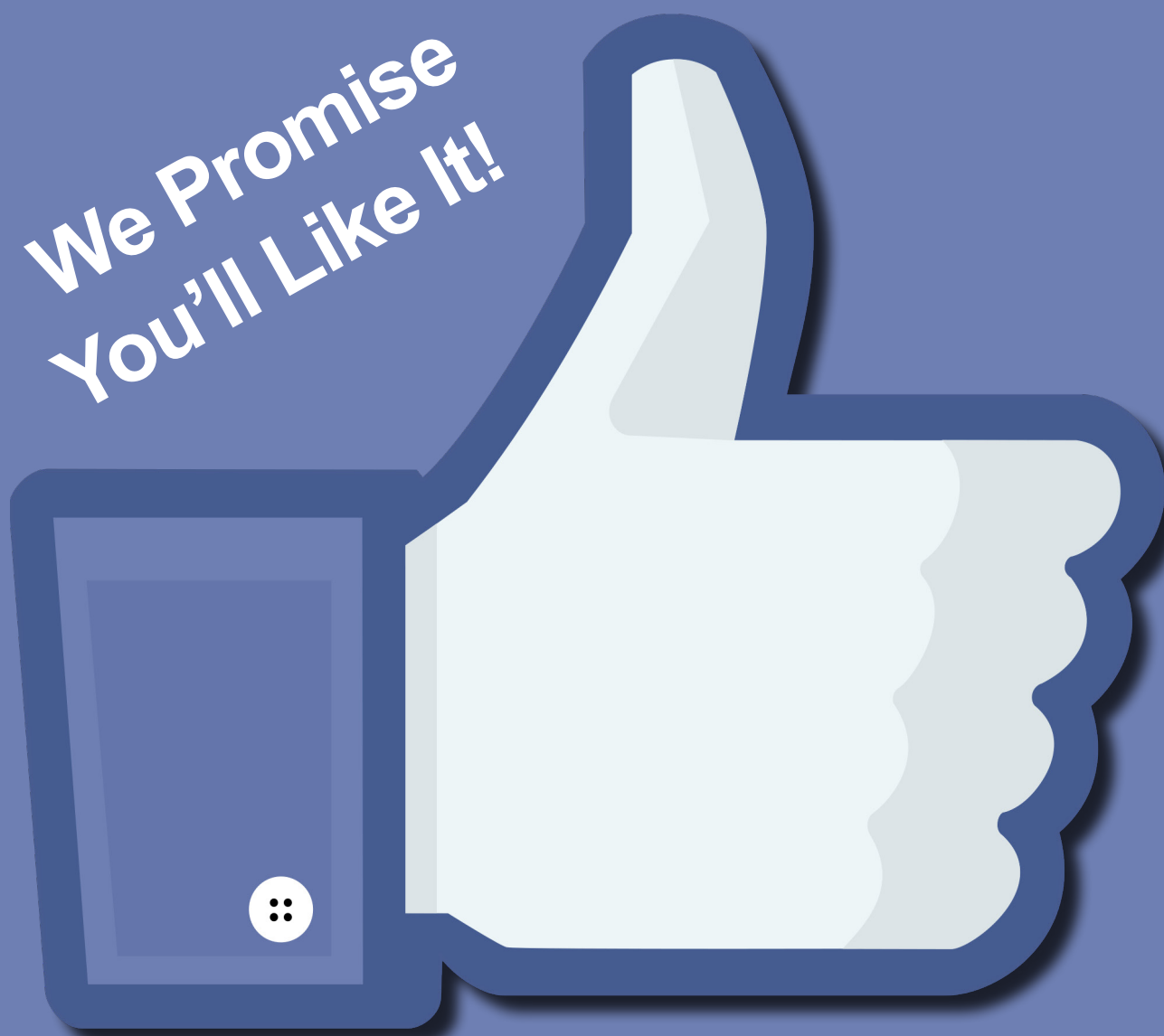
(Photo Below) Dr. James Foot, senior analyst/strategic planner, Army National Guard Business Transformation Office, instructs more than twenty-five 88th RSC personnel during an Army Communities of Excellence Organizational Assessment Course at the 88th RSC headquarters, Fort McCoy, Wis., Feb. 1-5.





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## Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program

### A First Time Event for Many 88th RSC New CG Welcomes Soldiers

Story and photos by Catherine Threat,  
88th RSC Public Affairs

The 88th Regional Support Command hosted more than 400 Army Reserve Soldiers representing 13 Army Reserve Units from 17 States, one Air National Guard Unit, and their Family members at a Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Event held in downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota, Feb. 5-7, 2016.

This event also supported the pre-deployment phase for Quartermaster Units belonging to the 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, based in Des Moines, Iowa, who are preparing for a deployment later this year.

Events like these are significant service members and their Families who may not understand the wide scope of information, services, referrals, and outreach opportunities available throughout the entire deployment cycle.

Scott Welch, 88th RSC Yellow Ribbon Program operation manager, stated that many of the service members were attending a Yellow Ribbon for the first time.

"This event was unique in that many attendees were very young and first time deployers," Welch said. "The resources at the event were well received as attendees were engaged in learning everything they could to help them and their families prepare for their upcoming mission."

"Knowing there is a support system for them and their families before, during and after deployment helps alleviate some of the stress of being away and allows them to focus on the mission, knowing we will be here for



The 88th Regional Support Command Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Event attendees receive Welcome Packets as they check-in at the event in Minneapolis, Minn., Feb. 5, 2016. The packets include staff contact information, training class schedules, information and guidance on services such as youth activities, travel and hotel reservations, and what to do in case of an emergency or illness. Maj. Gen. Patrick Reinert also includes a personal greeting to service members and their families.

them when they return," continued Welch.

In addition to the training, more than 40 Yellow Ribbon Community Partners were on hand to offer assistance and information to participants. These included representatives of multiple military resources, as well as employers and colleges.

**"Resilient  
Soldiers and  
families are the  
backbone of a  
strong Army."**

The 88th RSC also welcomed Minnesota Army Reserve Ambassadors, Thomas Haugo and James Lundell. Army Reserve Ambassadors work to build a bridge between the ser-

vice members and the communities in which they live. Being on hand to speak with attendees provided an opportunity to gain direct insight into the concerns and needs of service members and their families.

Maj. Gen. Patrick Reinert, new 88th RSC commanding general, attended the event to speak with service members and their families, and observed his team for the first time.

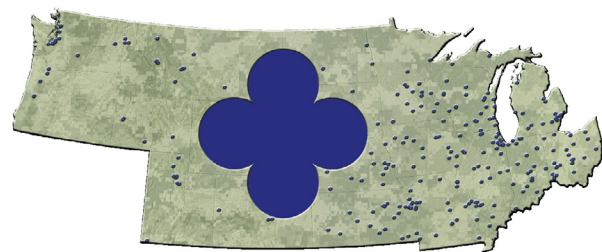
"Watching my organization in action was a great feeling," Reinert said. "We have an experienced Yellow Ribbon staff that works hard to ensure service members and their families get the tools and resources needed through every step of the deployment process."

"The Yellow Ribbon Program is critical to building and maintaining the resilience of our service members and their families. Resilient Soldiers and families are the backbone of a strong Army," said Reinert.





## 88th RSC DPW



# 88th RSC Directorate of Public Works Environmental Protection Specialists

*Article by Jonelle Kimbrough, Communications Coordinator, Army Reserve Sustainability Programs and Veronda Johnson, Environmental Protection Specialist, Army Reserve Command*

Bats are critical to our nation's ecology and economy. They consume tons of insects every night and pollinate numerous food plants, thus providing a natural benefit to farmers, foresters and consumers. In fact, some research indicates that bats provide at least \$3 billion in economic value annually. However, a deadly disease is decimating populations of the northern long-eared Bat (NLEB) in the United States and prompting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to protect these important creatures. As a federal entity, the Army Reserve is also tasked with their conservation – a responsibility that the 88th Regional Support Command is heeding to protect military operations as well as our flying friends.

The NLEB is found in several Army Reserve regions, primarily in the 88th and 99th RSCs and in a more limited range in the 81st and

63rd RSCs. It is also one of the seven bat species impacted by white-nose syndrome, a fungal disease that has caused the deaths of millions of bats in the northeast. Some affected bat populations have experienced a 99 percent mortality rate.

Due to significant population declines caused by the spread of white-nose syndrome throughout the United States and Canada, the USFWS announced that it is protecting the NLEB as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973.

The presence of threatened and endangered species on military installations can have potentially major impacts on the environment and the mission. Species losses can cause devastating ecological imbalances, and "significant use restrictions could be applied by the USFWS and enforced under the ESA if the 88th RSC is not compliant

with federal laws" surrounding these species, explained Marshal Braman, an environmental protection specialist and Versar contractor with the 88th RSC.

In an effort to prevent those restrictions, the 88th RSC completed an informal Section 7 consultation for Indiana bats with the USFWS, which resulted in the 2013 preparation and approval of an Endangered Species Management Component (ESMC). In the ESMC, which was revised last year to include the NLEB, the Army Reserve determined and the USFWS concurred that military operations "may affect but are not likely to adversely affect" bat populations. Military training, aircraft operations and recreation are covered for all locations. Other activities including the use of smoke or obscurants, forest management, prescribed burning, pest management and construction also continue but with

the implementation of conservation measures that will prevent "take" of the NLEB, which is defined by the ESA as "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect any endangered species."

Fortunately, white-nose syndrome has not yet been detected throughout the entire range of the NLEB. And, bats and Soldiers have been living in harmony thus far. "Most training activities are on different time schedules from the bats, so there is minimal potential interaction," Braman commented. Bats are most active at dawn and dusk and during

the night, but nearly all training normally occurs during the day.

In the event that a NLEB roost tree is encountered on the training area, Soldiers are to identify its location, immediately cease all activities within a 150 foot radius of the tree and report their observations to natural resources personnel, who will then provide direction regarding continued activities, use of the immediate area and subsequent actions.

"The 88th RSC will follow the established measures outlined in the ESMC to avoid potential impacts to the bats and maintain suitable habitat

for their continued use," Braman said.

The Army is considered a leader in the efforts to protect our natural world and the rare plants, insects and animals with whom we share our military installations.

The programmatic approach between the USFWS and the 88th RSC to protect a once common bat can serve as a model for future actions, and it will ensure the protection of wide-range species and the conservation of the lands and resources that directly support the men and women who defend our freedom.

## Army Reserve works with Fish and Wildlife Service to conserve Northern Long-Eared Bat



*(Photo Above) The northern long-eared bat is found in the United States from Maine to North Carolina on the Atlantic Coast, westward to eastern Oklahoma and north through the Dakotas, even reaching into eastern Montana and Wyoming. In Canada it is found from the Atlantic Coast westward to the southern Yukon Territory and eastern British Columbia.*



# Presidential Wreathlaying

## Army Reserve joins local communities to celebrate Americas Past presidents

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Corey Beal, 88th RSC Public Affairs



In the 1930's, President Franklin D. Roosevelt began the practice of having military representatives place wreaths on his behalf at the tombs of past presidents located outside the Washington area.

This tradition continues today as designated commands join communities across the country for annual Presidential Wreath Laying Ceremonies. The Army Reserve is responsible for supporting seven of these ceremonies, six of which are carried out by the 88th Regional Support Command.

Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford, deputy commanding general of the 88th RSC, has officiated 12 events and said they provide us a very unique and

rewarding opportunity to connect with the community.

"These events give us a chance to meet with communities who are very interested in keeping the memory of our past presidents alive, because all of them are tremendous local heroes," said Bassford.

"It's really a unique opportunity to get out to meet some of the folks in our communities and represent the Army Reserve."

The six presidential wreath laying ceremonies supported by the 88th RSC include Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis; Rutherford B. Hayes in Fremont, Ohio; Warren G. Harding in Marion, Ohio; James A. Garfield in Cleveland, Ohio; William McKinley

in Canton, Ohio; and William Henry Harrison in North Bend, Ohio.

In addition to providing a general officer to represent the President, the 88th RSC also coordinates for a chaplain to perform the opening prayer and a musician to play taps.

Staff Sgt. Dave Lambermont of the 338th Army Band, has attended nearly a dozen Presidential Wreath Laying Ceremonies to perform taps.

"When I first started doing them, I was always surprised at the number of people that turned out for the ceremonies," said Lambermont.

"I think it is great that these communities have come together to maintain the monuments, honor the past presidents, and celebrate their



history."

Each of the wreath laying ceremonies are organized within the community by a different local foundation, historical society or hosting cemetery. This variance has given each event its own distinctive characteristics which are indicative of the president and people who organize the events.

For example, the wreath laying ceremony for President Garfield is very formal and takes place at his cathedral style monument in Cleveland's historic Lake View Cemetery. It hosts local residents, elected officials, members of several societies and foundations, as well as direct decedents of President Garfield.

In contrast, the wreath laying ceremony for President William Henry Harrison takes place at his final resting place in the small village of North Bend. His ceremony has become the town's largest event of the year which hosts more than 200 people who conduct a half mile procession from the municipal building to the memorial which is located on a hilltop overlooking the Ohio River.

Event participants include the local community, Sheriff Honor Guard, high school Band, VFW, Knights of

Columbus, Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, re-enactors, and Cub Scouts.

"Every ceremony we go to is a very

**"These are not just events to lay a wreath or celebrate our past presidents. They are an opportunity for us to join together to remember and celebrate our history as a nation."**

big deal in that community," said Bassford, "so the chance to come out and meet those people with a love for

history and their past president and to be a part of that if only for a little bit, is certainly the most rewarding part of the mission."

Of the Presidents annually honored by the 88th RSC, many have become footnotes in popular history due to the passage of time or the shortness of their presidency. According to Bassford, this can require a love for American history and much research in order to give a meaningful tribute rather than simply reciting his biography.

"There is a tremendous amount of value in our history - and to be able to do a wreath laying ceremony properly you need to know something about the person you are memorializing," said Bassford. "On a personal level, it is wonderful to learn the history of some of our past presidents who may have become a little less known over the years."

There is no better example of this than our ninth president whom Bassford payed tribute to at his memorial on Feb 5.

"If you ask the man on the street, he will tell you William Henry Harrison is the president who died 32 days into his presidency from pneumonia that he caught at his inauguration," Bassford said to the crowd. "But there

*(Photo Above) Army Reserve Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford and Maj. Scott Hagen, chaplain, of the 88th Regional Support Command render honors to President William H. Harrison during a wreath laying ceremony at his memorial site in North Bend, Ohio, Feb. 5, 2016. This event is one of six presidential wreath laying ceremonies which the 88th RSC is responsible for supporting annually on behalf of the President. "These events give us a chance to meet with communities who are very interested in keeping the memory of our past presidents alive, because all of them are tremendous local heroes," said Bassford. "It's really a unique opportunity to get out to meet some of the folks in our communities and represent the Army Reserve."*



was much, much more to the man than a month as president.”

“His life was filled with all manner of accomplishments and service which helped shape the nation,” continued Bassford. “ ... any of us would be delighted to do half as well with our lives. The man, then cannot be defined by his presidency any more than any of you can be defined solely by what you did last month.”

Lambermont was on hand for this year’s William Harrison wreath laying ceremony to play taps. This was his third time supporting the event and said that his appreciation for the ceremony and what it represents has grown deeply over the years.

“The first time I played the William Henry Harrison ceremony near

Cincinnati I thought, ‘why are all these people here, he was only president for a month?,’” said Lambermont. “I learned that for these communities it’s really a chance to celebrate the history of the community itself.”

Beyond the honor of representing the President or paying tribute to our former presidents, Bassford said it has been a privilege to join communities in celebrating our history which should not be forgotten.

“These are not just events to lay a wreath or celebrate our past presidents,” said Bassford, “they are an opportunity for us to join together to remember and celebrate our history as a nation.”

**The six presidential wreath laying ceremonies supported by the 88th RSC include Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis; Rutherford B. Hayes in Fremont, Ohio; Warren G. Harding in Marion, Ohio; James A. Garfield in Cleveland, Ohio; William McKinley in Canton, Ohio; and William Henry Harrison in North Bend Ohio.**

*(Photo Below) Members of the community, history enthusiasts, elected officials, and students of the local high school walk a half-mile procession from the North Bend Municipal Building to President William H. Harrison’s Memorial during a wreath ceremony in North Bend, Ohio, Feb. 5, 2016. “These events give us a chance to meet with communities who are very interested in keeping the memory of our past presidents alive, because all of them are tremendous local heroes,” said Bassford. “It’s really a unique opportunity to get out to meet some of the folks in our communities and represent the Army Reserve.”*



*(Photo Above) Army Reserve Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford and Maj. Scott Hagen, chaplain, of the 88th Regional Support Command render honors to President William H. Harrison during a wreath laying ceremony at his memorial site in North Bend, Ohio, Feb. 5, 2016. This event is one of six presidential wreath laying ceremonies which the 88th RSC is responsible for supporting annually on behalf of the President.*





# 88th RSC NEFF

## New Equipment Fielding Facility

### facilitates training and ensures readiness

Story by Catherine Threat, 88th RSC Public Affairs

The 88th Regional Support Command's New Equipment Fielding Facility hosted Soldiers from the 200th MP Command and the 416th Engineer Command during a Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station Materiel Fielding and Training exercise which included a familiarization fire at Fort McCoy, Wis., April 21st.

The familiarization fire was part of Tank-automotive and Armaments Command's Operator New Equipment Training for Soldiers on the operation of this weapon platform to establish the operational readiness of units receiving CROWS.

Staff Sgt. Jay Schafer, 469th Engineer Company out of Dodgeville, Wis., has been a combat engineer for 20 years

and attended the training along with Soldiers from his company.

**"The facilities are capable of completing all actions for the Total Package Fielding of an item or system."**

"We are getting a CROWS system for our company," Schafer said, "so they sent five NCOs to this class to train the trainer and so far it's

spot on training. The instructors for this system are well trained, well traversed in the system itself and the guys picked us up pretty quick. Any questions at all, they answer them. I would recommend this class to anyone," said Schafer.

The 88th RSC NEFF, along with TACOM trainers and Ft. McCoy range personnel, coordinated on this mission to ensure the Soldiers and their units are prepared for every aspect of taking on this new weapons platform. From equipment storage to range access, every detail of the coordination adds to Soldier readiness and mission success.

"The facility here at Ft. McCoy is wonderful because they have really upgraded the ranges over the last 15-



Soldiers from the 200th Military Police Command and the 416th Engineer Command arriving for a Material Fielding and Training familiarization fire at Fort McCoy, Wis., April 21. Tank-automotive and Armaments Command is conducting Operator New Equipment Training on the operation of this weapon platform. The 88th Regional Support Command New Equipment Fielding Facility receives the CROWS equipment, facilitates the training with space and resources, prepares vehicles for installation of the weapon platform and facilitates the hand off of the equipment to the unit.



20 years," said Schafer. "So this is a great asset to us as a training post for our mission, especially being combat engineers. It's pretty much the only place we can come to perform our mission tasks, and all the equipment was here and ready to go," Schafer stated.

The 88th RSC NEFF role included receiving the equipment, facilitating the training with space and resources, preparing vehicles for installation of the weapon platform and facilitating the hand off of the equipment to the unit.

Bryan Witherow, 88th RSC NEFF Equipment Transition Site Manager, explains the role of the NEFF in supporting units.

"The facilities are capable of completing all actions for the Total Package Fielding of an item or system," Witherow said. "These

facilities are used to receive, process, store, train, transfer and ship equipment to the gaining units or their identified permanent storage facility."

Bryan also stated that the 88th RSC has two NEFF sites, Ft. McCoy, Wis. and Ogden, Utah.

"They currently service a 24 state region, including states in the 63rd RSC region," said Witherow. "This encompasses over 1300 units directly supported over the last six years." Witherow said.

A U.S. Army Reserve Memorandum on the benefits of NEFF sites stated: It is critical that we continue to utilize these sites when New Equipment Training or bulk equipment fieldings are associated with the fielding of modernized equipment. This is a unique cost to the AR that offers many other benefits and saving costs

that may otherwise be unrecognized.

Cost savings, behind the scenes consolidation of efforts and resources, and long term logistics strategies may go unnoticed by Soldiers, but they are vital for long term continued readiness.

"Soldiers show up for training," Witherow said. "We give them the equipment and the space to use it and the Soldiers take it from there. The 88th RSC NEFF's role isn't always apparent as they go through training. Our support ensures Soldiers can focus on their mission," Witherow said.

The effects of these efforts do not go unnoticed by the 88th RSC, Ft. McCoy or the U.S. Army Reserve, who work together to ensure our Soldiers and units have the tools and skills they need for readiness- today and in the future.

(Photo Above) Soldiers from the 200th Military Police Command and the 416th Engineer Command assemble the Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station, CROWS, during a Material Fielding and Training familiarization fire at Fort McCoy, Wis., April 21. Tank-automotive and Armaments Command is conducting Operator New Equipment Training on the operation of this weapon platform. The 88th Regional Support Command New Equipment Fielding Facility receives the CROWS equipment, facilitates the training with space and resources, prepares vehicles for installation of the weapon platform and facilitates the hand off of the equipment to the unit.



Soldiers from the 200th Military Police Command and the 416th Engineer Command arriving for a Material Fielding and Training familiarization fire at Fort McCoy, Wis., April 21. Tank-automotive and Armaments Command is conducting Operator New Equipment Training on the operation of this weapon platform. The 88th Regional Support Command New Equipment Fielding Facility receives the CROWS equipment, facilitates the training with space and resources, prepares vehicles for installation of the weapon platform and facilitates the hand off of the equipment to the unit.





# 88th RSC Supports

## Army Memorilization Program

### to honor heroes and inspire communities

Story by Catherine Threat, 88th RSC Public Affairs, photos and captions by Capt. Sean Delpech, 310th ESC Public Affairs



The 88th Regional Support Command manages a small, but crucial part in The Army Memorial Program which honors fallen Soldiers by memorializing facilities in their name. It also has a responsibility to Soldiers, families, units and communities to stay true to the purpose of the program.

The Army Memorial Program, Army Regulation 1-33, states “The memorial program is designed to – (1) Honor deceased heroes and other deceased distinguished men and women of all races in our society. (2) Present them as inspirations to their fellow Soldiers, employees, and other citizens.”

The 88th RSC Public Affairs Office is the primary point of contact for memorialization instructions, packet templates and submission procedures

for facilities that fall within the 88th RSC’s 19-state region.

The memorialization packet process is simple, but a packet can be

**“You are not simply naming a facility - you are honoring a hero and inspiring a community.”**

complicated to complete. It takes a dedicated facility commander, a diligent action officer and a supportive community.

The process begins by contacting

the 88th RSC PAO. You will receive a packet containing The Army Memorial Program AR 1-33, the 88th RSC Letter of Instruction (LOI), a checklist, sample memos, and the memorialization packet template. Detailed instructions are laid out in the LOI, but there are some important steps to highlight.

Facility Commanders are the lead for memorialization nomination selection, packet completion, submission and subsequent ceremonies. They, or an appointed action officer, actively solicit input from all units in the center and their chain of command, as well as members of the local community to include elected officials, civic and veteran organization leaders, and Army Reserve Ambassadors. This ensures the most outstanding candidates are nominated.

Most importantly, the primary next of kin of the fallen Soldier must grant permission for their love one to be nominated. The family is the heart of the effort, not just another step in the process. The process of nomination should always involve conversation and connection between the family, the facility and the community.

Nominations generally develop organically within the community and the units that occupy the facility. Communities, whether they are military communities on an installation or civilian communities that surround a Reserve center where Soldiers drill monthly, build a relationship of support around Soldiers and their families.

It is this relationship that creates the foundation of a nomination. The family, the unit, and the community come together in a shared loss to honor a hero and establish a legacy.

When a nomination is finalized, a packet must then be completed for submission. More than one Soldier can be nominated for a shared me-

morialization of a single facility, but separate packets must be completed for each nominee. Completing a packet can take anywhere from three months to more than a year. Once the packet is complete, it is submitted to our office for review and staffing.

The 88th RSC public affairs office accepts completed memorialization packets for submission and holds a review board to determine whether a packet meets criteria and is complete and accurate. We then staff the completed packet to the appropriate approval authority.

If your facility is an Army Reserve Center not located on a military installation, the 88th RSC commanding general is the final approval authority. For all other situations, refer to the regulation to determine final approval authority, or contact our office for guidance.

Once the approval memo has been signed by the final approval authority, the facility commander coordinates with the 88th RSC Directorate of Public Works to order, deliver and install

the memorialization plaque. The 88th RSC PAO will provide the current contacts for this coordination. Dates for memorialization ceremonies are set by the facility commander after coordination with DPW is complete. Facility commanders are responsible for memorialization ceremony planning and arrangement.

The memorialization process takes dedication. It can become a blur of paperwork and steps in a process, but the purpose should not get lost along the way. You are not simply naming a facility - you are honoring a hero and inspiring a community.

**For more information, please contact Catherine Threat, 88th RSC Chief, Public Affairs at:**

[catherine.e.threat.civ@mail.mil](mailto:catherine.e.threat.civ@mail.mil)

**or  
608-388-0336**



(Photo Opposite Page) Soldiers from the 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) hold a shadow box, poster, uniform and the plaque for the memorialization of the new Spc. Luke P. Frist Army Reserve Center, May 16, 2015, Indianapolis. (Above Photo) Brig. Gen. Michael Dillard, commanding general of the 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), speaks at the memorialization of the new Spc. Luke P. Frist Army Reserve Center, 16 May, 2015, Indianapolis. The Army renamed the Fort Benjamin Harrison Army Reserve Center in honor of Spc. Luke P. Frist, who died Jan. 5, 2004, of wounds sustained during an IED and small arms fire attack outside of Ar-Ramadi, Iraq. Full story can be found at:



***“It is truly an honor to remember brave Soldiers like Spc. Frist, and to be able to dedicate a permanent structure for the world to see.”***

*~ Brig. Gen. Michael Dillard, commanding general, 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)*



*Army Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. Levi G. Maynard, senior enlisted advisor of the 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) (left), Brig. Gen. Michael Dillard, commanding general of the 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) (center left), Master Sgt. Brian L. Matherly, of the 310th Sustainment Command, (center), Patti Frist (center right), and Dennis Frist (right), parents of Spc. Luke P. Frist, perform the ribbon cutting during the Memorialization and opening of the Spc. Luke P. Frist Army Reserve Center, May 16, 2015, Indianapolis. During the event, the Army renamed the Fort Benjamin Harrison Army Reserve Center in honor of Spc. Luke P. Frist, who died Jan. 5, 2004 of wounds sustained during an IED and small arms fire attack outside of Ar-Ramadi, Iraq.*

*(Photos and captions by Capt. Sean Delpech, 310th ESC Public Affairs, Full story can be found at: [https://www.dvidshub.net/news/164351/memorialization-spc-luke-p-frist-army-reserve-center-fort-benjamin-harrison-ind#\\_VyEVPnqOkFE](https://www.dvidshub.net/news/164351/memorialization-spc-luke-p-frist-army-reserve-center-fort-benjamin-harrison-ind#_VyEVPnqOkFE))*



# 88th RSC DPW Conducts Facility Coordinators Workshop

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Corey Beal, 88th RSC Public Affairs



Being designated a facility coordinator as an additional duty for an Army Reserve Center can be a daunting task. To help make it easier, the 88th Regional Support Command conducted a Facility Coordinators Workshop at its headquarters on Fort McCoy, Wis., April 5-6.

Bud Berendes, the acting lead of the 88th RSC Department of Public Works' Plans Division, led the workshop which is aimed at improving the performance and knowledge of coordinators throughout the command's

19 state area-of-responsibility in the northwest region.

The workshop included presentations on facility operations, information management, safety, security, logistics, real property boards, opening and closing of facilities, environmental compliance, service contracts, stationing actions, and work order processes. In addition to the presentations, participants were provided the opportunity to ask questions to all the staff leads in an open forum at the end of each day.

"What we've done with this course

is try to make it easier on all of our facility coordinators by providing information and tools, answering questions, and introducing all the points of contact," said Berendes. "We do this so they can get what they need when situations arise, handle it themselves, or be able to get the right help needed when it's needed."

Facility coordinators are often the first ones confronted when issues arise and the starting point for their resolution through the 88th RSC. This is a necessity due to the 88th RSC's logistical constraints of limited

staff and the vast number of facilities supported.

"The 88th RSC is responsible for facilities at 277 different locations which total more than 10 million square footage of buildings and almost 8,000 acres of land," said Berendes. "Managing that much infrastructure from Fort McCoy is a fairly daunting task - so we rely heavily on facility coordinators to communicate with us and our staff in the field to get issues resolved."

According to Berendes, Army Reserve Units in the northwest region can essentially think of the 88th RSC DPW as their landlord who is ready and willing to help. Facility coordinators are the ones who let the landlord know what needs to be fixed.

"If you have a broken window - we will fix it, you have a broken lock - we will fix it. If you have a problem with your neighbors - we will attempt to fix it," said Berendes. "So just like if you were renting a home, if you are occupying an 88th RSC facility, we are your landlord and we are going to help you make sure that facility runs as smoothly as we can."

The 88th RSC would not be able to manage all of its Army Reserve Centers without the work of facility coordinators. For this we are very grateful, said Berendes.

**"If you have a broken window - we will fix it, you have a broken lock - we will fix it. So just like if you were renting a home, if you are occupying an 88th RSC facility, we are your landlord and we are going to help you make sure that facility runs as smoothly as we can."**

"We realize here that being a facility coordinator is an added duty," continued Berendes. "You don't get paid any more to do it. There is no glory in it and we know it can be a pain, but it's an important person to have in the field because we do not have the staff to visit facilities every day. So that falls on you guys and we are deeply appreciative of everything you do."

**Facility Coordinator Workshops are held by the 88th RSC throughout the year. If you would like to attend a workshop, please contact SGT Nicholas Champagne, 88th RSC DPW at:**

**[nicholas.c.champagne.mil@mail.mil](mailto:nicholas.c.champagne.mil@mail.mil)**



Lt. Col. Michael Ryan (foreground), chief of plans for the Directorate of Public Works, 88th Regional Support Command, listens as a facility coordinator (standing left) introduces himself during the opening session of the Facility Coordinator Course at Fort McCoy, Jan. 21. The course was designed to broaden the knowledge of coordinators throughout the 88th RSC area of responsibility and help them better serve their facilities.



# 88th RSC Remembers President Benjamin Harrison with Presidential Wreathlaying Ceremony

Story and photos by Alun Thomas, 88th RSC Public Affairs



The life of President Benjamin Harrison was honored during a wreath laying ceremony at his memorial site at Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, Aug. 15.

The event was attended by local dignitaries, the Crossroads of America Scout Band, the Indiana Sons of the American Revolution and relatives of the President.

Attending the ceremony on behalf of the 88th Regional Support Command was Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford, deputy commanding general, who along with

Capt. Andrew Ramey, chaplain, 801st Combat Support Hospital, laid a wreath on behalf of President Barack Obama.

During his speech Bassford said as 23rd president of the United States from 1889-1893, Harrison professionalized the federal civil service, making it a more equitable and fair system.

"When Benjamin Harrison spoke at his inauguration, he promised to base his selection of federal appointees on merit and on character," Bassford said.

"Political party affiliation was not going to be the sole basis for hiring."

Bassford said Harrison lived up to his promise and did exactly what he said he intended to.

"Rather than go along with the party bosses who had seen him elected and put into position their hand-picked loyalists, he rejected their pre-prepared lists of friends and relatives that were presented to him.

He interviewed candidates himself and did his best to select candidates who he thought would do the work of

the United States with character and competence.

As you might imagine, this did not make President Harrison many friends within his own party."

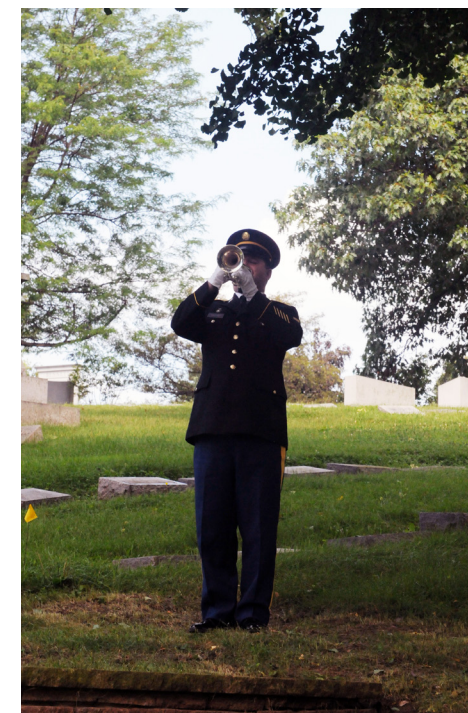
This stance caused Harrison to lose support within the Republican Party and by 1892 he failed to win reelection, but he left behind a legacy not tainted by infractions, Bassford continued.

"One thing is certain, when President Harrison left office he had endured no

major scandals, his appointees did not become embarrassments, something few presidents of the era could say," he continued.

"President Harrison was a man who showed us what it meant to act with integrity, how to do what was right for the people and the nation, despite great pressure to do otherwise from his peers and from the system.

And most importantly, from his own personal self-interest."



Sgt. Marty Maggart, bugler, 338th Army Band, performs 'Taps' during the President Benjamin Harrison presidential wreath laying ceremony, Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, Aug. 15.

(Photo Above Right) Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford, deputy commanding general, 88th Regional Support Command, delivers his speech at the President Benjamin Harrison presidential wreath laying ceremony, at his burial site, Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, Aug. 15.



(Photo Above) Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford (back), deputy commanding general, 88th Regional Support Command and Capt. Andrew Ramey (front), chaplain, 801st Combat Support Hospital, are flanked by the Indiana Sons of the American Revolution as they enter the President Benjamin Harrison presidential wreath laying ceremony at his burial site, Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, Aug. 15.

Capt. Andrew Ramey (right), chaplain, 801st Combat Support Hospital and Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford (left), deputy commanding general, 88th Regional Support Command, render salutes during 'Taps' at the gravesite of President Benjamin Harrison, during a presidential wreath laying ceremony, Aug. 15, Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis





***“I am proud as an NCO in the Army Reserve, I am proud as a citizen and Citizen-Soldier.”***

*~ Army Reserve military technician Kurt St. Martin*



*Maj. Gen. Karen LeDoux, commanding general of the 88th Regional Support Command, presents Army Reserve Military Technician Kurt St. Martin with the Civilian Humanitarian Service Medal during a special ceremony at the Milwaukee U.S. Army Reserve Center, Dec. 2, for his selfless actions taken to save a woman's life and enabled police to immediately apprehend the man who had just murdered her 11-month-old child. "Mr. St. Martin may say he just did what anyone would do, but in truth not everyone steps up in a time of need," said LeDoux "That is why we are here to honor him and why we celebrate his example of courage and action."*



# Military Technician Awarded the Civilian Humanitarian Service Medal

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Corey L. Beal, 88th RSC Public Affairs



Army Reserve military technician Kurt St. Martin was awarded the Civilian Humanitarian Service Medal during a special ceremony at the Milwaukee U.S. Army Reserve Center, Dec. 2, for his selfless actions taken to save a woman's life and enabled police to immediately apprehend the man who had just murdered her 11-month-old child.

"Nov. 18, 2014, still resonates with me and my family," said St. Martin during the ceremony. "In my mind I did nothing extraordinary that night. I am very happy I was able to help April and wish I could have saved Serenity."

On that night last year, St. Martin responded to the cries of a woman screaming for help as she and her child were being brutally assaulted by a man. Without regard to his own safety, St. Martin ran from his home to the screams and stopped the attack by tackling the assailant to the ground. The assailant then fled to an apartment while St. Martin went

to the aid of the woman, helped her stand and gather up her lifeless child. Upon the arrival of his wife Jessica, St. Martin went on to make sure the man did not escape the apartment, ensuring his immediate capture by police.

"Mr. St. Martin may say he just did what anyone would do, but in truth not everyone steps up in a time of need," said Maj. Gen. Karen LeDoux, commanding general of the 88th Regional Support Command. "That is why we are here to honor him and why we celebrate his example of courage and action."



In addition to the actions taken on that night, LeDoux also spoke to the actions of Kurt and Jessica St. Martin for the past year.

"Kurt and Jessica did not simply go back to their lives or just do their best to forget a night which any of us would want to forget," said LeDoux.

"For the past year they have been with April to help, to listen, to console, to be a part of her life."

St. Martin currently serves as an Army Reserve Civilian working at the 88th RSC's Army Maintenance Support Activity in Milwaukee. He also serves in the Army Reserve as a non-commissioned officer assigned to the 75th Training Command.

***"I am proud as an NCO in the Army Reserve, I am proud as a citizen and Citizen-Soldier."***

"I feel like I did no more than any one of you would have done," said St. Martin. "I helped a person in need and am proud to have helped bring this man to justice. I am proud as an NCO in the Army Reserve, I am proud as a citizen and Citizen-Soldier."

LeDoux said St. Martin's bravery in the face of unknown danger is an example for us all to follow and embody our best ideals of personal courage, duty and selfless service.

"These are the actions of true heroes and neighbors," said LeDoux. "They give us hope and strength. They embody what it truly means to be a Citizen-Soldier."

(Photo Above) Maj. Gen. Karen LeDoux, commanding general of the 88th Regional Support Command, presents Army Reserve Military Technician Kurt St. Martin with the Civilian Humanitarian Service Medal during a special ceremony at the Milwaukee U.S. Army Reserve Center, Dec. 2, for his selfless actions taken to save a woman's life and enabled police to immediately apprehend the man who had just murdered her 11-month-old child. "Mr. St. Martin may say he just did what anyone would do, but in truth not everyone steps up in a time of need," said LeDoux. "That is why we are here to honor him and why we celebrate his example of courage and action."

## I AM THE FORCE BEHIND THE FIGHT.

**As a proud member  
of the United States Army,  
I pledge to be a force behind the fight to  
eliminate Sexual Harassment and Sexual  
Assault from our community.**

**I will have the personal courage to  
Intervene – no matter the time or place.**

**I will Act decisively to stand up and protect  
members of my Army Family from all forms  
of sexually offensive and abusive behavior.**

**I will be Motivated by my Army Values to  
remain a constant force in the fight to  
Protect My Team.**



**SHARP**<sup>SM</sup>  
SEXUAL HARASSMENT/ASSAULT RESPONSE & PREVENTION





The 88th RSC believes  
Public Service is a Public Trust



# CODE OF ETHICS

## Principles of Ethical Conduct for Government Officers and Employees

1. Public service is a public trust, requiring employees to place loyalty to the Constitution, the laws, and ethical principles above private gain.
2. Employees shall not hold financial interests that conflict with the conscientious performance of duty.
3. Employees shall not engage in financial transactions using nonpublic Government information or allow the improper use of such information to further any private interest.
4. An employee shall not, except pursuant to such reasonable exceptions as are provided by regulation, solicit or accept any gift or other item of monetary value from any person or entity seeking official action from, doing business with, or conducting, activities regulated by the employee's agency, or whose interests may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the employee's duties.
5. Employees shall put forth honest effort in the performance of their duties.
6. Employees shall make no unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind the Government.
7. Employees shall not use public office for private gain.
8. Employees shall act impartially and not give preferential treatment to any private organization or individual.
9. Employees shall protect and conserve Federal property and shall not use it for other than authorized activities.
10. Employees shall not engage in outside employment or activities, including seeking or negotiating for employment, that conflict with official Government duties and responsibilities.
11. Employees shall disclose waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption to appropriate authorities.
12. Employees shall satisfy in good faith their obligations as citizens, including all just financial obligations, especially those—such as Federal, State, or local taxes—that are imposed by law.
13. Employees shall adhere to all laws and regulations that provide equal opportunity for all Americans regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or handicap.
14. Employees shall endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that they are violating the law or the ethical standards promulgated pursuant to this order.

## Did you know...



Army Reserve Soldiers who are not on Active duty are eligible for free legal services from Reserve Component legal assistance providers. Services provided may include:

- Witnessing signatures to documents or providing notary services.
- Providing legal advice to Soldiers during a client interview or in a telephone conversation.
- A letter written on behalf of a Soldier and signed by an attorney or writing a letter for the Soldier's signature.
- Legal negotiation with parties whose interests are adverse to that of the Soldier.
- Legal document preparation which includes drafting, completing, and execution of documents (for example: wills, powers of attorney, and leases).
- Preparation and filing of federal and state income tax returns and other legal papers.
- Assistance to Soldiers (pro se assistance) which enables the Soldier to file legal documents, papers, or pleadings in civil proceedings without the attorney.
- Client referral to another attorney in another military legal office or to a civilian lawyer.
- In-court representation in limited circumstances.

## Obtaining Legal Support and Assistance is easier than you may think

Army Reserve Units and Soldiers can now view available services, download request forms and find points of contact at the USAR Legal Command official web pages at:

<http://www.usar.army.mil/Commands/Support/LegalCommand.aspx>



# Army Reserve Ambassadors

## “What we do, and why we do it.”

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Corey Beal, photo by Catherine Threat, 88th RSC Public Affairs



U.S. Army Reserve Ambassadors provide strategic outreach, advocacy, and advisory support to Army Reserve units, Soldiers, and Families throughout the Country.

Ambassadors are considered special government employees who represent the Chief of the Army Reserve without salary, wages or related benefits. Their function is similar to civilian aides to the Secretary of the Army, and they carry a protocol status equivalent of a Major General.

Ambassadors build relationships and strive to improve the understanding and knowledge of the Army Reserve within the business and social sectors of communities across America.

They help to educate the public, community leaders, and congressional staff offices about the capabilities and values of the Army Reserve and the Soldiers who live and work in

their communities.

Army Reserve Ambassadors can assist you in many ways:

First, by telling the Army Reserve Story to elected officials, military service clubs, community leaders, and social sectors to ensure the AR contributions, value, and resourcing needs are acknowledged and supported.

Second, they support and advance the CAR's Private-Public Partnership Initiative, which helps sustain our force.

Third, they use their experience and influential status in advocating for Soldiers and Families in a variety of capacities.

Fourth, they partner with USAREC and Cadet Command to ensure the AR gets quality junior leaders for the future.

Finally, Ambassadors provide strategic outreach by opening many doors and often gaining hard-to-get access to important information, ser-

### Army Reserve Ambassadors support the Army Reserve's mission by:

- Engaging with community, government and business leaders to tell the Army Reserve story.
- Working with their area Legislative Liaison, ESGR contacts, Civilian Aides to the Secretary of the Army, and Family Readiness Groups.
- Helping to enlighten business and social sector organizations to recognize the contributions of the Army Reserve.
- Participating in engagements with communities through local service clubs.
- Supporting the Chief of the Army Reserve's Employer Partnership Program and the Secretary of the Army's Community Covenant Program.
- Supporting the recruiting efforts of the Army Reserve through partnering with U.S. Army Cadet Command and U.S. Army Recruiting Command.

vices, and benefits to advance and sustain the members of the Army Reserve Family.

Leaders, please reach out to our Ambassadors and invite them to your major organizational and training events such as YTBs, Mobilization and De-Mobilization ceremonies, Yellow Ribbon Events, and Family Support Activities.

Together you can increase your community's awareness, understanding, and support of the Army Reserve.

(Photo Above) U.S. Army Reserve Ambassadors Gerald Meyer (right), from the state of Wisconsin and James Lundell (left), from the state of Minnesota, attended an 88th Regional Support Command Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Event in downtown Minneapolis, Minn., March 18. The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program is a DoD-wide effort to promote the well-being of National Guard and Reserve members, their families and communities, by connecting them with resources throughout the deployment cycle.



88th RSC ARA  
Regional Coordinator  
Katherine Bissonette, PhD  
608-388-0331  
[katherine.m.bissonette.civ@mail.mil](mailto:katherine.m.bissonette.civ@mail.mil)

**“We promote and educate our local communities in our states on the Army Reserve and their mission. We talk to state assembly congress representatives in our area and anyone who can influence the benefits, the mission and the support for Army Reservists in our local area.”**

*~ Gerald W. Meyer, U.S. Army Reserve Ambassador for the state of Wisconsin*

### USAR Ambassadors of the Northwest Region:

#### Colorado

Shawn Graves [sted78@comcast.net](mailto:sted78@comcast.net)  
Michael Mckinney [michael.mckinney@state.co.net](mailto:michael.mckinney@state.co.net)

#### Idaho

Dianne Nordhaus [dianne.nordhaus@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.nordhaus@gmail.com)  
Joseph Eyre [eyrejobon@northrim.net](mailto:eyrejobon@northrim.net)

#### Illinois

William Hawes [wjhawes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wjhawes@sbcglobal.net)  
John W. Newman [VJNewman21@yahoo.com](mailto:VJNewman21@yahoo.com)  
Bill Lake [csmwlake@aol.com](mailto:csmwlake@aol.com)

#### Indiana

Doug Gibbens [douggybbens@att.net](mailto:douggybbens@att.net)  
Joseph Lampert [jflampe@pike.k12.in.us](mailto:jflampe@pike.k12.in.us)  
John Topper [jt1@psci.net](mailto:jt1@psci.net)

#### Iowa

Gary Wattnem [gwattnem@gmail.com](mailto:gwattnem@gmail.com)

#### Kansas

Mick Allen [Mallen@eaglecom.net](mailto:Mallen@eaglecom.net)

#### Michigan

Mel Bauman [artelb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:artelb@sbcglobal.net)  
Paul DeSander [pauldesander@charter.net](mailto:pauldesander@charter.net)

#### Minnesota

James Lundell [james.lundell@frontiernet.net](mailto:james.lundell@frontiernet.net)  
Thomas Haugo [thaugo@bachmans.com](mailto:thaugo@bachmans.com)  
Steven Carter [swcarter77@gmail.com](mailto:swcarter77@gmail.com)

#### Missouri

Roger Layman [rlayman48@embarqmail.com](mailto:rlayman48@embarqmail.com)  
Danny Baldwin [dbaldwin@kcp.com](mailto:dbaldwin@kcp.com)  
Bill Hammerschmidt [colhammerschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:colhammerschmidt@gmail.com)

#### Montana

James Mariska [jamarisk1@gmail.com](mailto:jamarisk1@gmail.com)

#### Nebraska

Stephen Tellatin [sftellatin@gmail.com](mailto:sftellatin@gmail.com)

#### North Dakota

Robert Black [eagle6680@gmail.com](mailto:eagle6680@gmail.com)

#### Ohio

John Lendrum [jlendrum@nciprecast.com](mailto:jlendrum@nciprecast.com)

#### Oregon

Dennis Klein [MGDeK1964@aol.com](mailto:MGDeK1964@aol.com)  
Curtis Loop [curt.loop@yahoo.com](mailto:curt.loop@yahoo.com)  
Daniel Hitchcock [DFHitchcock@canby.com](mailto:DFHitchcock@canby.com)

#### South Dakota

Robert Perez [rgperez@live.com](mailto:rgperez@live.com)

#### Utah

Rick Folkerson [rickf@kengarff.com](mailto:rickf@kengarff.com)  
Paul Swenson [pauls@colonialflage.com](mailto:pauls@colonialflage.com)

#### Washington

Fred Aronow [fredjacciaronow@q.com](mailto:fredjacciaronow@q.com)  
Stan Flemming [stanflemming@hotmail.com](mailto:stanflemming@hotmail.com)  
Mary Miller [marymyak@aol.com](mailto:marymyak@aol.com)

#### Wisconsin

Gerald Meyer [jmeyer3131@aol.com](mailto:jmeyer3131@aol.com)  
John Gessner [john.a.gessner.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:john.a.gessner.ctr@mail.mil)  
Bill Bissonette [csmbissonette@gmail.com](mailto:csmbissonette@gmail.com)

#### Wyoming

Barry Gasdek [barrygasdek@yahoo.com](mailto:barrygasdek@yahoo.com)



# Yellow Ribbon Program Event Creates Opportunity for Coordination and Connection

Story and photos by Catherine Threat, 88th RSC Public Affairs

The 88th Regional Support Command hosted Army Reserve Soldiers and their family members at a Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Event held in downtown Minneapolis, March 18-20, 2016. The event reached an outstanding 92 percent participation rate.

Number of attendees fluctuates depending upon deployment rotations, but the percentage of preregistered individuals who make it to an event reflects how well the program is working, not just during the event, but in the planning, coordinating and executing phases.

Sylvia Lopez, 88th RSC Yellow Ribbon Program operations officer, has worked with the Yellow Ribbon program for almost a year and has seen the percentages continue to increase.

"For this Yellow Ribbon Event, we are at 92 percent," said Lopez. "That's a very high percentage. It tells me we are getting the word out through social media, through intentional meetings and the whole execution part of it to make sure that people get the word

to come to a Yellow Ribbon Event so they can benefit from the support and resources available," said Lopez.

"It's a team effort between the Yellow Ribbon points of contact and the

Company, who are 90 days post-deployment.

"I see the Soldiers getting the benefit of knowing what services are available, which is very different from when I had to deploy back in the 90's," stated Alvey. "Along with the training and support services," Alvey continued, "the Soldiers and family members are enjoying the good food and hospitality."

Alvey spoke with Army Reserve Ambassadors Gerald Meyer, from the state of Wisconsin, and James Lundell, from the state of Minnesota, about support available for Soldiers attending the event.

Meyer explained that an Army Reserve Ambassador primarily does two things – promote and educate.

"We promote and educate our local communities in our states on the Army Reserve and their mission," said Meyer. "We promote at local events. We promote through our legislators. We talk to state assembly congress representatives in our area and anyone who can influence the benefits, the mission and the support

command and unit leaders who are pushing out the message that we are here to do a job," said Lopez.

"The more Soldiers hear about the services and support available and the more they attend the training classes, they are going to get something that's beneficial to them and it's going to open up a whole new world and address a need they possible didn't even know they needed," said Lopez.

Brig. Gen. Sandra Alvey, 807th Medical Command brigadier general, attended the event alongside her Soldiers in the 361st Medical Logistics



(Photo Above) Soldiers and Family members introduce themselves during the opening session of the 88th Regional Support Command Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Event in downtown Minneapolis, Minn., March 18. The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program is a DoD-wide effort to promote the well-being of National Guard and Reserve members, their families and communities, by connecting them with resources throughout the deployment cycle. Through Yellow Ribbon events, service members and loved ones connect with local resources honoring veterans and families before, during and after deployments.

for Army Reservists in our local area." At Yellow Ribbon events, ambassadors address everything from issues with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, or USERRA, to referring Soldiers and Family members to their specific state ambassadors.

"We provide contact information to connect soldiers to their local congressional representative," Meyer stated, "to help them resolve issues including ongoing age old pay problems, challenges with their civilian employers, or new deployment issues. If Soldiers have already gone through their units and still need help getting issues resolved beyond that, we are an asset to help them get to the right entity," continued Meyer.

"Soldiers were much more reluctant to reach out when the wars first started because of lack of knowledge, not knowing where to go, who to contact, what their rights were," Meyer said. "Now a days, Soldiers are much more amenable to coming and talking to us, coming to the Yellow Ribbons and finding out how to help their families get their benefits and how to navigate the system to make things right for

themselves and for their deployments."

"I have been an ambassador for 4 terms," Myers said. "Ten years now under my belt and it's hard to believe it's been that much time, but after 14 years of war it's been a very busy time."

In addition to Army Ambassadors, more than 40 Yellow Ribbon Community Partners were available to offer assistance and information. These included representatives of multiple military resources, as well as employers and colleges.

"The end state is always the same," Lopez stated, "to help Soldiers and their Family members and let them discover that they are not alone. There are a lot of people who are going through what they are going through and the Yellow Ribbon Program creates an environment where they can experience that connection."



"The more Soldiers hear about the services and support available and the more they attend the training classes, they are going to get something that's beneficial to them and it's going to open up a whole new world and address a need they possible didn't even know they needed."



More than 40 Yellow Ribbon Community Partners were on hand to offer assistance and information to attendees of the 88th Regional Support Command Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Event in downtown Minneapolis, Minn., March 19. These included Army Reserve Ambassadors, representatives of multiple military resources, as well as employers and colleges



# The 88th RSC Retirement Service Office is here to help you...

Retirement is a process, not an event. Different aspects of that process will most likely take a few re-visits to get them right.

We at the 88th RSC Retirement Service Team are dedicated to helping you get them right.

Do not hesitate to contact us. You have served the USAR for many years. You are worth the effort.

88th RSC Retirement Services Office Staff

MSG Chad Kleifgen  
[chad.h.kleifgen.mil@mail.mil](mailto:chad.h.kleifgen.mil@mail.mil)  
Office: 608-388-9321



[www.facebook.com/88thRSO](https://www.facebook.com/88thRSO)

Learn more and find the upcoming Training Events at:  
<http://www.usar.army.mil/Commands/Support/88thRSC/88thRSCResources/Retirement.aspx>

## Retirement Planning Timeline

### Throughout Career

- Manage important documents to include:
- DD214's
  - Retirement Points Statements
  - Change in service documents (transitioning between Guard, Reserve, AC, difference services, commissioning, promotion/demotion, etc)
  - RCSBP/SBP elections (notifying HRC within one year of changes)

### 15 Year Mark

- Become educated on the following:
- RCSBP
  - Tricare (Reserve Select, Retired Reserve, Prime, Standard and Tricare For Life)
  - Transfer to Retired Reserve process
  - Medical Retirement process (where applicable)
  - VA rating process

### 18 Year Mark

- Same education as at 15 but with the following emphasis:
- Decide on RCSBP election strategy with Retirement Officer/Financial Counselor/Insurance Advisor
  - Review ARPC 249E with RSO
  - Ensure all relevant career documents are iPERMed

### 20 Year Mark

- Attend Retirement Seminar
- Make RCSBP election with RSO present
- Ensure all documentation is accurate and up to date

### Transfer to Retired Reserve

- Ensure Post 9/11 GI Bill is transferred where applicable
- Understand TRICARE options
- Attend Retirement Seminar to be briefed on Grey Area Benefits
- Get good POC's for information on how to apply for Retired Pay
- Understand the early draw process where applicable
- Enroll in VA if not done so already
- Convert SGLI to VGLI if desired
- Visit ID Card facility for Grey Area Retiree ID Card

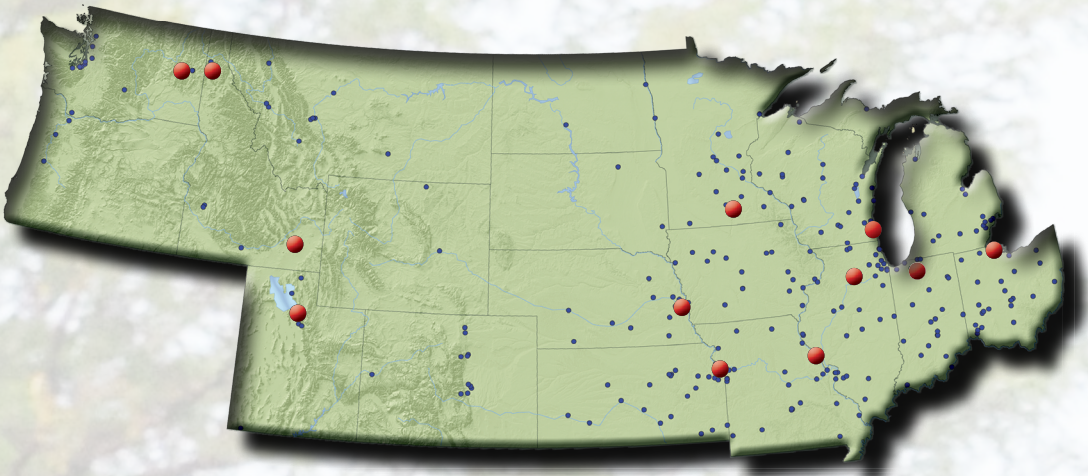
### Apply for Retired Pay

- Get application documents from RSO/HRC nine months from eligibility date
- Contact RSO to assist in making SBP election and completing required documents
- Once eligible, visit ID Card facility to obtain Retiree ID card
- Apprise HRC of all changes to dependent status
- Attend retirement briefing once every 2 years to stay abreast of changes that may have occurred
- Educate dependents on benefits application process once SM dies

# 88th RSC LOCAL TRAINING AREAS

Provide Units the venues to conduct the field training Soldiers want and deserve!

88th Regional Support Command Local Training Areas (LTAs) provide Soldiers opportunities to perform in their jobs, train close to home, and make the most out of Battle Assemblies. The LTAs offer units facilities, grounds and training opportunities in convoy operations, organizational maintenance, engineer equipment dig sites, and Field Training Exercises.

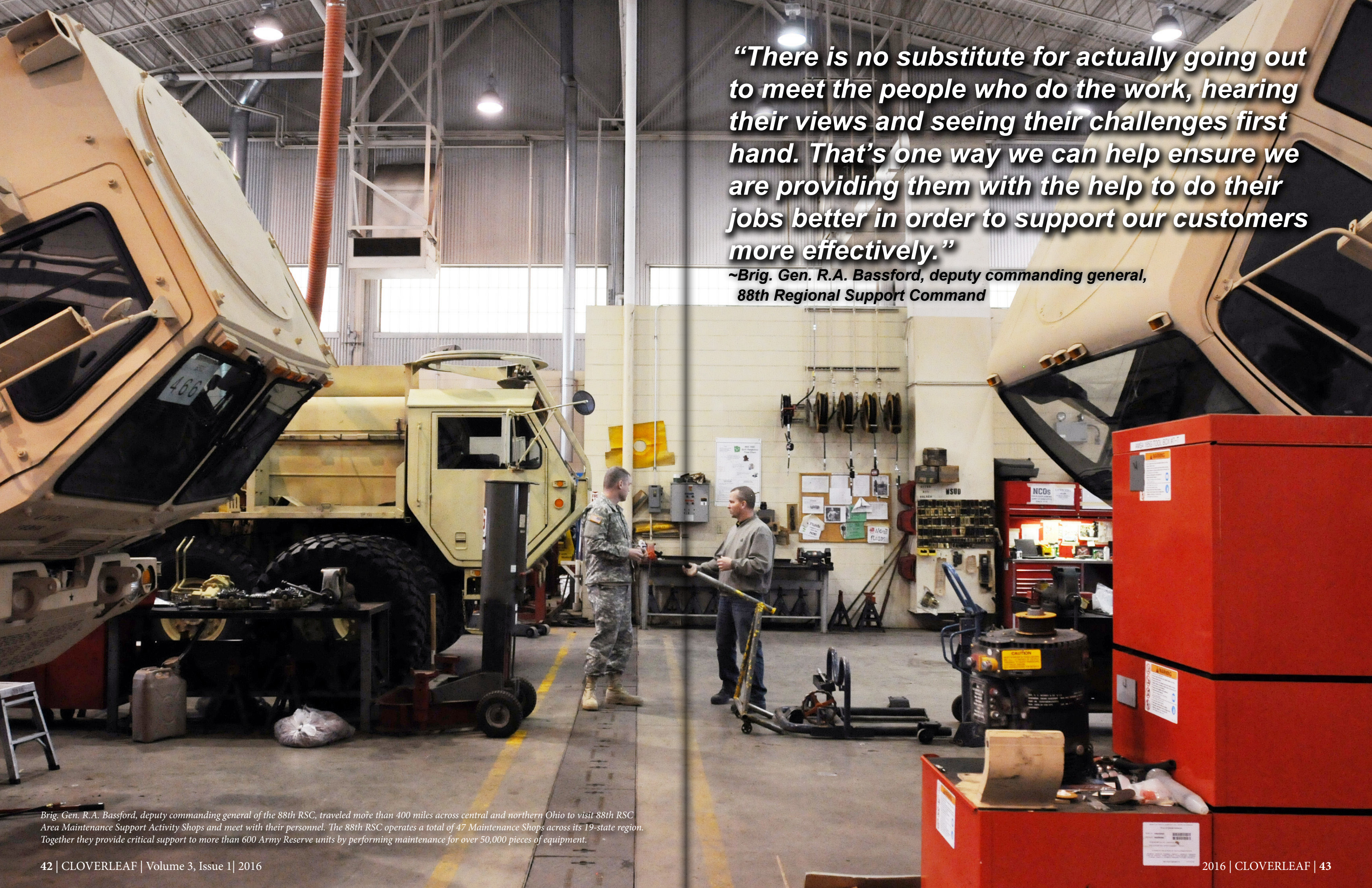


88th RSC Local Training Areas											
Name	Location	Size	CT	DS	FTX	MKP	MP	OMS	R25	SL	TP
Hayden Lake LTA,	Hayden Lake, ID	65 Acres					X				
Pocatello LTA	Pocatello, ID	9 Acres			X						
Joliet LTA	Joliet, IL	3585 Acres	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Kingsbury LTA	Kingsbury, IN	926 Acres	X		X	X	X	X		X	
Sunflower WET Site	Desoto, KS	80 Acres			X						
Blue Earth LTA	Mankato, MN	60 Acres		X	X						
Belton LTA	Belton, MO	184 Acres	X		X						
Weldon Springs	Weldon Springs, MO	1655 Acres	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lake City LTA,	Independence, MO	7 Acres			X	X	X				X
Helena LTA	Helena, MT	7 Acres			X						
Mead LTA	Fremont, NE	960 Acres	X		X						
Monclova LTA	Toledo, OH	27 Acres	X		X	X	X	X		X	
Ogden LTA	Ogden, UT	108 Acres	X		X	X	X	X		X	
Fairchild AFB	Fairchild, WA	11 Acres	X		X	X	X	X			
Silver Springs LTA	Silver Springs, WI	112 Acres			X	X	X	X		X	
Legend of Training Opportunities at LTAs: CT = Convoy Training, DS = Dig Site, FTX = Field Training Site, MKP = Mobile Kitchen Pad, MP = Motor Park, OMS = Organization Maintenance Site, R25 = 55M Range, SL = Shower Latrine, TP = Tent Pad											

### LTA Reservation Request Website (Xtranet only)

[https://army.deps.mil/Army/CMD5/USARC\\_88RSC/DPT/default.aspx](https://army.deps.mil/Army/CMD5/USARC_88RSC/DPT/default.aspx)



A wide-angle photograph of a large, industrial maintenance shop. On the left, a yellow armored vehicle is partially visible, with the number '466' on its side. In the center, two men are standing and talking; one is in a military uniform, and the other is in civilian work clothes. To the right, another yellow armored vehicle is visible, and a large red storage cabinet stands in the foreground. The background shows various tools, equipment, and a high ceiling with industrial lighting.

***“There is no substitute for actually going out to meet the people who do the work, hearing their views and seeing their challenges first hand. That’s one way we can help ensure we are providing them with the help to do their jobs better in order to support our customers more effectively.”***

***~Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford, deputy commanding general,  
88th Regional Support Command***

Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford, deputy commanding general of the 88th RSC, traveled more than 400 miles across central and northern Ohio to visit 88th RSC Area Maintenance Support Activity Shops and meet with their personnel. The 88th RSC operates a total of 47 Maintenance Shops across its 19-state region. Together they provide critical support to more than 600 Army Reserve units by performing maintenance for over 50,000 pieces of equipment.



# Prepared for the Unexpected

## Continuity of Operations Plan

Story and photos by Catherine Threat, 88th RSC Public Affairs

# COOP



The 88th Regional Support Command provides a vast array of services and support to more than 55,000 Army Reserve service members and civilians across its 19-state area of responsibility.

To ensure these vital functions continue in the event of a natural, manmade or technological disaster, the 88th RSC conducted a Continuity of Operations Plan Exercise on Fort McCoy, Wis., Oct. 14.

The unannounced exercise began when members of the 88th RSC's Crisis Action Team, or CAT, received a late night message.

"88 RSC Building 60 has suffered a fire and lost power to include backup generator," the message stated. "Personnel are prohibited from entering the workplace, as it remains unsafe. The 88 RSC will exercise its COOP PLAN."

Michael Bryant, 88th RSC Director of Plans and Training, helped lead

**"The 88th RSC is in good shape for our future readiness, but it is always changing. We are always updating the COOP and we will continue to prepare for the unexpected."**

the exercise and played a key role in drafting the commands COOP.

"Our Continuity of Operation Plan, or COOP, is basically a plan in place if the 88 RSC cannot occupy building 60 at Ft. McCoy to do its day to day support work for the Army Reserve units in our area of operation," Bryant said. "An alternate location would be named where a team of hand pick personnel from certain directorates would meet to work out how the command would continue to do its mission and how long until personnel can get back to normal operations."

In accordance with the plan, CAT members met at a designated alternate location, established communications, began accountability procedures and discussed how the COOP would unfold in a real-world event.

CAT members consist of designated individuals from each directorate who are always on call and prepared for activation in the event of COOP

initiation.

"The Crisis Action Team assists the chief of staff and their individual directorate in identifying problems and finding solutions quickly so operations can continue," Bryant said. "The team keeps everyone informed of what is going on and when the RSC can get back to normal operations. The directorates need to keep functioning and keep the day to day mission going."

The CAT considers many factors when planning for a wide range of emergencies that could require a COOP.

According to Bryant, this could include not having access to needed computers, specialized programs or Department of Defense networks.

"They would not be able to do their job and it could affect the RSC mission.

**"All U.S. Army Reserve Command units are expected to operate on a daily basis no matter what their mission or size..."**

Even though we have backups to the backups, there are certain personnel in the building that do specific tasks that affect the day to day mission of the RSC," Bryant said.

Charles Hudson, 88th RSC Chief of Staff, initiated the COOP EX.

"Continuity of Operations is a United States federal government initiative, required by U.S. Presidential directive, to ensure that agencies are able to continue performance of essential functions under a broad range of circumstances," Hudson explained.

Army Regulation 500-3, U.S. Army Continuity of Operations Program Policy and Planning is the guiding doctrine for the 88th RSC COOP, said Hudson.

"This regulation details Army Continuity Program policy in



Extensive damage documented by the 88th Regional Support Command of Equipment Concentration Site – 66 at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., after being struck by a tornado on Dec. 31, 2010. Continuity of Operation Plans allow the 88th RSC to maintain mission essential functions in this type of emergency. In order to be prepared for future emergencies, the 88th RSC's Crisis Action Team members conducted a Continuity of Operations Plan Exercise on Ft. McCoy, Wis., Oct. 14. Charles Hudson, 88th Regional Support Command chief of staff said he knows firsthand how important it is to have a COOP in place in the event of a natural disaster.



accordance with Department of Defense guidance, ensures continuity of mission essential functions under all circumstances,” Hudson stated. “It establishes the requirement for annual continuity exercises; and requires centralized coordination of alternate headquarters and emergency relocation facilities.”

During the COOP EX, the chief of staff led the CAT members through a series of scenarios ranging from minor events resulting in a few hours of disturbance in operations to catastrophic events that required permanent relocation of headquarters operations.

“The COOP’s priority of effort is to ensure mission essential functions are met,” Hudson said, “and then to ensure minimum degradation of customer support to commands within the 88th RSC geographic area of responsibility.”

These priorities are based on what tasks must continue without interruption; what tasks can be deferred no longer than 48 hours; what can be deferred no longer than seven days; and what may be deferred until normal operations are restored.

The mission for its customers must

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continue no matter where the 88th RSC is operating from, said Bryant.

“All U.S. Army Reserve Command units are expected to operate on a daily basis no matter what their mission or size,” Bryant said. “The 88 RSC area of operation is very large, with a great number of employees and customers that depend on us every day.”

Bryant added that practice makes perfect and if anyone has had any type of emergency in their life, they know events can happen fast and can impact them greatly.

“Imagine how even a small event like a fire in our headquarters would effect this commands mission,” Bryant said. “Planning and training keeps us from being blindsided.”

During any type of interruption of operations, mission command as well as personnel accountability are musts, Hudson explained.

“Personnel accountability provides valuable information to all levels of the Army chain of command, allowing commanders to make strategic decisions which facilitate a return to stability,” Hudson said. “From the RSC perspective, it is useful to determine the number and types of personnel available to perform mission essential

functions for the duration of the immediate emergency.”

In addition to traditional alert roster procedures to account for, the 88th RSC also uses the U.S. Army Disaster Personnel Accountability and Assessment System.

“Accountability is essential,” stated Maj. Will Brown, 88th RSC Adjutant.

“From small fires to large scale natural disasters, ensuring we can verify that our Soldiers and Civilians are safe, for me, was the most important part of this exercise,” Brown said.

slow recovery process,” Hudson said.

“It took nearly a year for ECS-66 to recover from this event and much of that time was spent operating in temporary facilities elsewhere on Fort Leonard Wood. In addition, warehouse operations had to move 140 miles to an available warehouse at Weldon Springs Local Training Area in Saint Charles, Mo., Hudson said.

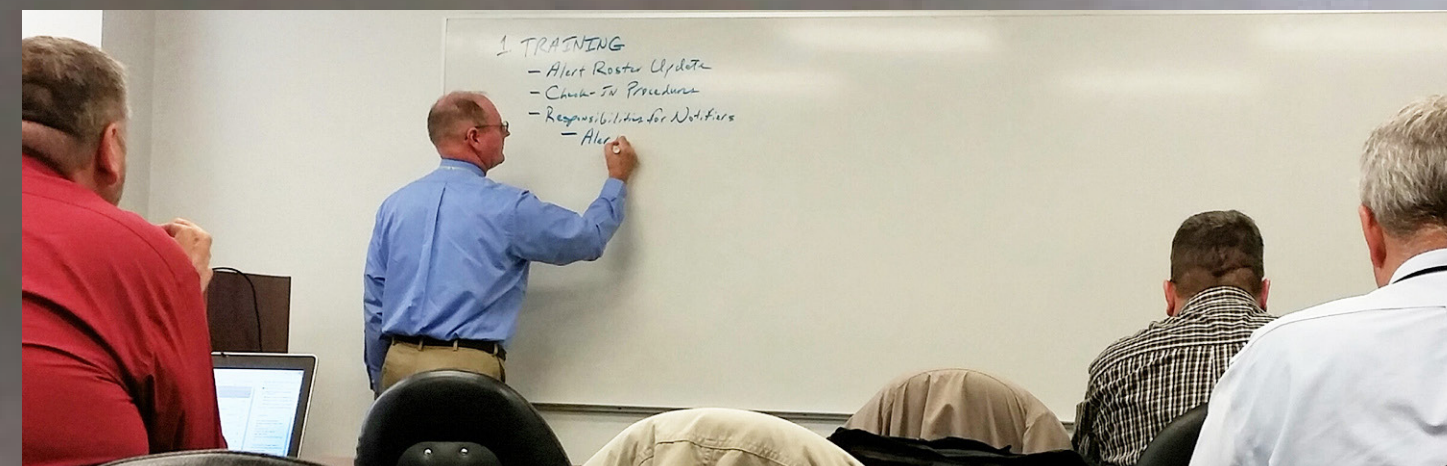
“Given this real-world scenario,” Hudson said, “a COOP for the 88th RSC Headquarters is very important.”

During the exercise Bryant collected feedback that will help shape future

COOP training and readiness.

“I thought the COOP EX went well, small steps to start. There was a lot of good input from the Crisis Action Team and the chief of staff was pleased with the results,” said Bryant. “Each section identified to participate showed up, found the location and communicated back with their directorates.

The 88th RSC is in good shape for our future readiness, but it is always changing. We are always updating the COOP and we will continue to prepare for the unexpected.”



Hudson said he knows firsthand how important it is to have a COOP in place in the event of a natural disaster.

“The ability to implement the COOP was instrumental to recovery operations at Equipment Concentration Site – 66 at Fort Leonard Wood when it was struck by a tornado on December 31st, 2010,” Hudson explained.

“Fortunately this was a Federal Holiday or we would have experienced loss of life. As it was, we lost \$2.7M in equipment destroyed, \$3.4M in equipment damage, and \$5.5M in facilities repair and replacement,” Hudson continued.

“We accounted for 100% of ECS personnel that day, none were impacted personally, and most were called in to work over the weekend to secure equipment and facilities, account for property and begin the

*The 88th Regional Support Command's Crisis Action Team members conduct a Continuity of Operations Plan Exercise on Fort McCoy, Wis., Oct. 14. Charles Hudson (center left), 88th RSC chief of staff, collects feedback from CAT members after leading a series of scenarios ranging from minor events resulting in a few hours of disturbance in operations to catastrophic events that required permanent relocation of headquarters operations.*

*(Photo Opposite Page & Below) Extensive damage documented by the 88th Regional Support Command of Equipment Concentration Site – 66 at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., after being struck by a tornado on Dec. 31, 2010. Continuity of Operation Plans allow the 88th RSC to maintain mission essential functions in this type of emergency. In order to be prepared for future emergencies, the 88th RSC's Crisis Action Team members conducted a Continuity of Operations Plan Exercise on Ft. McCoy, Wis., Oct. 14.*





Photos include Soldiers and family members of the Fort McCoy Garrison Command Team, the Non-Commissioned Officer's Academy, 88th Regional Support Command, Fort McCoy's Regional Training Site-Maintenance and other tenant units residing on Fort McCoy.  
Photos by Catherine Threat, 88th RSC Public Affairs



# EVERY APRIL IS THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD!



In support of the Month of the Military Child 2016, the 88th RSC co-hosted the April Showers 5k run/walk at Fort McCoy, April 13.

The event's theme was "Showering Awareness of Child Abuse Prevention and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention." Soldiers, Civilians and family members were encouraged to participate. Many ran along with their children, some as young as three months.

Military children have unique experiences and amazing stories of triumph, heartbreak and resiliency. Take every opportunity to hear their stories, to share their joys – and their struggles.

The Army Reserve children of today are likely to be our Soldiers of tomorrow. It is important that we recognize their accomplishments, honor their sacrifices, support their families and communities, and show our pride in them every day.



# 88th RSC Strong Bonds

## Vital for Soldiers, Families, Army Reserve

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Corey Beal, 88th RSC Public Affairs



The strength of the Army Reserve is only as strong as the relationships that support the Soldiers within it. The Army Reserve works to improve the resiliency of those relationships with a chaplain-led program called Strong Bonds.

The Strong Bonds program aims to increase Soldier and Family readiness through relationship education and skills training. These events are held at offsite retreat training and conducted for either Army Reserve Single-Soldiers, Couples, or Families.

The 88th Regional Support Command conducts nearly 20 Strong Bond events a year, the most recent being a married couples event which hosted 32 couples at the Hilton Oak Brook Hills Resort in Oak Brook, Ill, April 8-10.

Capt. Charles Bechtold, a Chaplain assigned to the 88th RSC, has supported more than 30 Strong Bond events and currently manages the program for the northwest region. For this event, Charles teamed with

his wife Barbara who is a certified DoD Strong Bonds Master Trainer.

Together they led the couples through a nationally recognized curriculum called Prevention Relationship Enhancement Program, or PREP. The curriculum includes video and workbook-supported discussions and exercises centered on various aspects of communication, personalities and problem solving.

"Every single marriage can benefit from this training," said Barbara.

"Every marriage can benefit from better communication, from exacting expectations, and learning how to speak and how to really listen."

The 32 couples attending the event included some who had been married more than three decades and others less than three months.

Army Reserve Soldiers Spec. Bradley and Staff Sgt. Arianna Joe were just married in January and made attending the training a priority.

As a chaplain assistant, Arianna said she has supported more than 25

Strong Bonds events and knew firsthand it was something they needed to do.

"Being admin you get to hear everything people say," said Arianna.

**"We are focused on helping improve the lives of our Soldiers and their loved ones. Training them on how to use these tools to create an effective marriage is vital – it's vital to them and it's vital to the Army Reserve."**

"Every time people would talk about how it was really helpful, and how they wish they had gotten this training before they were faced with certain problems – so we were like 'let's get this in now before we're confronted with any of those issues.'"

Bradley and Arianna had also attended a Single Soldier Strong

Bonds event long before getting married. Bradley said that foundation had helped him in many ways.

"Everybody should go to a Strong Bonds event – even the singles," said Bradley. "In the singles event I learned so much about myself – stuff I didn't even know. Now we're married and we're learning about what we do rather than what I do, because it's not about you and I anymore, it's about we."

"So I learned about me – and now I learned about us," concluded Bradley.

Another couple attending the event was Spec. William Keenan and his wife Kristy who have been married for 16 years. They had gone to a family event a few years ago and decided it was now time to focus on just themselves as a couple.

"We had such a good time at the Family Strong Bonds event, and I had heard so many good things about the married couple's training," said William. "We do so many things as a Family, but not as a couple. So we decided this would give us a chance to have a weekend together to focus on us."

While the event was intended for marriages of all durations, William said he thought it was really important for couples who have been married for a little while, especially people who are married and have kids.

"It's a fresh chance to look at yourself as a couple again, whereas you may have not even thought of yourself that way in a long time," said William. "With the many roles that you have and the hats that you wear, the father hat and the mother hat tend to dominate your identity."

Charles said having this time to focus on each other as a couple is crucial, as are the concepts taught in the classes.

"The couples training is important, because it gives them tools for a healthy marriage and time to focus on it," said Charles. "The big key

to this weekend is learning how to communicate effectively."

"To have effective communication, couples need to learn how to speak to each other and not past each other," said Charles. "When they can do that – when they can communicate effectively – then their marriage is going to be stronger and healthier"

William said this kind of training was invaluable to him even after 16 years of marriage.

"It explained a lot of things to me. When you have an argument with each other, you get caught up in the argument," said William. "So it's hard to analyze it and think about what is really behind all that. So when you have an opportunity like this and they show you, you realize it may seem like a petty disagreement, but it's from a much deeper issue – it was very useful."

Barbara said it was those types of 'ah-ha' moments that really made being a trainer rewarding.

"We get to see those moments when couples say 'I never considered that' or 'we could implement that.' We get to see people come in with a brokenness in their marriage and leave with a sense of hope and encouragement."



Army Reserve Soldiers Spec. Bradley and Staff Sgt. Arianna Joe, who have been married for three months, review a hand-out together during a Strong Bonds event conducted at the Hilton Oak Brook Hills Resort in Oak Brook, Ill, April 8-10.

Bradley and Arianna had also attended a Single Soldier Strong Bonds event long before getting married. Bradley said that foundation had helped him in many ways.

"It's very rewarding being there when a couple leaves knowing that what has happened in the past does not necessarily need to dictate what's going to happen in the future for us," continued Barbara. "And that occurs when they begin to implement these tools and resources into their marriage."

Charles said these events make marriages stronger and costs couples nothing except a weekend together to focus on their relationship.

"So why wouldn't a couple want to get new tools to help make their marriage stronger?" asked Charles. "This program is completely free for Soldiers and their Families and it doesn't cost their unit a thing – the entire thing is completely funded through the Chief of Chaplains Office."

"We are focused on helping improve the lives of our Soldiers and their loved ones," said Charles. "Training them on how to use these tools to create an effective marriage is vital – it's vital to them and it's vital to the Army Reserve."

\*\*\*Learn more about Strong Bonds Program at [www.strongbonds.org](http://www.strongbonds.org)



# Take advantage of the *88th RSC's HOT Program* Offering Hands-On-Training in maintenance, supply, transportation and allied trades!

The 88th RSC's Hands-On-Training (HOT) Program is an innovative approach to training which provides hands-on sustainment training for AR Soldiers and Military Technicians with logistical occupational specialties and duties.

The program provides real-world maintenance, supply, allied trades and transportation hands-on-training throughout the 88th RSC's area of responsibility.

The HOT Program utilizes Area Maintenance Support Activities and Equipment Concentration Sites for specialty courses as well as the Center of Excellence located on Fort McCoy, Wis.

Utilizing these resources, a multitude of HOT sustainment training opportunities are available in a variety of locations.

A variety of pop-up and specialty courses can be created based on demand. Quota Source Managers can also utilize the next ATRRS Training Requirements Arbitration Panel to request seats specifically for their Unit or Command.

Please contact us to schedule training for your Unit at an AMSA or ECS, to reserve seats in a CoE course, or to request a pop-up class.

For more information, please contact Ft. McCoy Center of Excellence, Brian Witherow at 608-388-6833 or [bryan.a.witherow2.civ@mail.mil](mailto:bryan.a.witherow2.civ@mail.mil). Xtranet users can also visit: [https://army.deps.mil/Army/CMD5/USARC\\_88RSC/DOL/default.aspx](https://army.deps.mil/Army/CMD5/USARC_88RSC/DOL/default.aspx).

## 88th RSC 'HOT' CoE Courses available on Fort McCoy:

### **Welding & Fabrication Sustainment Training**

Students will become familiar with the following Welding Process to include, Principles, Theories and Best Practices as well as all Safety aspects of each process; Shielded Metal Arc Welding, Gas metal Arc Welding, Gas Tungsten Arc Welding, Oxy-Acetylene Flame Cutting, Plasma Cutting.

### **Refrigeration and EPA-608**

Students will be trained on fundamentals of how refrigeration works and instruction on system maintenance, diagnostics and repair. An EPA-608 test will be given for certification. Students will demonstrate hands-on proficiency in diagnostics and repair.

### **Automotive Refrigeration Training & EPA 609**

Students will be trained on fundamentals of how refrigeration works and instruction on system maintenance, diagnostics and repair. An EPA-609 test will be given for certification. Students will demonstrate hands-on proficiency in diagnostics and repair.

### **Armored Security Vehicle Field Level Maintenance**

Students will be given an overview of the M1117 Armored Security Vehicle and provided in depth instruction on vehicle systems. Students will become familiar with the components of all the systems of the ASV and will identify component locations, functions of components and systems, possible malfunctions and troubleshooting procedures. Students will remove turret and the engine and drive assembly.

### **KALMAR-Rough Terrain Container Handler**

Students will learn in a mixture of classroom and maintenance shop bay environment. Students will be given instruction on operation of the Rough Terrain Container Handler and in depth instruction of maintenance procedures, to include troubleshooting the hydraulic & electrical systems. This course is primarily on maintenance procedures, and will not result in driver certification or licensing.

### **Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles Field Level Maintenance**

Students will be given an overview of the Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles and provided in depth instruction on vehicle systems. Students will become familiar with the components of all systems of the FMTV and identify component locations, functions of components and systems, possible malfunctions and troubleshooting procedures.

### **Heavy Expandable Mobility Tactical Truck**

Students will be given an overview of the Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Trucks and provided instruction on vehicle systems. Students will become familiar with the components of all systems of the HEMTT and identify component locations, functions of components and systems, possible malfunctions and troubleshooting procedures.

### **Backhoe Loader Field Level Maintenance**

Students will be given an overview of the Back Hoe Loader and provided in depth instruction on vehicle systems. Students will become familiar with the components of all the systems of the BHL and will identify component locations, functions of components and systems, possible malfunctions and troubleshooting procedures.

### **M9 Armored Combat Excavator Field Level Maintenance**

Students will be given an overview of the M9 Armored Combat Excavator and provided instruction on vehicle systems. Students will become familiar with the components of all the systems of the ACE and will identify component locations, functions of components and systems, possible malfunctions and troubleshooting procedures.

### **M966H 5 Yard Loader Field Level Maintenance**

Students will be given an overview of the M966H 5 Yard Loader and provided in depth instruction on vehicle systems. Students will become familiar with the components of all the systems of the M966H and will identify component locations, functions of components and systems, possible malfunctions and troubleshooting procedures.

\*ATRRS School Code 930C



**Contact the 88th RSC Safety Office to find out more:**  
[USARMY.USARC.88-RSC.List.Safety-All-Users@mail.mil](mailto:USARMY.USARC.88-RSC.List.Safety-All-Users@mail.mil)



# 88th RSC Remembers

## President William McKinley

### with Presidential Wreathlaying Ceremony

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Corey Beal, 88th RSC Public Affairs



The life and legacy of President William McKinley was remembered during an annual wreath laying ceremony at his Presidential Library and Museum in Canton, Ohio, Jan. 30, 2016.

This year's annual ceremony for our nation's 25th president hosted nearly 200 visitors to include members of the local community, elected officials, history enthusiasts, and Civil War re-enactors.

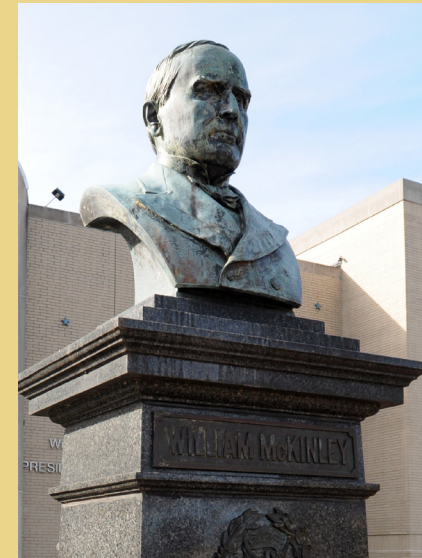
Army Reserve Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford, deputy commanding general of the 88th RSC, officiated the ceremony on behalf of President

Barack Obama and laid a wreath in his stead. Assisting Brig. Gen. Bassford was Capt. Everett Caldwell, chaplain, of the 256th Combat Support Hospital, who also performed the invocation for the event.

As part of the ceremony, six wreaths were presented by various elected officials and organizations. Brig. Gen. Bassford placed the final wreath. While rendering honors, local Civil War re-enactors performed a 21-gun salute and fired a cannon, followed by the playing of taps performed by Sgt. Luke Washburn of the 338th Army Band.



(Photo Above) Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford, deputy commanding general of the 88th Regional Support Command, and Capt. Everett Caldwell, chaplain of the 256th Combat Support Hospital, render honors to William McKinley during an annual wreath laying ceremony at his Presidential Library and Museum in Canton, Ohio, Jan. 30, 2016.



Sgt. Luke Washburn of the 338th Army Band plays taps during the annual presidential wreath laying ceremony of William McKinley at his monument in Canton, Ohio, Jan. 30, 2016.

(Photo Above Left) Congressman Bob Gibbs of Ohio speaks with Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford, deputy commanding general of the 88th Regional Support Command, and Capt. Everett Caldwell, chaplain of the 256th Combat Support Hospital, following the annual wreath laying ceremony for William McKinley at his Presidential Library and Museum in Canton, Ohio, Jan. 30, 2016.

(Photo Left) President William McKinley's bust is located outside his Presidential Library and Museum in Canton, Ohio, Jan. 30, 2016.



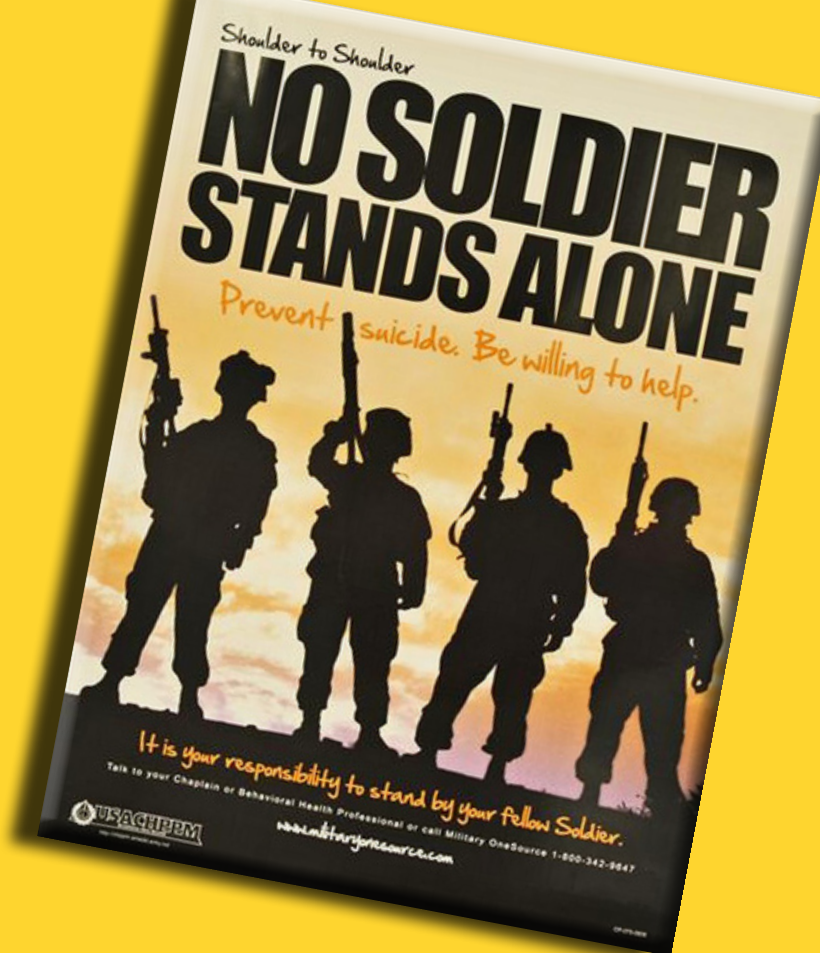
Brig. Gen. R.A. Bassford, deputy commanding general of the 88th Regional Support Command, and Capt. Everett Caldwell, chaplain of the 256th Combat Support Hospital, render honors to William McKinley during an annual wreath laying ceremony at his Presidential Library and Museum in Canton, Ohio, Jan. 30, 2016.



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**Wounded Soldier & Family Hotline  
1-800-984-8523**

**Military One Source  
1-800-342-9647**


*For Suicide Prevention Information, Presentations,  
Training, or Questions,*

*Please Contact:*

**Jeffrey Schulz  
88th RSC Suicide Program  
Manager  
608-388-0507 or 608-408-8166  
[jeffrey.h.schulz.civ@mail.mil](mailto:jeffrey.h.schulz.civ@mail.mil)**



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Service Provider Summary Report

for 88th Regional Support Command - Headquarters

Top of Page

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# 88TH REGIONAL SUPPORT COMMAND NORTHWEST REGIONAL SUPPORT INDEX

<b>88th RSC Headquarters</b> Ambassador Coordinator 608-388-0331 Awards 608-388-0460 Casualty Operations 608-388-0450 Chaplain 608-388-0540 Child and Youth Services 608-388-0446 Command Group 608-388-7518 Emergency Ops. Center 608-556-1206 Emergency Services 608-388-0578 Enlisted Management 608-388-0317 Environmental 608-388-0375 Equal Opportunity Advisor 608-388-0558 Full-Time Civilian Support 608-388-0450 Headquarters Company 608-388-0599 Health Services 608-388-0436 Historian 608-388-0320 Human Resources 608-388-9360 Information Technology 608-388-0364 Inspector General 608-388-3733 Internal Review 608-388-0359 Legal 608-388-0327 Legislative Affairs 608-388-0331 Logistics 608-388-0312 Medical 608-388-1958 Officer Management 608-388-0432 Plans & Training 608-388-0589 Public Affairs 608-388-0336 Public Works 608-388-0375 Resource Management 608-388-0354 Retirement Services Office 608-388-0596 Safety 608-388-0335 Strong Bonds 608-388-0542 Suicide Prevention Program Manager 608-388-9310 Yellow Ribbon 608-388-0526	<b>Area Maintenance Support Activities &amp; Branch Maintenance Activities</b> AMSA 003, North Canton, Ohio 330-649-7923 AMSA 022, Arden Hills, Minn. 651-634-4438/ AMSA 022 BMA-1, Fort Snelling, Minn. 612-713-3292 AMSA 025, Duluth, Minn. 218-727-1464 x240 AMSA 028, Cedar Falls, Iowa 319-277-8081 x3801 AMSA 028 BMA-1, Des Moines, Iowa 515-285-4692 x3135 AMSA 028 BMA-2, Washington, Iowa 319-653-5231 x3801 AMSA 035, Elkhorn, Neb. 402-289-1687 x4170 AMSA 036, North Platte, Neb. 308-532-7735 / 308-534-3692 x4223 AMSA 038, Wichita, Kan. 316-681-1759 x1820 AMSA 038 BMA-1, Parson, Kan. 620-421-6750 x266 AMSA 039, Topeka, Kan. 785-267-6243 x270 AMSA 045, Elwood, Ill. 815-722-9757 AMSA 048, Bartonville, Ill. 309-671-5001 AMSA 049, Milwaukee, Wis. 414-535-5905 / 5965 AMSA 056, Whitehall, Ohio 614-692-2022 AMSA 057, New Century, Kan. 913-397-0862 x5234 AMSA 058, Springfield, Ohio 937-525-3601 AMSA 059, Maineville, Ohio 513-683-1317 x413 AMSA 059 BMA-1, Cincinnati, Ohio 513-351-1480 AMSA 061, Boise, Idaho 208-422-6504 / 6505 AMSA 075, Helena, Mont. 406-442-1112 x101 / 406-449-8993 AMSA 075 BMA-1, Billings, Mont. 406-652-6460 x266 AMSA 075 BMA-2, Missoula, Mont. 406-523-5480 / 406-523-5484 AMSA 075 BMA-3, Evansville, Wyo. 307-266-1831 AMSA 079, Marysville, Wash. 360-403-2534 / 206-550-7311 AMSA 079 BMA-1, JB Lewis-McChord 253-968-7133 AMSA 080, Fairchild AFB, Wash. 509-247-7864 AMSA 100, Denver, Colo. 303-371-1009 x284 AMSA 101, St. Joseph, Minn. 320-363-7821 AMSA 108, Bismarck, N.D. 701-223-8607 AMSA 108 BMA-1, Aberdeen, S.D. 605-225-0027 x29	AMSA 108 BMA-2, Fargo, N.D. 701-241-6615 AMSA 111, Faribault, Minn. 507-334-7513 AMSA 115, Sioux City, Iowa 712-276-5076 x3301 AMSA 119, Salt Lake City, Utah 801-656-4057 AMSA 123, Twinsburg, Ohio 330-486-6986 AMSA 129, Indianapolis, Ind. 317-532-4125 AMSA 131, Jeffersonville, Ind. 812-280-6026 AMSA 132, Evansville, Ind. 812-471-6513 AMSA 133, South Bend, Ind. 574.232-8818 x255 AMSA 133 BMA-1, Fort Wayne, Ind. 260-432-4958 AMSA 134, Livonia, Mich. 734-367-2432 AMSA 134 BMA-1, Bay City, Mich. 989-684-8607 x425 / 989-684-7097 AMSA 135, Augusta, Mich. 269-565-8801 AMSA 136, Grand Rapids, Mich. 616-735-4050 x116 AMSA 136 BMA-1, Traverse City, Mich. 231-946-6756 AMSA 137 (Watercraft), Tacoma, Wash. 253-680-4568 / 4573 AMSA 138, Fort Sheridan, Ill. 847-266-3115 AMSA 139, Madison, Wis. 608-301-8597 AMSA 140, Green Bay, Wis. 920-339-7176 x7200 AMSA 155, Eau Claire, Wis. 715-834-8362 x222 AMSA 159, St Louis, Mo. 314-679-5879 AMSA 159 BMA, Granite City, Ill. 618-451-5127 AMSA 165, Monclova, Ohio 419-868-3921 x3106 AMSA 165 BMA-1, Milan, Ohio 419-359-1440	<b>Army Reserve Personnel Action Centers</b> Aurora, Colo. 303-365-3195 Fort Sheridan, Ill. 630-204-9150 Wichita, Kan. 316-681-1759 x1404 Southfield, Mich. 248-359-2000 x283 Fort Snelling, Minn. 612-713-3191 Belton, Mo. 816-318-0007 x2656 St. Louis, Mo. 314-382-9013 x2341 Whitehall, Ohio 614-692-2850 Salt Lake City, Utah 801-656-4217 Fort Lewis, Wash. 253-968-7022 Vancouver, Wash. 360-885-7050 Fort McCoy, Wis. 608-388-8416	<b>Army Strong Community Centers</b> Walker, Mich. 616-735-4050 x169 Oregon City, Oregon 503-594-6215	<b>Combat Service Support Hands-On-Training Program Coordinator</b> Fort McCoy, Wis. 608-388-0310	<b>Equipment Concentration Sites &amp; Branch Maintenance Activities</b> ECS 10, JB Lewis-McChord, Wash. 253-968-7801 ECS 10 BMA-1, Vancouver, Wash. 360-885-7028 ECS 10 BMA-2 (RSS), Boise, Idaho 208-422-6502 ECS 10 BMA-3 (RSS), Helena, Mont. 406-442-1112 ECS 10 BMA-4 (RSS), Yakima, Wash. 509-225-8893 ECS 33, Fort Riley, Kan. 785-239-6955 ECS 37, Ogden, Utah 801-392-0700 x230 ECS 42, Fort Carson, Colo. 719-524-4949 ECS 66, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. 573-596-1229 / 0771 ECS 66 BMA-1, Springfield, Mo. 417-865-3505 x235 ECS 66 BMA-2, St. Charles, Mo. 636-329-1200 x2504 / x2505 ECS 67, Fort McCoy, Wis. 608-388-4266	<b>New Equipment Fielding Facilities</b> Ogden, Utah 801-392-9360 x243 Fort McCoy, Wis. 608-388-6837 / 6838
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For additions and corrections, please contact us at [usarmy.usarc.88-rsc.mbx.pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.usarc.88-rsc.mbx.pao@mail.mil).

58 | CLOVERLEAF | Volume 3, Issue 1 | 2016

2016 | CLOVERLEAF | 59





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