

The Outpost

Published for the employees and families of Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma Test Center, U.S. Army Garrison - Yuma, Cold Regions Test Center, and Tropic Regions Test Center

U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma, Arizona 85365

YPG Website: www.yuma.army.mil

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Commander addresses his departure, process improvements



Col. Thomas Payne, YPG commander, shares thoughts with workforce. (Photo by Mark Schauer)

by Chuck Wullenjohn

The holiday season offers a useful opportunity to look back on the challenges of the recent past which, due to YPG's fast pace, doesn't occur as frequently as one might like. Early this month, Col. Thomas Payne, commander, took time to share a variety of thoughts with Outpost readers.

Q: The Thanksgiving holiday is almost here and the 2010 Christmas season is fast approaching. What do the holidays mean to you? Do you have any particular plans this year?

A: The Thanksgiving and Christmas period is a time for families to take advantage of the season, relax, and enjoy each other's company. It's a good time to regain your balance, even if in a family of one. This year I will be hosting my brother and his family to the Payne family Christmas here at YPG. We plan to boat on the Colorado River, ride off-road vehicles in the sand dunes and do a little hiking – maybe all the way to the top of Castle Dome. It will be a traditional family Christmas at home.

Q: Government spending is a topic on many people's minds. Do you foresee

YPG's budget being impacted by future spending cuts? If so, what initiatives have been implemented to minimize the impact?

A: There is no doubt that there will be Department of Defense-wide reductions in FY12. However, actions we began in FY10 to find operating efficiencies will mitigate the impact of the reduction without impacting our ability to perform the mission. For instance, we reduced the size of the GSA vehicle fleet. We right-sized the number of cell phones and Blackberry smart phones issued to the workforce. Lean Six Sigma projects are creating major cost savings in several areas that will help absorb future budget reductions. Several of these projects are currently under consideration for recognition under the Army's "Lean Six Sigma Excellence Award Program," which is quite an honor. Fundamentally, however, if we did nothing to prepare, the impact would be much greater than it will be.

Q: Last fiscal year, Yuma Test Center had a greater increase in direct labor hours than any other DTC test center, notching about 400,000 more hours than the previous year. Often, directorates absorbed these additional hours with few or no additional employees. How was this accomplished while holding the line on safety?

A: This was quite an accomplishment and I want to congratulate the entire Yuma Test Center team. Every individual did a stupendous job. Regarding the increased workload, we handled it through proper management of overtime usage to absorb surges in test requirements and properly using our technical support contract to conduct the mission. I should also point out that we deliberately paced the rate at which we took on additional workload commensurate with properly training test officers and meeting their certification requirements to ensure all tests were conducted successfully and safely. YPG has an awesome safety record and we have maintained this record through management at all levels.

(See Commander on page 8)

ATEC's Change of responsibility



Honoring the colors are left to right: Dr. James Streilein, former executive director of ATEC; Lt. Gen. William Troy, director of the Army staff and host of the ceremony; and Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, ATEC's new commander. (U.S. Army photo)

by Mike Cast, DTC Public Affairs

A ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground Oct. 28 marked the transfer of responsibility for leading the Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC) from Dr. James Streilein to Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco. Streilein, who had assumed leadership of ATEC from Maj. Gen. Roger Nadeau when he retired March 19, 2009, takes on a new assignment within the Office of the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, in the Pentagon. Dellarocco served as the program executive officer, Missiles and Space, at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., before assuming command of ATEC.

Streilein said he was proud of ATEC's workforce for a variety of reasons, including its excellent reputation across the Army. Teamwork throughout the command – not his work as executive director – is the basis for that reputation, he said.

Streilein said he was glad to see initiatives under his tenure that are bringing Army evaluators and operational and developmental testers closer together as a single collaborative team.

"One of the things that has really been heartening to me are initiatives to integrate our work between the developmental, operational and evaluation people," he said. "We've been working that hard, and I'm sure that work is going to continue under (Maj.) Gen.

Dellarocco."

Streilein, who earned a doctorate degree in mathematics from Pennsylvania State University and a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Carnegie Mellon University, spent 23 years with the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity (AMSAA). He completed the Army Logistics and Acquisition Management Program in 1990, became a member of the Senior Executive Service in 1991 and became certified as a test-and-evaluation member of the Army Acquisition Corps in 1994.

Streilein entered the Senior Executive Service when he was selected to become the chief of the AMSAA division that focuses on the reliability and maintainability of military systems. In a 1996 reorganization of Army Test and Evaluation, he was selected to be the first director of the former Operational Test Command's Evaluation Analysis Center. When ATEC was created in September 1999, Streilein became the first director of the newly formed Army Evaluation Center. He became the technical director and deputy to the ATEC commander in January 2007.

A long-time, active member of the International Test and Evaluation Association (ITEA), Streilein earned ITEA's lifetime achievement award

(See ATEC on page 3)

News Notes

TRICARE Standard is a great health care option

Of the 9.6 million TRICARE beneficiaries worldwide, approximately 2.1 million use TRICARE Standard, the flexible and convenient health care plan. Standard offers the flexibility of seeing TRICARE-authorized network and non-network providers, and the convenience of not having to worry about enrolling or paying annual fees.

Beneficiaries choose Standard for many other reasons including: satisfaction with the treatment they currently receive from a specific civilian provider that may not be in the TRICARE provider network; they travel frequently, live far away from a military treatment facility, are away at school or they may have other health insurance. TRICARE Standard gives beneficiaries the peace of mind that they have access to quality, low-cost health care wherever they live or travel.

Standard has always offered affordable cost shares and deductibles. Standard beneficiaries who are active duty family members pay a 15 percent cost share to see a network provider and a 20 percent cost share to see a non-network provider, after satisfying a yearly deductible.

Depending on beneficiary category, annual deductibles range from \$50 to \$300 and TRICARE generally pays 75 percent to 85 percent of the costs for outpatient services once the annual deductible is met. The maximum a Standard beneficiary may have to pay out of pocket each year for TRICARE-covered services is \$1,000 for active duty families, and \$3,000 for all other beneficiary categories.

A new benefit for Standard beneficiaries is the elimination of cost shares for many preventive health services such as screenings for colorectal, prostate, breast and cervical cancers, as well as certain immunizations.

Often, providers will file claims for patients for TRICARE Standard beneficiaries. There may be times when beneficiaries may need to file their own claims, such as for care received while traveling overseas. Beneficiaries can find more information about filing claims and download claims forms on the TRICARE website at www.tricare.mil/claims.

For more information about TRICARE Standard, visit www.tricare.mil/standard. Beneficiaries can also sign-up for TRICARE e-mail updates at www.tricare.mil/subscriptions, and stay connected with TRICARE on Facebook and Twitter at www.facebook.com/tricare and www.twitter.com/tricare.

Congratulations to YPG Price Elementary School November's Go-Getters!

Each month, Yuma Elementary School District No. 1 selects two students who meet the criteria of working hard, performing at their very best and are good abiding citizens. The Outpost proudly recognizes the students' accomplishments. Selected from Mrs. Edward's class are Harrison Morales and Dani Hatton as the Go-Getters for the month of November.



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Building resiliency, restoring balance for Soldiers, civilians, families

by Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

Given the Army's 235-year history, resiliency is a relatively new word in our vocabulary. We hear it often nowadays, from the highest levels of leadership on down, as we talk about how we are addressing the effects of nine years of conflict. There may be a danger that someone will hear the word once too often and tune it out as the latest buzz word. However, we need to keep talking about it until every member of the Army community—every Soldier, Civilian and Family member—hears it and gets the message that we want them not only to survive, but to thrive.

A dictionary definition of resiliency is the ability to recover from misfortune or adjust easily to change. When we in the Army talk about resiliency, though, we are talking about more than the ability to bounce back from adversity. We are also talking about the ability to realize personal growth and development in the face of challenging situations. Resiliency is rooted in physical, mental and spiritual fitness. It is about finding the balance in your life between work, family and self, and living your dash—the line on the tombstone between the dates of birth and death—to the fullest.

During the last nine years of conflict, our Soldiers, civilians and family members have faced challenging situations, and in too many cases, tragedy. Multiple deployments and too little dwell time have strained our relationships. We can see the stress manifest in rising rates of divorce, domestic violence, suicide and other destructive behaviors. We have to reverse the trends. We owe it to our Soldiers, civilians and family members to help them build the resiliency they need to cope with their challenges and come out stronger and better.

The Army is recognizing the stress and strain on our forces and families. We are making resiliency a priority and a part of Army culture, and have taken a number of steps to assess and build resiliency in our Soldiers, civilians and family members. One of the initiatives is the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness (CSF) Program. The program is designed to enhance the resilience, readiness and potential of Soldiers, civilians and family members by building strength in every area of life: not just physical fitness, but also emotional, social, spiritual, and family.

CSF is mandatory for Soldiers, but geared to the whole Army community, with components for family members and civilians as well. Soldiers, civilians and family members begin with the Global Assessment Tool, which measures strength in each of the five areas. The GAT is located at the CSF website, <http://www.army.mil/csf>. The results of the assessment direct an individualized training plan, which includes virtual training, classroom training and support from resilience experts. It is a long-term program, meant to help every member of our



Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

community succeed in his or her job and grow personally.

Another resource that helps Soldiers, civilians and family members build their resiliency are the Army Wellness Centers. Like the CSF, the Wellness Centers are focused on prevention. They are focused on helping individuals identify their problem areas and make positive changes for their health and well-being. Wellness Center programs include metabolic and fitness testing, nutrition education, weight management, stress management, and tobacco cessation.

One challenge for the Army is to make sure that every member of the Army community, including National Guard and Reserve Soldiers, and family members who are not located near an installation, have access to the resources they need to build resiliency. Every member needs to know what support exists for them and where they can access it. We have plenty of great programs and services, such as the CSF program and Army Wellness Centers, but we need to make sure we are effective and efficient in delivering them to the Army Community members who can use them.

In the spring, I will be joining senior commanders and other Army leaders at Fort Hood to discuss the importance of resiliency and the different ways we are approaching the issue. We are meeting there to take a look at a bricks-and-mortar model, the Fort Hood Resiliency Campus. The Resiliency Campus is a one-stop shop where Soldiers, civilians and families can go to strengthen their mind, body and spirit. Composed of several buildings located next to each other, the campus offers a comprehensive array of services and programs, including spiritual and physical fitness programs, personal financial assistance, culinary classes, individual and family counseling, Warrior Adventure Quest, and Family Programs.

The symposium will also consider the possibility of a virtual resiliency campus, which is in the beginning phases of conceptualization and development. IMCOM Headquarters' Chaplain Ministry Team will demonstrate a virtual Spiritual Fitness Cen-

(See *Building resiliency* on page 8)

**UNITED STATES ARMY
YUMA PROVING GROUND
SERVICE WINTER FORMAL**

**LOCATION: ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE (AWC, BLDG. 3C)
WHEN: 05 FEBRUARY 2011
TIME: 1800 - 2300
TICKETS: \$35.00 (IF PURCHASED BY 30 DEC 2010)
\$40.00 (1-20 JAN 2011, LAST DAY FOR SALES)
TICKET SALES: CMD GRP, BLDG. 2105 X6110
PAO, BLDG. 2100 X6533
EEO, BLDG. 303 X2736
LAAF, BLDG. 3021 X6102
M&W, BLDG. 3185 X6127
CHECKS PAYABLE TO FMWR
OPEN TO ALL YPG MILITARY, CIVILIANS & CONTRACTORS**

ATEC (Continued from page 1)

this year, and in 2005 he earned the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executive. Each year, the President recognizes and celebrates a small group of career senior executives and senior career employees with this prestigious award. Recipients are "strong leaders, professionals and scientists who achieve results and consistently demonstrate strength, integrity, industry and a relentless commitment to excellence in public service."

Streilein's successor took up this theme during his remarks at the ceremony.

"That's a tough competition," Dellarocco said of the Presidential Rank Award. "You get selected by being the best of the best. Dr. Streilein is that."

Dellarocco said ATEC's movement from its headquarters in Alexandria, Va., to its new headquarters at APG portends well for the future of the command if we are willing to embrace change.

"We are at a very interesting time in the history of this organization,"

he said. "We are now at Aberdeen. This is where the flag is, and this is where our headquarters is. We have an opportunity for transformation and change, and we have to take advantage of it – for the U.S. Army, for our nation, for the Department of Defense and for our organization. That means we've got to take a look at our organizations and its processes, not only here at Aberdeen but at each one of the centers down range."

The goal of this self-analysis should be even better support for Soldiers, he added.

Dellarocco served as the deputy commanding general responsible for system-of-systems integration at the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, at Fort Belvoir, Va. There, he was responsible for ensuring that war-fighting technologies got into the hands of Soldiers as quickly as possible while integrating research, development and engineering across the Army, including Army laboratories and centers that conduct this mission.

Why I support CFC

by Diana Rapp

Here it is again, the time of year when employees are asked to contribute to the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Year after year, a representative from your office hands out brochures with a list of charities and asks you to make your annual contribution. I admit, my attitude in past years wasn't the greatest when I heard the announcement, for I placed it in the category of someone asking for money again.

I annually donate items such as clothing to the Crossroads Mission, the Salvation Army and Goodwill and this makes me feel good, as though

I'm doing my part to help society. I find it easy to donate clothes that are either too big or too small, for I can always buy more. These organizations gladly take my donations and it requires little or no effort on my part.

This year is different for me. In my job description, under, "other duties as assigned," I have been assigned as unit coordinator for the 2010 Arizona CFC. This is not unfamiliar territory for me as, I did this in Oregon for eight years; begrudgingly, but I did it.

As I researched the CFC 2010 charity list, I found that wading through 2,808 different charities was a hassle. How is anybody going to have time to

(See CFC on page 8)

Heartfelt ceremony touches many lives

by Mary F. Flores

Bridging a gap of over 8,000 miles, a team of Yuma Proving Ground employees recently brought a family together to witness the promotion ceremony of Cpt. Douglas K.N. Fullerton to the rank of major. The family was able to participate in the event via video teleconference from three separate locations and time zones.

Working with only two-weeks notice, YPG employees from various offices worked with personnel in Fort Hood, Texas, and Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan to arrange the televised conference. Fullerton has been deployed in Afghanistan since December 2009.

For proud father and YPG employee John Fullerton, a pilot for SEAIR at Laguna Army Airfield and retired Army warrant officer, watching his son on the big screen brought out deep emotions. Tears rolled down his face during the pinning of his son's oak leaves signifying the rank of major.

Although John Fullerton and family couldn't be there physically, the wonders of modern technology united the family to witness a proud moment. Equally full of emotion was Maj. Fullerton's mother, Dorothy, and wife, Maria, who attended the ceremony via satellite in a similar setting at Fort Hood, Texas.

Prior to the ceremony, the phrase "I love you" and other gestures of endearment were exchanged between the family members. Maj. Fullerton's wife and mother were joined by more than 50 Soldiers in Bagram, Afghanistan via satellite, where chuckles and

quips were heard in the background. Each time someone spoke, the camera split back and forth causing a ten second delay in voice and visual transmission, making effective communication an interesting challenge.

Once his oak leaves were pinned on, Fullerton's wife placed his rank on his beret, followed with a smile and wave to the camera. He then reaffirmed his oath to the Army and followed with a few remarks.

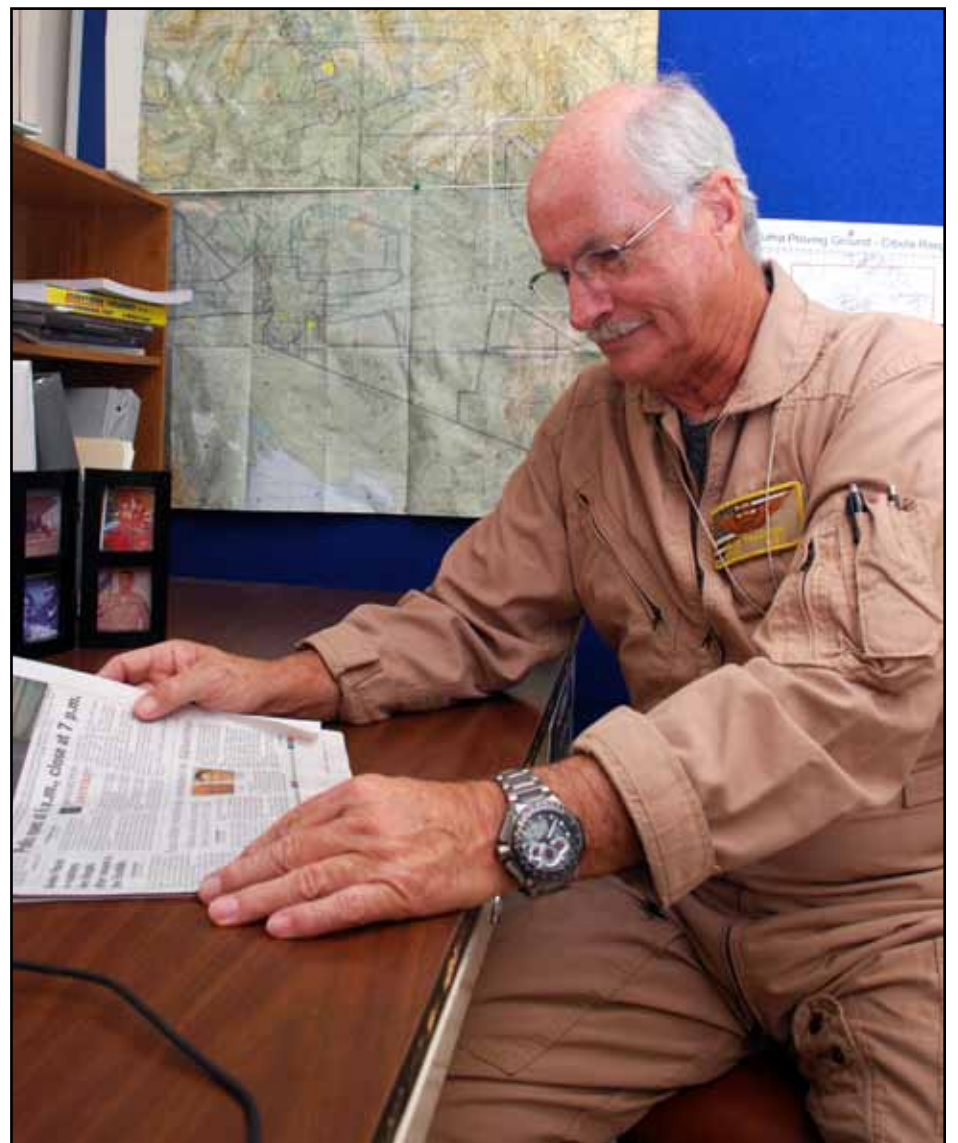
"I couldn't have gotten here without the incredible relationships I built along the way," he said. "It's awesome to see my parents and my wife on this special day."

Although Fullerton was at his son's last promotion in 2004, this time around seemed to be more meaningful due to the distance between family members. The last time he saw his son was nearly one year ago.

"This is a great day to embrace technology and a great effort from everyone made this possible. Everything went without a hitch," Fullerton said with a smile. "A lot of people bent over backwards."

Fullerton said he felt "awestruck" at the ceremony. "Our family of warriors goes back to my son's great-great grandfather who served in the Army in 1886 and his grandfather who served in 1911 as a warrant officer," he said. "All three are West Point graduates. This is a great day."

Maj. Fullerton is due to return to the United States in the spring of next year.



YPG employee John Fullerton, a pilot for SEAIR at Laguna Army Airfield and retired Army warrant officer, takes time out to read the story on his son's promotion in the local Yuma Sun newspaper. As he watched the pinning of his son's oak leaves signifying the rank of major via a video teleconference at YPG, tears rolled down his eyes. (Photo by Mary Flores)



Veterans Day Parade

YPG's Command Sgt. Maj. Forbes Daniels waves at the crowd at the 2010 Veterans Day parade on November 11 as he rode in a MRAP-All Terrain Vehicle. Three Soldiers from YPG also marched in the parade. (Photo by Mary Flores)

Keeping loved ones safe

submitted by Safety Office

Americans are 11 times safer at work than they are at home.

When you add friends and families into the equation, there are a staggering 72,600 deaths that take place in homes and in the community from unintentional injuries, as well as over 20,200,000 disabling injuries, affecting 112 million households, costing Americans over \$251.9 billion.

These injuries are from:

- Falls, especially among adults 65 and older.
- Drivers who are distracted while texting or using their cell phones.
- Inexperienced teen drivers.
- Poisonings especially from unintentional drug overdose from painkillers or other prescription drugs.
- Sports injuries.
- Overexertion.
- Choking.
- Drowning.
- And many more incidents that we never intended to happen

As a society, we must think about safety not only when we're at work, but when we're home and in our communities, in our cars, or on vacation. By understanding the hazards we face, adopting safety as a fundamental right, and knowing that we can influence safe outcomes, together we can make the United States the safest country in the world – each minute of the day, one day at a time.

Safety in the home is more important now than ever. Preventable injuries and deaths are on the rise in homes and communities across the United States. To really make an impact, people need to be aware of the hazards around them and change their behaviors.

Share what you learn here about safety in your home with your family, friends and neighbors. Simple steps could make a huge difference.

- Don't use your cell phone while driving. Encourage those around you to do the same.
- Get trained in first aid, CPR and AED.
- Get a flu shot and make sure your family receives flu shots too.
- Fall proof your home and make areas safe.

Don't forget to engage your family. Children could help:

- Conduct emergency evacuation drills.
- Identify safety hazards around your house, such as electrical cords that someone could trip over, rugs that slip, etc.

YPG wins Test Quality Award



Members of the Yuma Proving Ground workforce are one of the reasons YPG has been recognized for excellence with the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command annual test quality award for the third time in the award's four year existence. (Photo by Mark Schauer)

by Mark Schauer

The American war fighter is the best equipped in the history of the world and much of the equipment they use comes to U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground for testing before it reaches their hands.

In an average week, YPG's ranges host more than 100 individual events, from test firing of artillery cartridges and projectiles to rigorous road testing of combat vehicles across punishing desert courses, tests of counter-improvised explosive device (IED) technologies to endurance flights of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) and parachutes.

Just as important as the volume of work done by YPG, however, is the quality of the information on test item performance that YPG delivers. Tasked with testing in extreme natural environments at three test centers in southwestern Arizona, Alaska, and Panama, YPG has been recognized for excellence with the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command (DTC)'s annual test quality award for the third time in the award's four year existence.

"It reflects the incredible contributions of the YPG workforce in meeting the Army's test requirements," said Col. Thomas Payne, YPG commander. While increasing our workload as measured by direct labor hours to nearly three million, we were able to not only complete the tests safely, but with the same quality."

"The three bases of capability are people, processes and equipment," added Julio Dominguez, YPG's technical director. "If you don't have good people, it doesn't matter how good your processes and equipment are. The greatest value to our test mission comes from our people, whether they are working on a test site or in the background providing support to make the test possible. They all have contributed to our mission magnificently."

Timely and accurate data are vital to YPG's test mission and are the means by which customer satisfaction is measured for every test that takes place in the Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC). Test officers across the command enter information into immense computer databases that allow ready access to everything from test plans and projected completion dates to photos

and documents related to a given test.

Four years ago, DTC established a comprehensive set of quality standards and a program to recognize the test center that best achieved these goals. These standards require, for instance, that at least 90 percent of a center's current tests have data such as cost estimates updated in databases and all tests have proper risk management assessments prior to their start. Since its inception, YPG has won the vast majority of the program's quarterly awards and three of the four yearly awards, narrowly missing the fourth in fiscal year 2008.

Wayne Jenkins, branch chief of metrology and simulation who has overseen YPG's compliance with the standards since the program's inception, credits teamwork and a culture of customer satisfaction with YPG's perpetually winning performance.

"Many hands make light work," said Jenkins. "When each test officer handles his or her responsibilities as they are supposed to according to the regulations, it is not difficult to accomplish the goal. Our success is indicative of everyone doing their part."

YPG's performance is especially noteworthy given the immense increase in workload the proving ground has experienced since the award's inception. YPG notched nearly 2.8 million direct labor hours in fiscal year 2010, compared to an average of about 1.2 million hours a decade ago. In comparison, in fiscal year 2010, the combat automotive division alone eclipsed one million hours and accomplished the same test quality standards with a test officer corps whose majority consisted of recently hired college graduates minted through YPG's test officer mentorship and certification program.

Lt. Col. Stephen Milton, commander of Yuma Test Center, says the same culture exists across the command.

"We haven't raised standards because of a trophy at the end of the year," said Milton. "YPG has had the same work ethic of quality and excellence for generations."

"I feel confident that YPG will remain very competitive in outlying years," added Payne. "Not only do we have a great workforce, but we have continually implemented process improvements to make our test quality even better."

Chosin Few vets marvel at YPG work

by Mark Schauer

For sheer tenacity against overwhelming odds, few American military engagements can compare with that faced by Soldiers and Marines at Chosin Reservoir in North Korea in late 1950.

60 years later, about 30 members of the Arizona chapter of the 'Chosin Few' Veterans visited Yuma Proving Ground to tour the installation and share their experiences.

Charles Poulton, security specialist with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security and veteran who served in Vietnam, Panama, and the Gulf, was among the YPG employees who took time from their schedules to spend a few minutes with the distinguished visitors.

"Korea is one war I'm glad I missed," said Poulton. "The miserable conditions these men endured are hard to imagine. My uncle was in a unit where most of his buddies were killed in a single night."

Korea, which had been annexed by Japan in 1910, was divided at the end of World War II at the 38th parallel by the victorious allied powers. By 1948, the north was dominated by a communist dictator while the south had an elected president. In June 1950 the communist north invaded the south and a United Nations military force led by the United States counterattacked at Inchon. By November the UN forces had pushed the invaders back over the 38th parallel and were approaching North Korea's border with China when 60,000 Chinese troops swept across the border and surrounded 30,000 UN troops at Chosin Reservoir.

Aside from being outnumbered two to one, the only means of retreat was through a narrow valley heavily covered by Chinese troops. Perhaps the biggest enemy, however, was the vicious, brutal cold the troops were fighting in.

"People who weren't there can't comprehend how cold it was," said Lacy Bethea, who was then battalion ammunition sergeant in the Headquarters and Service company of the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. "The average daily temperature was 28 degrees below zero. There was no relief from the cold."

The troops fought ceaselessly through the short winter days and windy, endless nights against wave after wave of fanatical Chinese forces. Support personnel who wouldn't ordinarily be in combat were on the



Kenny Stuart (second from left), test vehicle maintenance chief, shows the group an M1A2 Abrams that underwent maintenance at the shop. (Photos by Mark Schauer)

firing line. There was no practical means of maintaining basic hygiene -- sweat froze to the men's uniforms and bodies, and greasy, blood-stained clothing transmitted cold even more. While civilians back home were eating their Thanksgiving dinners, most of the food rations carried by American troops at Chosin had frozen solid.

Bethea remembers that only the Tootsie Rolls in his pocket remained edible. "Our gear was inadequate for being out in the cold that long," he said. "Sometimes our rifles would freeze up and we had to kick the bolt open with our feet."

Their supply lines were entirely cut off and airdrops were the only means of getting critical materiel necessary to keep up the fight. Unfortunately, the mountainous terrain and primitive parachutes caused as many as 80 percent of the drops to fail to reach their intended targets. The troops fought on with tenacity and coped as best as they could against the cold with makeshift, short-lived fire pits. Against all odds, the troops broke through the rear of the enemy position. The 17 day battle saw about 3,000 American fatalities against more than ten times as many for the Chinese.

Yuma Test Station reopened in April 1951 while the war stalemated close to the 38th parallel. Given the length of time necessary to conduct even a rapid initiative test, the only major Yuma-tested weapon that entered combat prior to the ceasefire signed in July 1953 was a replacement for an inadequate recoilless rifle.

"YPG owes its very existence to

the Korean War," said YPG Heritage Center curator Bill Heidner. "The irony is that very little of what we did here had any impact for Soldiers in that theater. It's the legacy of hard lessons learned that lives on."

As such, the Heritage Center was the first stop for the Chosin veterans during their visit to the proving ground. Here, the visitors learned of YPG's rich history and how testing at the YPG-managed Cold Regions Test Center ensures that today's troops will have the best equipment possible in cold weather environments.

"The military didn't have a lot of winter equipment in 1950 and what little they did have was not adequate," said Heidner. "Had YPG existed before the Korean War, problems like the firing pin not working on a carbine in extreme cold would have been identified and fixed."

After their visit to the Heritage Center, the group traveled to a test vehicle maintenance shop on the Kofa Firing Range where they saw the latest combat vehicles used in Iraq and Afghanistan, including several variants of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle and prototypes of the Joint Lightweight Tactical Vehicle (JLTV), which is expected to replace the Humvee.

"We had tanks, but nothing like these," marveled Chosin veteran B.J. Johnson as test vehicle maintenance chief Kenny Stuart showed the group an M1A2 Abrams undergoing maintenance. "The treads on these are twice as wide."

The group concluded their tour with lunch at the Cactus Café and a look at the Korean War-era artillery pieces on display at YPG's Wahner Brooks interpretive display on Imperial Dam Road.

"This is my fourth time here and I tried to tell everyone in the group who hasn't been here before to go," said Johnson. "Most of this group hadn't visited YPG before and they are thankful they came."

***Christmas Tree Lighting
Yuma Proving Ground's annual
tree lighting ceremony will take
place December 8 on the lawn of
the Heritage Museum in the Main
Administrative Area. The event will
start at 6 p.m. with Christmas car-
ols, Santa Claus visit and refresh-
ments for all. This event is open to
everyone and is free of charge.***

Thank you veterans

submitted by Command Sgt. Maj. Forbes Daniels

On November 11, we honored all those who have worn the uniform of the United States Armed Forces to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies both foreign and domestic.

As a nation, we have prospered because we've always had citizens willing to stand up and answer the call to serve in hours of need. On Nov. 11, we honored our veterans, past and present, for their unyielding sacrifice and dedication to this great nation. There are over 24.9 million veterans in the United States. 1.7 million of those veterans are women and 9.7 million of those veterans are over 65 years of age.

Veterans Day is about honoring and remembering the sacrifices made by our men and women who have served and those currently serving on behalf of the American family, and it is about tomorrow's veterans who are fighting for our nation today. It is about everyday citizens who made extraordinary sacrifices on behalf of the American family; it's about the sacrifices, burdens and the memories their families make on a daily basis, years after their loved one's life is taken in defense of freedom. It's about honoring those men and women who risk their lives so that someone who they never met or knew before can have a taste of freedom; it is about honoring our entire military community (past and present), Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, Navy, and Coast Guard, National Guard, Reservist, family members, civilians and contractors who support us at home and on the camps and forward operating bases. It's about ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

On behalf of a grateful nation, we thank and salute you.



Bill Heidner, YPG museum curator, adds humor to his briefing as he explains the history of YPG to veterans of the Korean War's Chosin Reservoir campaign.

Viewpoint

Someday everyone might be world famous for 15 minutes, but what kind of notoriety would a person want to have? CRIC personnel, was asked "If you could be somebody famous, who would you be?"



Sam Porter, machinist: Andrew Jackson. He was the only president to eliminate the national debt. He carried multiple bullets in his body and was about as rugged as you can get. He was a good general and leader who inspired his troops and also managed to succeed in government and politics. That combination of skills is very unique. My other choice would be Michael Heney, who built Alaska's first railroad.



Rance Lentz, mechanic: I love cars, so it would have to be Dale Earnhardt, Sr. He knew all the ins and outs of cars, how to push them and how to drive them. When I was growing up, instead of cartoons I watched NASCAR. The best race was in 2001 when he raced Dale Jr., and Dale Jr. won. That was a neat christening into the Winston Cup circuit.



Sgt. 1st Class Antuan Campbell, test NCO: Red Foxx. I don't think I could be a football player, so I'd want to be a famous comedian. I'm an old school person as far as comedy is concerned, and he was one of the best. I'm a product of the 1970s, and watched *Sanford and Son* when I was a kid. I liked his last movie, *Harlem Nights*, too.



Colleen Plute, data collector: Celine Dion. I would love to have her voice. It is so beautiful and she can hit any note. She makes it effortless. I sing with her on the way to work, and we sound really good. I don't have a favorite song of hers — I like anything she sings.



Kerry Gardner, supply specialist: I would be Bob Hope. He was a talented and beloved entertainer who was very wealthy. I also admire the way he always entertained for the troops, from World War II to the first Gulf War.



Mike Kingston, photographer: Mahatma Gandhi. I started studying about him after the movie with Ben Kingsley. Gandhi was the ultimate about living with not what he wanted, but what he needed. He was for peace on Earth and nurturing his fellow humans.

What every service member should know about sexual assault

submitted by Paul Kilanski

Every military member needs to know about sexual assault. Protect yourself, take action if you suspect sexual assault in your unit and know what it is so you never become an offender.

Sexual assault is a serious crime. It is defined as unwanted sexual contact. It includes unwanted touching, fondling and sexual intercourse (rape). Sexual assault can involve physical force. But the force can also be through threats, intimidation or being drugged. A person can be assaulted by someone they know or by a stranger.

Remember that "no" always means "no"! Even if the other person says yes first and then says no, says no in a friendly tone, said yes before, wears sexy clothes or flirts, has been drinking alcohol or is drunk.

Service members are at risk. Both women and men can be victims. Military members can be assaulted by members of their own unit, enemy soldiers or civilians. Women and men serving in the military are offenders if they assault or harass other soldiers or civilians.

Don't be an offender. Never force sexual contact or make unwanted sexual advances. Do not try to talk a person into having sex. Do not go along with it if others are harassing someone. Always listen if a person says no. Wait for a clear yes—silence is not consent.

Consent means that both people are legally old enough to have sex and both have agreed to sexual contact. It is not consent if a person is drunk, high, passed out or asleep.

Military members can reduce the risk of becoming a victim of sexual assault. Sexual assault is NEVER the victim's fault and you cannot always prevent it. But there are ways to lower your risk of it happening to you. Always trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable or afraid, get help. You have the right to decide if and when you want sexual contact. You can say no even if you know or like the person. You can say no even if the person out ranks you, is an MPO or is in another position of authority. Avoid drugs and excessive alcohol. They can make it harder to protect yourself. Look out for yourself. If you don't feel safe in a particular situation, travel with a buddy.

If a person has been assaulted, he or she will need to decide whether to report the assault. You can make a restricted or unrestricted report. Restricted reporting means you can get medical care and support, but it does not go through your chain of command and will not lead to an investigation. Unrestricted reporting goes through the chain of command and will start an official investigation. The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) or Victim Advocate can help you understand both options.

If a military member is assaulted they need to do the following: get medical care right away. Ask for an examination to collect and preserve evidence. Don't bathe, brush your teeth, or change your clothes before getting the exam. You can contact the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) or Victim Advocate for help. Or you can contact Amberly's Place, a rape crisis center, at 928-373-0849 or the local hospital. If someone you know has been assaulted, offer support. Sexual assault is never the victim's fault. If you witness or suspect sexual assault in your unit, report it immediately. When you challenge or prevent sexual assault, you're helping to create a stronger military where members can serve without fear or discrimination.

If you are a victim of sexual assault or witness sexual assault, contact the YPG Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at 920-3104 or 328-3224.

Upcoming Chapel Events:

- Saturday, December 4 at 8 a.m. – Breakfast and decorate chapel for Christmas
- Wednesday, December 8 at 11:30 – Mass -- Feast of Immaculate Conception
- Sunday, December 12 at 6 p.m. – Kids' Christmas Pageant (followed with cookies & hot chocolate)
- Sunday, December 19 at 12:15 p.m. – Combined Fellowship Meal
- Friday, December 24 at 6 p.m. – Candlelight Service
- Saturday, December 25 at 9:30 a.m. – Mass -- Christmas



Sexual Assault Hotline: 920-3104 or 328-3224
Report Domestic Violence: 328-2720 or 328-3224

October: A busy month for YPG children

by Yolie Canales

The month of October was a very busy month for the school-age children of the Yuma Proving Ground.

Activities ranged from Halloween events to activities taking place at both Price Elementary School and the Child Development Center.

In recognition of National Red Ribbon Week October 24-31, Juanita Saez, coordinator of the YPG Army Substance Abuse Program Prevention Office, visited with students at Price Elementary School to talk about the dangers of illicit drug use.

Saez encouraged students to talk to their parents if anyone approaches them about using drugs. She also stressed to parents the importance of being there for the children and to become educated on how to talk to their children about the dangers of drug use. "Starting the conversation with your kids about the dangers of drug abuse can help steer them in the right direction," said Saez.

In addition to her presentations,

Police Officer Sean Underhill presented students with a number of scenarios on the different forms of bullying that takes place in the school grounds. He stressed how important it is to report any such bullying to the teacher, principal and their parents.

Another event that took place at Price School was called "spirit week." The students were taken on a field trip to the Pumpkin Patch in Yuma in observance of the fall festival that took place on October 29th. They also had other activities to include pajama day, funny hat day, and mix and match day. The Child Development Center held its annual Halloween parade. The children were able to wear their costumes and march through areas of the installation while having fun as they made their way back to the center.

The Public Affairs Office would like to extend a thank you to Kellie Pacella, free-lance photographer, for her photo contribution to the Outpost.



Students at Price Elementary School show off funny hats they wore during Spirit Week.



Ghillie and friend take time out for a photo at the YPG Fall Festival.



Every student looks forward to "Pajama Day" at Price School, as seen in this photo.



Students took a field trip to the Pumpkin Patch in Yuma, where they had a great time picking out pumpkins to bring home.



Precious as can be, these five little girls proudly show off their mix and match attire.

Photos by
PAO staff
&
Kellie
Pacella



A representative from the Imperial National Wildlife Refuge holds a snake while students get an opportunity to touch it. This event is both educational and part of the Halloween program called "Creepy Crawly Day."



The Haunted House presented numerous scary figures like this one for those visiting the house.



Juanita Saez (left), coordinator of the YPG Army Substance Abuse Program Prevention Office, and Police Officer Sean Underhill from Emergency Services talk to the students on the dangers of drug use and the type of bullying that takes place at school grounds. They stressed to the children to report any such activity to their parents and school officials.

Commander (Continued from page 1)

Q: From time to time, members of the workforce hear rumors that YPG is to be closed. Is there any truth to these rumors?

A: Definitely NO! There is nothing in the works that should lead anyone to believe YPG is going to be closed. There has simply been no discussion of it. The closure of military bases is a complex process that is worked through congressionally-mandated Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) commissions. There is no present hint of any BRAC activity.

Q: Last March, it was discovered that detailed YPG payroll information was stored on an employee's home computer. Much has been learned about the incident since that time, and process and communication improvements resulted. Can you address these issues?

A: The vision I established for YPG when I took command consisted of three elements: 1) Work as a team;

2) Continuously improve; 3) Always focus on the war fighter. The second element, "continuously improve," means that when we find something that needs fixing, we fix it. It is my job, and the job of all YPG leaders, to turn over stones and look underneath.

In this particular case, previous YPG leaders had been allowing folks to work at home using their home computers. Upon learning of this situation, we took appropriate steps to ensure this practice stopped and wouldn't happen again in the future.

Q: You recently announced that you will be departing YPG a year earlier than expected. Why? Does your new schedule impact any of the goals set when you assumed command?

A: Having the opportunity to command at the O-6 level has been a goal of mine since I was first commissioned 25 years ago. While it saddens me that I will not have the full three year opportunity to command, it has been

an extremely satisfying tour. The one year curtailment allows me to deploy to Afghanistan for 12 months to fill a critical need for the Army. I have prior experience in foreign military sales and this assignment will allow me to serve my country where, I believe, I can serve best.

The goal of every commander is to leave the organization better than he or she found it. Evidenced by the number of awards YPG has won and the great recognition of members of the workforce, YPG is an excellent organization that continues to improve to achieve greater levels of success. I feel quite comfortable with what has been accomplished. Goals are both short and long term in nature. The shorter ones will be achieved prior to my departure and the others are proceeding on schedule.

Q: Looking back at the past 16 months, what do you view as major challenges you faced? What accomplishments are you most proud of?

Leadership is all about making tough decisions. Some of the decisions that had to be made involved organizational changes in the way we worked with others at YPG. Some decisions involved standing down offices that had existed for a long while, but didn't fit into the method of conducting business more efficiently in the future.

The accomplishment of which I am most proud is the teamwork I see throughout the proving ground. On the back of my commander's coin is the slogan "One Team – One YPG – Army Strong!" This is the first tenet of my vision and the foundation of how I tackle hard issues. YPG has definitely become more of a team during my time. The relationship between the garrison support organizations and the mission organizations is more efficient and effective than ever before.

Q: Do you have any memories or thoughts you wish to share as we enter the 2010 holiday season?

A: As the work schedule allows, everyone needs to take advantage of the holiday season to spend time with the family. This is a priority. Recharge your batteries and come back after the holidays ready to hit the ground running! People also must remain safety vigilant, for everyone is a valued member of the team. Don't drink and drive, and always wear seatbelts. Also, please keep our deployed military personnel in your thoughts, wherever in the world they might be serving. Lastly, I wish to personally express my appreciation to those YPG testers who, by necessity, work over the holidays to meet Army requirements. America's Soldiers are in your debt.

Building resiliency (Continued from page 2)

ter, which would be a core component of a virtual resiliency campus. The virtual Spiritual Fitness Center will be accessible both as a conventional website and in Second Life, on the Army One Source Survivor Island web page. Both avenues will provide Soldiers, civilians and family members faith-based and non-faith-based resources for building their spiritual fitness.

The virtual campus merits serious consideration. Like a physical campus, it would offer a single point of access to assess needs and direct the individual to the best source of help, but it would also be available to Army community members anywhere and anytime. Ultimately, the symposium will consider what models of resiliency campuses, virtual and physical, can be standardized to benefit the whole Army.

The Army's focus on resiliency is important. It puts mental, emotional and spiritual fitness on par with physical fitness, all of which we

need to perform successfully. It also acknowledges that the Soldiers who make up our all-volunteer Army and their family members need and want balance in their lives.

It is easy to get knocked off-balance by the challenges we face, which is why I encourage you to take the time to build your resiliency and find your balance. As I said, you have to live your dash. For me, the dash signifies not only serving my country, but even more importantly, being a husband and father and making time for friends. When you are taking your last breaths, you are probably not going to wish you spent more time working, but more time doing the things you enjoy and being with the people you love. Especially during the fast-approaching holiday season, take the time to do what recharges you, to spend time with those important to you, and ultimately, to live your dash well.

CFC (Continued from page 3)

go through every one of these charities to see if there is a cause or interest to which they wish to donate?

With all this being said, I would like to share something personal. My best friend of over 30 years died this past June from pancreatic cancer. To this day, I'm lost without her. I continue to grieve and remember her.

So I put a plan in motion. I began my research of the list of CFC charities and went to www.cfcaz.org, and searched for pancreatic cancer. Wow, I found a charity that deals with pancreatic cancer! I decided I'm going to honor my best friend by giving to a charity that may help someone else diagnosed with this horrible disease there is no cure for.

I am sharing this story because, like many others, I once had a less than desirable attitude toward giving money to charities. Unfortunately, it has taken something very traumatic, the loss of a friend, to cause me to open my eyes and make the decision to give with my heart and pocketbook.

I ask you to think about your family, friends, and loved ones and if there is a special cause that has a special meaning to you or them.

Find a charity and you can donate as little as \$1 per pay period. We can all do something good for our own special causes and our community by donating a small amount, because everything adds up.

I hope by sharing my story you will motivate at least one person to sign up with CFC. Please don't be like me all those years and take a stand to do your part by donating and making a difference in someone's life.

The Combined Federal Campaign will end December 2 and, if you have completed your pledge card, turn it in to the point of contact in your office. If you are not sure who the representative is for your office, contact Rick Swensen at ext. 2769 and he will assist you.

You can designate your donation to any of 2,808 charities and if you do not have a hard copy of the list, go to: www.cfcaz.org. All charities are listed on the website with a short description of their work and the organization. Thank you for your time and participation.

*The next Outpost deadline is noon
November 24th.
The Outpost will publish only one issue
in December.*

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