The ARCOG Net
Spring 2017 Issue

ARCOG Soldier Awarded ISSA Volunteer of the Year

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - The military has always encouraged its uniformed members and civilian employees to volunteer and make a difference both inside and outside its community. One Army Reserve Cyber Operations Group Soldier takes volunteering seriously and contributes his time and knowledge to various organizations. The ARCOG's Chief Warrant Officer 3 David Vaughn won the 2015 annual volunteer award for the Infor-

Chief Warrant Officer 3 David Vaughn (middle) accepts the Information Systems Security Association's (ISSA) Annual Volunteer Award from his fellow ISSA members, at a ceremony in Raleigh, North Carolina, October 13, 2015.

mation Systems Security Association at a ceremony held in Raleigh, North Carolina, October 13, 2015.

ISSA is an international not-for-profit organization of information

and cyber security professionals who dedicate their time to provide educational and growth opportunities in the field of technology management and critical information and infrastructure protection.

Vaughn served as ISSA's director of education for all ISSA mebers, in particular the Raleigh, North Carolina Chapter.

Read more at:
https://www.dvidshub.net/news/193724/arcog-soldier-wins-information-systems-security-associations-annual-volunteer-award

Photo - U.S. Strategic Command Public Affairs/Published November 2, 2016

WCPC Courtesy Photo

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Global Thunder 17

From October 19 through November 1, 2016, seven Soldiers from the Western Cyber Protection Center (WCPC) provided direct support to Exercise GLOBAL THUNDER 17. WCPC Soldiers helped a U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command

(USASMDC), Army Strategic Command (ARSTRAT), and United States Strategic Command in a capstone multinational exercise. USASMDC/ARSTRAT is a Global command with critical assets in the AO's of most other reserve CPCs.

This training's focus is on "Testing our strategic forces through a range of challenging scenarios which validates their safety, security, effectiveness and readiness," said Adm. Cecil D. Haney, USSTRATCOM commander.

Story by WCPC contributor

# WOC Bayanilla Selected as 25D Honor Guard

Story by NECPC contributor

Newly commissioned Warrant Officer Luis Bayanilla became the first Soldier from the North East Cyber Protection Center to attend, graduate and be honored as the 25D, Cyber Network Defender Course, Honor Graduate.

New to the Army, A Cyber Network De-fender deploys, implements, maintains and administers the infrastructure systems required to effectively provide defense in depth to the network and resources.

Each two-week course is taught by system administration and security instructors who are experts in cy-bersecurity and classroom instruction. The courses encompass Security Essentials, Advanced Security Essentials - Enterprise Defender , Immersive Hands-On Hacking Techniques, Python for Penetration Testers, Hacker Tools, Techniques, Exploits and Incident Handling.
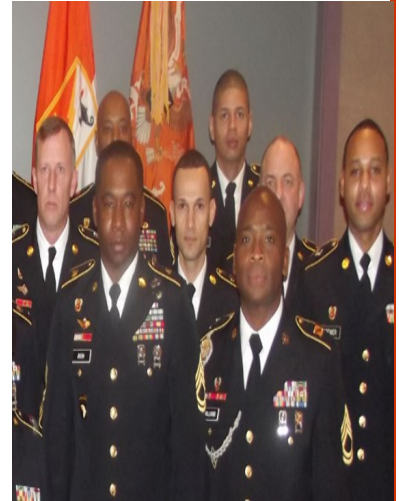
Warrant Officer Luis Bayanilla (Center), earned the ranking of honor graduate after completing the 25D, Cyber Network Defender course last October. (Courtesy photo)

NECPC Congressional Staff Visit

Story by NECPC contributor

The North East Cyber Protection Center hosted a Cyber Congressional Staff Visit during its October 2016 battle assembly weekend that provided an overview of the NECPC's capabilities and the civilian acquired cyber skills that USAR cyber Soldiers provide.
The engagement was attended by Mr. Sean Dug-gan [Delegation Lead] the Military Legislative Assistant for Congresswoman Niki Tsongas (D-MA), Member of the House Armed Services Committee, Mr. Ian Staples the Legislative Assistant for Congresswoman Susan Davis (D-CA), Member of the Armed Services Committee, and LTC Christopher L' Heureux Army House Liaison Division.

This engagement provided an opportunity to demonstrate the NECPC's Soldiers cyber training, deployment experience, and the robust civilian acquired skills that have been propagated through an ongoing affiliation with industry.

Additionally, the NECPC has developed a flourishing affil-iation with academia, government research laboratories, government agencies, and industry. The result of these partnerships has lead to mutual gains, enhanced collaboration, and increased collective training opportunities.

What is a Grid Security Exercise? NECPC— Cyber Training

The focus of Grid Security Exercise is two-fold. To enable a realistic training environment for the North East Cyber Protection Center to engage red/blue posture from any location. The second objective is a proof-of--concept for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Lincoln Laboratory, to validate their GRID supercomputer as a robust available any-that will cover multiple Battle Assemblies and allow all of our Soldiers to experience a similar environment to Cyber X-Games and Cyber Yankee other various exercise platforms.

South West Cyber Protection Center (NCCPC)

LTC Randy Floyd

LTC Randy Floyd: is a government civilian GS-14 for the Department of Treasuries, Bureau of the Fiscal Service which is the agency that finances the entire federal government. LTC Floyd based in Austin Texas is responsible for the IA compliance of that agencies IT architecture. He has utilized his IT civilian acquired skills in a myriad of Army Reserve leadership positions both in the US and overseas to ensure confidentiality and reliability in those systems. He is tasked to lead a team to Southwest Asia in 2017 to protect ARCENT networks. He holds a MA in Management from American Military University and a BA from University of Texas – Arlington.

North Central Cyber Protection Center (NCCPC)

SGT Nicholas D. Malone works for FusionX, an Accenture company based out of Arlington, Virgina. He works on the Incident Response and Forensics team where he develops tools including a custom, statically compiled tool for forensic acquisition of key data and memory across all distributions of Linux. He researches new technologies and software that helps identify vulnerabilities, develop response methods, and build tools to combat attacks. He reverse engineers malware using static and dynamic methods. He holds a Master's degree in Digital Forensic Science from Champlain College

Soldiers Corner:

Military Compensation

The Blended Retirement System

You may be aware that on January 1, 2018, the Department of Defense (DoD) will introduce a new military retirement plan known as the Blended Retirement System (BRS).

The BRS retains the traditional defined-benefit and includes a defined-contribution plan utilizing the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). Army Reserve Soldiers with less than 4,320 points as of December 31, 2017 are grandfathered under the current retirement system, but will be eligible to opt-in to the new BRS.

While you will have an important choice to make, it is important to note that you will remain covered under your current retirement plan unless you choose to switch. BRS enrollment is not automatic and if you elect to opt-in your decision cannot be changed. to opt-in.

Fiscal Year 2017 News

With new how-to-train manual, Army aims to improve readiness

By David Vergun October 13, 2016

Army News Service

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) -- The Army recently introduced a new version of its premier training manual to help leaders from sergeants to generals improve their unit's readiness.

"Train to Win in a Complex World" is the title of the new Field Manual 7-0. The digital field manual explains Army training strategies and new initiatives for assessing Army training readiness. What's more, the manual offers links to online training resources.

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley said the new field manual will help the force achieve his No. 1 priority -- readiness.

"Training is the key task to improve our readiness," he said. "Realistic, hard, rigorous, repetitive training increases combat performance and reduces friendly casualties. Read, understand and use [the manual]."

Graduate Recognition— NECPC

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jennifer Gates is recognized for earning the ranking of distinguished honor graduate for the Class 002-16 Information Protection Technician (255S) WOAC , Dec 2, 2016 at Fort Gordon. (Courtesy Photo)

UTSA and cyber warriors build education partnership

(Left to Right) Dr. Bernard Arulanandam, assistant vice president for research support, at the University of Texas at San Antonio, Elvira Jacquez, director of communications & UTSA military liaison, take a photo with U. S. Army Reserve Maj. Gen. Peter A. Bosse, commander 335th Signal Command (Theater), and Dr. Glenn Dietrich, professor for UTSA's Department of Information Systems and Cyber Security, during a ceremony with Soldiers from the Army Reserve Cyber Command's 335th SC (T) Southwest Cyber Protection Center, in celebration of the Private, Public, Partnership Initiative to conduct cyber training and develop a relationship between the university and the Military, Nov. 20, 2016, at UTSA.

Story by SWCPC contributor

On November 20, 2016, the University of Texas at San Antonio hosted the first of six sessions of the Private, Public, Partnership Initiative with the Southwest Cyber Protection Center, located in San Antonio, Texas. The purpose of the meetings is to conduct cyber training and develop a relationship between the University and the Military to further to the growth of cyber in both organizations. The event was a celebration signifying the beginning of this partnership which expressed the desire to help each entity with the development of cyber knowledge building as well as the hope to mature a long lasting relationship between the organizations.

Photos by: CPT M. Steele Keck

ARMY RESERVE CYBER OPERATION GROUP

Brigade Commander
Col. Michael Smith

ARCOG Public Affairs
Lt. Col. Lenora German - PAO
Sgt. Erick Yates - Public Affairs

ARMY RESERVE CYBER OPERATIONS GROUP

ARCOG MISSION STATEMENT— The ARCOG provides trained and ready Cyber forces under the Cyber Protection Team construct to conduct Defensive Cyberspace Operations and Cyber support to Army, CCMD, DoD, DSCA, and other government agencies against an evolving threat.

Command Notes

ARCOG Soldiers we are in the midst of a significant organizational transformation of our unit structure and size.

We have 58 percent DMOS 17 Series — Cyber Operations reclassification to complete over the next few years in delivery of our first two Cyber Protection Teams (CPTs) Initial Operating Capability (IOC) in FY18.

Work with your first line leaders on your Individual Development Plans (IDP) for this FY and a 3 year plan for the next two FYs. This FY's IDP should be complete and provide the specific courses and dates of training. The three year IDP should layout your DMOSQ, PME, 8570, and exercise plans.

The order of precedence is as listed in the previous sentence.
I'm counting on you, the outstanding, driven, motivated, and focused Cyber Warriors of the ARCOG to meet or exceed all our objectives. Ready Lighting, Guardians of the Net!

Army officials advance strategic shift for resiliency campaign
By Sean Kimmons December 27, 2016

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. (Army News Service) -- During deployments, Soldiers often develop tight bonds while living together and working as a team to execute their missions.

Army officials now want to bring that strong sense of camaraderie back to the garrison, where it can boost personal readiness and performance across the service.

"Those Soldiers eat, sleep and fight together. They get to know each other very closely," said Sharyn Saunders, director of the Army Resiliency Directorate. "When Soldiers deploy, they have increased protective factors, and we think that's due to their ability to form very tight unit cohesion."

From healthy coping methods to a reliable support network, protective factors draw on a variety of skills and resources that Soldiers develop to manage stressful events.

With its recent shift in strategy for the Ready and Resilient campaign, known as R2, Army officials are hoping these factors can form a culture of trust within units through an engagement triangle of leaders, battle buddies and family members.

Established in 2012, the R2 campaign provides holistic and comprehensive capabilities to Army leaders to empower them to achieve and sustain personal readiness and optimize performance.

On Nov. 30, Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Daniel B. Allyn signed an 85-page operation order that officially pivoted the R2 campaign's strategy to a more proactive approach that supports the personal readiness and resilience of every Soldier. That narrow focus may have inadvertently led to some Soldiers being stigmatized by the rest of their unit.