υz



# the Mine Planter

#### FEBRUARY 15, 2015

#### Quiet professionals making noise!

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

#### Inside this issue:

Broadening	2
Opportunities	
Company Grade	2
WO Advisory	
Council	
USAWOCC	4
Professional Forum	
USAR Fitness	5
Challenge	
Mentorship	6
Quiet Professionals	7-
Making Noise	8
Order of the Eagle	9
<b>Rising Society</b>	
Strong Bonds	10

#### DATES TO Remember

- News articles for the next edition are due NLT June 1, 2015
- WOC Board 16 Mar 15
- WOC Packets for May WOC Board are due ARCD 10 Apr 15
- WOMET Award nominations due 30 Apr 15 See Page

#### **USAR CCWO PERSPECTIVE**

LEADER DEVELOPMENT – progressive levels of assignments and broadening opportunities. As my tenure as the Command Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO) of the U.S. Army Reserve nears its end, I sought out, applied for and was accepted to the Chief of Staff, Army (CSA) – Strategic Studies Group as a Military Fellow. The Strategic Studies Group (SSG) conducts **independent**, **unconventional**, and **revolutionary** research and analysis to generate innovative strategic and operational concepts for land forces in support of a governing theme provided by the CSA.

I look forward to providing analysis to the CSA. <u>CSA Strategic Studies</u> <u>Group</u> I will reflect fondly upon the fantastic opportunity I have had to serve the Chief of the Army Reserve (CAR)/ Commanding General (CG) of the United States Army Reserve Command (USARC).

I challenge you to take some time to reflect upon how you would like to impact the Army and then set a path to ensure you achieve those goals! Remember, the difference between a dream and a goal – you write down a GOAL! The Army needs to ensure we are building a bench of future senior leaders – are you one of the "Twice the Citizen" Army Strong Leaders?



Leader development involves recruiting, accessing, developing, assigning, promoting, broadening, and retaining the best leaders, while challenging them over time with greater responsibility, authority and accountability. ADP 6-22, Para 40

#### FY15 CCW0 SUMMIT



CW5 Phyllis Wilson, USAR CCWO, hosted the FY15 USAR CCWO Summit in December 2014 at the 63rd RSC, Moffett Field, California. The full agenda, slide presentations and other information can be found at https://xtranet/organization/ccwo/Pages/default.aspx.

#### ARMY BROADENING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

The program is offered to staff sergeants through command sergeants major, chief warrant officer 2 to 5, and captains to lieutenant colonels, depending on the specific program. Complete information can be found at <a href="http://www.hrc.army.mil/bop">http://www.hrc.army.mil/bop</a>.

#### **Opportunities include (List is not all inclusive):**

White House Fellowship: See MILPER message 14-245.
Chief of Staff, Strategic Studies Group. See MILPER message 14-242.

• CGSC Interagency Post MEL4 Fellowship. Participating agencies are: Departments of Commerce, State, Homeland Security, Energy, CIA, FBI, National Security Agency; Office of Management and Budget, and Office of Director of National Intelligence. More information can be found in MILPER message 14 -246. • US Army TRADOC Internship, allows officers to pursue a Master's degree in Business at eh College of William and Mary's Mason School of Business. More information can be found in MILPER message 14-247.

#### Other programs include:

 Army Cyber Command Scholarship (MILPER message 14-243)
 Army S.O.F. Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies Fellowship (MILPER message 14-239)

- · Arroyo Center Fellowship (MILPER message 14-238)
- · Congressional Fellowship (MILPER message 14-241)
- General Wayne A. Downing Scholarship (MILPER message 14-244)

 HQDA, Harvard Strategist Program (MILPER message 14-250)
 JCS/OSD/ARSTAF Internship Program (MILPER message 14-251)

#### COMPANY-GRADE WARRANT OFFICER ADVISORY COUNCIL

Nominations for membership on the USAR Company-Grade Warrant Officer Advisory Council are solicited. The USAR company-grade WO Development Council will be comprised of no more than one company-grade WO in the rank of WO1-CW2 per Command Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO) region.

The purpose of the Council is to: develop leaders through leadership opportunities, provide companygrade WOs with hands-on Military Decision Making Process (MDMP) development using real-time issues affecting the cohort, influence duty, honor, commitment, selfless service; and mentor, educate, train Co-G WOs to ready them – as the future of the Warrant Officer Corps – to take the helm. The Council's mission is to generate solution options for issues and to provide feedback to senior WOs.

Interested WOs in the ranks of WO1-CW2 need to submit a nomination packet via email to his/her CCWO

no later than 31 March 2015. The nomination packet will consist of a Biographical Summary , ORB, and a onepage written narrative stating the applicant's purpose for applying and how his/her participation on the Council will benefit leader development. CCWO assignments per region can be located at

USAR CCWO Sharepoint: <u>https://xtranet/organization/</u> ccwo/Pages/default.aspx.

Selected members will serve on the Council for a minimum of 12 months not to exceed 24 months. Council members will be expected to participate in conference calls held at a minimum of one per quarter or as needed. The Council will backbrief the USAR CCWO and senior WOs during annual summit meetings.

"Learning to be a leader requires knowledge of leadership, experience using this knowledge and feedback." ADP 6-22

Page 2

#### WHAT IS THE ARMY'S PERFORMANCE TRIAD?

Soldier health and wellness is a lifestyle, and it's made better by way of three key behaviors: activity, nutrition and sleep.

The three building blocks of day-to-day living -- activity, nutrition and sleep -- are the basis for the Army's "Performance Triad," a concept all Army National Guard Soldiers, as well as Army and Army Reservists will hear more about in the months and years ahead.

PERFORMANCE TRIAD FORMULA - The Performance Triad formula for Soldier wellbeing:

- Activity: at least 150 minutes per week
- Nutrition: build a healthy plate
- •Sleep: seven to eight hours, daily

The goal is to improve individual performance and resilience.

Why care? In 2012, the Army discharged more than 1,600 soldiers for not meeting height and weight standards .

## TUITION ASSISTANCE (TA) & DEPARTMENT OF VETERANAFFAIRS (DVA) EDUCATION BENEFITS

**D**oD and DVA have announced that service members are no longer authorized to use both TA and DVA benefits from the Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve program (Chapter 1606 of Title 10, United States Code) or Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607 of Title 10, United States Code) for the same course.

**S**oldiers can use TA and DVA benefits from the Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty program (Chapter 30 of Title 38, United States Code) or Post-9/11 GI Bill program (Chapter 33 of Title 38, United States Code) simultaneously for the same course

#### ELECTRONIC LES

Effective 31 Dec 14 DFAS turned off the mailing of hard copy LES of Soldiers and Cadets who have accessed myPay in the past thirteen months. This process will be repeated every six months. Soldiers will retain the ability to turn back on delivery of a hard copy LES when extenuating circumstances preclude receipt electronically. See the memo from the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Operations) at the following link for more information. https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-17634

through the TA Top-up benefit. The amount of the Top-up benefit can be equal to the difference between the total cost of a college course and the amount of TA that is paid by the Army for the course. The amount of the benefit is limited to the amount that the person would receive for the same course if regular GI Bill benefits (Chapter 30/33) were being paid. In no case can the amount paid by TA combined with the amount paid by DVA be more than the total cost of the course. If a Soldier receives the Top-up benefit, his or her regular GI Bill benefits will be reduced. Visit www.benefits.va.gov.

#### USAR INACTIVE DUTY TRAINING TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM (IDT-TRP)

**USAR INACTIVE DUTY TRAINING TRAVEL REIM-**BURSEMENT PROGRAM (IDT-TRP) POLICY, 21 NOV 14. This memo from the Chief, Army Reserve advises of the intent of the IDT-TRP and provides current policy and reimbursement guidelines and procedures. https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-176365

Click on image for more information.





#### VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

#### PERSONNEL NEWS

**ARMY DISASTER PERSONNEL ACCOUNTABILITY AND ASSESSMENT SYSTEM**. From the Army G1: The Army Disaster Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (ADPASS) is the Army's way of accounting for personnel and families members after catastrophes. It is a web-based, user-friendly system that enables the Army to collect accurate and timely reports in times of emergency, and is the only way the Army will accept status reports from Soldiers, civilians, families and overseas defense contractors following a disaster. The ADPAAS team will visit installations this year to train personnel and answer questions. All Army personnel and families are urged to visit the ADPAAS website to become familiar with how it works. Visit the following link for more information. <u>https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-177991</u>

SHARP CLARIFICATION FOR EVALUATIONS. All NCOERs/OERs will include mandatory comments by the rater assessing how well the rated Soldier fostered a climate of dignity and respect and adhered to the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) program. As of 1 April 2014, AR 623-3 is the authoritative source for all Army evaluations and incorporates guidance from Army Directive 2013-20 and MILPER Message 13-306. Visit the following link for more information. <u>https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-178113</u>

NEW/REVISED PUBLICATIONS. DA PAM 600-3, Commissioned Officer Professional Development and Career Management

**ERB/ORB INFORMATION**. Army Reserve Soldiers (AGR & TPU) (officer and enlisted) can view and print their ERB/ORB from the Self-Service site.

-- Enlisted Record Brief is authorized for selection boards IAW AR 600-8-19, Chapters 3 and 4.

-- Officer Record Brief is required for selection boards IAW AR 135-155, Chapter 3.

-- The ERB/ORB is only available on the Self-Service site after the Soldier's ARB has been certified.

-- HR personnel (records managers) can only enter data that is substantiated with documentation in iPERMS IAW AR 600-8-104 para 3-7.

-- See your personnel office for more information on updating and certifying your records (unit HR Full Time Staff - AGR or CIV).

### USAWOCC PROFESSIONAL FORUM

The US Army Warrant Officer Career College in concert with the milSuite team, have created a new Army Professional Forum, administered by warrant officers for warrant officers. The goal is for the site to build on the effectiveness of what was once WONet for all things Warrant Officer.

In the first week of operation, the US Army Warrant Officer Career College community has the following featured content:

1. A video of General Perkins discussing Mission Command. <u>https://www.milsuite.m il/book/leadercasts/3887</u>

2. An archived video of GEN Perkins, CG, TRADOC, speaking to USAWOCC PME students at Fort Rucker about the Army Operating Concept and Mission Command. <u>https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-184492</u>

3. A question about PME Attendance and TIG requirement for WOILE. Stay tuned for answers from WO leadership. <u>https://www.milsuite.mil/book/thread/137119</u>

4. A discussion about presentations pertaining to what warrant officers do and what they offer (generally). <u>https://www.milsuite.mil/book/thread/136720</u>

Please follow the USAWOCC virtual community and start a discussion or answer some of the questions that may be posted. Feedback is always appreciated!

#### Page 5

#### FINDING YOUR INNER ATHLETE

By CW4 Jennifer Wolf, XO to the USAR CCWO



LTG Talley, Commander United States Army Reserve Command (USARC), expressed a desire for a United States Army Reserve (USAR)-wide

fitness initiative in order to reduce the number of flags for PT failure, promote individual fitness and unit readiness, and encourage esprit de corps across all USAR formations. As a result, USARC has developed the USAR Fitness Challenge for Soldiers and civilians. Family members are strongly encouraged to participate but will not be tracked or receive certificates.

The OPORD for the Fitness Challenge was released 8 January and describes the Challenge as a way to get the Army workforce moving, and provide an opportunity for increased camaraderie within USAR formations while encouraging healthy competitiveness. Certificates, based on levels of participation, will be presented to all who complete the program.

The timeframe for the challenge is 10 weeks consecutively anytime between 1 February 2015 and 30 April 2015. Exercise will be tracked on a USARCproduced spreadsheet and forwarded to the Fitness Mailbox at the completion of the individual's Challenge, no later than 1 May. Participants will use the first week to acquire a baseline APFT score, either from their latest PT test or from a current diagnostic test. The next eight weeks will be when exercise is tracked. Participants must complete a minimum of three hours per week of cardio and/or functional fitness activities. Examples include physical activities that result in an increased heart rate, e.g., running or walking (depending on profile or preference), cycling, swimming, and functional fitness, e.g., CrossFit, Boot Camp-style workouts, elliptical, P90X, Insanity, etc. Hours must be completed in at least 15minute increments that are dedicated to physical activity. The last week of the Challenge will be when the official APFT is taken. That score will be compared with the baseline score to empirically demonstrate the effects of your fitness activities on your fitness level.

Events in the USAR Fitness Challenge can be conducted as a unit and/or individually. The honor system will be utilized when recording the results of each individual's/unit's progress.

Units are strongly encouraged, but not required to incorporate the USAR Fitness Challenge events and participation during their Battle Assembly weekend Physical Readiness Training Program. This is a great opportunity for you as a leader to organize these events for your Battle Assembly, act as a mentor to your unit members who may struggle with PT, and challenge yourself to improve your own level of fitness.

You can find the Challenge Facebook page at USAR Fitness Challengeat <u>https://www.facebook.com/#!/</u> <u>USARfitnesschallenge</u>. Questions, suggestions, and tips can be directed to the Facebook page or to the Fitness Challenge e-mail box, <u>usarmy.usarc.ocar.mbx.fitness-</u> <u>challenge@mail.mil</u>.

> "Good, better, best. Never let it rest. Until your good is better and your better is best."

> > – Tim Duncan

#### THE LOST ART OF MENTORSHIP

If there were a Soldiers' Yearbook of sorts and if such a yearbook had been published in 1982 when I enlisted in the Army Reserve, I would have been named, "The Soldier Least Likely to Succeed." I was clueless, aimless and really didn't have a plan other than to serve a short stint in the military and then get on with my life. In fact, as I remember, that was how I was recruited. Just sign on the line and raise my right hand. "After all," so I was told, "It's only one weekend a month and two weeks a year for six years plus two in an inactive status. Think nothing of it because the time would go by quickly." And so it has.

Thirty-four years later, the journey has been, and remains, a cycle of periods of cluelessness and aimlessness followed by enlightenment and direction. I have had a variety of mentors along the way; role models, preceptors, coaches, advisors, confidants, and counselors; from all walks of life and consisting of superiors, peers, and subordinates.

These mentors were not appointed by memorandum. They were people whom I observed. I took an interest in them because they exuded enthusiasm, self-confidence, and competence. I saw in them was what I aspired to become and I tried to emulate them. I sought them out for guidance, and I appointed myself their protégée. There were others who took the time to correct, coach, and encourage me. They saw in me what I didn't see in myself. They gave me a nudge to accept a challenge or set a goal. Then they gave me their confidence and supported my stretch as I reached forward to grasp a higher level of personal achievement.

The importance of mentorship cannot be overstated. Over two thirds of the Army Reserve total losses are manageable. More than 50% of non-prior service Soldiers leave the Army Reserve **before** the fourth year on a six-year contract. Mentorship is touted not only as the bulwark against these losses; but also, as the crucial component of leader development. Mentorship can build confidence, generate esprit de corps, increase efficiency and quality of work and make an organization and individuals more resilient. Books a million, articles galore, and publications abound with a variety of mentorship methodology, yet the ranks cry out for lack of mentors. Mentorship seems to have evolved into an appointed duty

#### CW5 Karen Kay, CCWO, 108th Tng Cmd

comprised of those who wait to be appointed as a mentor and assigned a mentee and those who wait to be selected as a mentee and assigned a mentor. But that is so far from the reality of mentorship. Soldiers are watching you; therefore, you are a mentor by the way you demonstrate your attitude, your competency, your commitment, your professionalism, your compassion – to name just a few attributes of leadership.

While a clear-cut definition of 'mentoring' is virtually nonexistent, scholars agree that it is a process, it is relationship based and it always involves communication. The major function of mentoring is to stimulate growth in specific skills, behaviors or attitudes; to help a mentee recognize actions and the consequences of actions; and to set and attain objectives required for success. Franchise Growth Partners lists the Top 10 Qualities of a Good Mentor as:

1. Willingness to share skills, knowledge, and expertise.

2. Demonstrates a positive attitude and acts as a positive role model.

3. Takes a personal interest in the mentoring relationship.

4. Exhibits enthusiasm in the field.

- 5. Values ongoing learning and growth in the field.
- 6. Provides guidance and constructive feedback.

7. Respected by colleagues and employees in all levels of the organization.

8. Sets and meets ongoing personal and professional goals.

9. Values the opinions and initiatives of others.

10. Motivates other by setting a good example.

If we are to lead and grow leaders to serve in the Army, we must develop these qualities in ourselves. We need to become more selfaware and less self-absorbed. The future of the Army as a profession hinges on our reclaiming the lost art of mentorship. "Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen, and a push in the right direction.

--John C. Crosby

Page 6

#### THE MINE PLANTER

#### WOC PAUL ZANDT

On 13 December 2014 SSG Paul Zandt was pinned Warrant Officer Candidate by 2LT McAffee of the 1018<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster detachment in Mattydale, New York and CW4 Miller of the 4123th CSSB. He was joined by his wife Kaitlyn and son Parker. WOC Zandt has been with the 1018<sup>th</sup> for 12 years as a 92F Petroleum Systems Specialist. In 2004 and 2005 Candidate Zandt was deployed to Iraq in support of Iraqi Freedom. Candidate Zandt will head to Warrant Officer Candidate School 13 January 2015 for 5 weeks. After training he will return as a WO1 923A Petroleum Systems Technician. Mrs. Kaitlyn Zandt & Parker with WOC Zandt

#### WO1 ANDREW N. NELSON



**CW5 SCHUSTER RETIRES** 



WO1 Andrew N. Nelson graduated from the Warrant Officer Candidate School in Class 15-003 as the Distinguished Honor Graduate. There were 73 students in the class; 55, Army; 9, Army Reserve, and 9, National Guard. Mr. Nelson completed his course work with a 96% average. Mr. Nelson is assigned as the Executive Officer of the 451st Army Band located at fort Snelling. CW5 David Dreger, CCWO, 88th REC, is pictured congratulating WO1 Nelson. "Success is a journey, not a destination. The doing is often more important than the outcome." Arthur Ashe

CW5 Keith Schuster, Command Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO) of the 63<sup>rd</sup> RSC, officially retired on 6 December, 2014. CW5 Schuster entered active duty in the U.S. Army on 6 October 1986, initially as a rotary wing pilot. In 1999, he attended the Marine Deck Officer training; becoming a vessel master. His military career had a culmination of various assignments both in CONUS and OCONUS. CW5 Schuster's knowledge and experience will be missed by all whom he has come in contact with throughout his career. The U.S. Army is losing a great Soldier and Warrant Officer. As a token of appreciation from all CCWO's who contributed, Command Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army Reserve, CW5 Phyllis Wilson presented CW5 Schuster with a plaque containing respective CCWO coins.

Page 7

#### VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

Page 8

#### **OPERATION MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

On December 19, 2014, CW3 Donald Dillon of the 844th EN Bn, SSG Joseph Martinez and SPC Michael Shamblin of the 702nd EN Bn, along with AMSA-147(G) employees launched a joint OPERATION Make A Difference at Gray Elementary School K-8.



(Rear L to R) David Pate, Marty Spencer (Front L–R) Bobby Kilgore, Donald Dillon

#### SANTA'S WORKSHOP

Fourteen mobilized warrant officers from the 310th ESC collected \$850 to buy and donate gifts to Santa's Workshop located at Fort Hood, Texas. (A satellite shop just a little south of the main operation located at the North Pole.) The warrant officers

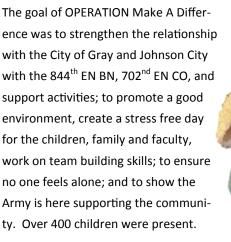
got together to give back to the community in a role normally conducted by the 13st Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). "We all came up with a plan to organize something that we could help out during the holidays, so we chose Santa's Workshop," said CW2 Christina Winfield. Santa's Workshop is a non-profit organization that makes new toys accessible for needy children of the Fort Hood military community during the holiday season. (www.swsfoothood.com) "We try to reach out to the community as warrant officers, as a group," said CW2 Joseph Taflinger, "and we're trying to help make sure the kids have a good Christmas and get a least a gift for Christmas."





CW3 Donald Dillon & Santa (SSG Martinez)

"No on has ever become poor by giving. Diary of Anne Frank



"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well." Ralph Waldo Emerson





CW5 Ronald Diehl, CW4 Todd Dietrich, CW2 Keshar Miller, CW2 William Spiker, CW2 Christina Winfield, CW2 Joseph Taflinger



## **ORDER OF THE EAGLE RISING SOCIETY**



The U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College's (USAWOCC) Order of the Eagle Rising Society (Sponsored by te MOAA) annually recognizes one individual (retired) who has contributed significantly over his/her lifetime to the promotion of th Warrant Officer Community in ways that stand out in the eyes of recipient's seniors, subordinates, and peers. These individuals must also demonstrate the highest standards of integrity and moral character, display an outstanding degree of professional competency, and serve the Warrant Officer Community with distinction.

The nomination packet must contain a nomination form and all supporting documentation. Download the nomination form from the USAWOCC Homepage at <a href="http://usacac.army.mil/organizations/lde/wocc">http://usacac.army.mil/organizations/lde/wocc</a> within the "Quick Links" section. The USAWOCC approves only one nomination for induction.

Mail the completed award nomination packet to the address below, submit it electronically to usarmy.rucker.CAC.mbx.wocc-proponency@mail.mil, or fax it to (344) 255-1395 (DSN 558) Deputy Commandant, U.S.Army Warrant Officer Career College, Eagle Rising Selection Committee, 5302 Outlaw Street—Swartworth Hall, Fort Rucker, Alabama 36362-5000

Recipients shall receive the Order of the Eagle Risiing Society Medallion and Certificate, MOAA Lifetime Membership, and a \$500 monetary award. Additionally their name will be prominently displayed at the USAWOCC. (see bylaws for complete details).

**CRITERIA** A nominee for the Order of the Eagle Rising Society must: *be a military or federal civilian employee retiree* that served with distinction within the military community; have contributed significantly and conspicuously to the promotion of the Warrant Officer Community and the U.S. Army over the course of an entre career and beyond: maintained the highest standards of integrity, moral character, professional competence, and dedication to duty: displayed an outstanding degree of professional competency while serving the U.S. Army community with distinction. The nominee need not be an active MOAA member.

The nominee's contribution to the Army and Warrant Officer Community must have occurred over the course of an entire career. (The nominee must have been retired for at least five years at the time the nominee is inducted in the Society. A posthumous nominee must have been retirement eligible at the time of death). The nominee's post-retirement contributions are highly significant, especially when the contributions are selfless in nature (i.e. voluntary contribution of time and effort beyond elements of the nominee's post retirement employment).

# All nominations are due no later than 1 May 2015

Note: "Neither the USAWOCC nor the US Army endorses MOAA's services or products."

#### US ARMY

USAR CCWO GP email: usarmy.usarc.ocar.mbx.ccwo@mail.mil

USAR CCWO Sharepoint: <u>https://xtranet/</u> organization/ccwo/Pages/default.aspx

ARCCWO Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ ARCCWO

Army Staff Senior Warrant Officer Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/#!/ARSTAFSWO

Warrant Officer Career College (WOCC) http://usacac.army.mil/cac2/WOCC/

Army Reserve Career Management Office (ARCD) http://stayarmyreserve.army.mil/cmo/cmo.html

Army Career Tracker (ACT) https://actnow.army.mil

A single career management tool that will help you to: See, Understand, Act. <u>https://actnow.army.mil</u>

#### STRONG BONDS PROGRAM FY2015

#### What is "Strong Bonds"?

There are three types of Strong Bonds Training: Married, Singles, and Family. All Strong Bonds training is led by Chaplains, Chaplain Assistants, and Chaplain Candidates who have been certified in the specialized curriculum used in the event. The goal is to build stronger and more resilient individuals, marriages, and families.

#### **General Requirements**

 You must be a member of the US military. Reservists may be in a TPU, MOB, or AGR status in good standing and assigned to an Army Reserve unit.

2. You must be registered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) with your current marital status and legal dependents. To update your records, make an appointment with your local DEERS office at: <a href="https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil">https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil</a>.

3. You must live within 400 miles of the event you wish to attend. One day travel each way is authorized to and from the event.

#### How to Register

For more information about the Strong Bonds Program or to find an event near you, go to: <u>www.strongbonds.org</u>

# USAR CCWO Newsletter Committee

The committee will publish *the Mine Planter* each quarter to feature current events/initiatives, different proponent information, WO committee news, and WO recognitions each quarter. We need your help! Please send pictures and events to any committee member listed below so we can highlight and recognize awards and accomplishments.

# Articles for the next edition must be received no later than 1 June 2015.

Team Lead: CW5 Kay – <u>karen.kay.mil@mail.mil</u> CW5 Ambriz - <u>anthony.s.ambriz.mil@mail.mil</u> CW5 Blankenbaker–<u>debra.a.blankenbaker.mil@mail.mil</u> CW3 Handy – <u>charley.h.handy.mil@mail.mil</u> CW5 Rettmann – <u>nichole.s.rettmann.mil@mail.mil</u>



The 81st RSC has four Strong Bonds events scheduled in their area of operation (KY, TN, NC, SC, MS, AL, GA, FL, LA) for the remainder of FY15.

> Daytona Beach, FL 15-17 May Vicksburg, MS 26-28 June Fort Walton Beach, FL 17-19 July Gatlinburg, TN 21-23 August

Register for one of the 81st RSC events at: http://81strscsbprogram.wix.com/home