

CHERIE HENNINGSSEN

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL

AUSA CHAPTER 5102

Who Am I?

Serving on the board has continued my passion for service. Even though I officially left the Military in 2008, by serving on the board it has been a way to stay connected to my military family. Staying connected to the Total Army Family is bridging the gap from active Military to a life as a civilian military veteran. My experience as a United States Army Reserve Soldier assist the RIA AUSA Board in understanding the needs of part-time Soldiers, as well as active, retired and families. I have been serving the "Military Family" for twenty years. In my spare time I enjoy volunteering, traveling and spending quality time with my family. I am an educator and every day I am inspired by young people stepping up to be change-makers. They always inspire me to continue to do my part.

What Do I Know?

I served in the Army Reserves for eight years as a Military Police Officer (95B). I was assigned to Davenport with the 339th MP Company serving in Fort Campbell, KY and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba at the start of Operation Enduring Freedom. I also deployed to Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. In addition, I have served on and off officer boards in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) since 2006. I have strengths in understanding the depths of how our Army works, the three pillars of the Army Performance Triad, psychology, as well as navigating technology and advancements in technology. I hold many certifications within the therapy profession, as well as awards and ribbons for military service accomplishments.

What Do I Do?

As Director of Communications, I am responsible to our national office, Chapter President, chapter board and fellow Soldiers, veterans and their families. I manage Chapter social media/communication efforts which includes but is not limited to composing/distributing press releases for pertinent events, posting to Twitter/FB/Instagram, YouTube, Chapter website and creating a quarterly newsletter along with shorter email communications with members. I work as a change agent to share what people need to know about the Total Army Family.

Why Do I Do It?

I am passionate about volunteering and service work. I am incredibly grateful to have the ability to give back to our Army family as I had once received such support during my time in the military and with each deployment served. My goals are to bridge the gap for those who may not be aware of the support available. My time serving *in* the Army is over, but my way of giving back to the Country I love will continue over my lifetime. Having the ability to work alongside a team of people who care deeply about serving those who serve us in the best part of my job.



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