



# THE HOG CALL!

Newsletter of the Arkansas Chapter  
of the  
Association of the United States Army  
4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER 2016

## News From National

Many thanks to Jerry Dodd for attending the AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition and representing all of us. Special thanks for accepting ten new streamers for the Arkansas Chapter flag! AUSA-AR earned the following new streamers for the past year:

- ✓ Merit Chapter
- ✓ Member Communications
- ✓ Family Support
- ✓ Support to ROTC/JROTC
- ✓ Young Professionals
- ✓ Army Birthday
- ✓ Army History
- ✓ Corporate Member Support
- ✓ Institute of Land Warfare Support
- ✓ Take the Hill



Mr. Dodd (center) receives a Chapter Streamer from GEN(R) Carter Hamm (L), new National AUSA President and Fourth Region President Stan Lennox (R)

At the Annual Meeting, the National leadership of AUSA also laid out the legislative agenda of the Association. Per the AUSA leadership, "One of our highest priorities is for Congress

and the President to strike a deal to remove the threat of budgetary caps and sequestration cuts before they cause irreversible damage to our national security. AUSA's priority resolutions outline key and essential actions required to properly fund, maintain, sustain and modernize a combat-ready, all-volunteer American Army that is ready to defend the nation in an unpredictable world."

In support of the Army Chief of Staff's three priorities of Readiness, adapting the Army for the future and taking care of troops, AUSA developed several priority resolutions for 2016.

**DEFENSE BUDGET:** Fund the Army FY17 base budget at \$135 billion (by October 1, 2016) in order to support the National Military Strategy with reduced risk.

Provide Overseas Contingency Operations funding as requested to support operational needs.

**PERSONNEL:** Endstrength floor: Total Army 1,035,000:

- 480,000 active (46%);
- 350,000 Army National Guard (34%);
- 205,000 Army Reserve (20%)

Ensure the continued success of the All-Volunteer Force by adequately funding talent management initiatives with respect to recruiting, retention, quality of life (policies, pay and benefits), and retirement.

**OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:**

Fund Operations and Maintenance in order to restore operational readiness to  $\geq 90\%$  across

all vehicle and watercraft fleets, and  $\geq 75\%$  across all aircraft fleets.

Fully fund readiness accounts in order to meet Combatant Commander demand for trained and available units.

**INVESTMENT:** Robustly fund RDT&E and procurement to develop, maintain and increase capability overmatch against all potential enemies. Fully man, train and fund Army acquisition and contracting workforce.



## State President

Happy Holidays to all our Members, their Families, and the entire Arkansas Army Community!



## Chapter President

Two years ago this past October, I accepted the nomination to be the next Arkansas Chapter President. Assuming the reins from John

Messer's many years of service to the chapter is no easy task and I'm very appreciative to John for his sage guidance and wisdom.

One of my objectives for the chapter is to increase the awareness across the state since Arkansas has a large Army population (Retiree, Reserve, and National Guard) and to help these vets have a stronger voice in Arkansas.

A second objective involves direct support of Reserve and National Guard units and family members to recognize excellent and achievements e.g. Soldier of the Quarter, Year etc.

My third objective involves providing support to ROTC and JROTC units/programs across the state. Currently there are five Army ROTC and

twenty-four JROTC programs in the state. It is important that the new ROTC 2LTs graduating each year know about AUSA and its impact and support of the US Army. Support for the twenty-four JROTC programs involves the annual awards program and Army representation at that ceremony. The presenters have the opportunity to dialogue with the JROTC Cadets and tell the Army story.

The fourth objective involves support to the VA Hospitals in Little Rock and NLR. There are many opportunities to provide support to these Vets and AUSA AR can directly or indirectly support soldiers involved in VA care.

I look forward to attending and representing the Arkansas Chapter at State, Regional and National AUSA events and to telling the Arkansas Army story

## JROTC Support

Over the summer, AUSA-Arkansas supported the Arkansas-wide Junior ROTC Junior Cadet Leadership Challenge at Camp Robinson with awards presented on June 10<sup>th</sup> to the top male and female cadets of that competition.



Members on hand to present awards to these outstanding cadets were Chapter President Harold Tucker (L), State President David Cooper (C) and COL(R) Scott Sanders (R).

## Army Birthday Celebration

AUSA-AR held its annual commemoration of the Army Birthday on June 12<sup>th</sup> at the Clinton School of Public Policy. For 241 years our Army has served and defended our great Nation. Civilians mark June 14<sup>th</sup> as "Flag Day", but



Soldiers everywhere understand the true importance of this anniversary. Sorry for the late notifications. Please mark your calendars for next June 14<sup>th</sup> and please help make our next celebration truly memorable!



Ceremonial Cake Cutting by Oldest and Youngest Soldiers. Chaplain (COL-R) Paul Sanders (R) shares the honor with SPC Michael Rhodes (L).

## Military Retiree Appreciation Day



AUSA-Arkansas was again ably represented at Little Rock AFB (LRAFB) by LTC(R) (and past Chapter President) John Messer for their 2016 Military Retiree Appreciation Day. AUSA-AR has supported this event in recent years to provide organizational information to our Army community and retirees. Our thanks to LRAFB for hosting this even, providing free coffee and pastries, and even dispensing free annual flu shots to retirees. And thanks, also, to John for "showing the flag"!



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Veterans Day (Nov 11)
  - Clinton Library – free admission for all active and retired military
  - Grand Opening of Arkansas Veterans Home, 2401 John Ashley Drive, NLR, 1100 Ribbon Cutting and Visitors Tour
  - Veterans Day Dance (Hosted by Northwest Arkansas Veterans Day Association), Arkansas Air Museum, 4290 S. School Ave, Fayetteville (Drake Field), 7 pm - 9 pm
  
- Military Family Day (Nov 12) – LRAFB – 0930-1300 at the Walter's Community Support Center. Carnival games, to hayrides, a car show, petting zoo and free food and drawings for a \$100, \$300 and \$500 Visa Gift Card!
  
- Nov 16
  - Flag Pickup – Volunteers needed to recover Flags at Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery in North Little Rock, 8 am - until complete
  - Mobile Vet Center, Lincoln County, Civic Center Parking Lot, 201 Liberty Street, Star City, AR 71667 (10 am to 2 pm), CVSO – Norvell Dixon – 870-628-4332
  
- Nov 18 – Arkansas Flag & Banner fund raiser, "*Dancing into Dreamland*" See details at [www.dreamlandballroom.org](http://www.dreamlandballroom.org)
  
- Nov 19 – Mobile Vet Center, Pulaski County, Claims Day, Little Rock Vet Center, 201 West Broadway Suite A, North Little Rock, AR 72114 (9 am to 4 pm), POC – Team Leader - Dr. Crownover – (501) 324-6395
  
- Nov 21– Mobile Vet Center, Prairie County, County Courthouse, 1523 US-63, Hazen, AR 72064 (Des Arc), CVSO – Larry Robinson – 501-593-1031
  
- Dec 5 – 11 – *Arkansas Remembers Pearl Harbor: 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*, Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum at 120 Riverfront Park Drive in North Little Rock

- Formal Remembrance - Wednesday, December 7, at 11:55 am
- For more information visit: [aimmuseum.org/ARRemembersPearlHarbor](http://aimmuseum.org/ARRemembersPearlHarbor)

## The Green Book is out!

The *Green Book* has been mailed to Association of the U.S. Army members. For anyone who didn't receive their member copy or who would like to share with family or friends, it is also posted at the AUSA website ([ausa.org](http://ausa.org)) or single copies of the special issue may be purchased for \$20 each by emailing [membersupport@ausa.org](mailto:membersupport@ausa.org) or mailing Fulfillment Manager, P.O. Box 101560, Arlington, VA 22210-0860.

## Other News You Can Use

**Renew Today!** Take advantage of renewing your AUSA membership before the rates go up in 2017! 2016 Rates (remain in effect until Dec 31<sup>st</sup>):

	2017
Two years - \$30	(>\$40)
Five years - \$50	(>\$75)
Life Membership - \$300	(>\$400)

E1-E4 and Cadet rates remain \$10/2yrs

Call (855) 246-6269 or [www.ausa.org/membership/individual](http://www.ausa.org/membership/individual)

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Voice On Capitol Hill – advocate for the entire Army Community
- Benefits & Discounts – Discounts on insurance, car rentals, hotels and more
- Professional Development
- Civilian Jobs links – [careers.ausa.org/](http://careers.ausa.org/)
- Stay Informed – Army Magazine and other AUSA Publications

Keeps you connected to what is happening in YOUR Army.

**Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs**  
<http://www.veterans.arkansas.gov/>

## Corporate Corner

Many Thanks to our Corporate Members!

- Whole Hog North Little Rock every Monday 10% off for military



- Clinton Museum Store - everyday 15% discount for military!



- Arkansas Flag & Banner – everyday 15% military discount!



- Lynwick LLC - Military discount on string quartet performances at military functions and church events.



- Security Signals, Inc.



- Spectra Technologies, LLC

**Please Support Our Corporate Members as They Support Our Military Community!**



## 2016 AUSA-AR Officers

**State President** – LTC(R) David Cooper  
**Little Rock Chapter President** – COL(R)  
Harold Tucker (ausa.ar.pres@comcast.net)  
**Chapter VP for Membership** – Lyn Lewis  
**Chapter Treasurer** – Terry Hirsch  
**Chapter Legal Counsel** – OPEN  
**Chapter Chaplain** – OPEN  
**Director of Public Relations** – BG(R) Bud  
Jameson  
**Chapter Web Master** – OPEN

## Editor's Final Thoughts

It was my honor to serve as the AUSA-Arkansas State President from 2011 to 2015. During my tenure, I had two primary goals. First, to assist the Chapter President in reinvigorating and bringing relevance to AUSA in Arkansas. I believe the people of Arkansas, and business leaders and elected officials, don't realize that **Arkansas is an Army State!** While we do have a small active USAF base in Jacksonville, that presence is dwarfed by the sheer size of the Army Community. One need only consider the combined numbers of Regular Army, Army Reserve, and Army Guard Soldiers – active/drilling, and retired – as well as their Families, plus the Army Veterans of all three components in this state to realize just how huge our interest in the future of the Army should be. We all have a shared stake in current and future pay, healthcare, and retiree and veterans' benefits. Unfortunately, there has never been a single voice for all these interested stakeholders, either to communicate needs to the policy makers or to disseminate information to all, across the state. My vision was to make the Association of the United States Army that voice in Arkansas. Right now there is NO single voice, and certainly not with the power that would come from uniting the entire Army Community in Arkansas.

My second goal was to communicate to the National Headquarters the fact that they **MUST** shift their emphasis from a "Regular Army centric" focus and format in realization that AUSA is the premier voice for the entire Army, irrespective of Component. If the last 13 years of war has not taught me anything else, it has taught me that the Army (and AUSA!) can no longer afford the AC-centric, parochial attitude that existed before the Global War on Terror. Just refer to the numbers and percentages

listed on the first page. The **MAJORITY (54%)** of today's Army is now in the two Reserve Components! If all three components aren't viewed – and represented by AUSA – as a whole, then our young Soldiers in the Army Reserve and Army Guard will (again) be forced to deploy with outdated equipment that is not as capable as, nor interchangeable with, the latest AC models.

It is time that AUSA began "telling the stories" of the Army Reserve and Army Guard in its publications as well as rolling their requirements in with those of the Regular Army when proposing legislation. Toward that end, I sent a letter to the AUSA President asking that such a shift in focus be initiated. Time will tell if the new AUSA leadership will follow through.

Since I had no desire to become inactive in AUSA-AR when my term as State President was up, I want to publicly thank the new leadership for asking me to serve as the Director of Public Relations and editor (interim, I hope!) of our new newsletter. I will do my best to take in information for the Association and push out information to all our members in a timely manner along all three lines of the State President's effort. This means AUSA-AR plans to be a multi-compo organization and present news and events from local Active units and activities, the Army Reserve, and the Army Guard as they are submitted to us.



This means, **PLEASE SEND IN** information and dates for any upcoming events and activities that might interest our members. This includes JROTC/ROTC units, Army Reserve units, Army Guard units, Retiree and Veterans organizations, VA or DOD updates, etc. In this way AUSA can work on ways to support you. It will also allow us to share your/our activities with our entire membership as well as National Headquarters. **BRJ**

**Activity = Interest = Results**