

THE ROCK



Serving the employees and residents of Rock Island Arsenal.

October 2007 Vol. 6 No. 4

Lending a hand

CFC needs your support

What can you buy for \$1 these days? Obviously, not a whole lot. A mere dollar bill won't go very far in one of those fancy coffee shops, or at the grocery store or gas station for that matter. But there's something you can do with \$1 that will make a big difference.

For example, just \$1 a week through the Combined Federal Campaign, can finance 12 tutoring sessions for a child at risk of dropping out of school, or two weeks worth of transportation for an individual with disabilities, or basic prescription medication for a chronically ill person with no health insurance and no means to pay medical bills.

The Combined Federal Campaign, which is conducted every fall at military installations and federal workplaces around the world, provides federal employees and military personnel with an opportunity to send their charity dollars where they can do the most good. CFC donors can designate every penny of their contributions, and can choose from hundreds of local, national and international charitable organizations devoted to a variety of needs. Giving can be done via payroll deduction, which is quick and easy and allows you to spread out your total contribution over a year's time. Administrative costs are reasonable and – as seen in the example above – consolidated giving through an organization as large as the federal government streamlines the process, and allows CFC-supported agencies to deliver their services more effectively and efficiently.

At the ground level, the campaign is conducted by CFC keypersons who contact their coworkers and provide them with information about the campaign and an opportunity to give. I applaud the efforts of the keypersons, and of all the others who devote their time and talent to running the Combined Federal Campaign. You are outstanding public servants in the truest and best sense of the term, and I appreciate all that you're doing to make this important campaign a success.

Perhaps you've already been contacted by a keyperson; if not, you will be soon. I'm hoping that everyone who is eligible to give through the Combined Federal Campaign is personally contacted, and gets the chance to give to causes that matter to them.

When you receive your CFC materials, please read them over carefully; what you do then is completely up to you, since participation in the Combined Federal Campaign is voluntary. But that is how it should be, because the fact that CFC contributions come straight from the hearts of donors make them all the more meaningful.

I know that there are plenty of warm and generous hearts out there, so I'm confident that the 2007 Combined Federal Campaign will be a great success. Every dollar donated through CFC will do more good and help more people than you will ever know, and that makes it a dollar very well spent.



Maj. Gen. Robert
Radin

CBHCO continues to care for wounded Soldiers

By

RHONDA SEWARD
Garrison Public Affairs

The Community Based Health Care Organization on Rock Island Arsenal conducted its quarterly muster of 35 injured Soldiers at the Arsenal Club in September.

“Our primary focus of the muster is to provide pre-transitional information to warriors while verifying their medical, emotional and administrative needs,” said Capt. Kathleen Marschman, commander of CBHCO of Wisconsin.

CBHCO provides quality medical care management and command control to Reserve Component Warriors injured while on active duty supporting the Global War on Terrorism. Soldiers live at home, recuperate, work and access medical facilities near their home of record while remaining on active duty. National Guard Armories, Army recruiting stations and offices on Army installations are some of the places where Soldiers are working.

“CBHCO warriors remain on active duty for medical treatment and processing through the medical board when necessary. While at CBHCO scheduled appointments are top priority,” Marschman said.

Marschman said CBHCO has a doctor staff to oversee medical treatment plans and evaluate warriors to ensure soldier progress.

The program is manned by mobilized Army National Guard Soldiers and provides command and control for those Soldiers undergoing medical treatment within a specific region. CBHCO geographic area of responsibility covers a six state region including Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan, and Indiana.

An experienced professional nurse manages the Soldier's care. Case managers coordinate healthcare appointments, track Soldier progress, and ensure that healthcare needs are met. Soldiers participate in small group sessions to include, mental health services resume writing, financial management, and transition assistance.

“Having the resources and support provided by RIA is invaluable,” Marschman said.

Sgt 1st Class Kris D. Barrett said he was once on medical hold and is now platoon sergeant and operations non commissioned officer for CBHCO. “I have seen CBHCO from both angles. This program gets the National Guard and Reserve Soldier back to their home state to be taken care of in the community,” Barrett said. “The CHCBO is great, it moves a lot smoother, I like that I get to remain on active duty and be close to my family in Michigan while I am recovering,” Fahey said.

Spc. Kristi E. Fahey has been on medical hold since Dec. 2005 and had spinal surgery. She spent 10 months on medical hold at Ft. Dix and described her experience as being “horrible.”

The program offers a plethora of benefits to those Soldiers who have been injured in the line of duty. Lt. Col. Diane L. Dalzell said that although Soldiers face various challenges when returning from deployment CBHCO offers support for those challenges.”



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THE ROCK

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Farewell, but not good-bye

In the last issue of, “The ROCK,” I talked to you about change and how it is constant in our lives. I’m about to experience a big change in my professional and personal life. On Nov. 2, I will officially retire after 38 years of federal service. Thirty-four of those years have been here at Rock Island Arsenal.

This is an exciting, yet sad time for me. Sad because I am leaving a place that I have watched transform into the finest installation in the Department of the Army. I have had the privilege of being the Garrison Manager and operating this great installation for the last three years. This installation and all of you are an important part of my life and retirement won’t change that at all.



Alan G. Wilson
Garrison Manager

I started my federal career in 1971 as an intern in the Force Development Division of Personnel Training and Force Development Directorate under the U.S. Army Weapons Command. In September 1972, I transferred to Picatinny Arsenal, NJ as part of the Munitions Command. I came back to Rock Island Arsenal in July 1974 as part of the Armaments Command, which was a result of merging the Weapons Command and the Munitions Command, and I’ve been here ever since.

As I started to reflect on my many years of service in the federal government, I realized that I have witnessed many, many changes in the government and here at Rock Island Arsenal. When I first arrived we had time card machines and the copier was a mimeograph machine and all telephone lines were single line rotary phones. Those were the days!

Do you remember (those of you who were around then) when we went to push button telephones in the late 70’s? Employees received cash advances for travel in the basement of Building 390 and in the early 1980’s the first computers were installed on the Arsenal and they had six inch screens. There were hundreds of filing cabinets filled with paper files all over the place. The 1990’s brought lots of change to the way we were accustomed to working. Multi-line telephones were installed and we got computers with e-mail and storage capability. Electronic employment applications and travel orders and vouchers started and employees were issued government travel cards.

As you can see, the change has been significant over the years, but we got through it. I am confident that the employees of Rock Island Arsenal can make it through anything. You have the determination and willingness to do what’s necessary to support our men and women in uniform. After all, that’s why we’re here.

What’s past is history and all we can do is learn from that. Here at Rock Island Arsenal we can look to the future and embrace it. It’s been my pleasure to work for the finest employees in the Department of Defense with a work ethic that is second to none.

Thank you all for the honor of working with you over the last 34 years. I will keep an active interest in the U.S. Army and what happens with Rock Island Arsenal. I wish you the best in all your future endeavors. And as always, think safe, work safe, play safe and be safe.

Congratulations!

Doug Smutzer was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief for the Rock Island Arsenal Fire Department. He has been with the RIA Fire Department since 1991.



SMUTZER

(On the Cover) - Members of the Quad City Homebuilders Association remove wood siding from the south side of the Colonel Davenport House on Oct. 5 exposing the original support timbers of the house. The wood siding was replaced with new siding and painted. The hand-capped accessible ramps were also replaced. More photos on page six. Cover photo by Rhonda Seward. The cover photos of the August/September issue were also taken by Rhonda Seward.

Deadline for the December issue of, “The ROCK,” is November 9. E-mail your submissions to Rock-ria-pa@conus.army.mil.

Making a pledge

Maj. Gen. Robert Radin, commander of the Army Sustainment Command, fills out his Combined Federal Campaign pledge form. The CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign. Pledges made by Federal civilians, postal and military donors support eligible non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world.

A poster for the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). It features a graphic of four globes of increasing size from left to right, with a stylized American flag (red and white stripes) flowing across the bottom. The text "Help Our World Forward" is written in a large, bold, blue font. Below this, the text "ASC SUPPORTS CFC" is written in a smaller, blue font. At the bottom right, there is a logo for the CFC, which includes the letters "CFC" and the text "COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN" with a small American flag graphic.

**Help Our
World
Forward**

ASC SUPPORTS
CFC

CFC
COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN



RIA Joint Manufacturing Center wins the "GOLD" for the second year

by Galen Putnam
RIA-JMTC Public Affairs

**GOLD
SHINGO
PRIZE**
for EXCELLENCE in
MANUFACTURING

The Rock Island Arsenal – Joint Manufacturing & Technology Center has again been recognized for excellence in

manufacturing by receiving two awards in the 2007 Shingo Prize Public Sector Category.

The RIA-JMTC was named a 2007 Shingo Gold Medallion recipient for its Forward Repair System product line and a Shingo Silver Medallion recipient for its Shop Equipment Contact Maintenance system product line.

The RIA-JMTC is the Army's first back-to-back, and only two-time, Shingo Gold Medallion recipient, having received a Shingo Gold Medallion in 2006 for its FRS product line. The 2006 gold was the Army's first-ever.

"I'm immensely proud of our entire workforce, particularly the hard working and innovative individuals who work on the combat systems that have just achieved this national recognition," said Col. Craig S. Cotter, commander, RIA-JMTC. "Our efforts here are focused on streamlining our production processes, saving time, conserving taxpayer dollars, and turning out equipment of the highest quality to our troops. Getting it right for our sons and daughters downrange is our primary goal. This latest recognition of the manufacturing excellence generated by our team here at Rock Island means we're getting it right."

Established in 1988, the Shingo Prize is administered by Utah State University

and has been referred to by Business Week magazine as the "Nobel prize of manufacturing." This is the third year competition has been held in the Public Sector Category.

Applicants focus on achievement in implementing "lean" systems in support of the manufacturing, repair, overhaul and maintenance of equipment for Warfighters world-wide.

Shingo Prize evaluation criteria are based on an overall lean business systems model. Applicants are evaluated, not on how good their products are per se, but rather on the level of improvement made on each product over time. In other words, being good is one thing – but getting better is what the Shingo is all about.

"Our lean journey is a day-to-day method of identifying and eliminating waste to improve our transformation process," said John Hirstein, RIA-JMTC lean champion. "Even after winning these awards, our continuing goal is constant improvement."

The FRS is a mobile maintenance

system; a room-sized tool box designed for transport into forward battle areas to repair vehicles, armaments and other equipment on-the-spot. The FRS contains a generator, air compressor, welding and cutting equipment, industrial grade tools, and an integrated seven-ton crane.

FRS improvements (Feb. 2003 – April 2007) include: \$1.8 million in cost savings; \$3 million in cost avoidance; 30 percent reduction in construction hours per unit; 77 percent reduction in flow time per unit; 13,934 square foot reduction in floor space used; 12-mile reduction in parts travel distance; 100 percent on-time fielding rate; zero customer reported deficiencies; 0.06 percent internal scrap rate; 69 safety/ergonomic issues were identified and resolved.

The SECM is a high mobility forward maintenance system. It is a service station on wheels, designed for use by combat maintenance teams in the forward battle area to repair disabled equipment. It comprises a fabricated tool enclosure

(See Shingo on page 7.)



Galen Putnam

Welder Terry Spindel welds the storage rack, one of the three large components that is currently welded in the Large Weld Cell, Building 230. The storage rack goes above the generator when the FRS is assembled.

Surge pushes sales over \$1 billion

By

REBECCA MONTGOMERY
TACOM LCMC Public Affairs

The Army Working Capital Fund Directorate at the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command Rock Island announced that it has surpassed \$1 billion in sales for the first time.

According to Tom Huot, group leader of the AWCF hardware team, the war in Iraq and the recent surge have pushed sales of items over the \$1 billion mark. In peacetime average yearly sales would be \$400 to \$500 million, he said.

“It takes a great effort in buying the right parts to have on hand. When the soldiers requisition them we’ve got them to sell,” Huot said.

The AWCF team at Rock Island provides

obligation authority to its directorates to procure repair and replacement parts for items such as fire control for the M1 tank and Bradley Fighting Vehicle, howitzers, tool sets, kits and outfits, training equipment and small arms replacement parts like barrels, magazine cartridges and hand guards, Mr. Huot said.

The \$1 billion amount is significant because of the large number of parts sold to reach that milestone.

“The commodities we sell are not expensive, for example a \$9.80 magazine cartridge, sold at TACOM Rock Island, versus an M1 tank engine at \$500,000 each, which TACOM at Warren, Mich., sells. The majority of our parts are \$10,000 or less. You have to sell a lot of parts to make \$1 billion,” Huot said.

The AWCF is a revolving fund based on

the sales generated throughout the year in order to buy parts, Huot said.

It’s similar to a regular business in that you have to have sales in order to generate enough obligation authority to buy parts, he said.

“Wal-Mart and Target have to bring in revenue in order to spend it, and so does the AWCF fund,” he said.

Mr. Huot said that his team of seven supply systems analysts provides input to the annual President’s Budget Estimate Submission for the hardware and logistics operations budgets at TACOM.

“In fiscal years 05 and 06 we sold \$980 million and \$965 million respectively worth of spare parts, so we were getting close to the \$1 billion mark. I said to myself, in fiscal year 07 we might just get there,” Huot said.

A fresh look



photos by Rhonda Seward

(Above and left) Workers remove old siding from the Colonel Davenport House on Arsenal Island. The Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation is a nonprofit volunteer group that works to preserve Colonel George Davenport’s former home and share his history with the community. The home, listed on the National Register of Historic places, was built from 1833-1834. It is open for tours from May to October, Thursday through Sunday from Noon to 4 p.m.

Shingo

Continued from page 5

mounted on a Humvee, and is equipped with a complement of hand and pneumatic tools, an air compressor, welding and cutting equipment, lighting, and more.

SECM improvements (Feb. 2003 – April 2007) include: \$4.9 million in cost savings; 26 percent reduction in construction hours per unit; 63 percent reduction in flow time per unit; 26,108 square foot reduction in floor space used; 4.2-mile reduction in parts travel distance; 100 percent on-time fielding rate; zero customer reported deficiencies; 0.01 percent internal scrap rate; 58 safety/ergonomic issues were identified and resolved.

Cotter and a contingent of RIA-JMTC employees will accept the awards during the 3rd Annual Public Sector Shingo Prize ceremony Oct. 11 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Va.

A local presentation ceremony will be scheduled for a later date.

The Shingo Prize is named in honor of the late Dr. Shigeo Shingo. Shingo has been described as an “engineering genius” who helped create, train and write about many aspects of the renowned Toyota Production System and related production systems.

New web-based system helps get repair parts faster

By

REBECCA MONTGOMERY
TACOM LCMC Public Affairs

An innovative Army repair team and a DOD combat support agency are working together to get repair parts faster so maintenance experts can keep weapons in top condition for Soldiers.

The TACOM Life Cycle Management Command’s small arms readiness and evaluation team, or SARET, has partnered with the Defense Logistics Agency, Columbus, Ohio, to use a new web-based system that forecasts how many parts they will need to repair Soldiers’ weapons.

“At post deployment, SARET sends out repairmen and supply experts with mobile shops and parts containers. We fall in on a brigade and in three weeks we’ll repair all of the unit’s weapons. TACOM and DLA provide the parts for the repairs,” said Sid Kemmis, TACOM LCMC SARET team chief.

Up until now, DLA has worked with the SARET team through teleconferences to review parts requirements and resolve parts shortages.

“We knew we needed to get our item managers and DLA to start forecasting our requirements so we didn’t drop big requisitions with no notice. DLA has a

program that’s automated,” said Kemmis.

DLA’s web-based Demand Data Exchange will allow the SARET team to forecast monthly, by part, for up to 60 months, Bill Holdorf, DLA customer support representative, Army Sustainment Command explained.

“This formalizes forecasting under a process called Customer Collaboration with a joint collaboration agreement between DLA and TACOM,” said Holdorf.

While the Marine Corps and the Navy have been using DDE, this is the first time for the Defense Supply Center Columbus. The DSCC is the lead inventory control point for land and maritime weapon systems within DLA, Holdorf said. “This is the door opening for other teams. SARET will become the model for other LCMCs.”

The program will start with high volume parts, with an emphasis on the M2 machine gun, and will expand to include more parts, he said.

“We repair weapons for Soldiers who are going into training and going into the fight. Our current goal is to repair no less than 92 percent of the weapons that we touch. Our ultimate goal is to repair almost 100 percent. This will help us get there,” said Kemmis.

Holdorf said that DLA plans to measure



Courtesy photo

Brian Starkey, Camber Corporation, repairs an M240B machine gun at Ft. Bragg, N.C., during a TACOM Life Cycle Management Command’s small arms readiness and evaluation team.

how accurately SARET is forecasting and how well DLA is meeting the forecast. “The bottom line is making sure that the SARET teams have the parts they need when they do their customer visits and repairs.”

According to Holdorf, DLA will provide training and software for the parts forecasting system. The goal is to have the software package installed, training completed, and the system running by mid-November, he said.

*If you have a suggestion for the Army
Suggestion program, log on
<https://armysuggestions.army.mil>.*



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