

THE ARMY'S PREMIER PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION IN AIR, MISSILE AND SPACE SYSTEMS

# KENNY LETTER

*Spring 2022*



LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT  
PUBLICATION

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Kenny Letter | Spring 2022

---

04

*Commander's  
Corner*

---

05

*From the Desk of  
the SGT. MAJ.*

---

14-16

*LEAD  
Leadership  
Lessons*

---

23

*History  
Corner*

06

*Raising the  
Bar*

---

07

*I Know What  
You Did...*

---

08

*Stand-Downs  
Garner*

*to*

09

*Stand-Out  
Results*

---

10

*to*

11

*Why Lean?*

# FOLLOW LEAD ONLINE!

---

For more information about LEAD, visit:

<https://www.letterkenny.army.mil/>

Find us on Facebook at:

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/LetterkennyArmyDepot)

[LetterkennyArmyDepot](https://www.facebook.com/LetterkennyArmyDepot)

Find us on Instagram at:

[https://www.instagram.com/lead\\_army\\_depot](https://www.instagram.com/lead_army_depot)

Find us on Twitter at:

[https://www.twitter.com/LEAD\\_Army\\_Depot](https://www.twitter.com/LEAD_Army_Depot)

Find us on LinkedIn at:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/letterkenny-army-depot>

## EDITORIAL STAFF

---

### PUBLISHER/EDITOR

Dorie E. Heyer

### DESIGNER

Joshua W. Shinn

### CONTRIBUTORS

Melissa J. Knepper

Meghan E. Sharpe

**Submissions for the Kenny Letter  
may be sent to:**

[usarmy.letterkenny.usamc.list.public-affairs-office@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.letterkenny.usamc.list.public-affairs-office@army.mil)

11 *Cybersecurity  
Reminder*

---

12 *Cold Spray  
Technology  
Enhances Depot  
Capabilities*

---

16 *Collaborating  
with Corpus  
Christi*

---

18 *LEAD Salutes  
Employee  
Achievements*

---

22 *Army Depot  
Preserves  
Army History*



# COMMANDER'S CORNER WITH COL. ALLBRITTON


---

## Team Letterkenny,

First and foremost, thank you for what you do each and every day here at Letterkenny Army Depot. The other day I had the distinct opportunity to visit a group of outstanding Americans that are vital contributors to our success. The reason for my visit was not because a Director called and asked me to do so or me looking for another reason to get out of my office and hang out with our phenomenal employees. My visit was answering a request from an employee who reached out to his leadership, asking for his peers, as well as the supervisor, to be recognized for their outstanding efforts. This awesome employee demonstrated what I have been championing all along: everyone has a voice on our depot, and anyone can recognize a fellow employee for their outstanding performance. So, I was extremely honored to visit the team and thank them for what they do. I thought it would be fitting that the person who reached out to us was the one to present the team with their certificate of appreciation - not only for their outstanding work but for consistently banning together as a team to accomplish a difficult task. After the presentation, I awarded the individual who made the request a Letterkenny Commander's coin for excellence. Outstanding Teamwork! Thank you for what you do every day at the depot!

Army depots are not all the same - that would be like comparing apples and Volkswagens. Regardless of the depot, each one is evaluated monthly on the metric, "performance to promise," which is the ability to deliver a product to the customer on time and at cost. For the first six months of my command, this number fluctuated between 79% and 92%, which is akin to credit scores of 470 and 790. However, Letterkenny Army Depot has achieved its highest performance to promise rate ever, reaching 99% not once but four consecutive months in a row! Reaching this milestone can only be attributed to the collaborative effort amongst all of us. To say that I am proud of you because of what you have accomplished together is definitely an understatement. Thank you for what you do at the depot each and every day, and congratulations on your outstanding accomplishment of achieving a 99% performance to promise rate four months in a row! Excellent Job!

**Thank you for what you do.**

  
RICKY L. ALLBRITTON  
COL, LG  
Commanding





# *FROM THE DESK OF THE SERGEANT MAJOR WITH SGT. MAJ. AMOKE*

---

## **Team Letterkenny,**

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to excellence in all you do to support our warfighters wherever they are around the world and our partners. You have continued to guarantee that the best uniformed women and men have the best Air Defense systems that enable them to underwrite our freedom and that of many people worldwide. Thank you is not enough for all that you do daily.

In the month of April, we observed Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM). Although April has passed, I want us to remember that wearing teal colors during the month doesn't solve the problem of sexual harassment or, worse, sexual assault. It, however, provides us a constant reminder that we have more work to do in preventing any form of harassment in the workplace and around our communities. Let us wear teal in our hearts every day to help prevent sexual harassment and or assaults.

Now that the snow has melted and warmer weather is upon us, it's important to keep safety in mind. Just a reminder to keep safe by drinking fluids and staying hydrated, not leaving an open fire unattended, taking necessary fire safety precautions when grilling, and avoiding drinking alcohol while driving/boating/biking or operating machinery. Wear protective equipment when out and about enjoying your summer activities. Staying safe makes it even more fun!

We are all encouraged to continue to care for each other on and off the Depot. The LEAD family is stronger together as it has been for almost 80 years. Together, the Depot will be here for another 80+ years.

**Again, thank you for all you do for our warfighters and the communities that support us.**



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. C. Amoke".

SGM E. C. Amoke  
Depot SGM

# RAISING THE BAR

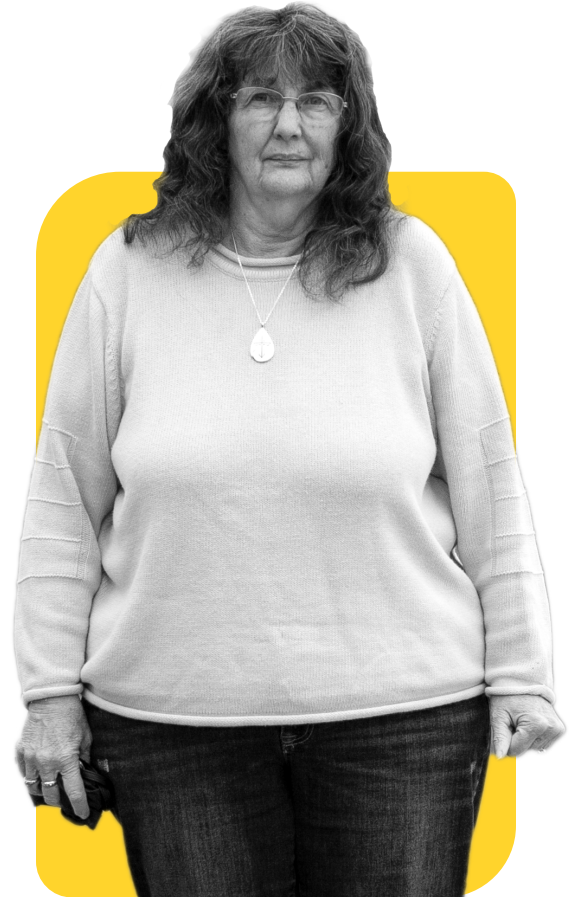
Story by **Jessica Koerth**  
Directorate of Supply and  
Transportation

---

If you happen to visit the Directorate of Supply and Transportation, there is a chance that you will have the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Connie Smith. As a General Supply Specialist, Connie processes the shipments and deliveries of PATRIOT, Route Clearance Vehicles, generators and forklifts. Her dedication is a staple for the perseverance of excellence within Letterkenny Army Depot.

After graduating high school with honors, Connie joined the United States Navy and was stationed at Patuxent River as a storekeeper with the Surface Effect Ship test facility. Her federal civilian career began at New Cumberland Army Depot several years later. It has spanned from the Naval Support Activity in Mechanicsburg, the Defense Logistics Agency and finally, Letterkenny Army Depot.

Throughout her time at LEAD, Connie has worked as a painter, worker helper, and in various supply positions, to her current position that is vital to daily operations at LEAD. Yet, despite all of this hard work, Connie makes time to enjoy what is most important to her. As an active member of her church, a traveler, and an avid reader, Connie embraces what makes her the most fulfilled.



After 38 years of federal service, Connie will be retiring in May of this year. When Connie was asked about the best part of working in DS&T, her reply was, “The people I work with.”

There is no doubt that Connie’s service to her country is not only appreciated but is admired by all who have had the pleasure of working with her during her career. As she embarks on her next chapter, Connie has raised the bar for her dedication to her position and the values we all uphold within the Department of the Army.

Summer is a great time to get away to that favorite vacation destination. You spend time planning, prepping, and...posting about your trip. Maybe too much time posting about your vacation. Although it goes against what seems to be the societal norm, consider keeping your vacation to yourself...at least on social media. Wait until you return home. **But why?**

From a personal security and safety standpoint, is there a reason to let everyone know what you are doing? Where you are going? How long you'll be gone? **Probably not.**

# I KNOW WHAT YOU DID THIS SUMMER...

Story courtesy of the  
Directorate of Information Management

## Consider following these practical tips:

### Don't post about your vacation ahead of time.

You can't wait to get away, but don't post that you're "outta here in 5 days!" Let a few friends, family, and coworkers know that you'll be away, but that's it.

### Don't post vacation pictures and status updates.

Resist the urge to post pictures, videos and update your status while on vacation. You might be thinking only family and "friends" can see my updates... but are you sure? Why risk broadcasting to the world that you are currently at the beach? Your vacation memories can be posted when you return home.

### Don't tag the people you are with while on vacation.

You may not care if people know you are away, but what about those you are on vacation with? Don't assume they want their whereabouts known.

Waiting to post your pictures and updates can seem like you are taking the fun out of vacation. But is that truly the case? Enjoy being in the moment with friends and family. Post later. Everyone will still get to see what you did this summer, just maybe not as it happens.



# STAND-DOWNS GARNER STAND-OUT RESULTS

Story by **Dorie E. Heyer**  
LEAD Public Affairs

The Directorate of Product Assurance and the Directorate of Industrial Operations are engaging in consistent collaboration to ensure compliance to the AS9100D/AS9110C Quality Management Systems. In order to maintain compliance, DPA personnel conduct regular stand-downs with DIO employees to evaluate current processes for alignment to AS9100D and AS9100C QMSs.

The quality stand-downs begin with leadership training to ensure they can enforce the standards throughout the directorate. The bulk of the stand-down consists of quality assurance specialists and quality control inspectors going on-site to the DIO shops to observe actions and help answer questions concerning the certification requirements and implementation methods.

“With these certifications, there were some major changes with how we manage Foreign Object Damage or Debris, how we manage tools and tag and trace our parts and scrap control,” said Tyler Crotsley, director of Product Assurance at LEAD. “These stand-downs are focused on these changes so that we can ensure compliance moving forward.”

Although the methods addressed during the stand-downs will become an integral part of the depot’s routine procedures, the main objective is to drive awareness and provide DIO personnel with the opportunity to recognize areas that need special attention moving forward.

“We’re starting the stand-down focus areas on the items addressed during our initial audit for the certifications,” Crotsley said. “As we improve all of those areas, the stand-downs will continue but with the goal of keeping new processes in the forefront of their mind to execute on a daily basis.”

Letterkenny Army Depot attained AS9100D/AS9110C certifications in November 2021. AS9100D is the most recent standard for organizations designing, developing, or providing aviation, space and defense products and services, including parts, components, and assemblies. AS9110 is the standard for aviation maintenance activities and is based on AS9100 but adds specific requirements critical for commercial, private, and military aircraft maintenance.



Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot, and Sgt. Maj. Ekondua Amoke, depot and installation Sergeant Major, LEAD, meet with employees during a quality stand-down. The Directorate of Product Assurance and the Directorate of Industrial Operations at LEAD are engaging in consistent collaboration to ensure compliance to the AS9100D/AS9110C Quality Management Systems. In order to maintain compliance, DPA personnel conduct regular stand-downs with DIO employees to evaluate current processes for alignment to AS9100D and AS9100C QMSs.

(U.S. Army photo by Pam Goodhart)



Tyler Crotsley, director of Product Assurance, Letterkenny Army Depot, discusses quality processes with a depot employee during a quality stand-down. The Directorate of Product Assurance and the Directorate of Industrial Operations at LEAD are engaging in consistent collaboration to ensure compliance to the AS9100D/AS9110C Quality Management Systems. In order to maintain compliance, DPA personnel conduct regular stand-downs with DIO employees to evaluate current processes for alignment to AS9100D and AS9100C QMSs.

(U.S. Army photo by Pam Goodhart)

“AS9100/AS9110 is primarily comprised of standards that were included in the ISO 9001 certification that we previously held,” Crotsley said. “There were additional product safety components, increased tool control, a larger emphasis on supplier performance and key performance indicators for the processes that LEAD uses.”

AS9100 standardizes quality management system requirements for the depot. AS9110 specifically targets the maintenance work LEAD executes on military aviation components.

“Identifying our core processes and then developing the key performance indicators for those was necessary for attaining these certifications,” Crotsley said. “Top management buy-in was also instrumental - not just

having leadership push for the certifications, but having them interface with the employees to ensure that they understand why we’re doing it and how we’re doing it.”

The AS9100/AS9110 certifications provide benefits to the depot and customers. Efforts such as the quality stand-downs solidify that the standards embedded within those certifications are incorporated into depot processes.

“These certifications will ensure that our customers understand the product safety measures that we execute at LEAD,” said Jeff Eichenlaub, Quality Control division chief, LEAD. “It helps us show our customers that the products we’re producing at Letterkenny are better products and that the quality is to the standards our customers expect.”

# WHY LEAN?

Story by **Darrell Plassio**

Office of Continuous  
Improvement

---

## WHY LEAN?

With over 20 years working for civilian engineering firms, and 18 years working for the government, I have seen Lean in many forms. It has ranged from simple programs implemented to overcome everyday operating issues and expenses to very complex and formal programs with dedicated staff and large budgets. What I have gleaned from the many Leaning efforts I have been involved in is that Lean “just works” and when made a part of everyone’s job, it can substantially enhance an organization.

Imagine working for a company where everybody has input into how things can be done better, faster and cheaper. I worked for a company like this, and even during hard times, they had no layoffs and continued to grow. Experiencing many Lean successes has cemented my belief in having a robust Lean program.

## YOU MAY ASK YOURSELF, WHAT IS IN IT FOR ME?

Simply looking at what you do every day makes you an expert to know where there is waste in the processes. Continuing to do things the way they always have been done, the processes will not improve, and eventually, someone else will find a better, cheaper or faster way to produce

your products. The end result: you will not have any work. By applying Lean to your processes, your customers can reap the rewards of a better product at a lower cost. You gain the advantage of being better prepared to accept additional and new workload. Whether you are employed in private industry or government, applying Lean to your day-to-day processes will equal job security.

## HOW DO I MAKE CHANGES?

Change is challenging and can be stressful, but it is a result that is worth the effort. At LEAD, ideas can be submitted to the Employee Innovation link under the Resources tab on the LEAD Portal main page, or you can contact the Office of Continuous Improvement directly. Either of these methods will initiate a process of making a change for the better. The Innovation Board meets monthly to review the Employee Innovation Requests. Contacting the OCI will initiate a Project/Improvement Initiation Request. This is a form we use to gather information so that we can decide what type of project will be created and determine if your improvement has enough data to claim a cost savings.

In both cases, this is just the beginning. Because of the size of the OCI and the workload of the individuals who may be assigned to assist with bringing your suggestion to life, the process can be slow. If you have a suggestion that needs to move quickly, you are encouraged to contact us at the OCI and let us know of the need for expediency.





## HAVE YOU ALREADY IMPLEMENTED CHANGES THAT MADE YOUR PROCESS BETTER?

If you have already implemented a change for the better, contact the OCI so that we can document it. The daily improvements that we make to get better products to our customers faster are fantastic marketing tools. Unlike the days of the past, our organization is finding that we are competing for new business. We have to be able to provide the best value to our customers. When we can show that we not only have the capability to do a customer's work, but have embedded process improvement

into everything we do, it significantly increases the likelihood of getting new and better work.

## SUMMARY

When Lean becomes part of our culture, and we use the excellent knowledge base that LEAD has developed over the last 80 years, there's no limit to what we can do. Keeping in mind that safety is a primary priority, take a look at **everything** you do, and think about how it can be done better, faster and cheaper. The next great million dollar idea may just be yours!

---

# CYBERSECURITY REMINDER

Cybersecurity and cyber protection plan a key role in the Letterkenny's modernization plan. Here are a few helpful tips to enhance our cybersecurity posture.

## AUTHORIZED DEVICES

In the telework environment, you are authorized to use basic devices such as monitors, mice and keyboards on your computer as long as the device you want to use does not have internal memory, such as an external hard drive or USB stick/drive. An additional basic monitor can significantly enhance your teleworking experience.

## USE OF GOVERNMENT COMPUTERS

Do not use government computers for ANY personal business, even during your breaks. Government-owned computers should only be used for tasks that are directly applicable to your job. Public websites can introduce many potential vulnerabilities into our network.

## EMAIL SAFETY

Please be wary of all emails you receive, especially those that contain attachments and links. If you aren't expecting to receive something, it is much better to err on the side of caution and verify that email came from a legitimate source. You should utilize the Encryption and Digital Signature options available if needed.





# COLD SPRAY TECHNOLOGY ENHANCES DEPOT CAPABILITIES

Story by **Dorie E. Heyer**  
LEAD Public Affairs

**I**ntegrating emerging technologies is a critical component of Letterkenny Army Depot's modernization strategy. Letterkenny Army Depot's 2035 Modernization Plan focuses on multiple lines of effort working in unison to allow the depot to sustain Army readiness, meet current Army demands and posture the depot to maintain future requirements.

"Depot modernization is critical to keep pace with emerging technologies and ensure agility to meet requirements at the time of need," said Kate Williams, director of the Office of Strategic Management and oversight for the depot's modernization plan. "LEAD's modernization team formed in 2019 and comprises experts from across the depot. They developed a plan that integrates the workforce, equipment, facilities and technologies to support enduring and future systems."

One such technology is cold spray. Depot personnel have been hard at work to bring this technology to LEAD – a process that required collaboration across directorates and thorough safety considerations.

"Cold spray is an additive manufacturing technology that we're using to repair parts," said Ashley Filling, a production engineer at LEAD. "Unlike other additive manufacturing technologies that are used to make parts, cold spray is used to repair many different materials. We're focusing on aluminum right now but are looking to expand into steel repairs as well."

Artisans at Letterkenny are using cold spray technology to perform non-structural repairs, including repairs of corrosion and other surface defects. Cold spray offers additional repair benefits because of the lower operating temperature.

“What’s great about cold spray is that you can build up a surface and repair the part without putting a ton of heat on the part,” Filling said. “Right now, for example, we’re looking at parts that have plastic behind the metal. We can use the cold spray to repair the metal without melting the plastic behind it.”

Artisans are currently utilizing cold spray on non-structural aluminum components to support programs tied to one of the depot’s industry partners. On the horizon, artisans are preparing to integrate cold spray technology in PATRIOT mast tube repairs.

“We are unable to purchase this mast tube separately, so we would need to purchase the complete assembly, which comes with a large price tag,” said Chris Yosler, a production engineer at LEAD. “Using cold spray, we can repair the corroded surface of the tube and re-machine the sprayed area for a fraction of the cost of full assembly replacement.”

Cold spray works by taking a powdered material and propelling it with a gas at temperatures below the material’s melting point and at 1000 psi. When the powder hits the substrate of the repair part, it mechanically bonds to the part.

“It’s like a snowball hitting the side of a house – it splats and sticks – so it’s not so much of a coating, but it’s a mechanical bond, and you’re actually building that metal up on that surface,” Filling said. “It’s about 80% as strong as the base material, making for a strong repair.”

Bringing cold spray to the depot took roughly five years before engineers could fully implement the technology. “One of the factors that contributed to the time it took for LEAD to gain approval for on-site cold spray was ensuring that we met the proper safety and fire codes,” Filling said.

In order to put safety at the forefront of operations, the team brought in an independent company to execute a Dust Hazard Analysis, inspections and recommendations for cold spray operations.

“They made mandatory recommendations for safety measures in the booth, such as installing the correct fire extinguishers, sealing off any surfaces that could collect dust and installing intrinsically safe lighting and power

outlets,” Filling said. “They also helped us write and approved our Standard Operating Procedures to include the proper grounding of materials and employees and housekeeping procedures to prevent dust buildup and mixing of materials.”

In addition to enhanced safety measures, depot engineers sourced guidance from academia and other Organic Industrial Base sites.

“Teamwork played an important role in acquiring cold spray and attaining the authorization to use it at Letterkenny,” Yosler said. “There were plenty of hurdles to overcome, and it took a team of people to accomplish them.”

Being an additive manufacturing capability, cold spray directly aligns with Letterkenny’s modernization plan. This technology gives artisans the capability to repair parts that are no longer readily available, providing cost savings and avoidance of scheduling issues.

“We’re at the beginning of what cold spray has to offer, but I see possibilities to grow that capability in the future,” Filling said.

Earlier this year, the depot executed operator training for cold spray operators. Later this month, the operators will use that training to attain their certification from the Applied Research Lab at the Pennsylvania State University. In order to obtain their certification, operators will spray samples, where they will then go through destructive testing to ensure that the operators were able to achieve proper adhesion and bond strength.

“We were able to cross-train our welders in the fabrication annex to be cold spray operators,” Filling said. “So we’ll be spraying by hand initially, but our goal is to move to robotic spraying in the next three to five years to start doing more structural repairs.”

Cold spray brings multiple benefits as it adds to the depot’s breadth of capabilities.

“I think the biggest benefit will be the cost savings that come along with Letterkenny’s ability to repair parts instead of buying brand-new parts,” Filling said. “Additionally, it will help us solve issues with parts that we need and have difficulty acquiring. Cold spray will allow us to repair rather than replace.”



# LEAD LEADERSHIP LESSONS

*Featuring:*

Crystal Cosey

*Story by:*

Meghan Sharpe

LEAD Public Affairs

---

Leadership is an integral aspect of Crystal Cosey's life. Although she has not always held a supervisory role at Letterkenny Army Depot, being at the depot for 16 years, holding a variety of different positions in diverse production areas, leadership has been part of her career since day one.

Currently, Crystal serves as the project manager for Force Provider, which packs new build, reset and inter-service camps to provide quality living conditions to deployed Soldiers.

We sat down with Ms. Cosey to gain more insight into her experience and to understand why leadership is so important to her inside and outside of her position.

***What is your background? How did you get to the position you're currently in?***

*So, I came here about 16 years ago. I was hired in a position under PATRIOT Missile Program in Huntsville, Alabama, to be on-site at the PATRIOT Missile lower-tier office as the administrative assistant. I was hired for that position because of my background; I had a bachelor's degree and some clerical administration experience. In that position, I learned all the strategies of sustainment and lifecycle management in the Army. I worked for a Chief Warrant Officer, and that helped me establish the military language and understand the milestones and successes here at Letterkenny. During that job, I traveled*

*a lot, escorting equipment to various countries and also fielding teams, assisting with all of the reset and recap equipment in the field.*

*After a few years of that, I transferred over on the Letterkenny side, still as a contractor, but as a shop coordinator. I learned the new role on this side of the house, working for the customer that I used to be. I knew I wanted to do more, advance my career and find a career in the government, so I kept applying and ended up receiving a position as a production controller. This position was something between a shop coordinator and a scheduler. I did that for a few years and really tried to mentor other people. We accomplished some innovation initiatives to better the business and process improvements. Eventually, I applied for a logistics management specialist position, and I held that role over five different programs through the years.*



*Once the depot created a new position, portfolio manager, to align with all of the weapons systems, I took over that role. I was a portfolio manager over several different commodities and programs for five years. Then the depot went through a reorganization, and my position did not exist anymore, so I became an analyst. Essentially, I was the LMS in that role, but really provided leadership on very important critical programs. For about two years, I was on PATRIOT Missile, supporting all of recap and reset foreign military sales. In that role, my team and I found many different ways to improve the system to make processes more efficient. Last year, I was moved to ERCA to try and streamline some of those processes, and now I am on Force Provider as a project manager. So now I am in a supervisory role, even though I've led people my whole time here.*

## ***How does leadership play a role in your current position?***

*Leadership is vital in every role. Just because I have the title of supervisor now, doesn't mean that I haven't provided leadership the entire time that I've been here; even as a shop floor coordinator, you know back in the day, I had to support the guys on the shop floor. My leadership at this point consisted of communicating with the shop floor employees, asking 'what do you need? How can I solve that?' Even now, working as a supervisor, I ask those same questions, which emphasizes the importance of communication in leadership. And everyone, supervisor or not, can communicate effectively.*

*The word communication is often overused, but there are many vehicles and styles of communication. Communication all stems back to the fact that you have to care about people, and you have to understand how people receive information differently. That shapes the climate and experience at the depot. At work, we spend more time together than we do with our own families, so there is a natural bond that happens; that needs to be treasured. People are people, and they matter. When people feel as though they are communicated to, are important to the organization, are valued and are understood as a person, then they will produce for you and fulfill the mission. Turnover and dysfunction are probably some of the most costly things to a business because training people and getting people to stay on task can be difficult. Therefore, the climate of the organization is important and communication is the core of that climate.*

*I love being a leader, but in my leadership, I enjoy sharing my knowledge so others can become better and find themselves.*

## ***As a leader, how do you create a positive culture/morale within your area? What goals do you have to create a positive culture depot-wide?***

*Positive enforcement makes a world of difference when dealing with culture and morale. If I'm giving you some constructive criticism, I'm also going to sandwich that with positive reinforcement; I'm going to let you know how great of a job you did on an assignment yesterday and then maybe tomorrow, we can work a little more on the assignment you're struggling with. Everyone needs encouragement. There will always be ups and downs but actively listening and empathizing with employees when they have difficult tasks or are having a bad day is so important to create a positive work culture.*

*As a leader, it's been a continuous goal of mine to connect with employees on a personal level, show positivity and encourage people for their successes. You don't always have to give somebody some kind of monetary gift or a big trophy to make them feel important. It might be a candy bar when they've had a bad day, or simply just asking about their family that could improve the culture. It could be taking a moment to wish them a happy birthday, or celebrate, you know, a success they've had recently. I always try to say hello to individuals who I've worked with in the past; I ask about peoples' lives and what is going on outside of their time at work. Taking the time to make a personal connection and show that you care is key! If we all do that to one another, we will grow and flourish as an organization.*

## ***What does leadership mean to you?***

*Leadership doesn't have to be in the title of your job; everyone can lead. I am a leader outside of my job description, just as much as I am in. Ultimately, leadership is being a mentor and being a role model. It doesn't mean you're perfect because you are going to mess up and make mistakes. I was always told that if you're making a decision and you're not making any mistakes, then you cannot grow to your full potential.*

***“... I enjoy sharing my knowledge so others can become better and find themselves.”***

## ***What makes Letterkenny great?***

*We have generations and generations of people who are proud to work or have worked here. This creates a culture of dedication and responsibility. This depot is part of who people are; the dedicated culture drives ownership which leads to success. It's so powerful.*

***What advice do you have for other leaders on depot?***

*We have to remember that our number one mission is truly meeting Soldiers' needs. We have a whole diverse workforce that loves and cares about the mission. My job title doesn't make me any better than anyone else; everyone plays a crucial part in accomplishing the mission – from employees on the shop floor, to those sitting behind desks – and that is so important to remember.*

***Describe leadership in one word.***

*Responsibility comes to mind. It's a huge responsibility to be a leader and a mentor, but it's not about power and control. It's about relationship building.*

---

Thank you, Ms. Cosey, for your dedication to Letterkenny Army Depot and loyalty to the warfighter.

---

# COLLABORATING WITH CORPUS CHRISTI

Story by **Spring Freerksen**  
and **Bill Bullock**

**S**ubject matter experts from Letterkenny Army Depot – also called LEAD – traveled to Corpus Christi Army Depot – also called CCAD - in an effort to expand on collaboration derived from the Organic Industrial Base Modernization Summit, hosted by the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command Logistics Center Industrial Operations Directorate, held Feb. 8-11.

On 8-9 March, a team consisting of Ashley Filling, mechanical engineer, Bill Bullock, IT planner/integrator, and Spring Freerksen, mechanical engineer, from LEAD visited CCAD in South Texas.

CCAD's specialized agenda provided many opportunities for project collaboration, potential growth for both teams and a channel in which LEAD and CCAD can collaborate to work toward enterprise solutions at the AMCOM and U.S. Army Materiel Command level.

The visit began with a meeting with Mr. Rod Benson,

CCAD's deputy to the commander. Discussions centered on common challenges such as workload variance, modernization efforts, supply chain issues, maintaining skilled workforce against the need for rate control and organizational culture change.

A goal of the OIB Modernization Summit was to examine how emerging technologies were being implemented at LEAD and CCAD. The trip offered the LEAD team the opportunity to explore CCAD's integration efforts.

"We were able to view CCAD's implementation of RFID technology on the shop floor that would bring great efficiency, quality and a reduction in time required to process parts," Bullock said. "Carla Bolton and Cameron McKenzie showed us an example of how they have reduced 16 clicks in LMP per one part to one scan that can capture dozens of parts in seconds."

The team explored CCAD's blue light scanning technology used to scan parts with incredible accuracy.



“These scans can be turned into a 3D rendering that can be used to verify inspections, reverse engineering and rapid prototyping,” Freerksen. “They were scanning an aircraft shaft that was deemed out of specifications by the manual measurements, but upon BLS inspection, the part was determined to be within drawing specifications and returned to service.”

Cold Spray is a technology that allows artisans to repair wear surfaces and corroded parts without changing the base material properties or replacing the part. The LEAD team examined CCAD’s booth and robotic application equipment. “Their team is working to certify the process for air worthiness,” Filling said.

“They explained that they use a decision tree to determine whether a part should be repaired using cold spray to ensure economic viability. LEAD looks forward to partnership with CCAD to tackle cold spray challenges together.”

The LEAD team also met with Information Technology leadership, Connie Salas, to discuss common IT

challenges and the balance between cybersecurity and the mission.

“Their team has embraced virtual desktop infrastructure for 10 years that comes with many benefits,” Bullock said. “The cost of VDI over the life cycle is significantly lower than a typical desktop due to a reduction in moving parts. Secondly, there is a reduction of cybersecurity risks. This gives our depots an opportunity to collaborate together to work through the inherent challenges in managing the industrial control network and systems.”

Information sharing creates opportunities for CCAD and LEAD personnel to collaborate to work together to overcome common challenges as both depots modernize and support the Army mission.

“We feel deeply grateful for the effort and time that CCAD folks took to support our trip,” Freerksen said. “Our visit fostered further relationship development that started at the Modernization Summit and will continue grow as we support one another in meeting mission requirements.”



# LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT SALUTES EMPLOYEE ACHIEVEMENTS

Story by **Dorie E. Heyer**  
LEAD Public Affairs

---

Letterkenny Army Depot recognized several outstanding employees during a virtual awards ceremony held at the depot headquarters April 20. Matthew Harlow was awarded the Department of the Army Civilian Service Achievement Medal in recognition of being named LEAD's Wage Grade Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter. Harlow is a heavy mobile equipment mechanic in the Soldier Support Division in the Directorate of Industrial Operations.

Harlow has 11 years of experience at LEAD and was selected as the Employee of the Quarter due to his leadership, dedication and technical expertise.

"He works closely with all depot personnel to ensure production requirements are met and information is communicated effectively and efficiently," said Rick Ramsey, Route Clearance Vehicle and Material Handling Equipment production supervisor. "Matthew is always willing to help and consistently shows great initiative in improving processes and bettering operations for the success of the program and the depot."

Harlow makes extensive contributions to the Buffalo program. By identifying and addressing challenges with the Upper Hull Repair program, Harlow has played a critical role in meeting production requirements.

"Sometimes working on the shop floor can be challenging to complete the job in a timely and orderly manner, but we always find a way to push forward and complete the mission," Harlow said. "I always try to think of the Soldier in the field and put forth the effort as if it was my product I was building. There are many great people who make everything run efficiently and put out the best product for our Soldiers. I'm grateful for everyone who contributed and pushed me to get this award."

Christopher Groat was awarded the Department of the Army Civilian Service Achievement Medal in recognition of being named LEAD's General Schedule Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter. Groat is an equipment specialist in the Directorate of Missile and Aerospace Readiness. Groat has dedicated over 16 years of service to LEAD and was selected as the Employee of the Quarter due to his technical skills, commitment to safety and exemplification of the Army Values.

"Chris works tirelessly to complete DMAR's mission," said Daniel Cooper, a supervisory equipment specialist in DMAR. "He not only performs his assigned job with high levels of proficiency, but he displays outstanding



Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot, presents Matthew Harlow, heavy mobile equipment mechanic, with the Department of the Army Civilian Service Achievement Medal in recognition of being named LEAD's Wage Grade Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter during a virtual awards ceremony at the depot April 20.

(U.S. Army photo by Pam Goodhart)



Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot, and Todd Black, deputy to the commander, present Christopher Groft, equipment specialist, with the Department of the Army Civilian Service Achievement Medal in recognition of being named LEAD's General Schedule Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter during a virtual awards ceremony at the depot April 20.

(U.S. Army photo by Pam Goodhart)

levels of support by helping out whenever and wherever the need arises.”

In addition to his duties as an equipment specialist, Groft also serves as the directorate's contracting officer's representative and is a safety committee member. Groft also aided the directorate in their migration to Army 365.

“It was an honor to receive this award,” Groft said. “There are many hard-working individuals on this depot that are here to support the warfighter. To have my efforts noticed amongst them means a lot.”

In addition to recognizing the employees of the quarter, several employees were commended for length of service milestones during the ceremony.

The following employees were recognized for 25 years of service:

- Darren L. Agnew
- Scott A. Carbaugh
- Peter A. Furfari Jr.
- James A. Hammond
- Dawn M. Hamsher
- John W. Norman V.
- Patrick A. Ransom
- Larry E. Roadcap Jr.
- Shane M. Sneary
- Zachary K. Zimmerman

Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot, and Todd Black, deputy to the commander, present employees with awards for 25 Years of Service at the virtual awards ceremony at the depot April 20. Pictured are Darren L. Agnew, Scott A. Carbaugh, Peter A. Furfari, Jr., John W. Norman, V and Shane M. Sneary, including Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot and Todd Black, deputy to the commander.

(U.S. Army photo by Pam Goodhart)



The following employees were recognized for 30 years of service:

- Pablo Nieves
- Kevin R. Santrock
- Thomas L. Williams
- John P. Ardans
- Lowell E. Carey
- David L. Cornell
- Gregory A. Epstein
- James R. Krimin
- Michael S. McCartan
- Ronald R. O'Donnell Jr.
- Kerry O. Randler
- Michael Torres
- Charles W. Wrights
- James R. Day
- James T. Ehrenreich

The following employees were recognized for 35 years of service:

- Michael L. Parks
- David L. Davison
- Charles L. Gipe
- Benjamin F. Line
- Katherine F. Mann
- David J. Marcotte
- Thomas R. Mohn
- Johnny Rofrits
- Phillip E. Tomey
- Toby W. Kruse
- Dale T. Martin
- Doyle D. Kohlbusch



Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot, and Todd Black, deputy to the commander, present employees with awards for 30 Years of Service at the virtual awards ceremony at the depot April 20. Pictured are Pablo Nieves, Thomas L. Williams, John P. Ardans, Lowell E. Carey, David L. Cornell, James R. Krimin, Michael S. McCartan, Ronald R. O'Donnell, Jr., Charles W. Wrights and James R. Day, including Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot and Todd Black, deputy to the commander.

(U.S. Army photo by Pam Goodhart)



Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot, and Todd Black, deputy to the commander, present employees with awards for 35 Years of Service at the virtual awards ceremony at the depot April 20. Pictured are David L. Davidson, Benjamin F. Line, Thomas R. Mohn, Johnny Rofrits and Toby W. Kruse, including Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot and Todd Black, deputy to the commander.

(U.S. Army photo by Pam Goodhart)





Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot, and Todd Black, deputy to the commander, present employees with awards for 40 Years of Service at the virtual awards ceremony at the depot April 20. Pictured are Timothy L. Cuff, Gerald D. Smeltzer, Reginald L. Tolbert and Barton R. Patterson, Jr., including Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot and Todd Black, deputy to the commander.

(U.S. Army photo by Pam Goodhart)

The following employees were recognized for 40 years of service:

- Timothy L. Cuff
- Michael R. Mata
- Gerald D. Smeltzer
- Reginald L. Tolbert
- Barton R. Patterson Jr.

The following employees were recognized for 50 years of service:

- Gary E. Cramer
- Kenneth E. Nolen

Combined, these employees have dedicated over 1,420 years of service to the nation.



Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot, and Todd Black, deputy to the commander, present employees with awards for 50 Years of Service at the virtual awards ceremony at the depot April 20. Pictured are Gary E. Cramer and Kenneth E. Nolen, including Col. Rick Allbritton, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot and Todd Black, deputy to the commander.

(U.S. Army photo by Pam Goodhart)



# ARMY DEPOT PRESERVES ARMY HISTORY

Story by **Dorie E. Heyer**  
LEAD Public Affairs

---

A select group of skilled artisans from the Process Support Division at Letterkenny Army Depot contributed to preserving a piece of Army history in collaboration with the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center, located in Carlisle.

In the fall of 2021, an M109 Howitzer and a Bradley fighting vehicle arrived at the depot in desperate need of paint restoration. Over the next several months, artisans within PSD meticulously sanded, prepped and painted the two assets with historical accuracy to restore them to their former glory.

On May 23, the assets traveled from Letterkenny to U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center, where they are on display to the general public at the center's Heritage Trail.

"The Process Support Division within Letterkenny Army Depot is extremely honored and proud of the opportunity to work with the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center," said Jeff Barnhart, the chief of PSD. "Not only are we supporting the mission and story that U.S. AHEC captures, but we're also able to showcase the talent of our employees here in PSD."

This project was the first of its kind for the division, whose efforts typically support the depot's reset and recapitalization mission.

"It's really satisfying to see what these assets looked like when they came in and what the final product looks like," said Daniel Bowman, a sander and prepper within PSD. "Just seeing the transformation; it's just awesome."

The team embraced the historical significance of their preservation and restoration mission.

"It's a piece of history," Bowman said. "It's awesome to see the mechanics of the Howitzer and how things operate."

Clinton Buchanan has worked as a painter in PSD for over seven years, and this project marked his first experience painting this type of asset. "It was really rewarding to paint the tank itself," Buchanan said. "This was the first tank I've ever worked on."

Although the project was a complete success, it still came with some challenges.

"The camouflage pattern gave us some challenges," Buchanan said. "It just took a little more precision to get it just right."

July 17, 2022, marks Letterkenny Army Depot's 80th anniversary. The depot's partnership with U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center reinforces Letterkenny's commitment to preserving Army history and highlights the depot's historical significance within the community.

"The men and women of PSD perform extraordinary work day-in and day-out, and it is usually unseen to anyone outside of the military," Barnhart said. "This project allows them to take their families on a day trip to U.S. AHEC and point to an asset and proudly say, 'I did that.'"



Employees from Letterkenny Army Depot and staff members from U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center work to unload a Bradley Fighting Vehicle May 23. The Bradley Fighting Vehicle and an M109 Howitzer were repainted and restored at Letterkenny Army Depot in Chambersburg for public display at the Heritage Trail in Carlisle.

(U.S. Army photo by Dorie E. Heyer, LEAD Public Affairs)

# LEAD ARMED HISTORY FORCES CORNER DAY

with **Andrew Newman**, LEAD Archivist



**D**id you know that Aug. 31, 1949, President Harry S. Truman established a single holiday to thank members of all branches of the United States military? The first Armed Forces Day was celebrated at Letterkenny and around the country May 20, 1950. A large crowd of 2,500 visitors attended the “open house” for a first time peak at Letterkenny behind the scenes. “You are playing a big part in keeping America strong in the cause of peace,” voiced keynote speaker Major General Elbert L. Ford, Chief of Ordnance, U.S. Army. “We look upon you people of Chambersburg, Shippensburg, Waynesboro, Mercersburg, and the vicinity as part of the Ordnance family,” General Ford concluded.

Seen here are seven employees, all veterans, selected to portray the “Spirit of Letterkenny,” the theme for promoting Armed Forces Day at Letterkenny in 1950. The employees are from left to right are: CPL. Richard Chronister, Air Corps Reserve, International Transportation Branch; AEM I/C John L. Horn, Navy Reserve Corps, Inspection Division; PFC Warren Diffenderfer, Marine Corps Reserve, Internal Transportation Branch; MSGT Charles L. Smith, Army Reserve Corps, General Supply Division; Elmer F. Bossum, a veteran, General Supply Division; Ross McCleaster, a veteran, Base Shops Division; Genevieve H. Lynch, a veteran, Depot Comptroller Division.





