

# THE ROCK



Serving the Employees and Residents of Rock Island Arsenal

August/September 2009 Vol. 8 No. 6

# Thank You For All You've Done ...

(On Sept. 2, Maj. Gen. Robert Radin, former commanding general, U.S. Army Sustainment Command, relinquished command of ASC to Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine. The following is his farewell message to the workforce sent Aug. 13.)

I won't have many regrets when I leave, but there is something I'd like to do that I know I'll never finish.

If I could, I would approach each and every Soldier, Civilian and contractor who is a member of this Command – as well as everyone at Rock Island Arsenal, the wonderful installation that serves as my workplace and home – look each of them in the eye, extend my hand, and say “Thank you!”

Unfortunately, it won't be possible for me to thank all of you in person, as much as I would like to do that. I will be able to personally thank many of you, and I do hope that those who I'm unable to see will know that I sincerely thank them as well, from the bottom of my heart.

I am very grateful for all that you have done for me, for this Command, for the Army, for our nation, and above all for the Soldiers and other servicemembers who rely on our support to perform their missions. I appreciate all that you've done, and all that you continue to do every day.

You've worked hard, taken on difficult projects, and accomplished great things, often with little or no recognition. Many of you have deployed and spent months away from home in austere conditions, and many more of you have willingly made other sacrifices to get the job done. You've had few complaints, but received many compliments due to your devotion to your mission and your customers.

Many times, you've made me look good, and many other times you've corrected my errors and pointed me in the right

direction. I've relied on you for advice, guidance, information and support, and have often asked an awful lot of you. You've never failed to come through for me, and you've always proven to be trustworthy and loyal.

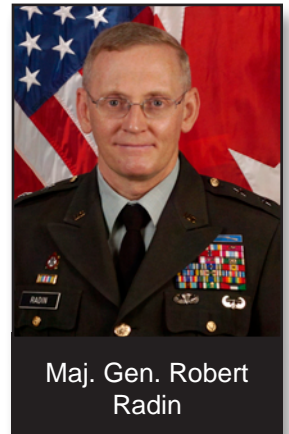
I came to this Command when we were in transition, and faced a number of very daunting challenges. We've worked together on tasks that seemed impossible, but yet were accomplished ahead of schedule and in a manner that exceeded standards of excellence.

I've drawn strength and inspiration from you, and have become a better Soldier, a better leader and a better person because of what you have shown me and what you have taught me.

There are times when mere expressions of appreciation fall short of what is deserved and what has been earned. Without a doubt, this is one of those times.

So, while I'd like to do more, for now a simple, sincere and humble “Thank you!” will have to suffice. I hope you accept my thanks in the spirit in which I offer them, and that you know how much you are valued and appreciated.

It has indeed been my privilege to serve as Commanding General of ASC. I wish all of you the very best, and I hope that we get a chance to see one another and work together in the future. 🍷



## Wounded Warriors Hit the Links

On Aug. 14, members of Community Based Warrior in Transition Unit - Illinois participated in the first Wounded Warriors Golf Outing at the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Course with their family and friends to wrap up their August muster held the week of Aug. 10. More than 45 warriors, 14 family members, and 18 children participated in the event.

Capt. Martin Munoz, CBWTU-IL commander, said the event was so popular the unit plans to duplicate the efforts in coordination with the RIA Golf Club on Oct. 23 at the completion of the October muster.

“The last one went great,” said Munoz. “The whole week went well that month with the theme of support from the Arsenal and local community. The Soldiers enjoyed everything and we're really glad it was offered.” 🍷

Top - Wounded Warrior Golf participants tee off from the number three tee at one of the more picturesque locations on the course. Inset - Spc. Joseph McLosky, CBWTU-IL, speaks with fellow unit members during the golf outing. While he and some other unit members weren't able to play golf that day, they were able to enjoy the weather, the course, and support the outing and their teammates in an event designed to give back a little to those who have sacrificed so much for the nation. Photos by Mark Kane



# Motorcycle Safety

By

BONNIE HEATER

U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

In the spring of 2008, Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Foley, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commanding general and Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Clark, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon command sergeant major, attended the Army's Basic Rider Course.

"I took this course because right now, motorcycle accidents are the leading, non-combat related cause of death and injury to our service members," said Foley. "Motorcycle safety is so important, that I wanted to experience first-hand the level of training that our service members receive in the Basic Rider Course here at Fort Gordon."

Now, in the midst of summer, motorcycle enthusiasts at installations all over the country are tuning up their bikes and heading for the open roads.

While motorcycle maintenance is essential, it is equally important to receive initial training for first-time riders, and refresher training for experienced riders in defensive as well as offensive driving techniques.

As a result of rising motorcycle fatalities the Department of the Army now requires motorcycle training for all active duty Soldiers, Reservists, National Guard members, contractors, and Department of Defense employees.

In accordance with Army Regulation 385-10, prior to operating a motorcycle, Army personnel must successfully complete an Army approved hands-on motorcycle rider course. Anyone registering a motorcycle on an Army installation must show proof of completing a

Motorcycle Safety Foundation course.

The Arsenal's course, simply referred to as the Motorcycle Rider Course, was offered to workforce employees during a number of days in July. The course is a full-day course and is designed to help riders manage their risk and increase their skills.

Don't forget to consider roadworthiness of your bike. A good initial inspection

and routine maintenance will go far in ensuring a safe and enjoyable riding season.

For example:


- Inspect your braking system to include brake pads, discs, and fluid levels. Always service your braking system IAW manufacturer's instructions.
- Ensure all fuses, lights, and horns are in good working order. Replace bad fuses and burned-out bulbs as required.
- Service all fluids and check for any leaks. Also, do a bolt check and tighten up anything that may be loose.
- Check the charge on your battery and service if necessary. If servicing is required, always follow the correct safety procedures and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Inspect your riding PPE to make sure it is serviceable.

These components can affect the safe operation of your motorcycle. This certainly is not a comprehensive checklist. You should tailor your inspection to the type of motorcycle you ride and the manufacturer's recommendations.

For further about the course or to inquire about future courses, contact the Garrison Safety Office at (309) 782-2314.



Participants at the Arsenal's Motorcycle Rider Course listen to their instructors input after they had completed one of a number of rides through the course during the training that took place on July 2. Photo by Mark Kane



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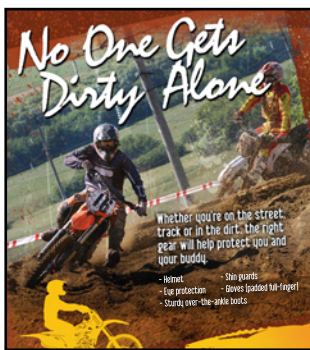
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On the Cover: Royce Phillips takes instruction from an Arsenal firefighter during the mass causality exercise held on the Arsenal Aug. 13. The exercise involved more than Arsenal employees to act as mass causality "victims" during the event. For more information about the exercise go to page 4. Photo by Mark Kane.



**The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center offers a lot of good information about motorcycle safety and numerous other safety subjects on their website. Check it out at <https://safety.army.mil/>.**



Left - Jean Lupoli and Pauline Vandendooren take instruction from an Arsenal firefighter during the mass casualty exercise. Center - Nathan Bowers "reels in pain" on the ground, while fellow vehicular victim, Pat Gainer, lays "unconscious and bleeding" in the van waiting for emergency personnel to assess their injuries. Upper right - Larry Odens is showered with water to simulate decontamination procedures during the exercise. Right - The Army Disaster Personnel Accountability and Assessment System displays information about the exercise on the day of the event. Below - ambulances and emergency services from around the Quad City area line up to pick up mass casualty "victims" in a staging area close to the Colonel Davenport House. Photos by Mark Kane




# Arsenal Tests Emergency Capabilities in Exercise

By  
EDMUND PETERSON  
Antiterrorism/Force Protection Officer  
Emergency Services Directorate

With lights flashing and sirens wailing, emergency vehicles throughout the Quad Cities responded to the Rock Island Arsenal as part of the annual Force Protection/Antiterrorism Exercise on Aug. 13.

The attack scenario involved a truck explosion in the city of Rock Island under the viaduct bridge causing a leak of an unknown chemical. The wind direction that day caused the plume to drift onto the Arsenal causing employees and their family members to get sick while attending a picnic at the Colonel Davenport Pavilion. While attempting to take them to a local hospital, a vehicle of employees was involved in a traffic accident causing further injuries in addition to the mass casualty caused by the chemical release. The exercise put the Arsenal to the test.

The Rock Island Arsenal Fire and Police Departments joined forces with the East Moline Fire Department, Rock Island City Fire Department, MEDIC Ambulance Service, Federal

Bureau of Investigation, and the Rock Island County Coroner in responding to the emergency drill.

Moulage kits were applied to simulate casualties that would occur to the RIA work force exposed to the chemical plume ranging from bruises, burns, compound fractures, lacerations, walking wounded and other life-threatening injuries. The simulated casualties were evacuated to a triage area and then transported to either Trinity West Hospital or Genesis East Hospital for further treatment.

During the exercise, the Garrison Emergency Operations Center was activated to test the Garrison staff on its ability to communicate through proper channels concerning the situation while executing missions during a crisis.

"We're required by regulation to conduct a force protection exercise annually, said Edmund Peterson, RIA Garrison Antiterrorism Officer. "It tested our first responder capability, as well as our ability to rapidly react to emergency situations by deploying elements of the emergency services to an incident. It also gives us an opportunity to test our agreements with off post emergency services and to test the Garrison Emergency Operations Center." 🍌



Above - Command Sgt. Maj. David Puig talks to the more than 5,000 in attendance at iWireless Center circus performance. Center - Old Glory and red, white, and blue are on display during the opening act of the circus. Top right - Puig waits for the house lights to go down and for his introduction as the guest ringmaster at the circus event. Bottom right - official ringmaster Chuck Wagner salutes the U.S. flag as it is displayed during the opening of the circus on Sept. 3. Photos by Mark Kane

# Arsenal Soldier Serves as Guest Ringmaster Circus Puts Patriotism on Display

By

MARK KANE  
Rock Island Garrison Public Affairs

Command Sgt. Maj. David Puig of Joint Munitions Command stepped up, literally, and represented the Armed Forces on Sept. 3 at the iWireless Center in Moline, Ill., as the guest ringmaster during the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus performance.

The circus is a supporter of the Department of Defense's "America Supports You" Program, an ongoing initiative that communicates America's support to men and women serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Ringling Brother's website states it is a long-time supporter of America's military community and appreciates the sacrifices made by the U.S. Armed Forces

and their families. As our way of saying thanks, the site states it is pleased to provide special events and promotions for military families in each city its tours visit.

At the onset of the circus' performance, Puig was introduced and took center stage. He talked about his pride in serving in the Army and the Armed Forces and much it means for the troops to have the kind of support on display inside the iWireless Center and all around the Quad Cities community.

After speaking to the crowd gathered to witness the famed circus, Puig introduced the official ringmaster Chuck Wagner who welcomed everyone to "The Greatest Show on Earth."

Show highlights included acrobats and

trapeze artists, daredevil horseback riders and a "Globe of Steel" in which motorcyclists spun.

America Supports You, one of many initiatives managed by DoD's Office of Community Relations, is intended to communicate citizen support to the men and women serving in the Armed Forces and their families. All America Supports You related content is featured under the "Citizen Support for Our Troops" section of [www.OurMilitary.mil](http://www.OurMilitary.mil). In addition to the America Supports You initiative, [www.OurMilitary.mil](http://www.OurMilitary.mil) features a variety of educational information about the Department of Defense, its people, mission, requirements, and other programs managed by the Office of Community Relations. 🍌



Left - Maj. Gen. Robert Radin passes the ASC flag to Gen. Ann Dunwoody, formally relinquishing command of ASC. Above - Soldiers from ASC march in formation during the change of command ceremony. Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Sean Riley, ASC Public Affairs



# ASC HOLDS CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

By  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
US Army Sustainment Command

Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine became commanding general of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command at a ceremony held on Rock Island Arsenal Sept. 2.

Maj. Gen. Fontaine took command of ASC from Maj. Gen. Robert Radin, who had served as commanding general since July 2007. Radin has been reassigned to Department of the Army Headquarters in Washington, D.C., where he will serve as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics (G-4).

Gen. Ann Dunwoody, commanding general of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, presided at the ceremony. In a traditional act that has been performed many times on the arsenal's Memorial Field, and on other parade fields at Army installations worldwide, Dunwoody passed the flag of command from Radin to Fontaine.

With his position as commanding general established, Fontaine then passed the flag to ASC's top enlisted Soldier, Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Blake, for safekeeping.

In her remarks, Dunwoody said that the flag passing and other traditional elements of the change of command ceremony were "the Army's way of recognizing continuity of command" and then quipped, "You may have noticed that I had to wrestle the flag away from General Radin."

Dunwoody praised Radin's wife, Sara, for her work with Army families and with the community, and praised the Radins for the work they had done in "strengthening the bonds" between the arsenal and the surrounding Quad Cities area.

"There really is a special relationship here between the Arsenal and the community," Dunwoody said. "You can really

feel the love you had for Bob and Sara Radin."

Dunwoody remarked that Radin had accomplished much in his brief two years in command.

"You've made amazing changes, you built a remarkable team, and, by transforming this command, you ushered in a new era for Army sustainment," she said.

"Bob had molded ASC into an operational command totally focused on supporting warfighters around the world," Dunwoody said. "His visionary leadership helped produce two years of steady progress on all fronts, and two years of outstanding support to our combat forces at a time of persistent conflict."

Dunwoody then welcomed Fontaine to ASC by stating, "They don't come any more qualified nor any more ready for command. He knows what right looks like and understands what support to the warfighter means. Most important of all, he knows how to take care of Soldiers, civilians and their families.

"I've known Maj. Gen. Fontaine for many years. He has the energy and the intellect for the job.... Notice that I didn't say patience," she added, drawing a laugh from the audience.

In his remarks, Radin pointed out that two senior civilian staff members from ASC - Sandi Schneider and Jim Coffman - had joined 95 ASC Soldiers on the parade field as active participants in the change of command ceremony.

"We did this because I thought it was important to demonstrate that this command's strength is the melding of Soldiers and Department of the Army Civilians into one team," he said.

Radin told the audience that he had taken a long walk around the Arsenal with his dog, Mauri, on the Sunday just past.

"It was a beautiful day and it gave me plenty of time to think about the upcoming change of command, and to reflect on how

Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine returns the ASC flag to ASC Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Blake after accepting command of ASC. Photo Galen Putnam, ASC Public Affairs



Below - Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine's official photo



“special it’s been to serve here in the Quad Cities,” he said.

He then recalled some of the special moments he had experienced while living and serving on the Arsenal, such as spotting 17 bald eagles in an oak tree outside his quarters and the thanks he had received from a father whose son was able to attend college because of a scholarship granted by a local spouses’ group.

“As I walked, I said a little prayer for our servicemembers and civilians deployed around the world, and asked God to keep them safe,” he said. “And I remembered how proud I was of the times that our workforce lined Rodman Avenue in honor of our fallen comrades - Staff Sgt. Nathan Cox, Cpl. Jason Pautsch and Sgt. Justin Duffy.”

Cox, Pautsch and Duffy were killed in action. Their funeral processions went down the Arsenal’s main thoroughfare on their way to burial at Rock Island National Cemetery, located at the western tip of the installation. Members of Cox and Pautsch’s family were special guests at the change of command ceremony.

His voice choked with emotion, Radin turned to the family members and said, “Your loved ones and their sacrifices for our great nation will never be forgotten - not by me, not by the people of Rock Island Arsenal, not by the people of the Quad Cities.

“We’ve made so many friends and we cherish the time we spent here at Rock Island Arsenal,” Radin concluded. “Thank you and God bless you all.”

Fontaine began his remarks by extending greetings to special guests from the community and thanking the Quad Cities area for the warm welcome it had given him and his wife, Kathy.

He then added, “In keeping with established rules of engagement, I’ll keep my remarks short.

“To the Quad Cities community, I look forward to carrying on

the fantastic relationship that Bob and Sara Radin have established with you,” he said. “To the people of ASC, your reputation for excellence is renowned around the world, and I am honored to serve with you as we tackle future challenges.”

Fontaine is ASC’s third commanding general, succeeding Radin and Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson, who was in command when ASC was established in October 2006.

Commands led by general officers have been headquartered at Rock Island Arsenal since the Ordnance Weapons Command was established here in 1955, and Fontaine is the 23rd in a line of commanding generals who have served on the arsenal in the past 54 years.

Fontaine comes to ASC from Kaiserslautern, Germany, where he served as commanding general of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command. Prior to that assignment, Fontaine served as the chief of G-4 (Logistics) for U.S. Army-Europe, 7th U.S. Army, in Heidelberg, Germany.

From November 2004 to November 2005, Fontaine was deployed to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as commanding general of the 1st Corps Support Command. He previously served in the Persian Gulf region during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, as a plans and operations officer with the 24th Infantry Division and later as the U.S. liaison to a French military unit.

Fontaine, 56, is a native of Belgium who became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1971. He was commissioned as an Army officer in 1976 following his graduation from LaSalle University in Philadelphia, Pa., where he was named as Distinguished Military Graduate.

Fontaine and his wife, Kathy, are the parents of four daughters: Laura, Sara, Michelle, and Genevieve. 🍀

# More Than 800 Attend JMTC's Third Annual Industry Day

By  
RHYS FULLERLOVE  
JMTC Public Affairs

It was a perfect 76 degree sunny day when the Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center hosted its third annual Industry Day Aug. 6.

The purpose of the event was to provide a forum for networking and visibility to businesses interested in partnering with JMTC and the Army. The event was attended by more than 146 vendors, and 800 visitors from industry leaders and the community.

"This was by far the largest type of event that I have ever participated in during my 25 years in the service," said JMTC Commander, Col. Craig Cotter. "We had an absolutely perfect day."

The vendors included industry leaders representing the Army's Industrial Base. Large companies that provide vehicles and equipment for Soldiers to small local businesses that provide nuts and bolts were all on hand. Educational partners from both the community colleges and local universities were also represented.

"We had a great mixture of people here today," Cotter said. "This just goes to show that no matter how big or small

you are... you can play a part in supporting that Warfighter down-range."

Cotter, during his opening remarks spoke about the importance of partnering with businesses.

"We don't do anything here in the factory by ourselves," Cotter explained. "We must leverage the expertise from the private industry so that we can provide the best equipment to America's sons and daughters."

Maj. Gen. Scott West, commander, TACOM Life Cycle Management Command, was the keynote speaker at the event.

"Rock Island Arsenal is a very special place," West said. "You are our link to the past as well as our window to the future."

West said he was also impressed on how much Industry Day grew from the



Rock Island Arsenal employee Rob Davison shows Maj. Gen. Scott West some of the variety parts that can be machined at RIA. Photo by Ted Cavanaugh

previous year.

"The participation here at Rock Island Arsenal is double the size it was last year," West said. "By bringing industry in, we hope to entice more work and partnerships into the Arsenal."

Local city mayors from Moline and East Moline, Ill. attended the event. They see the Arsenal as a rock during a questionable economy.

"When the economy starts getting a little soft, businesses need new clients," said East Moline Mayor John Thodos. "This is a great place to take a look and see how they can merge what they make along with the Island."

Many people from the community came to Industry Day curious to see what RIA is producing for Soldiers. Some were former employees who were curious to see what has changed while others used it as an educational opportunity for their families.

The Rock Island Arsenal is the only fully integrated metal manufacturer in the Department of Defense. 🍌



A view of the west lawn of Bldg. 208, which was the site for JMTC's third annual industry day Aug. 6. Photo by Randl Besse, JMTC

## JMTC On The 'Net



<http://ria-jmtc.ria.army.mil/>

[http://bit.ly/RIA\\_JMTC\\_Facebook](http://bit.ly/RIA_JMTC_Facebook)

[http://twitter.com/RIA\\_JMTC](http://twitter.com/RIA_JMTC)



# NEVs Coming to Arsenal

By  
WENDY HOLLADAY  
Rock Island Arsenal-Garrison

Over the past two fiscal years, the U.S. Army Garrison-Rock Island Arsenal Directorate of Public Works and Directorate of Logistics have been partnering on a very important initiative. The goal of this initiative was to meet the requirements of several federal mandates, to include Energy Policy Act of 2005 and Executive Order 13423, as well as an Office of the Secretary of Defense memorandum dated Oct. 27, 2008, and requirements of the U.S. General Services Administration. In summary, these mandates require:

- Two percent reduction in fleet fuel usage per year through 2015
- Ten percent increase in bio-based fuel usage
- Use of electric cars where possible
- Agency reporting of fleet and fuel data using Federal Automotive Statistical Tool

An inventory of fleet vehicles at the Arsenal showed that out of 65 vehicles, 35 were flex fuel equipped. This means that in addition to being able to run on petroleum based fuels, these vehicles can run on E-85, a bio-based and “renewable” fuel. Research also indicated that while these vehicles have this capability, use of E-85 in fleet vehicles at RIA was minimal. The conclusion was made that this was likely due to the fact that the Arsenal has only a gasoline storage tank and dispensing station. The nearest gas station offering E-85 is located seven miles away, in Silvis, Ill.

In order to meet the federal mandates, two initiatives were undertaken within the Garrison. The first was to offer an alternative to petroleum based unleaded fuel. After much research, it was decided that the best course of action would be to add an additional above-ground storage tank to hold gasoline, and then convert the existing 20,000 gallon underground storage tank to E-85. The Garrison is executing this plan through the Defense Energy Support Center SRME database, with the guidance of the Army Petroleum Center. All pieces are to be in place next fiscal

year.

The second initiative undertaken was a plan to purchase Neighborhood Electric Vehicles for use on post. Use of NEVs would drastically reduce petroleum-based fuel usage. NEVs are well suited for short distance, low speed travel. The Garrison investigated the possibility of trading in vehicles from our existing fleet early in exchange for NEVs. The General Services Administration does not allow organizations to terminate their leases early. Instead, the Garrison responded to an Installation



The first six “neighborhood electric vehicles” were delivered to the Army Jan. 12 during a ceremony at Fort Myer, Va. The ceremonial delivery of the NEVs, which are entirely electric powered, represents the beginning of a leasing action by the Army to obtain more than 4,000 of the vehicles. The use of NEVs by the Army is part of its comprehensive and far-reaching energy security initiative to ease its dependence on fossil fuels. As part of that initiative, the service will be leveraging electric vehicles and other technologies that exist today, as well as exploring emerging technologies. Photo by C. Todd Lopez, Army News Service

Management Command tasker asking installations if they could use NEVs. USAG-RIA has promised three vehicles as a result. These two initiatives combined will go a long way towards helping the Garrison to meet the goals set out by the federal government.

For more information on the alternative fuel initiative, please contact Kim Washington at (309) 782-4030. 🍌



## Tips for Helping to Reduce Rock Island Arsenal’s Fuel Consumption

- ▶ Don’t drive if you don’t have to. Are you going a couple buildings away for a short meeting? Is the sun making you itch to get outside? Take the healthy route and walk over instead. Note: this has the added benefit of aiding in parking congestion.
- ▶ Minimize the amount of time your vehicle is left idling. Stuck in government bridge traffic again? Turn your car off while you wait. Cars get 0 mpg if they are running, but not moving.
- ▶ Accelerate at a steady pace. Accelerating rapidly burns more fuel.
- ▶ Make sure you drive the speed limit. Note that this tip also has an added bonus - avoiding expensive Arsenal tickets.
- ▶ Avoid breaking frequently. Pay closer attention to what is going on around you.
- ▶ Roll the window down instead of using the air conditioning. When traveling at a speed of 35 mph or less, rolling down the window is more efficient than turning on the air.
- ▶ Don’t carry extra weight in the car. Statistics show that every 100 pounds extra you carry may reduce your gas mileage one to two percent.

# Historical Work Returns to Arsenal

By

RHYS FULLERLOVE  
JMTC Public Affairs

Most everything that is produced at the Rock Island Arsenal is to support the Warfighter in the field. However, on this special occasion, they are producing an item that honors those who served this country.

The National Cemetery Administration has partnered with RIA to produce 62 cast-iron tablets containing the Gettysburg

by restoring and introducing some of his most beloved words to these facilities just in time to celebrate the bicentennial of his birth in February 2009.

In July 1862, legislation was enacted authorizing the president “to purchase cemetery grounds . . . to be used as a national cemetery.” This was the origin of all national cemeteries, including 75 established by 1872. The next year, on November 19, 1863, Lincoln gave the famed speech at the dedication of “Soldier’s National Cemetery” in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. An invitation to Lincoln to make “a few appropriate remarks” was almost an afterthought, but his 2-minute speech was the best-remembered event of the day and well beyond.

“The new tablets are being installed in older cemeteries where originals have been lost over the years,” Beine said. “They are also being installed in cemeteries that were developed after about 1950 that never had them.”

This is not the first time these historical tablets have been produced at RIA.

“Similar tablets were produced here exactly one century ago,” said Beine.

An older tablet that currently resides at the Rock Island National Cemetery was used as the model for the new tablets. Common foundry practices were implemented to produce the tablet.

The process starts with a pattern being designed. The font for the new tablets had to be re-created using a likeness from the old tablets. After the casting is poured and cooled, it is cleaned, polished and painted. The total process takes about three weeks to complete, Beine said.

JMTC has the capabilities to produce a wide variety of products because it is the only vertically integrated metal manufacturing facility in the Department of Defense.

“Over the last 50 years, people have become accustomed to RIA producing artillery systems and spare parts” said Rock Island Arsenal Joint Manufacturing Center Deputy Commander, Mike Bunch. “However, we have the capability to make almost anything our country calls for. The Gettysburg plaques are just one example of us

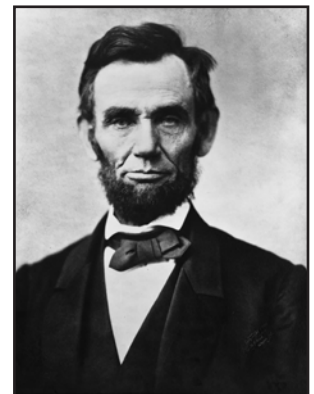


The original Gettysburg Address plaque that was produced at Rock Island Arsenal a century ago.

being able to make a very unique and cool item when called upon.”

The Gettysburg Address as a permanent element of the cemetery landscape appears first in 1895 when legislation authorized a monument to Lincoln’s speech at the Soldiers National Cemetery; it also transferred the cemetery

to the federal government as part of the nation’s fourth national battlefield park. That monument was not completed until 1912, but in the meantime, the Army had begun producing a standard Gettysburg Address tablet for all national cemeteries. By 1909, these were fabricated of iron, later “copperplated,” at RIA. 🍎



The new Gettysburg Address plaque resides at an unknown National Cemetery.

Address, the most prominent historic tablet found throughout the 125 national cemeteries.

“The new tablets measure nearly five-feet tall and three-feet wide, and will be painted black and silver,” said Rock Island Arsenal Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center Program Manager, Roger Beine.

The National Cemetery Administration is recognizing the historical impact of President Abraham Lincoln, especially his initiation of the national cemetery system,

# Corps of Engineers Welcomes New Commander

By  
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District

Col. Shawn McGinley took command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, during a change of command ceremony held July 17 at Quarters One on Rock Island Arsenal.

McGinley took command replacing outgoing commander Col. Robert Sinkler who had commanded the District since July 2006. McGinley,



From left, Col. Shawn McGinley, incoming District Commander, watches Brig. Gen. Michael Walsh, commander, Mississippi Valley Division, receive the command flag from Col. Robert Sinkler, outgoing District commander, signifying the change in leadership. Seconds later McGinley accepted the flag and responsibility for command of the Rock Island District. Photo by Hilary Markin, Corporate Communications, Rock Island District

who comes to the District after commanding the 54th Combat Engineer Battalion in Bamberg, Germany, expressed great pride in his new assignment.

“We live in interesting and challenging times to serve our great Army and nation, and, in these times I am profoundly humbled and honored to have been selected to serve the Army as the next command-

er of the Rock Island District,” McGinley said during the ceremony. “I have been tremendously impressed by the professionalism of the District employees that I have seen in my short time here. I offer you my best effort to take care of you and your families during my command here in Rock Island.”

Brig. Gen. Michael Walsh, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of

Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, presided over the change of command ceremony. He welcomed McGinley to his new command and described him as a colonel with a variety of experiences well suited for the challenges ahead. Walsh also congratulated Sinkler for his accomplishments during his tenure as the District’s commander.

“Bob was a champion for this District and its missions and he wanted everyone to know what his employees were doing, whether that was environmental management, ecosystem restoration, navigation, flood recovery or emergency management, Bob knew his people had a great story to tell and he made sure to get out into the communities and keep the public informed,” said Walsh.

Sinkler, who is now the commander of the Hurricane Protection Office in New Orleans, said his time with the District is something he will never forget and that he and his wife, Brandie, will always consider the Midwest home.

“Everyone here made my job very easy,” Sinkler said. “I’ve said it many times - the Rock Island District is a high performance District.”

In taking command, McGinley is now in charge of a District that spans 78,318 square miles, which includes most of Iowa, Northwest Illinois, and portions of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Missouri. As District Engineer, he is responsible for planning, engineering and constructing water resource projects in this five-state area and administering laws for the protection of navigable waterways and regulatory actions for Illinois and Iowa. He oversees approximately 950 employees in the operation and maintenance of 20 lock and dam sites on the Mississippi and Illinois rivers and three flood protection and recreation reservoirs in Iowa. 🍌



Col. Shawn McGinley, commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District

## Arsenal Entries Win First Place

Brooke Walsh, TACOM LCMC-RI, won first place in two separate categories in the 2008 MWR All Army Photography Contest. Arsenal MWR presented Walsh with her awards on July 29.

Walsh, a 2007 graduate from Western Illinois University, said her mother actually brought the contest to her attention. She said she assumed thousands of people would enter and was shocked and surprised she won. Walsh said she has several cameras, but the photos that won were actually taken with what she refers to as her “point-and-shoot” camera.

Walsh recommends more people submit from the Arsenal and that she is definitely going to submit again. Winning has its monetary benefits as well, as Walsh earned \$300 for each first place win. Arsenal MWR stated 18 submissions came from the Island workforce this year.

The winning entries may be viewed at the contest website at <https://artscrafts.fmwrc.army.mil>. Log in with your AKO user name and password and select “Gallery of Winners” under “Contest Winners” on the blue menu bar. Winners in each division are shown in separate slide shows. 🍌

Right, “Team Sleep,” a photo by Brooke Walsh, won First Place in the 2008 MWR All Army Photography contest in the Civilian Division Monochrome Experimental Category.



# Wailing Off the Same Page

By

ERIC CRAMER

Rock Island Arsenal Garrison Public Affairs

Emergency sirens at Rock Island Arsenal will operate using the same signaling system as surrounding communities under an agreement announced July 21 at the National Weather Service in Davenport, Iowa.

Under the new guidelines, sirens will sound in the Quad City area, including Rock Island Arsenal for:

- ▶ Tornadoes
- ▶ Thunderstorms with winds of 70 miles per hour or greater
- ▶ Storms containing golf-ball size or larger hail.

The same tone will be used for all threats in the community, and sirens may be sounded multiple times signifying an ongoing threat. A steady tone indicates a weather emergency. A warbling tone indicates a homeland security threat. No “all-clear” tone will be used under the current guidelines. All communities involved in the plan will test their sirens simultaneously on the first Tuesday of each month.

The announcement of the new agreement came on July 21 – the anniversary of a Quad-City area storm that killed two young campers near Colona, Ill., and damaged trees and residences throughout the area.

Donna Dubberke, warning coordination meteorologist with the National Weather Service, said the plan provides unity among the various Quad City Area communities.

“The river might be wide, but it

doesn’t divide,” she said.

Dubberke stressed that the sirens are an outdoor warning system, designed to tell people to seek both shelter and further guidance, and not designed to reach those who are indoors when the sirens sound.

“When people hear the sirens, they should get inside and check the local news media for further guidance,” Dubberke said.

She said the sirens will begin to sound based on when a threat moves into the area.

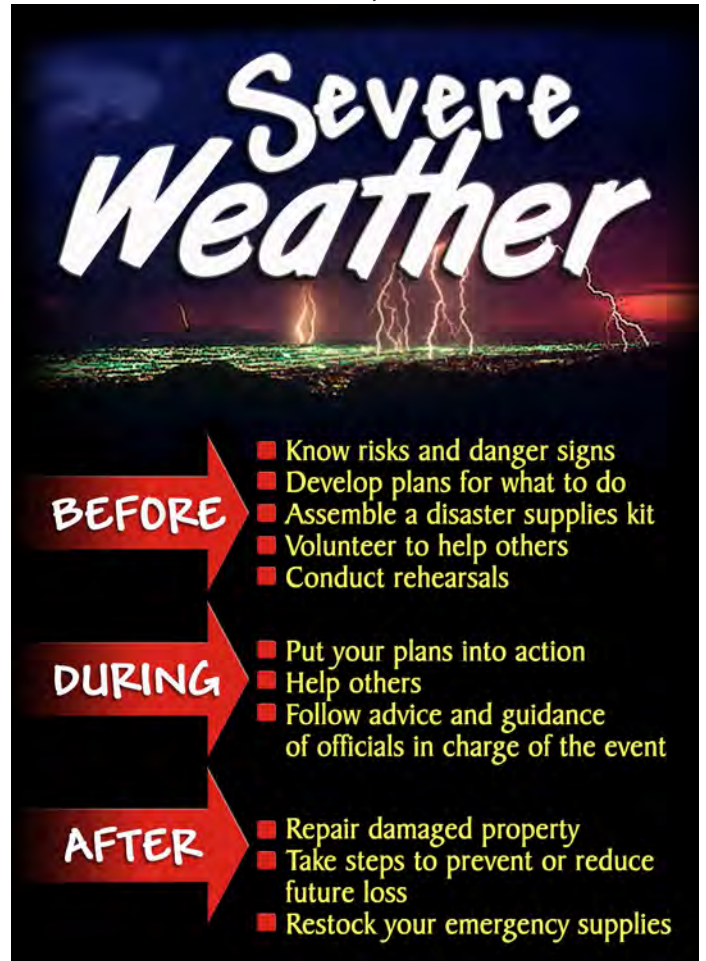
Dubberke said the guidelines were developed through a joint effort by emergency management officials from Scott County, Iowa; Rock Island County, Ill.; and Rock Island Arsenal in cooperation with NWS.

She said certain communities in the area had significant differences in their warning systems prior to the development of the cooperative system.

Jeremiah Cowgill, of RIA’s Division of Plans, Training and Mobilization said cooperation with the surrounding communities can be critical in an emergency.

“With Rock Island Arsenal right in the middle, we need to be on the same page,” he said. “Those who work on the Arsenal need to be able to practice the same safety measures at home and at work.”

Officials with the Weather Service said the new guidelines also recognize the Arsenal as a separate “town,” meaning it will appear in the official NWS



storm warnings along with the surrounding cities.

Jay Wolf, scientific meteorologist for the Davenport NWS office, said the warnings also fall under a new system being used by NWS in reporting storms.

“We’re now using Storm Based Warnings,” Wolf said. “In the past we’d used counties to report where a storm is – we’d talk about a threat to Scott County. Now we talk about a storm threatening Western Scott county. We report where the threat is.”

He said the sirens will probably be used less frequently than in the past under the new regime. “When the sirens sound, that means ‘we really mean it,’” Wolf said. “When it goes off that means there’s really a serious threat.”

For more information about the Arsenal’s readiness program go to [www.ria.army.mil/sites/riapo/](http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/riapo/)



# Summer Memories ...



On July 16, Memorial Field was buzzing with people, food, fun, and entertainment during the Arsenal's MWR Employee Appreciation Day. The event was pulled off by an abundance of hard-working volunteers and featured numerous food vendors, informational booths, a raffle, sporting events, children's activities, and music. To see the winners of the events go to: <http://riamwr.com/EAD09/> 🍷



Above - Contestants in the tricycle race near the finish line in one of the most popular and competitive events of the day. Center - One of the day's bands sets the aural background environment. Top right - A "bull rider" strains to stay on the mechanical bovine featured for the first time and one of the most popular children's activities. Bottom left - Two participants joust against one another. Bottom right - Softball competition heats up on the Memorial Field ball diamond. Photos by Mark Kane

## ECBC Intern Gets the Most From SEAP

By  
MARK KANE

Rock Island Arsenal Garrison Public Affairs

Since 1994, Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Rock Island has been involved in the Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program inside of the Army Educational Outreach Program. It is one of the few organizations involved in the program and on Aug. 12 Trae McNair, a 2009 Davenport North High School

graduate, wrapped up his SEAP experience with ECBC with his final presentation to an attentive room of employees.

McNair, an undergraduate student at the University of Iowa, gave his presentation on the project he had been given to work on, which was to model and analyze circuits in the M17 Decontamination Apparatus Electronic Control Module (ECM). The purpose of this was to determine the problem that resulted in a testing failure in the ECM layout and to attempt to create a solution.

At the end of McNair's presentation he was given an ovation, thanked for his involvement in the program, and presented with a certificate for his achievement and completion of SEAP.

"This was not an easy project," said Kevin Lee, ECBC. "We asked him not only to do it in 8 weeks, but to also give us a better understanding."

"It was excellent work experience," said McNair. "It's a real-world step for me; it'll help me and look good on my resume, which will help me in getting a job in the future. I learned a lot and it really the experience really exceeded my expectations. Before I stated I thought it might be boring, but instead it was a steady workload, not overwhelming, and it felt comfortable and kept my interest. I was also accepted as part of the team right away, which meant a lot. I would highly recommend the program to others who are interested." 🍷

Trae McNair, former ECBC intern, presents his findings on the M17 Decontamination Apparatus Electronic Control Module to employees at ECBC Rock Island. Photo by Mark Kane





# Game plan.

Finding your loved ones isn't always a game—  
In an emergency, your family may not be together.

- Plan ahead to keep your family safe.
- Get a portable emergency kit.
- Establish an out-of-state family contact.
- Identify a location for your family to meet.

Are you ready



Or are you **Ready**®

National Preparedness Month  
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For more information, visit [www.ready.army.mil](http://www.ready.army.mil)

Check out the Arsenal's Ready Army site at: [www.ria.army.mil/sites/riapo](http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/riapo)

