



# The Salute

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY • VOLUME 16 ISSUE 3 • November 2017

## Redstone-Huntsville wins Best Chapter

By Sofia C. Bledsoe, Board of Directors,  
Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, AUSA

In what has seemed to have been a near impossible feat of outperforming itself over the last few years, the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter was recognized as the Best Chapter Overall in the large chapter category for the 13th time.

The chapter was recognized on Oct. 9 at the 2017 Association of the U.S. Army Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C.

"I'd like to congratulate everyone," chapter president Sam Torrey said to board members at a meeting Oct. 20. "It was an honor to go up on stage and accept the ribbon. This would not have been possible if not for all the work that everyone has poured into making our chapter, yet again, the best of the best."

The chapter also received top honors and earned several ribbons that contributed to being recognized as the best in the world. They include: Superior Chapter, Vietnam Partnership, Merit Chapter, Star Chapter, Excellence in Reserve Component Growth, Corporate Member Support, Family Programs, Support to USAREC, Take the Hill, Army History, Support of ROTC, Member Communications, Army Birthday, and Institute of Land Warfare Support.

Incorporated in 1955, the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter has always been very active and involved in many major events and activities that helps and supports military members, military retirees, Department of Army Civilians and their families in the Tennessee Valley Community.

"AUSA supports many events every year,

not just in the immediate Tennessee Valley Community but also in our satellite chapters," said Torrey. "As the community grows, so has the chapter's support."

"Our strength really derives itself. The programs that we support is essential in promoting the good things that we're doing for Soldiers, civilians, veterans and their families in the community. That in turn leads to membership and corporate sponsorship. All the things into making the chapter good derive themselves from the leadership and the board itself and also support from the community," he said.

From hosting annual events such as the Army birthday celebration, DA Civilian of the Year Award, Soldier/NCO of the Year and 1st Sgt. John Ordway Award, Huntsville Havoc military appreciation nights, Tactical Missile Symposium, and supporting the annual Armed Forces Week and several high school and college ROTC awards and scholarships, the AUSA Redstone-Huntsville chapter continues to exceed itself by making sure it maintains good relationships with individual and corporate members and the military through Redstone Arsenal.

"We have a pretty proven calendar of events that are tied to this organization, whether you're talking about Veterans Day, Memorial Day, etc. All those big items and events and how we fill in between with some initiatives. For example, for Armed Forces Recognition Week, we don't run that, but we support it so we have a piece of what the community does," Torrey said.

Torrey said the chapter fundamentally needs the support of community members

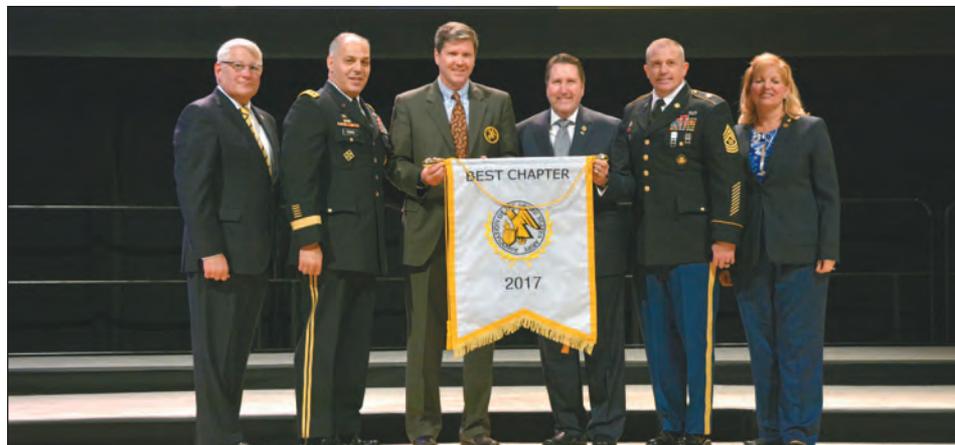


Photo by AUSA National

**President Sam Torrey and Past President John Wright proudly hold the "Best Chapter" banner on stage at the 2017 Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 9. Also pictured are AUSA President and CEO retired Gen. Carter Ham, Army Materiel Command Commander Gen. Gus Perna, Command Sgt. Major Rodger Mansker, AMC, and retired Lt. Gen. Pat McQuiston, AUSA VP for Membership and Meetings.**

on post and off post to attend the events. "It's difficult to maintain that level of commitment and competitive edge," continued Torrey. "We ensure that we coordinate with community members and leaders on everything that we do, gain their support, so we can continue to deliver the best support and services for our military members, their families, our large retiree community, and our DA civilians."

Maintaining that level of recognition is a big team effort, continued Torrey, and it is important to be able to recruit young members in order to continue to build the bench. "Our Young Professionals program

for example, which has grown tremendously successful since its inception three years ago, is looking to do a second event where they honor and recognize new recruits, basically thanking them before they actually ship out.

Our YPs are our future. It's how you bring on people behind you. And they are just a wealth of energy and ideas. Most of our YP members are not military, and they want to participate and tell the Army story. We are actually recognized as one of the best chapters for YPs."

To learn more about the AUSA Redstone-Huntsville chapter and what you can do to support, visit [ausaredstone.org](http://ausaredstone.org).

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# President's Message

As your newly elected chapter president, let me say what a privilege it is to continue to serve the "Best Chapter" in the Association of the United States Army. I look forward to continuing the proud traditions and many successes of our Redstone-Huntsville Chapter as we support Soldiers, Retirees, Veterans, Army Families and Department of the Army Civilians across North Alabama.

Next, let me thank John and Tammy Wright for their outstanding leadership as the "command team" of the Chapter for the past two years. During his time as the chapter president, John's dedicated service increased individual and corporate memberships, launched the West Alabama Sub-Chapter in Tuscaloosa, and expanded the success of the Global Force Symposium by adding the ROTC Luncheon. As the immediate past president, he will continue to advise the board and also serve as liaison to AUSA National for Global Force Symposium 2018. Also, thank you to those board members who completed their term: Pam Caruso, Matthew Schmitz, Harold DeBer-

ry and Steve Moeller.

During the Army Birthday Celebration in June, we installed several new board members and Chapter Executive Committee members for the new operating year that runs from July 1 to June 30 each year. We welcome the new board members: K.C. Bertling, Lauri Diaz, Bill Marks and Pat Sullivan. Additionally, the Chapter welcomes Executive Vice President Steve Below, who previously served as the chapter treasurer for many years. From our Young Professionals (YP) Sub-chapter, our new YP president is Elizabeth Fontenez who replaced Leo Gilliland. Leo now serves as the VP, for Young Professionals at the Chapter level. New to the Executive Committee are Kara Wall, VP for Digital Communications, and Bill Bigelow, VP for Protocol. Other Executive Committee moves include, Marie Arighi to VP for Special Activities, Bob English to VP for Individual Membership, Marc Jacobsen to VP for Satellite Chapter Activities, and Jo Seay, to VP for Awards and Recognition.

At the recent AUSA Annual Meeting and Expo held in Washington D.C., the Chapter was once again recognized as the Best Chapter for 2017! The success of our chapter programs is driven by the needs of our chapter membership. Many of them are the result of an identified need within our area of responsibility. All of our professional development, networking and service opportunities have the primary purpose of Connecting America with the Army. A very special thanks to our chapter volunteers who support our activities.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events for our Chapter:

- Veterans Day Activities
- Christmas in Dixie Concert and AUSA Holiday Reception
- Global Force Symposium

Hooah!

**Col. Sam Torrey,  
U.S. Army Retired  
President, Redstone-  
Huntsville Chapter, AUSA**



Courtesy Photo

**The Anniston Area 'Gallant Pelham' Satellite Chapter of the Association of the United States Army teams up with the Military and Security Affairs Committee of the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce for a breakfast in Anniston, Ala. Oct. 19, 2017. Pictured are retired Col. Greg Potts, AUSA Anniston "Gallant Pelham" Chapter President, Congressman Mike Rogers, U.S. Representative for Alabama's 3rd Congressional District, Maj. Gen. Clark LeMasters, U.S. Army TACOM Life Cycle Management Command Commander, Greg Brown, MSAC Co-Chair, and Tom Potts, Vice President for Public Affairs AUSA Anniston "Gallant Pelham" Chapter.**

## Anniston Area 'Gallant Pelham' Satellite Chapter

Courtesy Photo

**Anniston Army Depot Commander Col. Joel Warhurst addresses the Anniston Area 'Gallant Pelham' Satellite Chapter of the Association of the United States Army and the Military and Security Affairs Committee of the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce at a breakfast in Anniston, Ala. Oct. 19, 2017.**



**Salute is the quarterly newsletter of the Redstone-Huntsville Association of the United States Army. Salute is published by Tennessee Valley Media, a private firm. The publisher is not responsible for incorrect information.**

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# Redstone welcomes back Daly

By Kara Wall, Vice President, Digital Communications,  
Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, AUSA

Redstone welcomed back a familiar face in August as Lt. Gen. Edward Daly took the reins of senior commander.

Daly, also the deputy commanding general of Army Materiel Command, is no stranger to the area and wasted no time jumping back in to the throes of the Tennessee Valley community.

“I am excited to return to the Tennessee Valley, a place where our partnerships with the community are unparalleled,” Daly said. “Redstone Arsenal is a diverse installation with a global impact, and as senior commander, I look forward to working alongside our community leaders as a collaborative partner and contributing member of the community.”

He said he’s proud to be part of the community and is focused on strengthening the partnership the community and Redstone share.

“It’s very rare that you find a partnership like the one between Redstone and the Tennessee Valley community, and one of my goals is to build on that partnership every day.”

Daly served as the AMC deputy chief of staff from 2014 to 2016, during which time he had an active presence in the community, frequently engaging city leaders, veterans and students as an Army senior leader.

The new senior commander has already appeared at multiple community functions and is set to be the grand marshal of the upcoming Veterans Day parade here in Huntsville.

“This is a tremendous community, and I’m proud to be a part of it,” Daly said.

Daly returns to Redstone after commanding AMC subordinate Army Sustainment Command in Rock Island, Ill.



U.S. Army Photo by Sgt. Eben Boothby

**Redstone Senior Commander, Lt. Gen. Edward Daly, visits with community leaders at the Gate 9 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in August 2017.**



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# AUSA ILW Global Force 2018 Symposium and Exposition

March 26-28, 2018  
Von Braun Center,  
Huntsville, Alabama

By John Wright, Past President,  
Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, AUSA

Once again our community will welcome the Army and industry for the 2018 Association of the United States Army Institute for Land Warfare Global Force Symposium and Exposition. If you missed the annual meeting in Washington, D.C. in early October, this is a three-day event that will include presentations from the United States Army Materiel Command, the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command, and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology).

This symposium will explore the capabilities outlined in the Army Operating Concept and how the force transforms from being adaptive to driving innovation for Force 2025 and beyond. Special guest presentations coupled with panel discussions from

our senior military and industry leaders, addresses critical points of acquisition, research and development, and partnering between military and industry. For the Army, this means restructuring military-industrial programs. The Army must take a hard look at its acquisition processes, with an eye towards the future, in order to continue maintaining a competitive overmatch against potential adversaries.

For AUSA housing, registration or additional information, visit <http://ausameetings.org/globalforce2018>.

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter is the host chapter and will support the Association's Headquarters Staff

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during the planning, preparation and execution with volunteers for registration. Additionally, the chapter hosts several key networking events for all Young Professionals, Symposium Attendees, and the increasingly popular ROTC Day:

Monday, March 26 – Young Professionals Networking Event beginning at 5 pm

Tuesday, March 27 – The Rocket City Bash – the premiere networking and social event of the symposium – returning to the Saturn V Hall at the US Space and Rocket Center. (To sign up for the Rocket City Bash, select the additional option during your registration for the Global Force Sympo-

sium and Exposition.)

Wednesday, March 28 – ROTC Day at the Symposium – JROTC, ROTC, and future Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines are invited to attend the symposium, hear from current and former senior leaders, and learn about career opportunities both in and out of uniform. The day will culminate with the Our Community Salutes/ROTC Luncheon where we thank future warriors (high school students who will be entering the service upon graduation) and ROTC/JROTC cadets.

For additional information, please visit the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter website at [ausaredstone.org](http://ausaredstone.org).



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# AUSA Young Professionals

The Redstone-Huntsville Association of the United States Army Young Professionals have blazed a trail for YP chapters across AUSA.

Most notably, our local AUSA Young Professionals plan, organize, and ex-

ecute the annual Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team games, which raised \$18,000 for the WWAST in 2016 and even more in 2017. In addition, AUSA YP will host the "Our Community Salutes" dinner recognizing

high school graduates who enlist in any branch of service. Our sub-chapter also hosts local quarterly networking events for both old and young in an effort to share knowledge and expand social networks.

As an AUSA Young Professional, we have the opportunity to meet and socialize with high-ranking members of the Huntsville community. The twofold benefit is both visibility in the community and mentorship in both personal life and career. The generation before us is very excited to lead young professionals along the path to success, provided, we show interest and drive.

My favorite thing about the AUSA YP group is partnering our laid-back atmosphere with the professionalism that enables us to plan events that are much bigger than ourselves. For example, participating in the planning of the Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team games enables us to give back to wounded veterans, who in turn pay it forward to children.

I highly recommend you join AUSA Young Professionals. Not only is this



an opportunity to gain visibility in the community, but more importantly, it allows you, as a member of the overarching AUSA community, to support the U.S. Army's veterans, Soldiers, civilians and their families.

For more information or to become a member of AUSA, visit [ausaredstone.org](http://ausaredstone.org).

**Elizabeth Fontanez**  
President, AUSA YP,  
Redstone-Huntsville Chapter



**Redstone-Huntsville Association of the United States Army Young Professionals networking event at Straight to Ale with sponsor LMI and Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team members Mike Brown and Nick Bradley.**

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# Leader to the Core: Is Your Leadership Platform Sound?

By Bob English, Vice President, Membership, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, AUSA

There are so many emotional issues flying around on the news and social media these days that it is easy to get caught up in the fray. But as leaders, how should we respond and how should we use our platform?

One of my mentors, Mark Cole, CEO of the John Maxwell Company, recently led a discussion on this topic and talked about a leader's platform. This really got me thinking about our responsibilities as a leader. I would like to share some of Mark's thoughts and mine on this subject.

First, platform is defined as an opportunity to voice one's views or initiate action. Politicians have a platform. Sports figures have a platform. Celebrities have a platform. Leaders have a platform. We all have a responsibility when we have a platform. The question is, what do we do with our platform?

I want to focus on how leaders should use their platform. In emotional and tense situations, how can we rise above the fray and demonstrate our leadership? One thing we should do is something I have not seen a lot of recently. We need to diminish our desire to be right and increase our desire to get it right.

In some of the recent protests, I have found myself using a personal perspective or preference filter. I would agree that I believe

in your right to protest... as long as I agree with your protest. One of the hardest things to learn is to be empathetic to another person and see issues from their perspective.

Another way for leaders to rise above the fray is to recognize that a matter needs a conversation, not a statement. This becomes easier when you use a leadership filter to view things rather than a personal preference filter. I see people making a lot of statements these days but not many holding conversations.

How do you have a conversation? You have to show up, you have to be grateful, you have to be empathetic. How do you become empathetic? Empathy happens when a person of power temporarily sets that power aside and listens to someone who is powerless. Leaders should be asking questions about issues, not giving statements.

If you are not clear about your platform as a leader, here are some of Mark's thoughts.

1. As a leader you are given a platform. You don't work for a platform. People give you permission to speak into their life. You have some requirements when you have a platform:

- You must feel a sense of responsibility for the platform.
- You must have gratitude and appreciation.
- You must demonstrate humility.

• This is all Leadership 101 so far.  
2. Once given a platform, you must define it.

- What do you want to be known for?
- What do you want people to remember when they have interacted with you?
- What do you want people to do when they have interacted with you?

3. You must protect your platform - emotional leaders create chaotic deliverables to their people.

- Ask, "what is the longer view?"
- Ask, "how will I be repeated by the people following me?"
- Look at the timing of your impact. What is the filter you use to determine tim-

ing? You need to start with a leadership filter. And, your last filter should be people and peace.

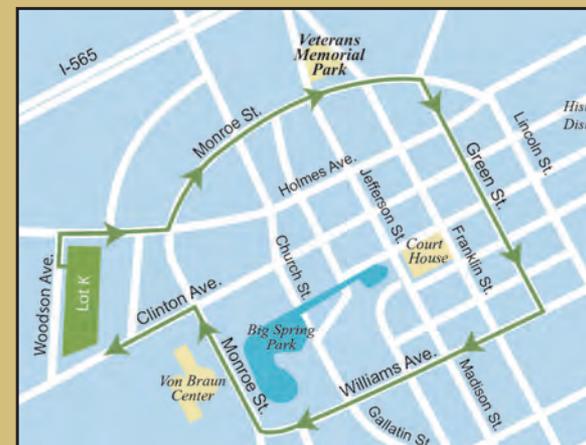
I hope this stirs you to think about your own platform and how you use it now, how you should use it, when to use it and what you can do better. The saying, "to whom much is given, much is expected", applies equally well to our platforms as leaders.

*Bob English is a retired Army officer, a John Maxwell Team certified coach, corporate trainer and speaker and VP Membership of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of AUSA. You can get more information about Bob at [www.RobertEnglishLeadership.com](http://www.RobertEnglishLeadership.com)*

## Save-the-date for these exciting upcoming AUSA events:

- Military Appreciation Night at UAH Hockey- Nov. 10-11, 2017
- Veterans Day Parade- Nov. 11, 2017
- AUSA Hot Topic on Army Cyber- Dec. 14, 2017
- AUSA Holiday Reception- Dec. 16, 2017
- Christmas in Dixie Concert benefiting AUSA- Dec. 16, 2017
- 2018 Global Force Symposium and Exposition- March 26-28, 2018

For more information, visit [ausaredstone.org](http://ausaredstone.org).



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## AUSA benefits outweigh costs

By Kara Wall, Vice President, Digital Communications, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, AUSA

A membership with the Association of the United States Army costs less than most people spend on lattes in a month.

With a recent overhaul in benefits, an AUSA membership is giving back more now than ever before. For as little as \$40, members receive steep discounts on hotels, rental cars, brands like Apple and Dell and even pet insurance.

AUSA Vice President for Membership and Meetings retired Lt. Gen. Patricia McQuiston led the effort in polling members and updating benefits.

"I've been a lifetime member of the Association of the United States Army since my earliest days in uniform. My husband and I joined because we knew that AUSA is the only non-profit professional development association serving America's Total Army. We love the Army and wanted to be part of a larger community of people who supported it. And, we wanted our voices to

be heard on issues affecting our military," McQuiston stated in the latest edition of the AUSA Benefits Guide.

McQuiston wrote that outside of ARMY Magazine and AUSA News, she never paid much attention to all the benefits AUSA offered.

"Then I joined the staff here, and my eyes were opened. I was greatly surprised by how much AUSA offers its members. I thought I better open my ears as well, and hear what others thought were the most valuable services. So we asked a lot of folks what they thought," she wrote.

McQuiston plans to continue expanding benefits based on feedback from members.

"We know that our members join AUSA because you want to give your support to our Army, and you like what you get from AUSA as we strive to educate, inform, and connect our members on issues important to national security. But, we also want you to know that you can save real money using AUSA member benefit programs," McQuiston stated.

For more information or to join AUSA, visit [ausaredstone.org](http://ausaredstone.org).

## AUSA corporate member has new Huntsville location

Clockwork Solutions Press Release

clockwork  
It's Time

AUSTIN, Texas – Clockwork Solutions, a global leader in advanced predictive analytics for asset management, announced a new location in Huntsville, Alabama. Huntsville is home to a vast array of DoD agencies including the Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM), Army Materiel Command (AMC), Army Logistics Support Activity (LOGSA), along with Redstone Arsenal and a vast network of suppliers. In addition, the Huntsville area is also a rapidly growing commercial manufacturing and technology market, recently ranked as the nation's fastest growing tech hub.

"Clockwork has a long history working with the DOD agencies located in Huntsville on projects including ground vehicle systems and aviation programs as well as helping them answer some tough questions around their asset maintenance strategy. That combined with the growing tech presence here made Huntsville the perfect choice for our next location," said retired Maj. Gen. Genaro (Gino) Del-

larocco, VP of Business Development at Clockwork. "By establishing a full-time presence in Huntsville, we can reaffirm our commitment to the DOD and its key suppliers with best possible level of service and responsiveness while also being part of the region's incredible commercial growth.

Using the Clockwork Solutions advanced predictive analytics platform, enterprises and program agencies across DOD branches have made high-fidelity and actionable analytics a key component of their asset management strategy. By deploying analytics driven solutions such as Condition Based Maintenance (CBM), Lifecycle Management (LCM), and Performance Based Logistics (PBL) these organizations have recognized billions in savings and cost avoidance, all while reducing risk and improving readiness.

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# Join AUSA in the fight for Army funding

By Troy Trulock, Vice President, Legislative Affairs, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, AUSA

Membership in the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army is an investment in securing appropriate funding for the Army, Redstone Arsenal and the local workforce.

The chapter works hard every day to help Redstone and local governments improve job opportunities, grow the local economy and enhance the quality of life in the community.

A critical component of this support is legislative activities that impact the area. Most recently, the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter played a significant role in supporting the national

“Ground-Up” campaign requesting Congress to repeal the defense budget caps of the Budget Control Act of 2011.

So, what is the Budget Control Act of 2011?

The BCA is a law that was signed into effect in August 2011 and stays in effect for 10 years until the end of FY 2021. The act put budget caps in place for the defense and nondefense parts of the discretionary budget. These defense budget caps are degrading the Army’s readiness and modernization to dangerous levels and must be repealed.

On April 5, 2017, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Armed Services that unnecessary budget caps would decrease

readiness and put the Army at risk.

“A return to arbitrary budget caps set by the Budget Control Act (BCA) in Fiscal Year 2018 will reverse gains we have made to improve readiness, risking a hollow Army lacking sufficient funding to man, train, equip, house, and modernize the force,” said Milley. “We simply cannot sustain readiness or build the Army our Nation needs in the future if we continue to rely on continuing resolutions and return to BCA caps in FY 18 instead of full-year defense appropriations bills.”

General Milley continued his testimony, stating that the future battlefield will likely be more lethal than anything the Army has experienced and that continued BCA funding caps would

force that Army to postpone and cancel modernization efforts.

“Our adversaries have studied us and are rapidly leveraging available technology while the Army has yet to fully recover from the effects of sequestration in 2013. Time is not our ally. A return to the BCA caps would hamstring the Army’s ability to build and maintain readiness at appropriate levels required by the Defense Planning Guidance and result in a multi-decade negative impact on our future Army due to a lack of modernization,” he said.

Become a member of AUSA today to join in the fight for better Army funding. Visit [ausaredstone.org](http://ausaredstone.org) for more information.

## Local veteran receives Medal of Honor

By C. Todd Lopez, Army News Service

WASHINGTON – More than 47 years after his heroic actions in the nation of Laos, during the Vietnam War, Capt. Gary Michael Rose was recognized with the Medal of Honor.

“This will enshrine him into the history of our nation,” said President Donald J. Trump, during the Oct. 23, 2017 Medal of Honor ceremony at the White House.

During the Vietnam War, Rose served as a combat medic with the Military Assistance Command Studies and Observations Group, part of Special Forces. He was recognized for actions during a four-day period that spanned Sept. 11 through 14, 1970, in Laos. The mission he was part of, called “Operation Tailwind,” had for many years been classified.

Trump said Operation Tailwind was meant to prevent the North Vietnamese Army from funneling weapons to their own forces through Laos, along the Ho Chi Minh trail. The operation involved about 136 men, including 16 American Soldiers and 120 Montagnard fighters, who were Vietnamese indigenous people from the Central Highlands.

The operation put those involved deep inside Laos. The men had been inserted by helicopter.

“Once they landed in the clearing, they rushed to the jungle for much needed cover,” Trump said. “Soon, another man was shot outside their defensive perimeter. Mike immediately rushed to his injured comrade, firing at the enemy as he ran. In the middle of the clearing, under the machine gun fire, Mike treated the wounded Soldier. He shielded the man with his own body and carried him back to safety.”

That was just the start of the four-day mission, Trump said. There was much more to come.

“Mike and his unit slashed through the dense jungle, dodged bullets, dodged explosives, dodged everything that you can dodge because they threw it all at him, and continuously returned fire as they moved deeper and

deeper and deeper into enemy territory,” Trump said.

“Throughout the engagement, Mike rescued those in distress without any thought for his own safety,” Trump said. “I will tell you, the people with him could not believe what they were witnessing. He crawled from one Soldier to the next, offering words of encouragement as he tended to their wounds.”

Rose would repeat those selfless actions throughout the four-day Operation Tailwind mission.

Rose was himself injured, Trump said. On the second day, Rose was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade, which left shrapnel in his back, and a hole in his foot.

“For the next 48 excruciating hours, he used a branch as a crutch and went on rescuing the wounded,” Trump said. “Mike did not stop to eat, to sleep, or even to care for his own serious injury as he saved the lives of his fellow Soldiers.”

On the fourth day in Laos, Rose and others boarded the third of four helicopters that had been sent in to evacuate participants of Operation Tailwind. So many had boarded those first three helicopters that the fourth remained empty. It would seem to be the end of his mission and a return to safety. But it was not.

That third helicopter was already damaged by enemy fire when it picked up Rose and the remainder of the fighters, and it took off with only one engine operational. Shortly after lifting off, its remaining engine failed, meaning the aircraft would have to be “auto-rotated” to the ground.

On board that aircraft was an injured Marine door gunner who had been shot through the neck and was bleeding profusely. As the helicopter pilots attempted to bring a helicopter with no power safely to the ground, Rose tended to that young Marine’s neck – saving his life.

Ultimately, that helicopter crashed to the ground, and the resulting wreckage would provide yet another opportunity for Rose to prove his valor.

“Mike was thrown off the aircraft before it hit the ground, but he raced back to the crash site and pulled



U.S. Army photo by C. Todd Lopez

**President Donald Trump places the Medal of Honor around the neck of Capt. Mike Rose, during an Oct. 23, 2017 ceremony at the White House, in Washington, D.C. Rose is a native of Huntsville, Alabama.**

one man after another out of the smoking and smoldering helicopter as it spewed jet fuel from its ruptured tanks,” Trump said.

At the conclusion of Operation Tailwind, thanks to the efforts of Mike Rose, all 16 American Soldiers were able to return home. All of them had been injured. All but three of the Montagnard fighters returned as well.

During those four days in Laos, “Mike treated an astounding 60 to 70 men,” Trump said. And of the mission, which proved to be a success, “their company disrupted the enemy’s continual resupply of weapons, saving countless of additional American lives.”

At the White House for the event were members of Rose’s family, including his wife, Margaret, his three children, and two grand-children, and nine previous Medal of Honor recipients.

# Ten-Miler Team retains its dual championships

By SKIP VAUGHN, Editor, Redstone Rocket

WASHINGTON – Chris Roberts' father earned a slot on Redstone's Ten-Miler Team one year in the 1990s but didn't make the trip.

On Sunday Chris Jr. fulfilled his dad's legacy by leading Team Redstone to a double repeat championship at the 33rd annual Army Ten-Miler near the Pentagon. Redstone won its 11th straight championship in the government agency division and ninth consecutive title in the all-comers division.

Roberts, 22, of Huntsville, ran his first 10-mile race in 58 minutes and six seconds. He ran for Birmingham-Southern College from 2013-17 before graduating in May. He works at Publix Pharmacy as a technician and serves as assistant cross country coach at Huntsville High.

"It was brutal," he said of the run. "It might be my last (10-mile race) for a while. I think a lot of it was like the older guys were saying. It was hard. Three miles in I was just struggling with the race. I think I got out a bit too fast. It went downhill pretty early in the race. Three miles in I felt pretty uncomfortable. That was not where I wanted to be uncomfortable."

Blaise Binns, 25, of Huntsville, who ran for the University of Alabama in Huntsville from 2011-17, finished his first 10-mile race in 59:53. He is a physical therapy technician at Results Physiotherapy.

"It started really well," Binns said of the run. "First three miles I felt great. But then heat and humidity got to me around mile five. But there was great help and support along the race to keep me strong, keep me on pace."

Beck Mitchell, 30, of Harvest, in his third year with the team, is vice president of sales at Tango Tango, a communications company in Huntsville. He ran for UAH from 2005-07. He finished Sunday's race in 61 minutes.

"Tough, very tough," Mitchell said of

the run. "The weather conditions have been the worst of all of them. It was very tough but we still were able to pull out the win."

Roberts (58:06) led the all-comers team which also included Binns (59:53), Bo Brawner (1:02:42), Will Rodgers (1:05:30), Layne Magee (1:06:41), Sean Allan (1:10:34), Capt. Austin Cheng (1:17:50) and coach Harry Hobbs (1:50:52). Their combined top four times (4:06:14) beat second place Business Training Works (4:24:55).

Mitchell (61:00) led the government agency team which also had Daniel Sillivant (1:03:32), Blake Thompson (1:06:17), Capt. Quinton Watkins (1:09:01), Matt Casiano (1:09:54), Rick Maehlmann (1:16:15), Conrad Meyer (1:19:45) and assistant coach Skip Vaughn (over two and a half hours). The government agency top four times (4:19:53) beat second place Picatinny (4:30:20).

Hobbs returned as coach of this year's perennial champion team in which nine of the 16 members were newcomers.

"Although the weather may have dampened some of our spirits because it prevented our runners from running their very best, there was never any doubt that we would be double champions again for the 11th (consecutive year in government agency) and ninth straight time (in all-comers)," Hobbs said. "And our runners were concerned about their time. When I first got back they were really down. And I told them 'Don't worry about it.' Because I knew that we had trained hard and all these newcomers knew the legacy and knew they'd better not let this legacy down. They didn't want to be the ones that let this legacy down. We prayed before and after that we would represent our country in unity. In this world of division and walls, we wanted to be together in unison. We had a very diverse team in color, creed, religion, age and jobs. And we wanted to show how we could bring all this diversity together in unison to keep our winning



Redstone Arsenal runners earn 19th and 20th eagle trophies.

legacy alive. We wanted to keep the legacy alive."

The team's sponsors included the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, Bob Whiteford from the Whiteford Group, the Garrison and the Redstone Thrift Shop. Whiteford,

CEO from the Whiteford Group, funded the uniforms in a year where the team had one of its largest turnovers ever. "He donated the uniforms to ensure this legacy would continue in style," Hobbs said.

Haron Lagat was first among 35,000 runners in 49:23.

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Iroquois Systems, Inc. receives a certificate of appreciation for 5 years of membership and support to the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army from John Wright, past president.



Bob English, vice president for membership for the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army, presents a 15-year certificate of appreciation to LMI Southeast Regional Director Richard Eastham.



Sentar Cyber Solutions receives a certificate of appreciation for 5 years of membership and support to the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army from Rhonda Sutton, vice president for corporate membership and programs.



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Weichert, Realtors The Space Place, receives a certificate of appreciation for 15 years of membership and support to the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army from President Sam Torrey and Troy Trulock, vice president for legislative affairs.

# Elvis concert to benefit AUSA

By AUSA Redstone-Huntsville Chapter

Christmas time is coming, and so is some of the most memorable music of the season! Get your tickets today to see two world-class performers recognized by Elvis Presley Enterprises as Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artists.

Shawn Klush and Cody Ray Slaughter will perform at the Christmas in Dixie Concert Saturday, Dec. 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Von Braun Center's Mark C. Smith Concert Hall. All proceeds will benefit the local Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army.

Concert organizer Bennie Jacks said the concert is a can't miss holiday event.

"We are fortunate to bring two of the best Elvis tribute artists in the world to our local community," said Jacks. "This concert is sure to be a festive, fun-filled evening for the entire family."

Jacks said the concert will feature "Christmas, gospel and rock 'n' roll" music as Klush and Slaughter come back to Huntsville by popular demand. In addition, she said former members of The Stamps Quartet – who performed with Elvis more than 40

**Elvis Tribute Artist Cody Ray Slaughter kisses the bare head of event organizer and cancer survivor Bennie Jacks outside a Huntsville concert in 2016.**

years ago – Donnie Sumner, Ed Hill, Bill Baize and Larry Strickland, will provide entertainment.

Musicians Dan Lentino and The Fabulous Ambassadors will join the night to deliver an unforgettable performance of the music of Elvis Presley.

The concert will include a pre-show at 6 p.m. featuring Elvis tribute artist 15-year-old Riley Jenkins and local Huntsville soloist Bob Smith. Jenkins will also perform at the AUSA Holiday Reception preceding the concert.

"In addition to wonderful holiday music and fun, all the proceeds from the concert will benefit our local AUSA chapter," said Jacks. "We're proud to support our Army family through AUSA."

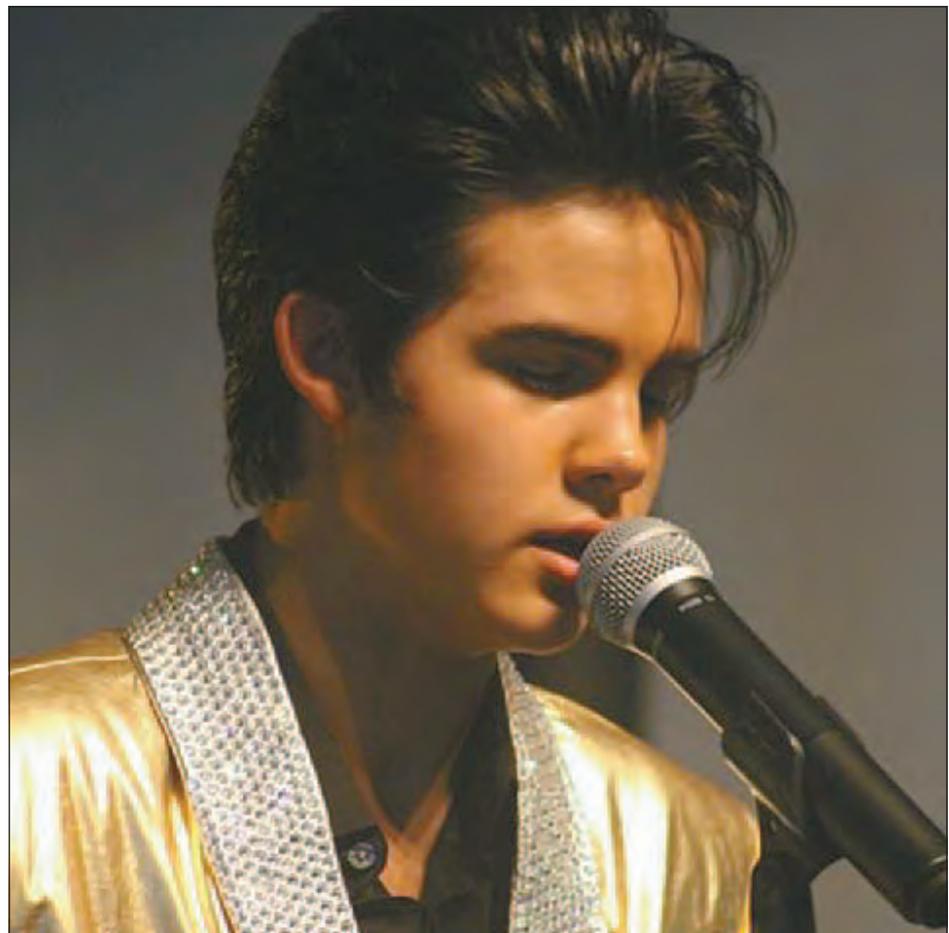
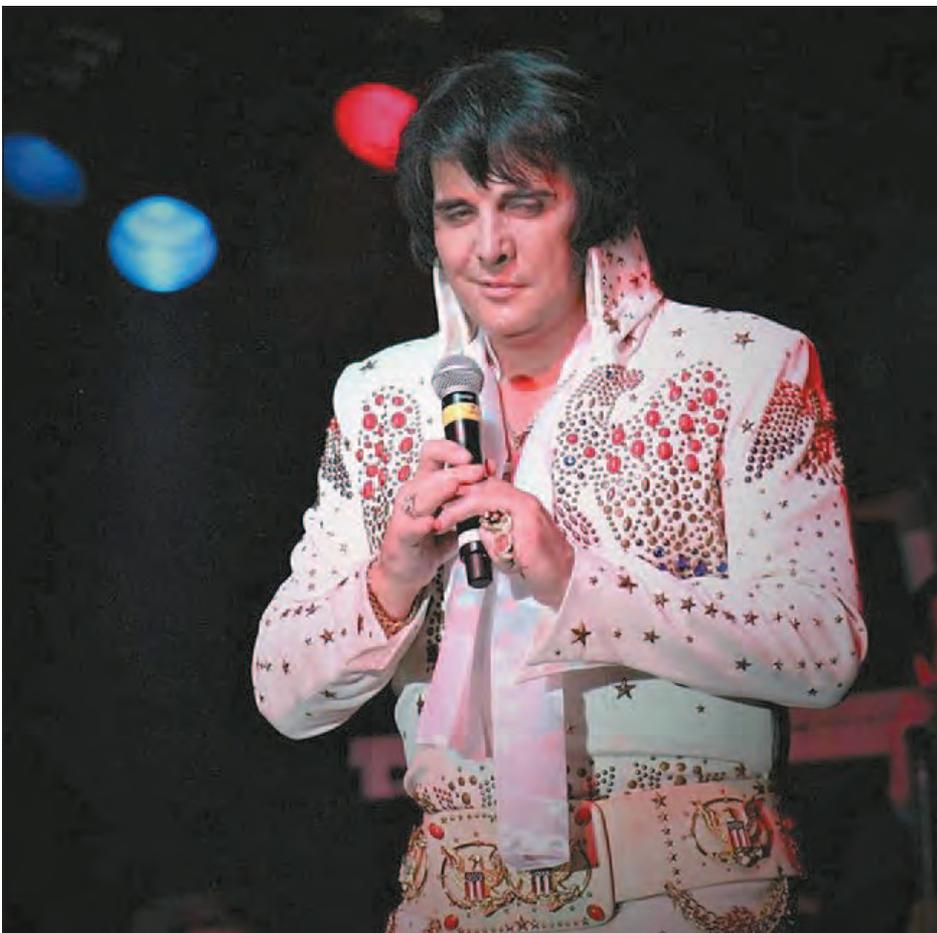
Tickets are now on sale. All seats are reserved, and tickets are available at the VBC Box Office, (256) 533-1953, or toll free, (800) 745-3000, and online at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

For more information contact Bennie Jacks at (256) 603-0894 or [benniejacks@att.net](mailto:benniejacks@att.net).



**World-famous Shawn Klush performs in Huntsville in 2016. Klush portrayed Elvis in the hit TV mini-series "Shake, Rattle and Roll" and was voted the "World's Greatest Elvis" by 6.5 million viewers on BBC1 Television in the United Kingdom.**

**"Teenage Elvis" Riley Jenkins takes the stage at age 15.**



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## Family team

Jim and Carolyn Rountree, Army Family programs team, attend family program seminars at the 2017 AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C. in Oct. The seminars covered updates to programs and new literature which was then provided to Army Community Services on Redstone.



## Civitan Care

Attending the Civitan Care Regional Conference, retired Lt. Col. Sam Scruggs, Vice President for ROTC/JROTC affairs, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, promotes AUSA corporate membership and building stronger relationships between AUSA and the community.



## Annual meeting

Members of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army represent the world's best chapter at the AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C. in October.



## Leadership Movie Night

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army sponsored for the fifth time the Leadership Movie and Pizza Night with Alabama A&M University's ROTC Battalion. On Oct. 17, 2017 more than 60 cadets from Alabama A&M University, the University of Alabama in Huntsville and JROTC cadets from Madison County High School attended the event. This effort enables the chapter to invest in the leadership development of the cadets. Bob English, Vice President for Membership, uses episodes of Band of Brothers to illustrate leadership values and principles and then leads an interactive discussion with the cadets on how they can apply the principles in their lives.

# AUSA launches ambassadors program

**By Retired Lt. Col. Sam Scruggs,**  
Vice President for ROTC/JROTC Affairs  
**and Retired Col. Greg Potts,**  
President, Anniston "Gallant Pelham"  
Satellite Chapter.

We are embarking on the second year of an exciting initiative, our ambassadorship program for ROTC/JROTC units. The goal is to expand the historical relationships of recognizing and awarding the best cadets for each school year with an Association of the United States Army medal, certificate, coin, membership and cash stipend.

We select members of our chapter to serve as ambassadors for each of the respective schools in our area of responsibility. There are tremendous opportunities for ROTC/JROTC cadets, cadre, and members of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of AUSA to individually and collectively strengthen relationships by working together on a wide range of projects and events.

Some of the things that Ambassadors did last year in addition to presenting awards included serving as speakers for Veterans Day programs at high schools and universities; obtaining sponsors to

provide opportunities for cadets to participate in various events that included the AUSA Global Symposium, Veterans and Army Birthday Dinners; National Drill meet competition; and assisting in providing trophies for drill meets hosted by high school JROTC units.

Some things the cadets did last year included serving as color guards for numerous events that included the Veterans Day Dinner, Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team games and military appreciation nights at various sporting events. They also passed out flags during the Veterans Day

Parade and helped in the execution of the AUSA Global Force Symposium and Exposition by serving as tour guides.

We look forward to expanding our relationships with Ambassadors, as we work with ROTC and JROTC programs by sharing Army, AUSA and life experiences to help them grow throughout the school year.

If you are interested in participating in this exciting new venture as an Ambassador, please contact retired Lt. Col. Sam Scruggs, Vice President for ROTC/JROTC Affairs, at (256) 479-2730 or email, samuel-scruggs@hotmail.com



## West/Central Alabama Chapter AUSA

Veterans and employees of the Tuscaloosa Alabama Power Company welcome Medal of Honor recipient retired Army Command Sgt. Maj. Bennie G. Adkins to their headquarters. Adkins was the guest of the Association of the United States Army, West/Central Alabama Chapter. "Adkins' extraordinary story of survival is inspiring and had a profound impact on all of us," said Mark Crews, vice president of Alabama Power's Western Division. "It was an honor to host him at our office and to have the opportunity to be in the presence of a true American hero."



John Merrill, Alabama secretary of state, welcomes the Hillcrest High School Army Junior ROTC all female color guard to the annual Veterans of Foreign War POW-MIA Recognition Day Sept. 16, 2017 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. The POW-MIA Recognition Day ceremony was hosted by the VFW Post 6022 in Cottondale, Ala. The Hillcrest High School Army JROTC presented the colors. Students from the sixth grade history class from Collings-Riverside Elementary and the University of Alabama Air Force ROTC performed the ceremony. The Tuscaloosa American Legion Honor Guard from Post 123 performed a 21-gun salute and members of the faculty from Stillman College played Taps. "I don't think that we could ever do anything to mean more to these families than to remember the ones that they've lost." Merrill told the Tuscaloosa News. The Hillcrest High School Army JROTC is sponsored by the Association of the U.S. Army, West/Central Alabama Chapter.



Deborah Cain, vice president, Association of the United States Army, West/Central Alabama Chapter (left), presents a certificate of appreciation to Dr. Cynthia Warrick, president, Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, during the grand opening of the Veterans Resource Center at Stillman College on Aug. 25, 2017 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Cain also congratulated Warrick on becoming the first woman president in the history of Stillman College. "We are looking forward to working with Dr. Warrick to make their Veteran Resource Center a great place for our veterans" said Cain.

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