



EIE EXPRESS

The Monthly eNewsletter for USACE Europe District's *Engineering in Europe* Magazine

AROUND EUROPE

Issue 57, August 2014

Cyber Center opens on Clay Kaserne



WIESBADEN, Germany – U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden marked another milestone July 22 with the opening of the Lt. Gen. Robert E. Gray Cyber Center Europe.

Members of the Gray family joined U.S. military and German civilian leaders from several units and agencies, including U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District, in celebrating a ribbon cutting for the state-of-the-art, 52,000-square-foot facility on Wiesbaden's Clay Kaserne.

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Cadets shadow engineers at Stuttgart

WIESBADEN, Germany – A pair of ROTC cadets learned about the rigors and rewards of Army engineer life in a six-week stint with Europe District this summer. Rising seniors Jessica Baldrige and Bradley Barber came to USACE in mid-July through its annual Engineer Internship Program. Barber just wrapped up a stay at the Stuttgart Resident Office, while Baldrige was sent to the Environmental Division within USAG Stuttgart's Directorate of Public Works.



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Interns explore overseas construction



WIESBADEN, Germany – Ariel Dowdy, Ryan Deising, Adriann Wilson and Brian O'Conner arrived here in early June as Europe District's 18th class of Advancing Minorities' Interest in Engineering student interns.

Before departing earlier this month, the four discussed their fields, the AMIE program and what they experienced. AMIE is a nonprofit organization that works with corporate, government and academic partners to attract, educate, graduate and place minorities in engineering careers.

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Commander's Corner

Passion in the workplace



Last month, I shared my thoughts on four characteristics I feel are important to professional success and leadership: passion, presence, perseverance and partnership. These are the four P's I've tried to embody throughout my career, and I believe they're critical attributes in accomplishing any personal goal, in addition to making an organization the best it can be. Continuing with sharing what those four P's mean to me, I'd like to focus on passion this month.

In the simplest terms, this concept means being passionate about your job and passionately performing your duties and responsibilities. However, you also must have the skill and insight to recognize the difference between the passion that constructively excites and energizes those around you and what I refer to as "disruptive passion," the type that creates unfavorable work environments and builds barriers instead of partnerships.

Let's talk about the beneficial passion, the type that makes you and those around you — whether co-workers, friends or even family — extremely proud of what you're doing and accomplishing. To me, this is the type of passion that demonstrates a recognizable level of energy and commitment, which inspires others. It is this type of passion that should manifest in those around you and create an irreversible momentum toward shared priorities and goals.

Someone who is passionate about what they do continually strives to become better professionally and personally, embracing opportunities to develop further within their profession and as a formal or informal leader within their organization. In addition to conviction that supports one's professional goals, I encourage everyone to pursue other beneficial passions within their personal lives. Everyone needs valuable outlets unrelated to the workplace that serve as a method to decompress from work demands and stressors. Oftentimes, an organization can benefit from the healthy passions employees practice away from the office.

As much as I value and praise professional passion, I also caution that everyone must possess the insight and artful ability to recognize disruptive passion. Unfortunately, I have witnessed district employees or external partners allowing their passion to cross that line. Whether right or wrong about the issue at the heart of this passion, barriers were created or relationships damaged to the point where it required significant efforts to achieve success within the bigger picture.

To sum up my basic view of this ideal, I would rather work with one person who's passionate about the job than 10 people merely interested in what we do.

Best regards and many thanks for the productive passion you bring to Europe District each and every day.

Army Strong ... Building Strong!

COL Matt Tyler

SPOTLIGHT on the Mediterranean Area Office



From left: Leo Hargreaves, the Italy regional program manager; project assistant Ximena Williams and project engineer John McMullen. *Not pictured:* Area Engineer Mark Nedzbala and John Thomas, the Aviano Project Office construction representative.

The Mediterranean Area Office, located on Caserma Ederle in historic Vicenza, Italy, provides construction oversight for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District. It supports resident and project office personnel in Italy, Turkey, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria and Romania.

Current and recently completed projects include forward operating sites, aircraft shelters, training complexes, firing ranges, schools, military housing, a community center, and access control point and security work. The team also builds orphanages and medical facilities as part of humanitarian-assistance endeavors.

The office serves a wide range of military units, organizations and agencies. Among its partners are U.S. Army Africa, European Command, U.S. Army Europe, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza, the Black Sea Area Support Team, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron, Defense Logistics Agency, Joint Multinational Training Command, Missile Defense Agency, Office of Defense Cooperation, Regional Training Support Division, multiple U.S. embassies and the Department of Defense Education Activity.

Project assistant Ximena Williams has worked for USACE on a couple of different occasions. She joined the staff last year, returning to Europe District after a stint with another DOD agency.

Williams finds the area office's work challenging but highly rewarding. She's frequently tasked with navigating databases and jokes that she favors SharePoint over the organization's sometimes temperamental CEFMS and RMS systems.

Area Engineer Mark Nedzbala said he appreciates the chance to collaborate with different contractors and partners on job sites.

"The diverse range of working methods, requirements and regulations throughout the numerous countries provide opportunities to improve design and construction," he added.

On the other hand, staff members often must overcome the unique task of ensuring quality and safety across such an expansive area, where standards and practices vary greatly, Nedzbala said.

Working in the Mediterranean region certainly offers plenty of perks. It's rich in European culture, food, wine and travel possibilities.

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NAU in the News

- U.S. Embassy Riga, US, Latvian officials open reconstructed regional dispatch center — news release
- AFN Benelux, Community attends open house for new DODEA schools at SHAPE — news report
- Stars and Stripes, 5th Signal Command opens cybercenter — article

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Operations Security Antiterrorism Awareness Month

The Army's senior leadership has proclaimed August as Antiterrorism Awareness Month. The threat of a terrorist attack remains persistent, and leaders need to remind their communities that everyone can help. The annual Armywide campaign is now in its fifth year.

Every U.S. Army Corps of Engineers member plays an important role in preventing terrorist acts. By understanding the indicators of potential terrorist activities and reporting suspicious behavior to military police or local law enforcement, community members enhance and extend USACE's protection posture.

Be vigilant: We should all be watching for threats and hazards to our country, workplaces and infrastructure, and be prepared to report them. iWATCH Army is a partnership between your community and local law enforcement to help us stay safe. Army community members should report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate possible terrorist activity. If you see something, say something — contact your security manager or local law enforcement.

Be prepared: An insider threat or active-shooter scenario similar to what happened at Fort Hood, Texas, and the Washington Naval Yard could occur anywhere. Know what the plans and procedures for your workplace are in case of a similar event.

Be trained: In support of this monthlong national initiative to combat terrorism, everyone in USACE must complete their annual Antiterrorism Level I training.

Commanders and antiterrorism officers are encouraged to conduct an active outreach program to inform the community about the terror threat and protective measures. This will ensure the safety and security of USACE's valued workforce while also enhancing mission success. We can all make a big difference by remaining alert and reporting suspicious activity.

Comments? Corrections?

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