

# The WILDCAT

THE OFFICIAL QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE 81ST REGIONAL SUPPORT COMMAND

VOLUME 20  
Edition 3

## Resiliency

OCT - DEC  
2015

WILDCAT SPOTLIGHT:  
Mr. Allen Skinner



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MG Janet L. Cobb - Commanding General  
 Mr. Peter Quinn - Chief of Staff  
 CW4 Johnny Allen- Command Chief Warrant Officer  
 CSM Ronald Law - Command Sergeant Major

## Mission:

The 81st Regional Support Command provides essential customer care and services to Soldiers, Civilians, and their Families in the Southeast Region, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, enabling supported commanders and leaders to maximize resources and meet global requirements.

## Vision:

Be the best Regional Support Command – in the eyes of our supported commanders – committed to excellence, living the Army Values, and focused on Wildcat P.R.I.D.E.

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All website and email hyperlinks are enabled in the PDF format for quick, easy access!

## Letter from the Editor:

Hello! I am pleased to offer you the newest edition of The WILDCAT. The 81st RSC has published another quarterly newsletter. Our commanding general is very interested in telling the story of our Wildcats. The history of this organization goes back to WWI and I am proud to share with you the stories of our historic and current achievements.

Each quarter, The WILDCAT will carry with it a theme that is appropriate with the upcoming quarter. We will also share stories of events that happened inside the 81st pawprint during the previous three months and looking forward to the next four months.

My hope is to give you, the reader, and the best snapshot of the 81st RSC and become a reliable resource of information. As we develop this newsletter, we will need full participation from all Wildcats in our region. If there things you would like to see inside The WILDCAT, specific topics or information that we have not included, please go to the following link and provide me the information I need to bring you that is important to our customers.

[https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=134944&s=959&dep=\\*DoD&sc=2](https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=134944&s=959&dep=*DoD&sc=2)

Enjoy this edition of The WILDCAT!

Sgt. Kandi Huggins  
 Public Affairs NCO / Editor



**On the Cover:** *Wildcats Family Day August 2015*

Greetings Wildcats!

Resiliency is a skill we can all benefit from whether our issues are professional, personal or financial. Here are some ways we can deal with adversity:

Take problems and view them as opportunities. When we are hit with life's disappointments, it's easy to fold and throw your hands up. Instead, look at the problem from a different point-of-view. Did you get passed up for a promotion? Take the opportunity to develop the skills you might be short on to better position yourself for the next go around.

Set Goals. We all need something to strive for and shifting the focus from the present to the future is not only productive, it's inspiring. Pain is temporary, but working towards the future is much more fruitful.

Never lose sight of your goals and purpose. You are here for a reason. Nobody joins the Army to stay at the same rank and place. Reflect on why you were motivated to join and plan a path to your ultimate goals. This prevents getting stuck in the negative because you are refocusing your efforts.

Reach out to others. While it's easy to wallow in self-pity, we are an organization dedicated to serving others. By helping others who may be struggling, you have a clarity they may not and this will inspire you in your own situation. You'd also want others to reach out to you.

Much of the adversity we face as individuals is unspoken. We just deal with it. Sometimes, it hits you in a very public way, and you have the choice of how you choose to deal with it. In 2009, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. After a life of perfect health, it was totally unexpected. But was it? As I discussed my family history, I focused on heart disease. After assessing my family, I remembered that my paternal aunt had a breast cancer diagnosis at age 75, and my paternal grandmother had a brain tumor in her late eighties.

Over the next year I underwent chemotherapy and radiation treatment, and spent a period of time as a bald-headed brigadier general. My staff at the Army Reserve Deployment Support Command in Birmingham supported me completely, and I was able to maintain a normal Battle Assembly schedule and limited TDY schedule. My civilian employer, Kaiser Realty, was tremendously supportive. Like many of you with health issues, I had to submit to an Army medical board, which found me fit for continued duty. Today, I am blessed to be cancer-free, and take daily medication with yearly oncology check-ups. I share this so you will know how vital it was to my healing to have the support, spoken and unspoken, of the tremendous Soldiers and Civilians of the Army Reserve.

The prayers, the many expressions of kindness in writing and in person, sustained me. Compared to so

## Commanding General

Major General Janet Cobb



many who suffer serious illness, my experience was nothing. I understand that I've been blessed with a positive result. My hope for each of you struggling --- in whatever form it might be --- is that you realize people will be there for you. However private or proud you might be, it's not always wise to just plow on through alone.

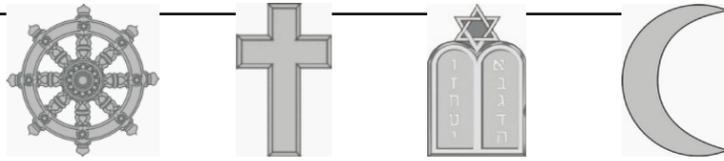
Take care, Wildcats, until next time!

MG Cobb **W**

Soldiers, Civilians and their families have lots of resources to improve resiliency. The Ready and Resilient Campaign integrates and synchronizes multiple efforts and initiatives to improve the readiness and resilience of the Total Army - Soldiers (Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard), Army civilians and Families. Here are some resources:

- 81st Regional Support Command (855) 838-8255
- Army OneSource (877) 811-ARMY
- Military Crisis Line (U.S.) (800) 273-8255 (TALK)
- Safe Helpline - Sexual Assault Support for the DOD Community (877) 995-5247 Text: 55-247 (inside the U.S.)
- Vets4Warriors (855) 838-8255

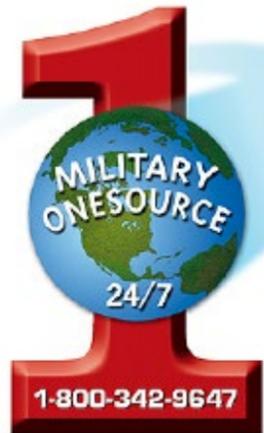
# Chaplain Notes



A few years ago I was in an Army class on resiliency. The instructor presented a quote from the well-known poem, Invictus, by William Henley, “. . . Under the bludgeoning of chance, my head is bloody, but unbowed. . . I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul.” Unexpectedly, a student in the class stood up and remarked, “I’m a Christian and that goes against the tenets of my faith.” I understood his meaning. Christianity recognizes that Christ is, quite literally, our Savior. We are not the master of our fate. We depend on God for our life and salvation. We need a Savior because ultimately, we are not resilient, but rather succumb to both sin and death.

It got me to wondering, “Can a Christian Soldier embrace the Army’s training on resiliency without compromising their faith?” After giving this some consideration, I believe the answer is, “Yes, Christians can practice most of the Army’s training on resiliency while remaining true to their Christian faith.” Christians are by nature resilient people, full of hope. In fact, Christians are said to be hopelessly hopeful people, and hope certainly helps to make one resilient. It is my hope these brief thoughts will encourage you to tend to both your faith in God and your resiliency as an Army Soldier.

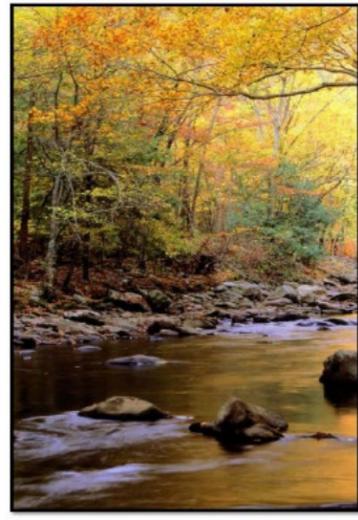
Wildcats Never Quit!  
CH (MAJ) Renee Kiel  
81st Regional Support Command  
Training and Resource Chaplain



81st Regional Support Command  
Strong Bonds Program FY 2016  
To register, please visit our website:  
<http://81strscsbprogram.wix.com/home>

Strong Bonds is a chaplain-led program of instruction taking place over a weekend in a resort setting where Soldiers and Family members learn positive methods of communication and proactive tools for relationship development.

<http://81strscsbprogram.wix.com/home>



- All locations have Single, Married and Family events.

- There is a strict 400 mile (each way) travel restriction.

The Military OneSource link is a gateway to a variety of tools and programs providing the means for problem solving and creating opportunities for quality of life improvement  
<http://www.militaryonesource.mil>



## Are you GREEN?

Check “My Medical Readiness” in AKO to make sure you are up to date on all of your readiness requirements.

- Post Deployment Health Reassessment
- DNA
- Dental Readiness
- HIV
- Immunization Profile
- Periodic Health Assessment
- Vision Readiness
- Hearing Readiness
- Deployment Limiting Conditions
- Unit Influenza



# Providing resources and easing the stigma: 81st RSC hosts Suicide Prevention Panel

Story by Michael Mascari

Suicide prevention can be hampered by stigmas, attitudes or a lack of awareness that stop people from having honest conversations.

The 81st Regional Support Command hosted a Suicide Prevention Panel at its headquarters building on Fort Jackson Sept. 9, hoping to change this.

Col. Caryn “Suzie” Heard, 81st RSC Legislative Liaison sat on the panel, and said the event was important for the Fort Jackson community.

“It is important to share information and open the door for people to talk openly about suicide,” said Heard who represented the command staff for the event. “It helps to reduce the stigma and reluctance to discuss the topic. It also gives those who may be considering suicide resources to get help and open doors for them to be able to share their thoughts and feelings and reach out for help.”

The event was held as part of the RSC’s observance of Suicide Prevention Month. Sitting on the panel with Heard, was Northeast Presbyterian Church Chaplain Bobby Farmer, Widows of Opportunity founder and CEO Kim Richardson, Helen Pridgen, a social worker and Area director for the American Federation for Suicide Prevention, director of the 81st RSC Psychological Health Program Christina Wildly, and Garrison Chaplain Col. Mark Penfold.

Pridgen also addressed the 81st RSC during last year’s suicide prevention presentation, got involved in the American Federation for Suicide Prevention as a result of losing her own 25-year-old son Clay to suicide. She told the audience that it’s important to be able to discuss suicide without shame. Her organization funds research and raises awareness about the issues surrounding suicide. She encouraged leaders to have open and frank discussions with their organizations, and to pay attention to signs from staff and coworkers.

Some senior members of the 81st RSC in attendance shared their experiences, both personal and professional. Each reiterated the importance of being observant and willing to reach out to those who may be in need. Heard echoed those sentiments.

“Leaders need to be involved and know their personnel to be able to recognize the signs someone may be showing,” said Heard. “Leaders need to know the available resources to provide assistance.



A Soldier listens intently as a panelist discusses suicide as part of the Sept. 9 Suicide Prevention Panel at the 81st RSC Headquarters at Fort Jackson, S.C. The panel included experts from the military and civilian communities as part of Suicide Prevention Month.

Leaders also have a responsibility to establish an environment where individuals can ask for help and share their feelings without worrying about being talked about, made fun of, or excluded.”

Penfold said the panel even taught him about some of the resources available to those at risk and believes it was valuable to those in attendance.

“It spreads the resource. Besides making people aware of what’s going on, it reminds us we are all involved in this together,” Penfold said. “You don’t have to be an expert to reach out. Most people who are at risk show signs, and it’s to people they know, they are close to or maybe people they work with. It’s rarely the professionals they reach out to first.”

For more information and resources, visit [www.afsp.org](http://www.afsp.org). **W**

# A LOOK BACK:

## 231ST ARMY TRANSPORTATION VIETNAM 1968



On this date in history (30 August) the 231<sup>st</sup> Transportation Company, part of the 81<sup>st</sup> Army Reserve Command (ARCOM), returned to home station on 30 August 1969 after 14 months of combat operations in South Vietnam.

During the military buildup in Vietnam, President Lyndon Johnson initially refused call up the organized Reserves. However, after the January 1968 Tet counteroffensive, Johnson reversed his policy and called up several Army Reserve units, including the 231<sup>st</sup> Transportation Company (Medium Boat) from St. Petersburg, Florida commanded by Captain George W. Reilley.

Initially organized in the Organized Reserve in January 1951 as a harbor craft battalion, the 231<sup>st</sup> Transportation

Company was activated for service during the Berlin and Cuban Missile crises. In early 1968, the 231<sup>st</sup> was reorganized and fielded Landing Craft Mechanized (LCM-8); a diesel powered 74 foot craft capable of debarking a M60 tank or 200 soldiers via a bow ramp. Each boat was crewed by six soldiers with a non-commissioned officer (NCO) as the coxswain.

The 231<sup>st</sup> Transportation Company activated in May 1968 and trained at Fort Eustis, Virginia. The advanced party deployed to Vietnam in August 1968, with the main body arriving by C130 on 7 September 1968. Based at Vung Tau in the Mekong River delta, the 231<sup>st</sup> spent September and October modifying their



craft for extended river operations. Under the direction of 1SG Ray Armstrong, the Soldiers fabricated living quarters (called hootches), which included sleeping racks, kitchen and latrine facilities. Furthermore, Armstrong had his men fabricate gun tubs for the pair of M2 .50 machine guns mounted on the boats. Each craft proudly displayed a Florida state flag, a parting gift given to Captain Reilly by the governor of Florida. The men of the 321<sup>st</sup> called themselves "Grandad's Gators" in recognition of their Florida roots, and the strong influence of 1SG Armstrong's in organizing for combat.

While the crews prepared their craft, the platoon leaders and coxswains performed training cruises to become familiar with the complex layout of the Delta. Once preparations were complete, the boat platoons split their operations. The platoon led by CW2 Phil Edwards begin hauling equipment and supplies to support Engineers building base camps in the Delta. These missions typically lasted up to four days, and usually involved four LCM-8 craft escorted by Army of South Vietnam (ARVN) gunboats. Edwards stressed the importance of treating the local Vietnamese with respect; as a result, the boats seldom took hostile fire. The remaining platoons supported 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division operations in the Delta, most importantly by hauling bulk ammunition during the 1969 SPEEDY EXPRESS offensive, and raw materials for Engineers repairing the

After turning their boats over to the ARVN, the 231<sup>st</sup> Transportation Company returned home to St. Petersburg on 30 August 1969 after 14 months of combat operations without a single combat death or serious injury.



The company was awarded the National Defense Transportation Association annual award for 1969. The 231<sup>st</sup> Medium Boat Company remained in the US Army Reserves until inactivation on 15 June 2000. **W**



**If you have deployed as an Army Reservist, particularly if your unit was part of the 81st RRC/RRSC/RSC, the Command Historian would like to hear your story! Please contact Mr. Allen Skinner, 81st RSC Command Historian at [harold.a.skinner.civ@mail.mil](mailto:harold.a.skinner.civ@mail.mil) or (803) 751-4172**



Command/unit updates



## 81st Regional Support Command Family Day



Sahaura A. (11) and Keahi T. (7) react to the launching of a plastic fan blade. The project objective is to make a circuit that launches the plastic fan blade to simulate a flying saucer (STEM Project #11, Electronic Snap Circuits).

Soldiers with the 81st RSC joined with Family members, friends and well-wishers at Weston Lake Recreation Area on Fort Jackson, SC, to celebrate the unit's annual "Family Day" held 16 August 2015. Attendees enjoyed a few hours of light conversation, competition, and the chance to build upon the unit's community of trust.

Family day is a time that is set aside for commanders to provide Soldiers and their Families with important information that will assist them if/when their Soldier faces a deployment. Informational briefings and trainings were provided, as well as material was given to Families for them to refer to in the future. This was also a time for Families to ask questions and learn more about the command's mission and the Army Reserve.

AR Child, Youth & School Services (CYSS) staff provided youth activity programs for the 81st RSC Family Day. The youth activities included electronic snap circuits projects; frisbee painting; making tie dye t-shirts, and the Home Depot workshop. The youth in attendance worked on electronic snap circuits in teams, AR CYSS staff reiterated the importance of teamwork and communication in the Family, and that it's much like working together on the snap circuit project team. Two representatives from the Home Depot provided a variety of woodworking projects. CYSS and youth participants, with the assistance of the Home Depot staff, used hammers to build their project and paint to finish and decorate the final product. Parents were also present to help their child with projects when needed.

Family Day events are a great way to show the Families and youth that the Army and community cares about them, and they deserve the respect and recognition.



Lahni A. (7), Keahi T. (7), Sahaura A. (11) and David E. (7) building their selected project. The Home Depot workshops teach children do-it-yourself skills and tool safety, while at the same time helping to instill in them a sense of accomplishment and build self-esteem.

This information has been provided by Army Reserve Child, Youth & School Services.

For more information on resources and programs, please visit:

[www.ARFP.org/CYSS](http://www.ARFP.org/CYSS)

Fort Family Outreach & Support Center assistance is available 24/7 at 866-345-8248 or visit: [www.ARFP.org](http://www.ARFP.org)



### Fort Jackson MWR Events

#### Halloween Howl 5K Fun Run/Walk

Saturday, October 31, 8:00 - 10:00 am, Semmes Lake. This is a free event. Late registration from 6:30-7:15 am. Race starts promptly at 8 am. To pre-register/pre-order t-shirts, please click here. If the website is down please contact Cindi Keene at 803-751-3096 or Mike Garcia at 803-751-3486. T-shirts (\$8/shirt) must be pre-ordered a minimum of 10 working days prior to the run. We look forward to seeing you there!

#### Turkey Trot 5K Fun Run/Walk

Saturday, November 21, 2015 8:00 am - 10:00 am, Twin Lakes Recreation Area. Free event. Late registration from 6:30-7:15 am. Race starts promptly at 8 am. To pre-register/pre-order t-shirts, please click here. If the website is down please contact Cindi Keene at 803-751-3096 or Mike Garcia at 803-751-3486. T-shirts (\$8/shirt) must be pre-ordered a minimum of 10 working days prior to the run. We look forward to seeing you there!

#### Jingle Bell 5K Fun Run/Walk

Saturday, December 12, 2015 8:00 am - 10:00 am, Semmes Lake Recreation Area. Free event. Late registration from 6:30-7:15 am. Race starts promptly at 8 am. To pre-register/pre-order t-shirts, please click here. If the website is down please contact Cindi Keene at 803-751-3096 or Mike Garcia at 803-751-3486. T-shirts (\$8/shirt) must be pre-ordered a minimum of 10 working days prior to the run. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Observances/Holidays:

OCTOBER  
National Disability Employment Awareness Month

NOVEMBER  
National American Indian Heritage Month

### Training Events & Programs:

#### OCTOBER

- 8 Oct Contract Acquisition Review Board
- 9 Oct DONSA
- 11 Oct Army Ten-Miler
- 12 Oct Columbus Day
- 14 Oct Wildcat Workshop
- 17 Oct US Army Reserve Sustainment Command, Birmingham, AL
- 17 Oct Pre-Retirement Brief Boone, NC
- 20 Oct ARIM-D hosts DPW Council/ESIG at Fort Jackson
- 25 Oct 113th Army Band - Talladega Superspeedway, Lincoln, AL
- 16-30 Oct DPW All Hands Workshop
- 31 Oct Halloween

#### NOVEMBER

- 1 Nov Daylight Savings Time
- 3 Nov Election Day
- 6 Nov 81st RSC Dining Out
- 6-8 Nov 81st RSC HHC Battle Assembly
- 11 Nov 113th Army Band - University of Alabama Wreath Laying, Birmingham, AL
- 11 Nov Veterans Day
- 12 Nov DONSA
- 13-15 Nov Yellow Ribbon
- 16-20 Nov ARIM-D Real Property Planning Board
- 21 Nov Pre-Retirement Brief, Orlando, FL
- 26 Nov Thanksgiving
- 27 Nov DONSA

#### DECEMBER

- 5 Dec AL Army National Guard Medical Det. Dining Out, Birmingham, AL
- 5 Dec 113th Army Band - 1181st DDSB Dining Out, Meridian, MS
- 6 Dec Pre-Retirement Brief, Lexington, KY
- 6 Dec Hanukkah begins
- 9 Dec Wildcat Workshop
- 11 Dec 100th Army Band - USA HRC - Louisville, KY
- 22 Dec Winter Begins
- 24 Dec DONSA

## Warner Robins Reserve Center Memorialization

in the nine-state Southeast region including, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

“Each of these [reserve] facilities were named for someone because of great service or honorable deeds, today, we’re memorializing this center in honor of Gomez for his service, deeds and roots in this community,” said U.S. Army Reserve Ambassador from Georgia, Bill Johnson.

While attending Warner Robins High School Gomez was a member of the Air Force JROTC. He originally wanted to follow in his father’s footsteps and join the Air Force and after high school he was accepted into the Cadet Corps at Texas A&M.

Not ready to go to college, Gomez attended the Georgia Military Academy. Still interested in joining the military, he wrote a paper on Army medics and decided he wanted to become one.

In June 2005, Gomez enlisted in the U.S. Army as a combat specialist. He deployed with the 1st Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany, in January 2006 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Gomez, ‘Doc’ as he was called by his unit, participated in numerous combat patrols in Northeast Baghdad and Adhamiyah, Iraq.

As a combat medic, Gomez was committed to the health and well-being of his fellow Soldiers.

Gomez died on July 18, 2007, due to injuries sustained from an improvised explosive device and small arms fire attack while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Gomez’s awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral 2, Army Good Conduct Medal, Combat Medic Badge and Presidential Unit Citation.

Gomez is buried in the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio. He is survived by his parents, Juan and Juanita Gomez, his brother Louis and



A Soldier of the 361st Engineer Company renders a salute to the U.S. flag during a memorialization ceremony at the Spc. Daniel E. Gomez U.S. Army Reserve Center in Warner Robins, Ga., Aug. 1.

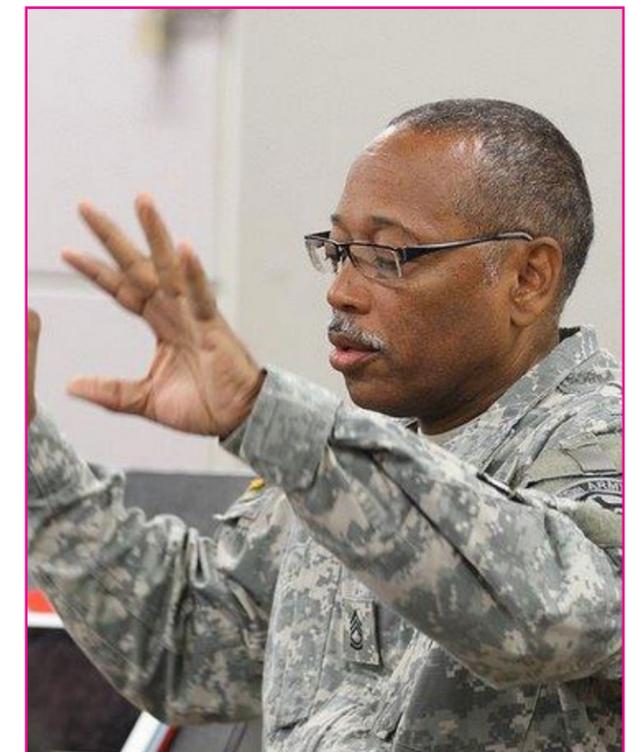
Story by Sgt. Kandi Huggins

WARNER ROBINS, Ga. – Soldiers, veterans, community leaders and family members memorialized the Maccon Army Reserve Center in Warner Robins to a fallen Soldier on Aug. 1st by dedicating the building to Spc. Daniel Gomez. The 81st Regional Support Command hosted the ceremony at the reserve center which opened in 2011.

“The Army Reserve is proud to join the Warner Robins community in honoring the life of this great Soldier,” said Maj. Gen. Janet Cobb, Commanding General, 81st RSC. “He was a son, brother, uncle, battle buddy, friend, Army medic, American Patriot, American Soldier, may God bless his memory and be with his family and friends as we dedicate this beautiful army reserve center named in his honor.”

The newly named Army Reserve Center is one of 275 reserve centers the 81st RSC maintains and operates

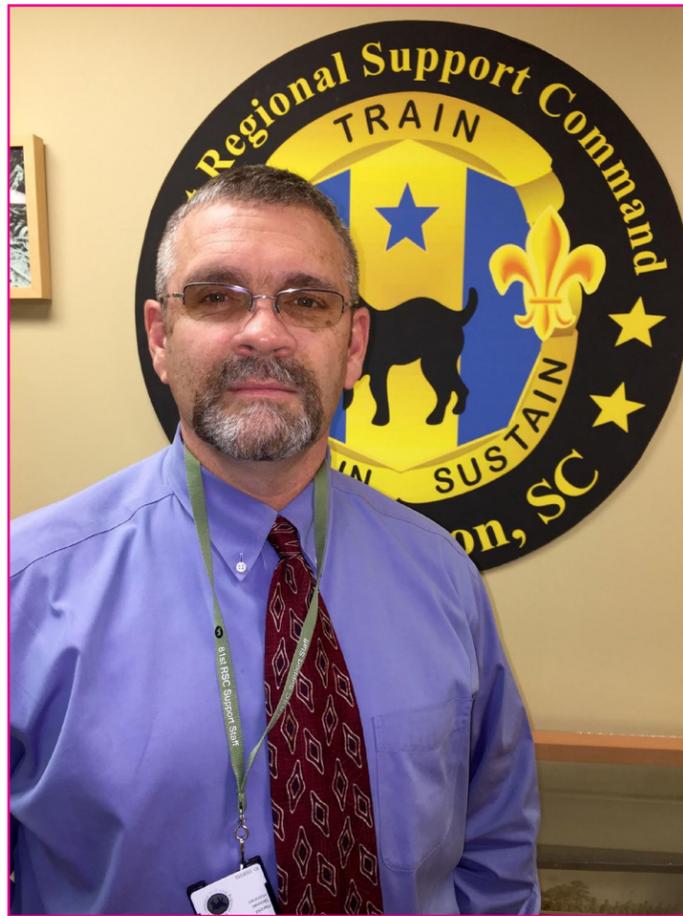
## 313th Army Band



# Family Day 2015



# Wildcat Spotlight



**W) Where were you born and raised?**

AS) McLeansboro, Illinois.

**W) How long have you been a historian and what or who influenced you to get into this field?**

AS) I earned my Masters in Military History during my attendance at the Army's Command and General Staff College in 2006. I thought that earning the degree, which included earning the 5X Historian Additional Skill Identifier, was a good idea to add to my professional skill set as an Army officer – plus I thought that it could lead to a rewarding post-retirement career!

I used my historian skills in serving as an Aviation brigade historian deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom. I also commanded a Military History Detachment (MHD) from 2010-2012 and 2014-2015 (in my traditional Guard status). Lastly, I supported the 38th Infantry Division and the National Guard from 2010-2015 by doing historian work as an additional duty.

**W) When it comes to history, if you could go back in**

**time what timeframe would you want to experience and why?**

AS) Maybe the early stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Both of my “combat” deployments were well after the active ground combat, so I never really felt that I was tested as a combat leader. You train and train to go to war, and when I went I experienced nothing but “steady state operations” – nothing that I felt really tested my mettle as an Army officer.

**W) You were in the military, how long did you serve and what was your MOS?**

AS) I enlisted in 1988 as a Military Policeman. Completed my degree and commissioned through the Army ROTC program in 1992, and was branch detailed as an Air Defense Artillery Officer. In 1995 I transferred to the Signal branch and served as a 25a Signal Officer in the Regular Army until 1997, and the Army National Guard to 2006. I rebranched as a 90A Logistics Officer in 2007 and remained one until I retired in July 2015. I entered the Title 32 AGR program (Army National Guard) in 2002 and remained in AGR status until my retirement. So, 20 ½ years of active duty time (7 years Regular Army, 13 ½ Army Guard), another 5 years in a traditional Guard status, plus some IRR time – in total 27 years of uniformed service.

**W) Have you ever been deployed? If so, where?**

AS) A few times! Six in total: Panama, Egypt, Honduras, Saudi Arabia (ceasefire portion of Desert Storm), Republic of Korea, and Iraq/Kuwait for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Longest one was Iraq at 330 days and Egypt was the shortest at 45 days.

**W) Being that you're a historian and you have military experience when you see the term resiliency what comes to mind?**

AS) Having the ability to persevere through truly difficult circumstances, which I believe is only learned by experience. Our WWII Wildcat predecessors lived through the Great Depression before entering the Army. Most Soldiers left home in 1942 and didn't return until they were demobilized in 1946; and this in a time when your sole means of communications was letter writing. Compare that to today's society where many Americans seemingly can't handle much without falling apart.

**W) Knowing the history of the 81st what has made us resilient over the years?**

AS) Wildcats Never Quit! **W**



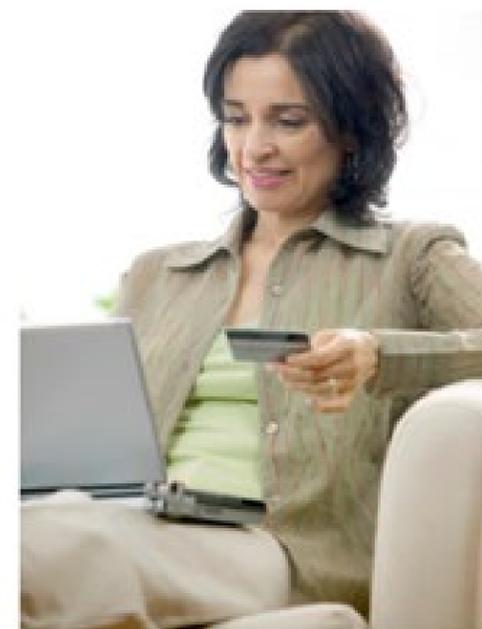
**DEFENSE TRAVEL  
MANAGEMENT OFFICE**

## Updating Your DTS Profile

It is important for travelers to ensure that Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), home address, and Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC) information is current in your DTS profile. If this information is not kept up to date, airline and other travel reservations, and/or travel reimbursements may be affected. In addition to the information above, you should periodically check your profile to ensure other information such as rank, organization, phone number, emergency contact and other traveler information is current.

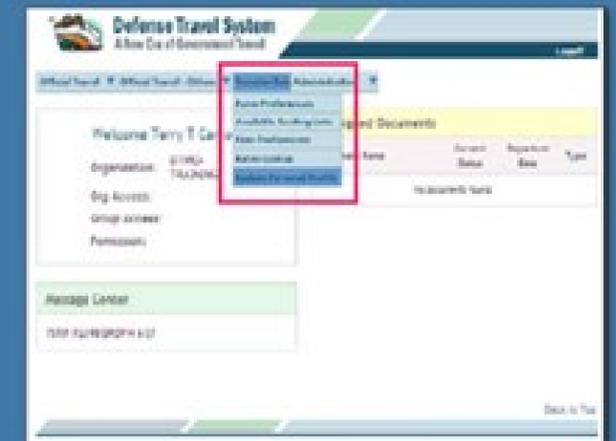
**When should I update my profile?**

- GTCC expires or is reissued
- New bank account
- New email address
- Moving/Permanent Change of Station
- Promotion/New job



### Updating Profile Information in DTS

1. From your DTS homepage (after login), mouse over to **Traveler Setup** on the top menu bar and select **Update Personal Profile**.



2. On the **My Profile** screen, click on each section to verify your information (*My Preferences, My Additional Information, My TSA Information, My Account Information*).
3. To save changes, select the **Update Personal Information** button at the bottom of the screen

*\* If you are unable to log in to DTS, contact your Defense Travel Administrator (DTA) to update your profile.*

## “Weingarten” Rights for Civilian Employees



Civilian employees are authorized to request Union representation at meetings with their supervisors under certain situations. One such situation is if the supervisor is questioning the employee as part of an investigation. This provision is often referred to as employees’ “Weingarten” rights, based on a Supreme Court decision. The Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute, 5 US Code, sec. 7114(a)(3), establishes three conditions that must be met for a meeting to be considered a “Weingarten” meeting:

1. One or more agency representatives are examining (questioning) a bargaining unit employee in connection with an investigation; and
2. The employee reasonably believes that the examination may result in disciplinary action against the employee; and
3. The employee requests Union representation.

This right *only* applies to bargaining unit employees - those employees who are represented by a labor organization. For the 81st RSC, employees who are members of the bargaining unit and represented by American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 81, are identified with the BUS code AR5530.

Once all three conditions have been met, supervisors may generally not continue the questioning without allowing the employee his or her requested representation. Specifically, the supervisor’s options under these circumstances are:

- Grant the request and notify the Union that a meeting to examine a bargaining unit employee is going to take place and that the employee has requested union representation. If the Union attends the meeting, it must be allowed to make relevant comments but cannot disrupt the meeting nor can it answer the questions posed to the employee;
- Discontinue the interview and rely on evidence already available or information obtained from other sources; or
- Offer the employee a clear choice to either continue the interview without representation or have no interview.

“Weingarten” rights are not applicable when management issues a disciplinary action since management is not asking any questions. Additionally, the “Weingarten” right does not apply to performance counseling as this does not concern disciplinary matters but rather performance issues.

Employees are notified annually of the “Weingarten” rights; Fort McCoy CPAC provides this notice in the CPAC Star. Supervisors are not required to inform employees of these rights each time before questioning them.

Supervisors with questions about these rights should contact Mr. Gary Brock, Attorney-Advisor, in the 81st RSC Office of the Staff Judge Advocate. Employees with questions regarding these rights should contact the Labor/Management Employee Relations Specialist at Fort McCoy CPAC or their Union representative. **W**

## Building Resiliency in the 81st RSC



by Ajaye Franklin

The Soldier of the 21st Century faces and does combat with conflict in ways that their predecessors never imagined. Today’s Soldiers are faced with events and activities in daily life that cannot only knock them off their feet but in many cases off their trajectory in life.

Occupational Stress and interpersonal relationship challenges coupled with the inability to escape the ongoing demands of being a member of the Nation’s Fighting Force makes being a Reserve Component Soldier an occupation that is less than desirable for a great deal of people. So what gives those in

the uniform the ability to overcome and in many cases endure this high speed, high pressure and seemingly endless psychological assault?

To answer this question it has to be discussed openly and honestly that being a Soldier whether on Active Duty or in the Reserve Component does not automatically create, or endue one with Super Human Powers. Instead, Soldiers have to be taught and trained to slow their reactions and to think through their responses to often excruciating forces that are in themselves injurious and make wise and rational decisions. These decisions often include the well-being of their Families and co-workers, or the protection of valuable resources both Military and personal. Yes, just like salesmen, doctors, or even bus drivers,

cont. pg 21

## New Chip and PIN Government Travel Charge Cards

On October 17, 2014, President Obama issued an Executive Order requiring federal agencies to upgrade payment cards and systems to employ enhanced security features, to include Chip and PIN technology. Department of Defense Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC) holders will begin migrating to Chip and PIN cards beginning in January 2015. [http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/govtravelcard\\_cp.cfm](http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/govtravelcard_cp.cfm)

To ensure maximum support of the DoD mission, new Chip and PIN cards will include both the current magnetic stripe technology, as well as, the new Chip technology.

- Before your card arrives, login to CitiManager and go to My Card Account/Card Maintenance to ensure your mailing address and contact information is correct. If you don't have a CitiManager account, go to [www.citimanager.com/login](http://www.citimanager.com/login) and click the Self Registration link on the sign in screen. You can also contact your Agency Program Coordinator (APC) for assistance or call the number on the back of your card.
- When your new card arrives, call to confirm receipt, activate it and sign the back. Then update your DTS profile with the new card information. For instructions, see How to Update Your DTS Profile.
- To use the Chip and PIN technology, your first purchase must be at a staffed, chip-enabled point-of-sale terminal. If your first purchase is at a self-service point-of-sale, the terminal will read the magnetic stripe on the new card instead of the chip.

### Card Issuance Timeline

- Starting in mid-January 2015, only Chip and PIN travel charge cards will be issued to DoD personnel to include qualified new applicants and individuals reporting their card lost/stolen.
  - Cards that expire between February and December 2015: a Chip and PIN card will be issued approximately 30 days before the current cards expire.
  - Active accounts with cards that expire after 2015: Accounts used at least once within the last 18 months, will be issued a Chip and PIN card sometime between July and October 2015.
  - Inactive accounts with cards that expire after 2015: Accounts not used at least once within the last 18 months will be issued a Chip and PIN card approximately 30 days before the current card expires.
- \* For centrally billed accounts (CBAs), the reissuance of Chip and PIN cards only applies to unit card accounts. Transportation-only CBAs will not be reissued as Chip and PIN.

### About Chip and PIN

Chip and PIN is the next generation of payment card technology and is being introduced as another tool to combat potential fraud. Chip and PIN cards contain a microprocessor that requires cardholder authentication via a 4-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN) input at point-of-sale. The microprocessor chip encrypts the transaction data protecting the cardholders' personally identifiable information (PII), as well as the Government's sensitive transaction and payment data. If the card is lost or stolen, the embedded microchip makes the card extremely difficult to counterfeit.

There are many benefits to Chip and PIN technology including:

- **Enhanced security**—the cards are yet another tool to combat potential fraud. Combined with chip-enabled terminals, this technology ensures a more secure transaction by validating both the card and cardholder. Additionally, Citi's Chip and PIN cards do not use Radio Frequency functionality and are strictly contact-only cards, therefore, they are not susceptible to the skimming issue encountered by Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) cards.
- **Improved convenience** – the cards can be used in regions where Chip technology is dominant. It is expected

## Strategic Planning...



Wildcat team members participated in a week-long Strategic Planning course facilitated by Colin Dunn and Skip Ulmer. Participants learned how to implement strategic planning into actions as large scale as running a company and as small scale as managing the operations of a one-person office.





### Sexual Assault Reporting Options

Sexual Assault is the most underreported crime in our society and in the military. Department of Defense (DoD) prefers that sexual assault victims receive support and medical services as needed and offenders be held accountable for their crimes. However, DoD recognizes that some victims willingly forego medical and support services to avoid command or law enforcement involvement. DoD's first priority is for victims to be protected, treated with dignity and respect and to receive the medical treatment, care and counseling that they deserve.

Under DoD's confidentiality policy, military victims of sexual assault have a choice of two reporting options:

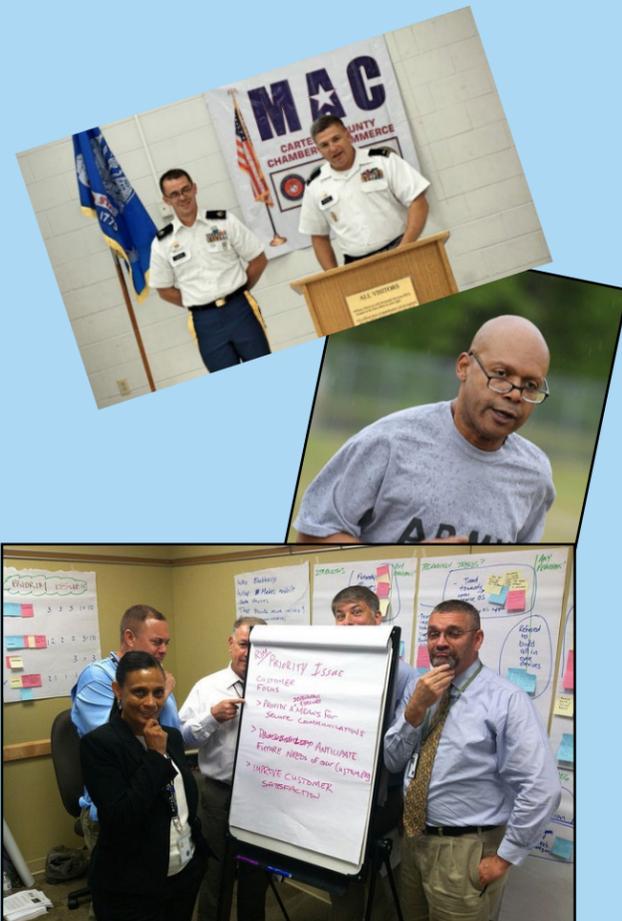
**Restricted Reporting (RR):** Allows a victim to disclose the details of the assault to specifically identified individuals and receive medical treatment and counseling, without triggering the official investigation process. Reporting sexual assault to any agency or individual not listed below may result in an unrestricted report.

- |                                  |                                                |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Report confidentially to:</b> | <b>Eligibility:</b>                            |
| - SARC/SHARP Specialist          | - Soldiers                                     |
| - VA/SHARP Specialist            | - Military dependents 18 years of age or older |
| - Healthcare Provider            |                                                |

**Unrestricted Report (UR):** Allows a victim to disclose the details of the assault and receive the same services under restricted reporting, to include an investigation. The victim may notify current reporting channels (e.g., Chain of Command, law enforcement) or SARC & VA/SHARP Specialists.)

- Eligibility:**
- Soldiers
  - Military dependants 18 years of age or older
  - DoD Civilians when stationed OCONUS
  - U.S. contractor personnel when authorized to accompany Armed Forces in a contingency operations OCONUS

THOMAS M. WHITE, JR  
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)  
81st Regional Support Command  
BLDG 2179 Sumter Avenue (Room 101)  
Fort Jackson, SC 29207-6070  
Office # (803) 751-3564  
SHARP HOTLINE # (803) 724-0262  
Non-emergency # (910)-257-7616



Do you know someone who you has great Wildcast PRIDE? Nominate them to be in our next spotlight of The WILDCAT. Simply follow the link below, submit thier name and tell us why you feel they should be recognized.

[https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=134944&s=959&dep=\\*DoD&sc=2](https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=134944&s=959&dep=*DoD&sc=2)



**Deployed or know someone who is deployed and has children between 3 - 18 years old? You can receive a grant for up to \$500 for your dependants for youth programs.**

Apply for a grant for youth sports, fine arts, camps, and tutoring programs up to \$500. Certain restrictions apply, see website for additional information.

<http://www.ourmilitarykids.org/>

### Building Resiliency cont.

Soldiers are susceptible to reacting inappropriately and causing harm to themselves or others.

Moreover, they are often in situations that could prove several times more costly than any salesman, doctor or bus driver and one wrong decision can inflict greater harm or destruction than a multitude of wrong decisions by members of several other professions. So Soldiers are not super human, and are not immune to the effects of stress or the reactions that accompany a high speed, high pressure lifestyle and it is exactly this that makes the US Army Reserve's Ready and Resilient Campaign so important.

The US Army Reserve Component's Ready and Resilient Campaign is as valuable in the fight against poor decision making, and succumbing to the rigors of this high pressure, high stress lifestyle as any other weapon made available to any other Generation of Soldiers in the history of the United States. The Ready and Resilient Campaign, R2C as it is referred to commonly is that added powerful influence that makes the modern Soldier as lethal as all that have come before them, but as well-balanced as none have ever been. The R2C encompasses all the Well-being Programs and often draws on them in the pursuit of reaching Soldiers, but the highly visible R2C Team represents the most active portion of this initiative. The R2C Team showcases a combination of three talented Instructors/ Program Managers responsible for three high visibility programs within the Regional Support Command; The Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention Program Manager, the Drug Demand Reduction Program Manager, and the Suicide Prevention Program Manager.

These Program Managers have come together to provide trainings with a flair that rivals any of recent memory on any subject.

They utilize vignettes, jokes, comedic short stories and testimonials to deliver hard-hitting, memorable trainings that some have called the "Best Ever".

What are noticeably missing are the numerous slides that show clip art and the exact same pictures and sayings as last year's presentation. They operate without PowerPoint providing the audience an awe-inspiring combination of amazing recall and creative illumination of some of the most pertinent information available all while appearing to speak extemporaneously. This team provides trainings for Soldiers, Army Civilians, Families and those who work and serve across the Southeast Region of the US Army Reserves. In the two years since its inception this team has presented trainings in more than six states including; Alabama, Georgia, Virginia, and Florida and has led trainings for Soldiers (Active and Reserve), Sailors, Marines and Airmen. The trainings have targeted numerous issues and conditions and have been delivered to all levels of leadership as well as family members of all ages.

It is the infusion of this forward thinking and seemingly limitless team of trainers that is causing Leaders and Soldiers within the Region to begin to discuss and look to more resilient ways of managing the ever increasing challenges of wearing the uniform and working for the US Army Reserve Command and particularly the 81st Regional Support Command. Being a Soldier, and significantly a Reserve Component Soldier may never become easy or effortless, but having the influence of a committed team such as the 81st Regional Support Command's R2C Team ensures that those desiring a better method to overcome those psychological attacks that inevitably will come will be able to not only find them, but they will be more able to employ them.

The 81st Regional Support Command's R2C Team is housed at Ft Jackson and can be contacted through the Director, of Human Resources, 81st RSC, Bldg 1525.



**YOUR TEAM BACK HOME DEPENDS  
ON YOU JUST AS MUCH AS YOUR  
TEAM OVER THERE**

**YELLOW RIBBON EVENTS PROVIDE  
THE TOOLS YOU AND YOUR FAM-  
ILY NEED TO TRANSITION THROUGH  
YOUR DEPLOYMENT BACK TO YOUR  
CIVILIAN LIFE**

- Vendors/Community Partners
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- Employment Opportunities
- Marriage Enhancement
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SIGN UP FOR THE NEXT YELLOW RIBBON EVENT  
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[www.yellowribbon.org](http://www.yellowribbon.org)

**FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE 81st RSC's YELLOW  
RIBBON PROGRAMS CONTACT:**

**Katherine Wilkins**  
[katherine.a.wilkins.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:katherine.a.wilkins.ctr@mail.mil)  
803-751-9662

