



AUSA

FALL 2008

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL CHAPTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear AUSA Chapter Members,

Several of us have recently returned from Washington DC where we attended the AUSA Annual Meeting. We attended many of the professional development seminars, listened to the Army leadership discuss the future focus of the Army and our Nation's military forces, and once again got connected with some great soldiers and veterans. Our Chapter also received numerous awards, reflective of all the hard work and caring that each of you do every day in supporting the Army and its Soldiers, Civilians, Contractors and Families.

Our Chapter received the honor of being named Runner-up in the "Best Chapter" competition. We also were either the winners or runners-up in many other categories including Greatest Percentage Increase in Corporate and Government Civilian Employee Membership, Most Active in Pursuit of AUSA Objectives, Family Programs, Best Website, and Support to Recruiting Command, amongst others. This is all a result of everyone's total efforts and initiatives.

As we continue to grow, we find more and more opportunities to serve. The Army is engaged in a fight against terrorism around the world; Soldiers, Civilians and Contractors at the Rock are continuing their fantastic support; and their Families and the Quad Cities community stands by to continue to support them all.

We have plenty of opportunities to assist the Army but need each of you to continue to roll up your sleeves and pitch in. Everyone can help doing something; we just need your support and offer of a helping hand as we continue to assist Families, Soldiers and Wounded Warriors in need. Please contact me or any of the Chapter Board members and see where you can pitch in. We need to ensure our Army members (Soldiers, Civilians and Contractors) can stay focused on securing our continued peace and prosperity in these great United States.

Go Army!!

Al Kruse

Al Kruse was presented the Freedom Team Salute Award at the Soldier Show on 18 June 2008 held in the Quad Cities. The award recognized Al for his efforts to support Soldiers and their families in the community.

MILITARY FAMILY FUN NIGHT

The RIA AUSA Chapter sponsored Military Family Fun Night at Longview Park and Whitewater Junction on August 26th. It was a fabulous success with a record crowd of about 140 military service members and their families enjoying the event! The food, fun, fellowship, and even the weather were awesome! Those in attendance enjoyed some quality time in a safe, family friendly environment. A Grandfather in attendance said, "You all are bringing a lot of joy to these families." This grandfather resides in the Quad Cities and his daughter and grandchildren are living with him and his wife while their son-in-law is deployed to Korea.



Q.C. PARROT HEAD CLUB DONATES \$7000

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Quad City Chapter of the Parrot Head Club (QCPH) for designating the RIA AUSA Chapter as the recipient of \$7,000 from their 2008 charity event! The Quad City Parrot Head Club presented a check to Mark Shuck on August 27th at their monthly meeting. The (QCPH) held their annual fund-raising Golf outing on Saturday 28 June 2008. Several Soldiers from CBWTU played in the outing along with players from our chapter Corporate Members. The money was raised from their golf tournament and will go toward helping wounded Soldiers and military families in the Quad City area. Thank you for your generous support!

**The Community Based Health Care Organization (CBHCO) is now renamed
the Community Based Warrior Transition Unit (CBWTU)**

CHAPTER GOLF TOURNAMENT

The RIA Chapter Golf Tournament held at the RIA Golf Club on Monday, 28 July, was a resounding success! We raised \$16,623.85 which will be used to support local families, soldiers, and civilians. Tim Considine from our chapter began the tournament preparation, and then when Tim relocated to Texas, John Masengarb and Dave Emling stepped up to complete the job. We want to thank everyone who played in the tournament, all of the sponsors, and all of the people who did their part to support the event. Rocky Easter will be the tournament coordinator in 2009.

MEET AND GREET EVENT AT THE ARSENAL CLUB

AUSA RIA Chapter Member, Kim White, coordinated a "Meet and Greet" event at the RIA Arsenal Club on 10 September as an introduction to arsenal leaders. It was well attended by about 60 people.



BG Larry Wyche, Commander, US Army Joint Munitions Command at AUSA Meet and Greet Event

CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS MEET ON RIA

RIA Chapter held its quarterly Congressional update on 4 September. Several community leaders as well as Chapter Officers were present. Army (national as well as local) issues were discussed in detail with the meeting lasting over 2 hours. Congressional staffers from the following Congressional offices were present: Sen Obama - IL, Sen Grassley - IA, Sen Harkin -IA, Cong Hare -IL, and Cong Braley -IA.

CHAPTER OFFICER TRAINING

Chapter Officer Training was held 7-10 August in Kansas City, MO. Kim White from our chapter attended. AUSA offers this training every August. It is an excellent opportunity to learn about AUSA and how you can help our chapter be its best. Consider attending next year. It is a very worthwhile experience.

SUMMARY OF CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

- Sponsored a local Army Family Covenant Luncheon and provided \$775. Army Families gathered for lunch and signed a covenant.
- Provided \$500 to sponsor the bouncy slide for children at the 2008 RIA MWR Annual Picnic. Families and kids enjoyed the activity.
- AUSA donated \$140 to cover the costs of an Army Bix team to run the local road race. AUSA also donated \$600 for the purchase of all team member uniforms. Uniforms will also be worn in the AUSA 10 miler race.
- Provided \$1250 for the local CBWTU quarterly muster/training event. Donation will provide T-shirts, meals and snacks for their families who must accompany them and potentially a trip to the River Bandits game
- Presented a \$175 gift basket for a charity auction to support the Red Cross in a fund raiser. Chapter officers attended and discussed the Red Cross' role in supporting our Soldiers and families worldwide.
- The RIA Chapter sponsored a military family fun night at Longview Park and Whitewater Junction water park. Military families were invited to the ACS event. AUSA provided the donation to cover costs of park rental and food. Provided \$500 to the local Army Community Services (ACS) to purchase \$50 gift certificates for families in need of support. Penny Dixon with ACS will distribute as needed.
- Sponsored the local CBWTU by providing \$900.00 for breakfast and snacks. Wounded warriors and their families attend this muster at Rock Island as part of a mandatory process to assist them as they are recovering.
- Provided a \$100 donation to the Discovery Time Playgroup function held at Chuck E Cheese through the ACS program. The donation impacted military families.
- Provided \$950 to the CBWTU to hold its quarterly wounded warrior muster. Soldiers who were wounded in the war attend this week long muster to learn about their benefits, entitlements and other important information. Donation provided lunch for Soldiers and their families.
- Contributed \$785.50 to cover costs for the ACS Child Youth Services Luncheon.
- Provided \$1000 in Visa gift cards to the parents of a soldier who was critically injured in a vehicle accident during training exercises in Illinois. The gift cards will assist the parents with gas, hotel, and food while they are staying with their son at the OSF St. Francis in Peoria, IL.
- Donated \$460 to sponsor the Army Family Action Planning Luncheon.
- Donated \$819 to ACS for its annual Family Readiness Group Picnic. Donation provided catering for the event.
- Chapter President Al Kruse addressed the NCO's in the command, discussed the benefits and contributions of AUSA, and provided a check for a set of Dress Blues to the NCO of Year, SSG Thomas. The Chapter will sponsor her participation at the AUSA Annual meeting in October.
- Donated \$200 to the RIA MWR program to sponsor a hole for their annual golf tournament. The outing was open to any players on the island and local community.
- Donated \$126 for CBWTU local event they attended during a muster.

The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) is the only private non-profit professional and educational organization dedicated to supporting the U.S. Army and keeping it strong.

Our mission is to support the Army - Active, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Department of the Army and Defense Civilians, Retirees, families and concerned citizens. We support force modernization to ensure an Army ready for the future. We inform and educate the public about the Army's vital role in national defense and soldier's issues and we promote professionalism and pride within the Army.

Our Corporate Members

Akima Logistics Services mciance@akimalogistics.com 704-714-6445	Frontier Hospitality Group (SteepleGate Inn) mbrisch@frontierhg.com 563-940-8535	Quality Construction Services, Inc. jnelson@qcqc.com 563-285-4344
Allen Accounting Services Inc bjallen03@aol.com 563-359-3565	IMAGING USA sfiers@imaging-usa.com 309-786-2300	RCH/Innovative Technology Partners, LTD gshreves@rchltd.com 309-283-0290
American Cast Iron Company AmericanCastIron@aol.com 443-801-2110	Lohman Companies scott@lohman-companies.com 309-764-8331	Regalia MFG Co. pat@regaliamfg.com 309-788-7471
American Power Systems, Inc. keenan@americanpowerinc.com 815-252-6383	McLaughlin Body Company BSTROUD@MCLBODY.COM 309-736-6078	Rock Island Arsenal Development Group tim.frye1@us.army.mil 309-782-5967
Black Hawk College ILPTAC miller@bhc.edu 309-797-2806	Medallion Instrumentation steve.adams@medallionis.com 616-402-5913	Ruhl & Ruhl Realtors veronicapianca@ruhlhomes.com 563-441-5200
Booz Allen Hamilton white_kim@bah.com 309-283-4070	Norplex-Micarta rnesbit@norplex-micarta.com 563-864-4234	Russell Construction jrussell@russellco.com 563-459-4600
City of Moline dwellvaert@moline.il.us 309-797-0463	OSVETS, LLC ed.osborn@osvets.com 309-794-1882	Spirit Partners, Inc. sam@spiritpartnersinc.com 563-505-4254
County of Rock Island coboard@co.rock-island.il.us 309-558-3605	Palmer College of Chiropractic kurt.wood@palmer.edu 563-884-5127	SunSource ppasco@sunsrce.com 630-317-2701
Davenport One rchristian@davenport.com 563-322-1706	Pendulum Services LLC akruse@pendulumsite.com 309-269-2433	The Sedona Group tjohn@sedonagroup.com 309-797-9785
Diamond Builders of the Quad Cities, Inc derekwoods@diamond-builders.com 563-340-8315	Quality Construction Services, Inc. jnelson@qcqc.com 563-285-4344	Wells Fargo sherri.a.wagler@wellsfargo.com 563-383-3219
Firefly Energy Inc. movan@fireflyenergy.com 309-222-2600		White Cap Construction Supply thomas.brown@whitecap.net 563-528-1249

RIA AUSA Chapter
Rock Island Arsenal
PO 3276
Rock Island, IL 61201

Phone: 309-782-0392
Fax: 309-787-8406
E-mail: keripleasant@mchsi.com

18 Nov 08 – Mr. Joel Himsl – RIA Garrison Manager

5 Dec 08 – Holiday Ball – General Sullivan, AUSA
President

WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.AUSARIA.ORG

CHAPTER OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

COL(R) Alan Kruse, President, akruse@pendulumsite.com

COL(R) David Emling, Vice President, demling@msn.com

Mr. Tim Frye, Treasurer, tm.frye1@us.army.mil

Ms. Keri Pleasant, Secretary, keripleasant@mchsi.com



CHAPTER COMMITTEES

What are your talents? We need you to get involved in committees that are the right fit for your skills! It takes active involvement to make our chapter successful!

Communications: Darlene Norton, Denny Claussen, Mark Shuck, Mitch Elliott, Cassi Haynes

Contributions: Elie Cofin, Kerry Skinner, and Tom Boyd

Corporate Affairs and Membership: Mark Shuck, Kim White, Trudy Murphy, Karla Hoffman, Shannon Stone, and Kerry Skinner

Family Programs: Brenda Cotter, Bob Fauser, and Jerry Waibel

Golf Outing: Rocky Easter

Programs: Steve Fiers, Steve Mapley, Caleb Shreves, George Shreves, and Bruce Angus

Recruiting 1SG Brian Zuchelli

ROTC

Veterans Support: Art Heyderman

Adopted Unit Sponsors

Mt. Joy Aviation Unit – Billy Dowdy

Milan National Guard – SSG Scott Snyder

CBHCO – SSG Hollie Bedford

HHC – 1SG Ivan Williams

If you are receiving this newsletter via US Postal, please provide your email address so that we can send electronically. This will free up badly needed \$\$ to use for Soldiers and their Families.