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A Space & Missile Defense NewsWire

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Team Redstone welcomes home Vietnam veterans



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Vietnam veteran Michael Sullivan Sr. holds up a Prisoner of War/Missing In Action flag with the help of his son, Michael. Sullivan spent two years in Vietnam, and served both in the Army and the Navy. He has friends who are among the more than 98,000 service members since World War I who are still unaccounted for. For article on the Welcome Home story, see Page 3.



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MAJ Moore prepares to PCS



Photo by Jason B. Cutshaw

Maj. John Moore, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command space operations officer, receives the Meritorious Service Medal during a ceremony at the command's Redstone Arsenal, Ala., headquarters March 26 from Col. Thomas L. James, deputy director, USASMDC/ARSTRAT Future Warfare Center. Moore is leaving to serve with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

Bring child to work day scheduled

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Huntsville headquarters is planning to participate in the National "Bring Your Child to Work Day" on April 24.

The event is aimed at children between the ages of 8 and 18, but open to children of

all ages, this event is intended to bring future generations of youth into the workplace to explore the many life choices they have. Military, civilian and contractor employees may participate in the scheduled program.

Information will be released by the command as it becomes available.



Community embraces Vietnam veterans

Kari Hawkins
Redstone Rocket

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. – Despite the cold, windy and rainy day, the third annual Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans event at the Veterans Memorial in downtown Huntsville on March 29 was enough to warm the hearts of those who attended.

The rain held off during the 1 p.m. ceremony, giving community leaders the chance to share their words of thanks with Vietnam veterans in the audience at the “A Time for Healing” event.

During the ceremony, a symbolic wreath was placed for those killed in the Vietnam War, a Vietnam veteran airman received a belated Distinguished Flying Cross and the first recipients of new recognitions from the event host – the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1067 – were recognized.

“Your presence truly reflects the unique character of this community and the support you give to those who wear the uniform of any generation,” said Lt. Gen. David L. Mann, commanding general, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, who represented Team Redstone at the Welcome Home event, told the audience.

Mann, recalled how Vietnam veterans were treated when they returned from war in the 1960s and 1970s, saying “our country has not always embraced our Vietnam veterans as they deserved,” and pointing out that there were no welcoming crowds, no parades and no patriotic commercials on television to greet those veterans.



Photo by Dottie White

Lt. Gen. David L. Mann, commanding general, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, welcomes veterans to the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans event on behalf of Team Redstone at the Huntsville Madison County Veterans Memorial March 29.

Mann, who grew up as the son of a serviceman, read the staggering number of losses that America realized from the Vietnam War – 58,220 service members with 47,434 of those lost in action. Those losses continue today with 9,800 casualties from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, with 6,785 of those lost in action. As a member of a family who has lost a Soldier to war, Mann said he understands the devastation such losses cause in a family.

“Events like these are very important, are extremely important not only for our veterans but also for our communities and our nation,” Mann said.

Guest speaker state Sen. Bill Holtzclaw was only in the third

grade when the Vietnam War ended in 1973. Even so, nine years later, at age 18, he enlisted in the Marines and learned the lessons of Vietnam from his drill instructor.

Holtzclaw’s own return from Operation Desert Storm in 1991 and Operation Restore Hope, the Battle of Mogadishu, Somalia, in 1992-93 was much different from the reception Vietnam veterans received, he said. Instead of being shunned and insulted, he returned to a hero’s welcome thanks to the Vietnam veterans who came home before him.

“We as a nation must be ready to answer the call when our veterans come home,” Holtzclaw said. “They

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U.S. Army South to increase space capabilities

Sgt. Mahlet Tesfaye
U.S. Army South Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS. – The U.S. Army is embracing the newest and latest technology to support its mission in the continental U.S. and during deployments by improving its space capabilities throughout the service from command down to units and finally to individual Soldiers.

Army South is onboard with that mission and the first step is educating its leaders and Soldiers of the advantages and functions of the latest commercial and military space capabilities available in support of Army South commanding general's mission and objectives.

“Building partner nation capacity is part of Army South’s theater security cooperation mission,” said Lt. Col. Larry Roberts, Army South’s chief of Army Space Support Element and Special Technical Operations. “We see the application of the space capabilities supporting exchanges, along with foreign military interaction exercises and supporting mutual interests between Army South and partnering nations.”

The Army South Operations Training Division and the SSE invited members of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Strategic Forces Command and the Joint Operationally Responsive Space Command March 19–20 to its headquarters to conduct new equipment training and fielding for space-based capabilities in support of the U.S. Southern Command's Situational Assessment Team mis-



Photo by Sgt. Mahlet Tesfaye

Joseph Pangelinan, an information systems management specialist for U.S. Army South, looks at the parts of the space kits during Space NET Training and Fielding meeting hosted by the U.S. Army South Operations Directorate Mar. 19-20 at the Army South headquarters.

sion led by Army South.

Army South hosted the two-day meeting to discuss and educate leaders how Space Training Kits 1, 2 and 3 and the Commercial Integration of Global Android-based Relay Services, also called CIGARS, for force tracking will assist the unit's upcoming exercises and operations.

The meeting was the first in series of planned training opportunities to educate Army South leaders and Soldiers on space capabilities.

“The space kits are part of the U.S. Army Space Training Strategy to assist in training both U.S. military and partnering nations in employment and use of space-based capabilities in support of normal, enhanced and contested operational

environments,” said Lt. Col. Tracy G. Monteith, Operations Support chief for USASMDC/ARSTRAT. “They reflect the U.S. Army space priorities of satellite communications, position, navigation and timing and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.”

According to Monteith, space kits contain three components.

Space Kit 1, known as space knowledge tablets, are software programs (Android-based iSpace applications) with constantly updated positioning of satellites that Soldiers can use to locate satellites from anywhere in the world. The programs are used to predict GPS

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Space Soldiers lead pack during triathlon

**Area Support Group
Qatar Public Affairs**

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – Space Soldiers dominated during Camp As Sayliyah’s triathlon that was hosted March 15 to engage military members and the local community and promote a culture of physical fitness, resiliency and a healthy lifestyle.

The five sergeants, all with Bravo Detachment, 1st Space Company who operate the Joint Tactical Ground Station in the Central Command area of operations, competed against about 250 participants.

The competition was divided into two events, the Sprint and the Super Sprint. The Sprint event included a 1,000 m swim, 20 km bike ride and 5 km run; the Super Sprint event included a 500 m swim, 10 km bike ride and a 2.5 km run. The age categories were: open, 30-39, 40-49 and over 50.

Sgt. Chadwell Luton and Sgt. William Page competed in the Sprint event, and Sgt. Timothy Ahlers, Sgt. Jason Jones, and Sgt. Charles Miller competed in the Super Sprint event.

Luton, a JTAGS engagement control team leader, placed second in the men’s 30-39 age bracket with a time of 1:51:40. Page, a JTAGS engagement controller, placed third in the men’s 30-39 age bracket with a time of 1:53:20.

Ahlers, a JTAGS engagement controller, placed third overall in the men’s 30-39 age bracket. Jones, a JTAGS



Photo by Area Support Group Qatar Public Affairs Office

Sgt. Chadwell Luton, Joint Tactical Ground Station engagement control team leader, Detachment B, 1st Space Company, checks his time during the swimming portion of the Camp As Sayliyah triathlon March 15. Luton competed in the Sprint event, and placed second in the men’s 30-39 age bracket with a time of 1:51:40.

engagement control shift leader competed in the men’s open age bracket and finished in 1:01:29. Miller, a JTAGS Engagement control shift leader, competed in the men’s open age bracket and finished in 1:01:50.

“These outstanding noncommissioned officers of Bravo Detachment, 1st Space Company represented their unit and the space community very well,” said Capt. R. Neal Nichols, detachment commander.

The triathlon was sponsored by Area Support Group-Qatar.

Financial Division chief retires



Photo by Jason B. Cutshaw

Wanda Tucker, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/ Army Forces Strategic Command G-8 Operations and Sustainment Division chief, receives the Department of the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award from Col. Mike Cook, deputy chief of staff, G-8, during her retirement ceremony at the command’s Redstone Arsenal, Ala., headquarters March 26. Tucker retires with 31 years of service.

Women's role highlighted at history event

Scott Andraea
USASMDC/ARSTRAT SIG

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. – The involvement by women in America's progress, society and military was highlighted March 26 in a Women's History Month observance at the operational headquarters of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command.

Guest speaker Margaret Brewington Wright cited three women who illustrate the 2014 theme "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage and Commitment." For character, Lupita Nyong'o, winner of the Academy Award for supporting actress; for courage, Cathay Williams, who disguised herself to serve in the Army in the late 1860s; and for commitment, Helen Keller, an advocate for people with disabilities.

"They went through something so you and I can share the freedom and the opportunities that we have today," Wright said. "Let's not forget their story."



Photo by Scott Andraea

Margaret Brewington Wright, an educator, author and ordained minister from Pueblo, Colo., was the guest speaker March 26 for the Women's History Month observance at the operational headquarters of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command.

Wright is an educator, author and ordained minister from Pueblo, Colo.

Today's girls and women still face challenges, particularly in having the proper level of income and financial means to meet their needs, she said. Basic support such as paid sick leave and child care are examples.

"We the people have work to

do today," Wright said. "Most importantly, let's help our women and children write a new story, an unforgettable story."

The event also served as an opportunity to emphasize the role of women in researching, exploring and investigating space and missile defense.

Women from 11 nations have flown in space, Col. Greg Bowen, deputy commander for support, said in the event's opening remarks.

The newest class of NASA astronaut candidates is 50 percent female – four candidates out of eight, Bowen noted. Army Maj. Anne McClain, a helicopter pilot and graduate of the Navy Test Pilot School, is one of the astronaut candidates.

"In industry, academia and government there are many thousands of women who have contributed and will continue to contribute in designing, building and operating space systems from the Earth to the stars, whether or not those systems have people on board," Bowen said.

Command to host Army Space Cadre Basic Course

All command personnel are invited to attend the Army Space Cadre Basic Course June 2-13. The course provides Soldiers and civilians with a foundational understanding of space and the five space mission areas. Contractors may attend on a space-available basis with approval of the contracting officer.

At the conclusion of the ASCBC Phases I and II, students will understand the building blocks of orbital mechanics, understand the threats in space to include manmade and natural effects on satellites, understand the different military and joint military organizations and their missions, and understand the space mission areas and how they relate to the Army's missions.

Phase I will take place June 2-6 and Phase II will occur June 9-13 in Huntsville, Ala., at 6000 Technology Drive.

Phase I, or the equivalent, is a requirement for all command personnel, in accordance with the training and leader development guidance. Phase II, or the equivalent, is a requirement for all command personnel in a space cadre position.

For Soldiers, this is a qualification course for the Space Badge and the 3Y additional skill identifier.

The course requires a secret clearance and is limited to 28 students on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Interested personnel should e-mail james.a.schlichting.civ@mail.mil, or call (719) 554-1905.

History: The search for Site X

Sharon Watkins Lang
SMDC command historian

In the 1950s, American rocket and missile testing was conducted at Cape Canaveral, Fla., White Sands Missile Range, N.M., and the Naval Test Range at Point Mugu, Calif.

These ranges provided specific parameters to fly and experiment with a wide variety of systems. The newly developed high-speed, long-range Nike-Zeus, however, raised new concerns – it would fly faster, higher, and further than its anti-aircraft predecessors.

Were these facilities capable of supporting the new test program? In January 1958, the search began for Site X, a range facility that could not only test the entire Nike-Zeus system (the interceptor and its multiple radars) but also test them against offensive targets.

Initial Nike-Zeus field testing began at White Sands Missile Range as flights were needed to calculate aerodynamic heating issues with the proposed flight speeds of the new system. Using a modified Nike-Hercules missile, these critical tests had to be restricted to below 100,000 feet, given the 100-mile limits of the range.

To improve conditions, there was a proposal to extend the range by an additional 25-40 miles, but this option was later discarded as a threat to local populations and insufficient to conduct full altitude testing.

Nevertheless, a full-scale program was initiated at White Sands “to prove in the designs,” testing both components and subsystems and conducting atmospheric flight testing. The Nike-Zeus program



U.S. Army photo

First launch of the Spartan missile was conducted in March 1968. Fifteen additional launches would be engaged before the program transferred to Meck Island to expand testing to include remote launch capabilities.

would conduct a total of 56 developmental and 16 system tests at the White Sands facility.

Researchers also looked at Point Mugu, which would permit more demanding high altitude and exo-atmospheric testing.

Once the infrastructure needed for a Nike-Zeus test was constructed, i.e. Nike-Zeus missile track radar, guidance computer, launching equipment, etc., 19 developmental flight tests were conducted at Point Mugu. Researchers ultimately determined, however, that Point Mugu was “a poor missile test site for Nike-Zeus because of the severe-range safety restrictions.”

With fail-safe delays of a fraction of a second, a number of missiles were destroyed early in their flight before useful data could be collected.

The Atlantic Test Range was for many the primary candidate to test the complete system. Following

the Soviet launch of Sputnik I, a target track radar was constructed on Ascension Island to begin gathering the necessary data by tracking Air Force intercontinental ballistic missile launches from Cape Canaveral.

In addition to Ascension, Army planners and scientists from Bell Laboratories and Western Electric evaluated other islands in the vicinity of the Atlantic Test Range.

Their report, submitted in May 1958, identified Antigua and Barbuda, in addition to Ascension as down range sites for the Nike-Zeus test program.

None of these islands, however, were U.S. possessions and ultimately “their potential use for missile firings was considered too sensitive.”

In November 1958, after the State Department advised the Department

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accuracy for a location on the Earth, determine ground site visibility for selected satellites, determine angles from ground site to satellite, and use augmented reality to display satellites across the sky.

Space Kit 2 is a space enhancement kit used to enhance situational awareness and force protection, ideally suited to small units operating in remote locations. This kit allows GPS tracking on displayed map, text messaging, and picture uploads between Soldiers, a ground-based weather sensor that provides wind data, humidity, and lightning detection, uses networked solar powered sensors to geolocate threat and report via Wi-Fi/satellite, and also uses a seismic and motion detection sensor kit to distinguish between humans, vehicles and animals.

Space Kit 3, called the Space Degradation Kit, contains a system capable of demonstrating effects of space system degradation such as GPS jamming. The kit will be used as a training tool in preparation for unit deployment.

The CIGARS system is a proof-of-concept that utilizes commercial, off-the-shelf, satellite- or Wi-Fi-based communication systems that is employable by a vehicle mounted War Operations Planned Response mobile application and mapping server providing a cellular gateway or a mobile five-pound backpack kit, providing a cellular gateway.

“Both the vehicle and backpack systems can utilize satellite-based technology in case tower communications are not available and both are expandable by employing up to 25 smart phones that tie into either the vehicle and/or backpack system,” Monteith explained.

As Army South’s senior space officer, Roberts conveyed that during the two-day event Army South had the opportunity to identify space capabilities and advantages that could potentially enhance and contribute to the Army South mission, objectives and partnering nations.

“One of the many benefits of the space capabilities is when Army South’s rapid deployed teams deploy into an area that is either remote with very little ground-based communications or into mountainous, rugged and sparse areas with little infrastructure. They can use the space-based part of the systems, which is connectivity



Courtesy photo

Col. Eric Handy, director of the Training and Exercise Division of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, explains the functions of the space kits during Space NET Training and Fielding meeting hosted by the U.S. Army South Operations Directorate Mar. 19-20 at the Army South headquarters.

through communication satellite systems for Internet, data transfer and e-mail while also using the GPS for positioning and land-based orientation,” Roberts said.

Ultimately, space-based capabilities will assist Army South in its mission to conduct and support multinational operations and security cooperation to counter transnational threats and strengthen regional security in defense of the homeland.

“Our goal in the short term is to identify, evaluate and coordinate for space capabilities that will enable our mission throughout the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility,” said Col. Michael Panko, Army South’s chief of Operations Training Division.

“The Space Kits and CIGARS system will help Army South to strengthen partner nation relationships by further assisting each during combined operations,” said Roberts. “Army South will continue working with its leaders and Soldiers to train and provide the necessary tools in order to implement the latest space capabilities into its exercises and missions to improve its day-to-day military operations.”

Deadline for comments and submissions for the April 24 issue is April 18.

Please submit to Jason B. Cutshaw at Jason.B.Cutshaw.civ@mail.mil.

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were there when the nation called. We must be there when they call. Thank you, Vietnam veterans, for teaching generations like mine these hard lessons. Thank you for honor and duty, taking up arms, standing in the gaps and defending our way of life.”

During the ceremony, narrator Joe Bongiovanni, a Vietnam Marine veteran, introduced the audience to Air Force Airman 1st Class Richard Gonzalez, a Vietnam War veteran.

“Today we are going to correct an oversight. As sometimes happens service members are approved for awards but the award is never officially presented. Today we will correct one such action,” Bongiovanni said.

With those words, retired Air Force Lt. Col. Steven Hansen presented Gonzalez with the Distinguished Flying Cross for actions he took on April 9, 1972, in Thailand while serving as a B-52 gunner for the 30th Strategic Wing at U-Tapao Airfield.

Also, the family of missing in action Air Force Tech Sgt. E.A. Phillips was presented with a plaque of recognition prior to their presentation of the Tech Sgt. E.A. Phillips Humanitarian Award to retired Command Sgt. Maj. Charlie Miller.

Other first-time awards were created in the names of two local veterans who also were first-time recipients of the awards.

Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Colin Hargrove, who was awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart in Vietnam, received the CSM Colin Hargrove Service to Veterans Award for his work as a charter member and leader of the North Alabama Veterans Mental Health



Photo by Dottie White

Medal of Honor recipient retired Air Force Col. Leo K. Thorsness, an F-105 pilot and prisoner of war in Vietnam, is photographed with Alabama's West Point Rodeo Queen Lexi Malone during the third annual Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans event at the Huntsville Madison County Veterans Memorial March 29.

Council, where he is working with Veterans Affairs to create support opportunities for veterans in North Alabama.

Retired Air Force Col. Leo K. Thorsness, who was a Vietnam prisoner of war and is a Medal of Honor recipient, received the Col. Leo K. Thorsness Guardian of Freedom Award for a lifetime of selfless service to military veterans and families.

Thorsness said that, although he was receiving an honor, he felt that all veterans and service members in the audience deserved recognition.

“Whoever raised their hand and took the oath to protect the Constitution of the United States, you should be recognized. You raised your hand,” Thorsness said. “And so, too, do your families. How tough it is for families sometimes. I am so pleased with the way the

military has improved the care of families. Take care of our veterans and take care of our families.”

On display was a UH-1 Huey helicopter that was reconditioned by the North Alabama chapter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association.

Club member Don Bisson, who flew Hueys in Vietnam, brought his 7-year-old grandson Nathan Cook to the ceremony.

“We need to let the next generations know what we went through and the best way to say it for those who don't know is that these helicopters were a taste of freedom the protected will never know. They need to see that freedom is not free,” Bisson said. “We did this for love and devotion of our country. Regardless of right or wrong, we went to fight for our country. We went because our country told us to.”

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of Defense that it could not obtain permission to use Barbuda, the chief of Ordnance directed that a new site be selected.

With continued emphasis to accelerate the Nike-Zeus program, attention turned to the Pacific and ultimately Kwajalein Atoll. In February 1959, the Department of Defense's Ballistic Missile Committee approved a test plan for Nike Zeus using Kwajalein Atoll and intermediate range ballistic missile targets launched at Johnston Island. Less than a month later on March 2, the director of Guided Missiles approved the plan and in June the first contracts were awarded for the construction of the Nike-Zeus radar and launch facilities.

Although not an American territory, the benefits of Kwajalein were many. The atoll had been under American stewardship since 1944 and the existing Navy base provided the basic infrastructure to support the test program – an airstrip, a harbor, housing areas, schools, a hospital, merchandising facilities, etc.

Within a day's flight (10 hours) from Hawaii and 4,800 miles from the West Coast, the remote, sparsely populated islands proved to be a suitable range for both intermediate range and intercontinental ballistic missile tests.

Within months, this quiet naval base was converted into a bustling community with thousands of workers dedicated to the extensive construction needed to create a state-of-the-art ballistic missile test range on the western side of the island. With its "rigorous timetable," microscopic tolerances, and frequent design changes (more

than 22,000 drawing changes reflecting on-going improvements in technology and component testing) construction of a Nike-Zeus battery was no small feat.

The Zeus Acquisition Radar alone included three separate facilities – a transmitter, a receiver, and a power plant. Other structures included a discrimination radar, two target track radars, and three missile track radars, and battery control equipment with a target intercept computer.

The greatest challenge was perhaps the missile silos. With an extremely shallow water table, it was necessary to install the four Nike-Zeus launch cells above ground.

Launch hill at the extreme western tip was constructed with 200,000 cubic yards of coral soil and stands 65-feet tall.

As the highest point in the Marshall Islands, it was soon known as "Mount Olympus," in honor of the Greek mountain home to the higher gods to include Nike (Goddess of Victory) and Zeus (Father of the Gods).

As the first launch approached, the Pacific Missile Range Facility, or PMRF, noted "in all operations involving missile firings, there exists a possibility of erratic flight requiring the missile to be destroyed.

When destroyed, the fragments returning to Earth present a hazard to personnel in the vicinity." With a missile range and civilian housing within miles of each other, the PMRF divided the island into four sections.

As announced in The Hourglass: Area 1 was the Nike-Zeus launch area secured by road blocks; Area 2 was the Industrial Area between

Area 1 and Sixth Street; Area 3 was the Quarters area from Sixth Street to the end of the island; and Area 4 was the water area – specifically the lagoon area adjacent to the island. Once the warning signals were sounded, at X-15 minutes (X-40 for the George Seitz School), all personnel were to move to an appropriate shelter until the "all clear" was sounded anywhere from 20 minutes to several hours.

Buildings with a roof consisting of at least four inches of reinforced concrete were deemed appropriate shelters.

All of the family quarters met the criteria, with the exception of 401, 402, 403, 404 and 241. In the Industrial Area, an additional twenty buildings were identified as shelters. These included the Yokwe Yuk Mess, Nike-Zeus dormitory, a barracks, the terminal, the Transient Hotel, laundry, general mess, aircraft maintenance, special services and security.

On Dec. 15, 1961, the Kwajalein Test Site was complete and the first Nike-Zeus missile was launched from its cell on Mount Olympus – a qualified success. Residents and interceptors would continue to coexist until the launch program transferred to Meck Island in April 1970. During this period, 56 Nike-Zeus tests were conducted on Kwajalein, as were 15 Spartan developmental tests.

More than 50 years later, the range remains an integral factor in the development and testing of the American missile defense systems. From Nike-Zeus to ground-based midcourse defense, Kwajalein Missile Range has been at the center of missile defense testing.

ASMDA to send students to Space Camp

This summer, some lucky students will get a chance to camp among the stars.

The Air, Space and Missile Defense Association is offering 16 scholarships for selected children to attend a one-week Space Camp this summer at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville June 29-July 4.

These scholarships are open to any military or civilian children, ages 9-11, of a parent or guardian currently assigned to U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command; Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense; Program Executive Office-Missiles and Space; Army Aviation and Missile Life Cycle Management Command; U. S. Army Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center; Missile and Space Intelligence Center; NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center; Missile Defense Agency; and those who are contractors working for



File photo

Members of the Air, Space, and Missile Defense Association have their picture taken with the 16 recipients of the ASMDA Space Camp Scholarship in 2013.

corporate members of ASMDA.

“We are very excited about the opportunity we are offering the Soldiers and employees of the ASMDA community,” said Doug Allen, ASMDA president. “The ability to provide this wonderful experience to 16 young children who probably would not otherwise

have an opportunity to attend is very rewarding.”

The ASMDA scholarship includes one week at Space Camp, round-trip airfare to and from parent's work location, Space Camp flight suit, Space Camp shirt and a small amount of spending cash and any unaccompanied minor travel fees.

As the timeline for receiving applications and awarding the scholarships is very tight, ASMDA will not accept applications after the deadline on May 1. The goal is to notify the winners starting on May 23.

Immediately following selection and acceptance, ASMDA will send an information package and begin making flight reservations, if applicable.

Once selected by ASMDA, winners will be required to provide an attendance application, including a camp physical, to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. Scholarship application forms are available on their website at www.asmda.us.

A career of service



Photo by Catherine Scovel

Capt. Brett Wetherill, officer in charge and team leader, Commercial Imagery Team 3, 5th Space Company, administers the oath of enlistment to Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Burke, noncommissioned officer in charge and operations officer, CIT3, during his reenlistment ceremony April 1 at Manama, Bahrain. Burke reenlisted for six more years, bringing his commitment to 20 years. He joined the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command as an Army Reservist in 2007. When stateside and not mobilized, Burke serves as the deputy sheriff with the Douglas County Sheriff's Department.