



the

# Register

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The Newsletter of the Selective Service System

## New Board Member Training for 1999 Promises To Be Exciting

The preliminary schedule for Board Continuation Training indicates that 1999 should be another exciting year for Board Members. As part of a major initiative to update the Initial Board Member Training (IBMT), all Board Members will receive revised Board Member Handbook materials. The updated IBMT incorporates current Agency policies and procedures and revises the original training program developed in 1981. The updated Handbook includes chapters about the new Registrant Integrated Processing System (RIPS), a "two-step examination and induction process," derived from the RIPS Manual.

In addition to a number of other training activities, the Refresher Course section of the Fiscal Year 1999 Local and District Appeal Board Continuation Training Packages includes an introduction to the RIPS Manual. Board Members will have an opportunity to learn about major procedural changes to the induction process and take part in a review

of actions for conducting board meetings. A concise overview of the Health Care Personnel Delivery System (HCPDS) will also be presented in 1999. The Case File Activities for Local Board Members will include a video of a Hardship to Dependents Claim (3-A). This video will be optional viewing for District Appeal Board Members. Moreover, Board Members will have the opportunity to take part in role playing, including a Class 1-O Claim (Conscientious Objector to Participation in All Military Service).

The Fiscal Year 1999 Civilian Review Board Continuation Training Package provides a question and answer session on the Civilian Review Board and the Alternative Service Program. The package also provides an informative "What's New" segment on Time-Phased Response, the RIPS Manual, and the HCPDS. Finally, an audio Case File Activity will feature an Alternative Service Worker requesting a job reassignment.

### Director Inaugurates Civics Program at Chicago School



Selective Service Director Gil Coronado inaugurated the Chicago Public School's Civics Education Week, a partnership with the Selective Service System, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and several other organizations. Civics Education Week is designed to provide students with information about U.S. citizenship. The Director's visit also inaugurated the Agency's Registrar Recognition Program, presenting a certificate of recognition to Sally Nochowitz of Carl Schurz High School, located in Chicago.

During his visit, the Director advised students to stay in school, get a solid education, and register with Selective Service. "It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase a worthwhile partnership between government agencies and the schools," said Maj. Dianna Clevon, Region I's Operations Officer, who helped plan the event. "It also generated media interest and helped publicize registration awareness—and this is especially important in the inner cities, where registration rates are lower," she explained.

At left: Director Coronado presenting a certificate of recognition to Sally Nochowitz of Carl Schurz High School.

## Region II Joint Training Conference Earns Across-the-Board Support



Zach Ramsey (c) registers with Selective Service at the Arkansas Joint Training Conference as his father, Lt. Col. Tom Ramsey, and girlfriend, Caroline Wheeler, look on.

With a mandate from Region II Headquarters to train all eligible Local Board Members, the Arkansas National Guard and Reserve Force Officers conducted a joint training conference at the Arkansas National Guard's professional education center. The session attracted 42 board members, 41 percent of eligible District Appeal and Local Board Members in Arkansas.

Lt. Col. Tom Ramsey and Maj. Dwayne McCain, organizers of the training, praised the participants for organizing a session that produced positive results. The training started off on a good note, thanks in part to the efforts of 1st Lt. Lynn Turner who organized a barbecue the night before the training session. Rudy Alvarado, member of District Appeal Board 506, was one of many participants who expressed their thanks for the value of the social event.

"This is a first rate conference," said State Director Malcom Moore during remarks to Board Members at the event. "It shows we are listening to your suggestions and know you want to meet with fellow Board Members."

Capt. Mike Bernardo, who conducted the training, complemented the Guard facility for its state-of-the-art multimedia capabilities that enabled him to integrate video and PowerPoint presentations. In addition to hosting the event, the Arkansas National Guard provided lodging to all Board Members and trainers.

"Many Board Members came up to me afterwards to praise the session," Bernardo added. "They liked the format and were impressed with the presentations." Mary Smith, a Local Board Member from Murfreesboro, Tenn., commented on the professionalism and effectiveness of the training session.

"The screen was easy to read from across the room, and the presentation was easy to comprehend," she said, calling the overall experience, "very informative."

The session was happily interrupted when Zach Ramsey, son of Lt. Col. Ramsey, completed his Selective Service registration. All 42 board members watched as Zach registered.

## DMC Employee of the Quarter

Mail Processing Clerk Larry Dyson is the recipient of the Data Management Center's (DMC) Employee of the Quarter Award. As a result of his outstanding performance, Dyson received a cash award, a plaque, and a reserved parking space for 90 days. A DMC employee since April 1998, Dyson said he was surprised to receive the award due to his relatively brief tenure with the DMC. "I was shocked when Lyle called my name," he explained, adding that this was the first time in his career that he had been recognized on an individual basis.

DMC Director Wilkes, however, had no such qualms about recognizing Dyson's efforts. "Larry is quiet and humble, and is a hard worker who consistently exceeds requirements."

Mail Logistics Manager Beverly Ladd was equally effusive in her praise for Dyson's work. "Larry will do whatever we ask," she said. "We were short-staffed during the quarter, with unusually high work volumes. Larry sacrificed his time, and put in a number of overtime hours, to help us meet postage spending deadlines."

Prior to his civilian career, Dyson served three years in the U.S. Navy as a Boatsmate 3rd Class. He lives in North Chicago with his wife, Tracy, and their two children, 13-year-old Shannon and 8-year-old Larry.



Larry Dyson (l), DMC Employee of the Quarter, with DMC Director Lyle Wilkes.

The Register welcomes editorial contributions from readers. Please submit items of interest about the Selective Service System and its employees to Ben Cromer, Editor, via e-mail (bcromer@sss.gov) or submit information via your Region Headquarters. Deadline for the next issue is February 20, 1999.

## Director Coronado Dedicates New DMC Conference Room

On Sept. 25, 1998, Director Gil Coronado and his wife, Helen, officially dedicated the Coronado Conference Room at the Agency's Data Management Center (DMC). "I am honored, and so happy that this event was orchestrated so Helen could be here," said the Director, wiping away tears of joy. Lyle Wilkes, Director of the DMC, called it an appropriate honor. "Because of his leadership and vision, the DMC has had free reign to move forward with advanced technology."

In Wilkes' opinion, you have only one chance to make a positive first impression—and the DMC's conference facility needed to convey that positive message.

"While visitors have always left the DMC with a favorable impression of our operation, it was difficult to accurately portray our accomplishments because of outdated technology," Wilkes explained. "Our conference room had not changed since 1981. We displayed information on overhead transparencies using an old projector screen. It was time for a change."

Wilkes gutted the conference room, replaced all wiring and fixtures, and closed one of the entrances to the room. In August, the new state-of-the-art conference facility was unveiled. It houses a multimedia projector system with touch-pad controls, including a digital writing board for computer-generated presentations. The entire system connects to the DMC's local area network so that information can be easily shared with other parts of the Agency.

"Now we're able to explain our mission in a professional manner," Wilkes said. "In addition to briefings, we'll use the room for video and computer training sessions and vendor proposals. In the future, we also plan to use it for video conferencing and video recording."

## Video Links Region II Conference Participants

Region II took a high tech approach to its 1998 State Director/Detachment Commander Conference in Marietta, Ga. By using a video link, State Directors and Detachment Commanders convened in nine states to interact "face-to-face" with their peers in Fort Polk, La.; Crane AFB, Ind.; Keesler AFB, Miss.; Ft. Bragg, N.C.; Fort Jackson, S.C.; Arnold AFB, Tenn.; Kelly

AFB, Texas; and Langley AFB, Va.

As with any new technology, video participants were apprehensive at first. The mood changed, however, as the conference got underway, leading to a lively exchange of ideas from participants in Marietta and from around the Region. Judging from the outcome, this will not be the last instance where interactive technology can aid Agency training programs.



Region I conference participants interact with their counterparts via video link.

## Board Member PROFILE:



**Walter Debes**

Walter Debes of Philadelphia Local Board 135 has been named "Man of the Year" by District One of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Debes' VFW service has encompassed a number of roles at the local, state, and national levels, including committee memberships as well as post commander. In fact, Debes has logged more than 6,000 hours as a volunteer with a number of civic organizations.

Debes has served as an SSS Board Member with the Philadelphia Local Board since 1981. A former employee of the U.S. Postal Service, Debes retired after 22 years of service and recently received the Letter Carrier's Retiree of the Year Award. He is a member of the Optimist Club and Korean War Veteran's Association. Debes served with the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict, earning the Navy Occupational Medal.

## *This Just In . . .*

More than 10,000 young men have registered with Selective Service via the Internet during the first month of on-line registration. The new service began Dec. 2, 1998.

## Region III Official Visits Guam and Northern Mariana Islands

Lt. Col. Glen Ford, Region III's Senior Operations Officer, completed a successful visit to Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands that combined a number of elements: Selective Service registration awareness, public affairs outreach, and training activities. Following the visit, Ford was amazed with the results. As he put it: "I don't think I've had a more productive week."

The trip's success in Guam, Ford said, was due to outstanding planning and coordination by State Director Larry Aflague and Detachment Commander, Maj. Greg Perez. "They developed a comprehensive itinerary that allowed us to meet our four major objectives: train Board Members, visit high schools, get media exposure, and contact government leaders," Ford said.

Activities on Guam lasted three days and included training for all members of the Local and Appeal Boards. "They take their jobs as Board Members seriously and are always excited to get together for training," Aflague explained, "especially when someone comes over from the mainland."

## Virginia Legislative Efforts



Brig. Gen. Manuel R. Flores (Ret.), Virginia State Director, presents a Selective Service System plaque to Del. Ward L. Armstrong, a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, recognizing his efforts to secure state legislation that ties Selective Service registration to eligibility for Federal student financial aid.



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