



The **ADC** *Post*
We Strive Toward Excellence



DORA SCHRIRO

DIRECTOR

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ADC's Veterans Day float wins two parade awards



The Phoenix Veterans Day Parade float participants included Director Dora Schriro, Sgt. Jay Darby, CO II Corissa Burnside, CO II Luciano Contreras, CO II Gary Hodge, Lt. Rodrick Williams, CO II Barnavus Bustillos, CO IV Angela Basurto, ITS II Crystal Vasquez and members of the ADC Honor Guard.

This year, the Arizona Department of Corrections entry into both the "Phoenix Veterans Day Parade" and the "APS Festival of Light Electric Light Parade" impressed judges so much it won two awards, including the coveted "APS Award - The Power to make it happen."

There were over 100 entries in the 12th annual Phoenix Veterans Day Parade, one of the fourth largest Veterans Day parades in the country, and for the fourth straight year, the ADC float was recognized as an award winner. Our 2008 entry, "Soldiers of Honor - ADC Staff Who Have Served Our Country

in Times of Need" took second place in the Government/Non-Profit category.

The float was constructed at ASPC-Lewis/Barchey unit by a team of staff and inmates, many of them military veterans, in just six days! Lt. Randy Standridge, Rio Salado Instructor Ray Hixon, Sgt. John Littlejohn,

Sgt. Eric Albert and CO II Vince Viscarra guided the inmates in the construction of the float. The Department provided over 100 2x4s, 42 sheets of plywood, 18 sheets of masonite, sheet metal, styrofoam and paper mache, screws, nails, and paint to create the award winning military tribute. The float features a rock-like surface surrounding a depiction of our American flag, with silhouettes of military figures in front of the flag. A sheet metal sign with "Operation Enduring Freedom" stamped on it was donated by Western Vents & Curbs Inc. The back of the float displays 123 gold stars, one star for each of the men and women with ties to Arizona who served and

died in Iraq or Afghanistan since 2003.

This year's float participants included Director Dora Schriro, Sgt. Jay Darby, CO II Corissa Burnside, CO II Luciano Contreras, CO II Gary Hodge, Lt. Rodrick Williams, CO II Barnavus Bustillos, CO IV Angela Basurto, ITS II Crystal Vasquez and members of the ADC Honor Guard. The Honor Guard van, which is already painted in a patriotic theme, drove the ADC entry up the 2.5-mile parade route, where it was enthusiastically received by the thousands of people who attended the event.

Our float was preceded

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From her desk

A letter to the men and women of the ADC

serving overseas today

The holiday season is a special opportunity to count our country's many. At ADC, it is an important occasion to extend our heartfelt gratitude to you and your family for your selfless service at home and abroad. We are very proud of your contributions to public safety and we prize your willingness to answer our nation's call to duty.

As we gather together to celebrate the traditions of the season, we are keenly aware of the sacrifices, big and small, that you are making to keep us safe. You represent the finest Arizona has to offer and all of us at ADC are honored to work alongside you.

You are in our thoughts, our hearts and our prayers. May the many blessings of the season find you safe and keep you safe.

We miss you and look forward to your speedy return home.

Here are the men and women of the ADC who are currently deployed overseas:

CO II Fredrick Adams III, CO II Richard Ayala, CO II Johnathan Bartram, CO II Jesse Bustamante, RN Shawn Brittan, CO I Ian Canich, CO II Jorge Caro SR., CO II James Childers, CO II Russell Contrearras, CO II Gary Cooper, CO II Jose Cortes, CO II

Haywood Crews, Sgt. William Cromack, CO II Robbin Cronin, CO II Christopher Davis, CO II James Decker, CO II Douglas Dixon SR., CO II Robert Edmonson, CO II Ronald Ertel, CO II Oscar Escobar, CO II Hadar Espinoza, CO III Albert Steven Freudenthal, CO II Aldo Galvz, CO II Larry Garner, CO II Heriberto, Garcia-Chavez, Lt. Michael Gregory, CO III Michelle Hanley, CO II John Heck, CO II John Hill, CO II Ryan Hitchcock, CO II Teresa Hoyos, CO II David Kesterson, CO II James Lohry, CO II Victor Martinez, CO II Eric Mendiola, CO II Manuel, Miranda, CO II Medaro Montano, CO II Juan Mora, CO II Michael Moreno, CO II Johnathan Morpew, CO II Michael Odiaga, AA III Miguel Ortiz, CO II Escobar Osca, CO II Andres Perez, CO II Chad Perron, WHS Eric Peterson, CO II Brian Petrie, CO II Arif Rahman, CO II James Ramono, CO II Tony Rascon, CO II Casey Rhinehardt, CO II Nicholas Riddle, CO II Torrance Robinson, CO II Monica Sanchez, CO II Elaine Santiago, CO II Milan Smith, CO II Christina Steenbakker, CO II Sean Sullivan, CRNS 2 Alaine Taylor, CO II Suzanne Thomason, CO II David Tresky II, CO II Donaciano Vallejo, CO II Robert Verdugo, CO II Randy West, CO II Lou West, CO II John Wyatt

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by members of the ADC Honor Guard and staff who carried a banner proclaiming that in 2007, the Department was awarded the Ben Jefferson Pride Award, an award exemplifying the spirit of patriotism, spirit of cooperation in the parade itself, and the spirit of honoring veterans.

After the parade, the float returned to Barchey Unit where staff and inmates tirelessly transformed the military tribute into a dazzling Christmas display for the "APS Fiesta of Light Electric Light

Parade". Home Depot Equipment Rentals in Tempe graciously donated two generators to power over 35,000 lights that decorated the float and Sgt. Daniel Gutierrez, ASPC-Lewis/Barchey unit, provided another generator for the 5,000 lights on the truck towing the float. On the evening of December 6, the brightly lighted float inspired a spirited response from over 200,000 people who attended the popular holiday celebration.

The float also lit up the judges, who were impressed by the way

the lights accented the rendition of the waving flag on the float and gave the Department one of the

parades coveted awards, "The APS Award - The power to make it happen" for the best use of lights.



Phoenix Veterans Hospital FACHE Associate Director Paul H. West presents the ADC Veterans Day Parade award to Lt. Randy Standridge, ASPC-Lewis/Barchey Unit and ICC II Virginia Strankman during the Veterans Hospital award ceremony.

This publication is to promote the work of ADC and the achievements of its staff. Your questions or comments are welcome.

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2008 Veterans Day essay contest winners

This year the Arizona Department of Corrections began a new tradition. We invited ADC staff to submit short essays honoring our co-workers who embody selfless sacrifice and commitment to country through military service. Of course the response was outstanding!

Essays were submitted by staff at every complex. Each one was carefully reviewed and ranked by a panel of three judges: Major General David P. Rataczak, the Adjutant General Arizona Army National Guard, Division Director of Program Services Cree Zischke, and Division Director of Support Services Charles Goldsmith with the three finalists selected by Director Dora Schriro. The

panel of judges evaluated every submission's power of its message, clarity of thought, and comprehension coverage of the topic.

As difficult and daunting a task that it was to choose just three, Director Schriro is pleased to announce our first year's top three winners.

First place went to CEPT Ellen Pfulb of ASPC-Winslow, who wrote about CEPT Harold Chaumont Flynn. Second place was earned by Captain Norm Twyford of ASPC-Perryville, who wrote about Sergeant Jay Darby. Third place was won by Lieutenant Frances Hawkins of ASPC-Florence for her essay about CEPT Patricia Weaver.

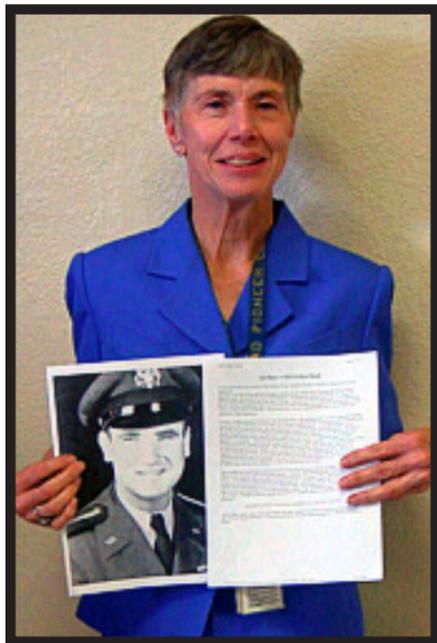
The judges also awarded

honorable mention to another six essays. Listed in alphabetical order, they are:

- CO II Adam Clawson writing about CO III Paul Haber
- Deputy Warden Anna Jacobs writing about Captain Tim Cox
- CO II Richard O'Marro writing about CO II Michael Beeson
- Captain Robert Rowland writing about CO II Charles Robert Browning
- CO II John Scott writing about Sgt. Carl Combs
- AA III Kat Sticklin writing about PPS II James Wright

Canyon State Credit Union graciously donated prizes to further recognize our top three honorees.

First place winner: CEPT Ellen Pfulb, ASPC-Winslow



CEPT Ellen Pfulb of ASPC-Winslow holds a photograph of CEPT Harold Chaumont, who served in the Air Force in World War II, the Korean War and The Vietnam War. Here is her essay, inspired by a patriot who responded to his country's call of duty three times over nearly 30 years.

A man was born in the middle of the Pacific Ocean aboard a military transport. Perhaps this was an omen or a prophecy. In 1944 at the age of seventeen, a sense of duty called him; he joined the United States Marine Corps. He served as a crew chief aboard C-47 transports during World War II. When the Korean War broke out, the man was again willing to sacrifice his life by joining the United States Air Force. He flew one hundred and two missions in a P-80 overseas, and earned the Distinguished Flying Cross as well as four Air Medals. At the end of the war, the man returned to the United States and served as a flight instructor.

In 1964, America became involved in the Vietnam War. The man knew his country needed his military experience, and went back to active duty. For thirteen months he flew low reconnais-

sance missions over the jungles in an unarmed plane that was known as the "Sitting Duck." If the pilot spotted enemy troops, he marked the area, so that the United States infantry or fighter planes had targets.

One day as he looked for enemy troops, the pilot felt a sudden jolt; his plane had taken a hit. He crashed in the middle of a rice paddy. When he pulled himself out of the cockpit, he heard the sound of bullets. Looking around he spotted a friendly bunker and decided to make a run for it. As the officer ran, several friendlies emerged from the bunker. They yelled and waved their arms frantically. Sensing their urgency, the pilot ran faster. Even after he reached the bunker, the yelling continued. One of the friendlies pulled the pin out

Continued next page

*First place winner
continued*

of a grenade and lobbed it into the rice paddy. Boom! He realized he had zigzagged his way across a mine field. The brave warrior returned with the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, a Silver Star, and nine Air Medals. In 1970, he retired from the military.

The courageous United States Marine and Air Force pilot became a teacher at ASPC Winslow. In a different way, he was again serving his country. The man often started history classes by reciting poetry. The students were awed by his flawless rendition of "Charge of the Light Brigade". On rare occasions, they heard stories of what war was really like. One day

a student asked this teacher why he left his family and risked his life in three different wars. The teacher paused. He answered, "Young man you are just beginning to learn what freedom means. I am an American and it is my duty to serve my country. I fought so that my family and all of my country's citizens including you can forever enjoy freedom."

SACRIFICE-DUTY-COURAGE-AMERICAN-LOVE OF COUNTRY

All of these words truly define the marine, the pilot, and the correctional education program teacher, Mr. Harold Chaumont Flynn. It was both an honor and a privilege knowing him. May he now Rest in Peace.

Second place winner: Captain Norm Twyford, ASPC-Perryville



Captain Norm Twyford chose to write his essay about Sergeant Jay Darby, who recently returned from serving a tour of duty overseas in Iraq.

After temporarily suspending his career with the Arizona Department of Corrections, Sergeant First Class Jay Darby returned from Iraq May 20, 2008. Family and friends greeted him at the airport. After a brief well deserved vacation, Sergeant Jay Darby returned to work at the Department of Corrections at the Arizona State Prison Complex Perryville Brent Lumley Unit. He's been back for five months now and if you ask him how things are, he'll tell you that the Department has changed, he has changed, but things have not changed much for him. Jets have replaced the loud noise of shelling, inmates have replaced the people of Iraq, and the Iraqi military have been replaced by Corrections Officers. His mission remains the same.

Sergeant Darby is a mem-

ber of Perryville's Training Cadre as well as a back-up for the Lumley Disciplinary Coordinator and the Tactical Emergency Medic for the Tactical Support Unit. He assists the Department in training, facilitating and educating the staff members of Perryville. Sergeant Darby was the Senior Enlisted Advisor for the Multi National Security Transition Command Iraq. In this role, Sergeant Darby was responsible for training both civilian and military Iraqis in emergency medicine, processing/purchasing of medical supplies for both the Iraqi Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defense, while at the same time treating the victims of war. One of the biggest challenges working with the Iraqi military was getting them to think and act for themselves. The culture of these people who have been ruled by a Dictator for decades is one of

subservient dependence. Sergeant Darby was able to get through to these people and assisted in improving the quality of care that was 20 years behind conventional medicine. Sergeant Darby now finds himself in a similar situation. Training the workforce of Perryville in Correction's Best Practices, Direct Supervision and the Arizona Plan, or Getting Ready as it's known internationally.

Another parallel in Sergeant Darby's life is the relationship between the people of Iraq and the inmates of Perryville. Sergeant Darby provided care to wounded Iraqi citizens. Most of these citizens were well-intentioned hard working people looking to better their lives. Others were Al Sadar Militia, and other enemy combatants who faked loyalty just to receive treatment. Sergeant Darby provided both groups of people with the same

treatment, advise, counsel, care and hope.

Sergeant Darby is faced with the same dichotomy in his role with the Department. As he mediates conflict among inmates, many of them respond with gratitude and a genuine attempt at behavior change. Others, of course, only provide lip service in an attempt mitigate disciplinary sanctions.

The 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938, which made November 11 an official holiday, by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars. This November 11, I'll be honoring Jay Darby, Sergeant First Class, DOC Sergeant, TSU Medic, Veteran, and Hero.

Third place winner: Lieutenant Frances Hawkins, ASPC-Florence



Lt. Frances Hawkins chose CEPT Patricia Weaver as her essay subject, praising her for her amazing accomplishments as a co-worker, Naval officer and a mother.

When I think of all of the Arizona Department of Corrections employees who are Veterans, I have a sense of pride for them. Not only have these individuals served their country with distinction in the Armed Forces, but they continue to be a service to their country by their chosen profession. Coming from a military family, I hold the utmost respect for our service men and women. Every day I give thanks to God for them and pray the He will keep them safe.

Patricia Weaver is a Correctional Education Program Teacher (CEPT) at ASPC-Eyman/ Cook Unit. Patti has been with ADC since February 2001 and has served as a CO II, CO III and now a CEPT. Recognizing the importance of

taking care of our own, she also has been an invaluable member of our Critical Incident Response Team since it's inception and prior to that a member of our CISD program. In addition to her responsibilities to the Department, she is a mother to eight year old Maddy, a wife to Roy Weaver, and a Commanding Officer of the Naval Reserves Naval Security Force. If that isn't enough, she continues to prove herself an asset for the Military Support Group for Eyman Complex. Having been deployed to a combat zone herself, she understands what staff returning from deployment has to contend with and provides her unwavering support for their

Continued next page

Third place winner continued . . .

reintegration to life in a non combat zone. Last year Lieutenant Weaver returned from her deployment to Kuwait, which was the second time this mother had to kiss her daughter and husband good bye and leave her colleagues, since she started with us. Talk about sacrifice, Lieutenant Weaver, has been deployed for more than a quarter of her daughter's life.

Lieutenant Weaver has fought her way up the ladder of success where she began as an E-1 as a result of hard work and continuing education, and although it will be a while before she is eligible for retirement from ADC, she will soon be eligible for retirement from the United States Navy.

As her husband Roy put it, Lieutenant Patricia Weaver is an extraordinarily wonderful woman who works hard in whatever she does whether it is being a mother, the military or the Department. Gene Yarbrough, Correctional Education Program Teacher Supervisor who retired from the United States Army stated that after she retires from the Navy, Patti will continue to serve her country in another way. Recently CEPT Weaver developed a Teacher's Assistant program for her aides as an in service activity that CEPTS-Yarbrough described as brilliant, and commented that when it comes to a good representative of the military and the department, Patricia Weaver is as good as it gets. I am so proud of Patti and her accomplishments with not only the United States Navy and the Arizona Department of Corrections, but the balancing of the two with being a mother and a wife.

Honorable Mention: CO II Adam Clawson

Veteran's Day is a remembrance and a recollection of the service that our citizen soldiers have given in patriotism for our Country, Society, and our fellow Americans. At the 11th hour of November 11, a period of silence is observed to commemorate the ending of the first World War, second World War, and other conflicts. This celebration of public veneration is a solemn occasion that respectively honors the commitment of our soldiers to personal choice and a sense of duty. Other special programs and parades are also observed at this special day, which reminds our

citizens of the value of self-sacrifice and comradeship.

I have been inspired by the dedication and integrity of Officers who have served in our Armed Forces, and in the Arizona Department of Corrections. This commitment to serving our fellow citizens in positions that put them in harm's way is something of true value. Not many individuals choose to volunteer to provide safety for their fellow citizens. The rare individuals who do dedicate themselves to personal sacrifice are a treasure to our society and our nation.

Officer Paul Haber is an individual of many qualities who inspires those around him. His integrity, honor and self-sacrifice are values that we as a society endorse as having great value. Inspiring his fellow officers in the field, barracks, or at the Arizona Department of Corrections is only part of the component of his dedication to duty of service.

Officer Haber has had the honor to serve in the Marines for four years, and in the Army for sixteen years, making his service in our Armed Forces distinguished. Other visible signs of achievement that Officer Haber has attained are the Meritorious Service Medal, Bronze Star, and two Army Commendation Awards. Not one to sit on his laurels, Officer Haber has continued to serve in another hazardous field, the Arizona Department of Corrections. He has taught, inspired, and imparted wisdom to Officers and Inmates in a straightforward manner. Having the rare opportunity to work with Officer Haber has been a privilege and honor. His strength of character, foresight, and no-nonsense attitude is an inspiring commitment to his fellow man.

Veteran's Day is a holiday set aside from the normal routine of work to honor those who have served. At this time I would like to acknowledge Officer Haber as an exceptional individual who has served through dedication, personal sacrifice and commitment to his fellow American citizen.

Honorable Mention: Deputy Warden Anna Jacobs

Captain Tim Cox currently works at Arizona State Prison Complex, Tucson/Winchester Unit. It is amazing that he is here today and able to share his experiences while serving in the Armed Forces. I am proud to be able to pass his

story along.

Captain Cox began his tenure with the United States Army in 1993, where he worked with "Operation Joint Endeavor" in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He was then honorably discharged in 1995. He re-enlisted later in 1997 with the National Guard and participated in the Humanitarian efforts in Honduras after the devastating hurricane. He was again honorably discharged in 2002. Later in the year of 2002 he re-enlisted with the Army Reserve and worked with "Operation Enduring Freedom," stateside, and then with "Operation Iraqi Freedom" in Iraq. For the third time he was discharged with full honors but this time with medical complications, in 2003.

The medical complications occurred while he was in Iraq at Camp Anaconda. His squad was with the "service point" and Captain Cox was serving as a military police and was overseeing the security of the water distribution point. Unfortunately, the squad fell under attack by indirect enemy mortar fire. A mortar hit one of the main water point pipe lines, which ruptured an intense flow of water. Because of the large amount of water being dispelled in such a violent manner, it caused an 8 inch water hose, weighing approximately 200 pounds, to spray out of control, hitting Captain Cox across the back of his neck, throwing him approximately 15 feet. As a result there was irreparable spinal and nerve damage, which will worsen with time, causing him pain and other negative side effects.

During his many years of military service, Captain Cox received several medals and commendations. He began his military career as a Private, being given a field promotion to Corporal, due to his notoriety of being a "Leader of Troops." He also earned the following medals; two National Defense, Army Achievement, Overseas Service, Humanitarian, Meritorious Service, Iraqi Expeditionary Forces, Global War on Terror and the Army commendation.

It has been a pleasure knowing Captain Cox and working with him as a member of our unit management team. He has been an asset, not only to our unit, but to the Department, where he has served since 1996. It is clear that his experiences in the military have exemplified honor, commitment and service and he carries these attributes with him each and every day.

Honorable Mention: CO II Richard O'Marro

When we talk about sacrifices of soldiers, movie scenes quickly come to mind of leaping on live grenades and charging machine gun nests. But every day our soldiers and veterans make sacrifices to make this a better world for us all. They begin from the first day of boot camp with sacrificing their individuality. Single men and women are broken down, then forged together as a unit. They learn to break the bonds of selfishness, and instead look to how their actions can affect the greater whole.

As a youth, Michael Beeson was like many other young men. He tended to be restless and a bit of a hell raiser. But when he received his draft notice in 1972, he didn't ignore it or run for the border like others did. Instead he sacrificed those little things many of us take for granted like being able to pick your clothes, or schedule or even meals you like.

Enlisted into the U.S. Army 95th Military Police Battalion, he now comments on it as "The Army taught me everything about Duty and Responsibility that my mama never could." Enlisted as a boy, when he came back from serving overseas in 1974 the Army had molded him into a man. The lessons of the Army stuck with him, and he continued to seek to serve the public, replacing the Army unit with a Police force. He served in various Law Enforcement positions, finally coming to the Arizona Department of Corrections in 1991.

His military past is evidence from the care he takes with his uniform to how he constantly goes above and beyond to help the officers around him. Always ready to lend a hand or a bit of advice to ensure the job gets done and everyone goes home safely. He goes out of his way to steer others away from trouble and help those who have situations like childcare that keep them from being able to work mandated overtime. And for it all, he never goes looking for any special recognition or thanks.

However, his spirit of self-sacrifice isn't limited to the workplace. There are the small sacrifices that have to be made every day as a devoted husband and father. There's the volunteer work he does as an Elder with his church every Sunday, taking care of many

Continued next page

Honorable mention continued . . .

behind the scenes details to ensure that others may have an enjoyable service. Even in his choice of hobbies he sacrifices and gives back to the community as he often rides for charity with the Just Us Public Service Motorcycle Club.

It's the big sacrifices of our soldiers that become the books and movies. Their loss of lives, or limbs, or sanity to the hells of war in the interest of preserving democracy. But it's the smaller, unsung done by thousands of our soldiers and veterans each and every day that makes our society a better place and allows us to live safe, happy, and free.

Honorable Mention: Captain Robert Rowland

Charles Robert Browning was born on March 06, 1976 and died a hero on June first, 2007. Much has been said about Officer (Sergeant) Browning during the dedication ceremony changing the name of Special Management Unit II to Browning Unit, honoring the sacrifice that he made in giving his life for his country. To attempt to duplicate those powerful words here would be impossible, so I chose to speak of what goes into the making of a hero like Charles.

Patriotism is the most practical of all human characteristics. I believe that patriotism is moral behavior and loyalty shown toward a group of people too large for an individual to know them all. This philosophy is often spelled out simply as "women and children first" yet it is not that simple. Often, we hear of people entering burning buildings to save elderly people, of people drowning in an attempt to save the life of a child. These actions are indeed heroic, however understandable under the specific circumstances.

What Charles committed to was more than a random, in the heat of the moment action. He dedicated his life to the idea that our country needed him and others like him to protect our way of life. He gave up many things to protect that way of life, and he gave them up not just momentarily, but for his whole life. He gave up the opportunity to see his family every day, and watch his children grow. He gave up the chance to have hot food, warm showers, to relax and enjoy a warm sunny day, to shop at the mall or go see a movie without fear or threat

of personal safety. Charles gave up all these things and more – he gave up his life.

The true nature of patriotism is not what we gain in riches, stature or recognition, but rather what we are willing to give up, at a moment's notice if needed. That service to others above ourselves, the willingness to go down with the ship. The attitude expressed by Nathan Hale who said "I regret I have but one life to give for my country." Charles had and displayed that attitude throughout his life.

Some have said that patriotism, commitment to our country and self sacrifice is dead; I say that Charles Robert Browning who died for his country on June first, 2007 would disagree.

I end on this note: "They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old, age shall not wither them nor the years condemn; As the going down of the sun and in the morning we shall remember them." - Tomb of the Scottish Unknown Soldier Edinburgh

Honorable Mention: CO II John M. Scott

To say that the Veterans who serve Arizona's Department of Corrections (ADC) have sacrificed for our country is a bit like saying that the Grand Canyon is a pretty big ditch or that the ocean is big! We all love America, but not all of us have put our precious time and our lives on the line for the freedom and way of life that we all enjoy. The soldiers' commitment is not to be trivialized as a "job" or "career", but deserves to be honored for the sacrifice that it truly was, and still is. This sacrifice has always been shared by our warriors and their families. Time away from family is a heavy burden for all. Long separations in the line of duty are difficult for families, and special events like anniversaries, holidays, births, and deaths make the separation even more difficult. Members of the family are always anxious over the well being of one another. Most of us do not know the horrors of war. We imagine! We empathize! Our hearts break at the images of flag covered coffins containing the bodies of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, but we don't know! Our warriors know! Some are forever scarred and maimed. Their nightmares are not the stuff of the imagination! Yet they look us in the eye and tell us that even knowing the

outcome, they would do it over, if they could. This is the honor and sense of purpose that hundreds of ADC Veterans bring to work with them everyday.

I am honored to work with 13 year ADC veteran Sgt. Carl Combs at Tucson Complex Catalina Yard. Sgt. Combs served 28 years, 5 months and 14 days in the U.S. Army. He served 3 tours of duty in Vietnam, two tours with the Infantry Scouts, and the final tour as a Huey helicopter pilot where he flew 348 combat missions and received 13 combat decorations, which included the Cross of Gallantry, 3 Bronze Stars, 3 Purple Hearts, the Army Accommodation medal, and the Combat Infantryman's badge. His unit once spent 19 ½ days pinned down under constant combat fire. WOW!

This is the sense of service and duty that Sgt. Combs and his fellow veterans bring to ADC every day. They are on every crew, raising the bar, still protecting and serving. They still have our backs! As a nation and an agency we could not function without them. Veterans, we salute you. We will never forget your sacrifices.

Honorable Mention: AA III Kat Sticklin

Mr. Wright enlisted in the Navy in June of 1962, right after graduating from high school. He started his training at the Great Lakes Training Center in Illinois. He then went on to Electronics School and since he already had an Associate Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Vermont he was able to challenge the class, was ranked first in his class, and was promoted to E-4. Because he was first in his class he was sent to Interior Communication School and was first in his class at that training. He was promoted to E-5, and was sent to Radar and Sonar School and was first in that class. He was promoted to Chief Petty Officer and then went to Submarine School in Connecticut.

He served aboard the USS Fulton which was a Squadron 10 repair ship, the USS Nautilus, the USS Kipjack, the USS Skate, the USS Halfbeak, the USS Intimidator, the USS Bang, and the USS Sailfish; all fast attack submarines conducting anti-submarine warfare.

In the spring of 1966 Senior Senator Akin from Vermont gave him an appointment to Annapolis. He attended Officer Candidate

School graduating from the US Naval School in Annapolis in 1966 as a Warrant Officer (designation only given in wartime). After graduation he went to Special Forces Training (code name Underwater Repair School) prior to being deployed to the north Pacific. He participated in the Vietnam Conflict in 1966 and conducted numerous search and destroy missions with an Underwater Demolition Team deploying from a submarine located off the North Vietnam coast.

During one of his missions, he and several others were dispatched to rescue a squadron of trapped soldiers inside Vietnam. He spent three harrowing days and nights in the jungle with an injured soldier barely evading capture several times before being rescued.

After getting injured in the Vietnam Conflict and receiving a Purple Heart, he returned to the Squadron Headquarters in Connecticut and continued his service to his country until 1972. He followed his ten years of active Navy service with four additional years of reserve service.

In addition to the Purple Heart he received numerous campaign ribbons and naval commendations to include the Navy Commendation, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Combat Ribbons, a Presidential Unit Citation, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Shortly after his discharge from the Navy, Mr. Wright worked as an electrical engineer at Conn Yankee Nuclear Plant during the construction phase. This was the first nuclear generating plant in the United States.

Mr. Wright moved to the Safford area of Arizona in early 1990, and continued his service to his country by joining the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) local chapter 10385 and has held various offices in this organization including Commander.

In November 2007, he represented ASPC Safford on the ADC Float in Phoenix. In May 2008 as a member of the VFW, he assisted in bringing the Traveling Vietnam Wall to Safford.



Our Military Support Teams are working hard to give our returning veterans everything they need.

Article by James A. Gierke
Employee Assistance Program Coordinator

The Arizona Department of Corrections is committed to providing the best possible support and service to the most important of our resources: our dedicated corrections professionals. Many of our employees are current or former military service personnel. Currently, there are over 2,300 ADC employees who are veterans, with nearly 100 of our co-workers deployed on active military duty and another 70 on standby. For as many soldiers as are employed, there are many more staff that have close family members or friends serving overseas. The idea of “supporting our troops” is something near and dear to our workforce.

Director Dora Schriro ensures ours is a Department that supports our troops with action. We are at our best when our employees are at their best and supporting them is our real path to achieving excellence. The ADC recognizes our active and veteran military personnel in a variety of ways, hosting an annual Flag Day celebration in June and participating in the annual Veterans Day Parade in November. The department also formed the “Military Support Program,” (MSP) made up of staff on all levels in the department who volunteer their time to offer their support to our staff with military obligations.

Earlier this year, the ADC hosted a conference at COTA for members of the Military Support Program and other staff who have been working to provide assistance to our Veterans. Representatives from the U.S. Department of Labor, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Vet Center, and the Tucson Police Department all presented workshops focused on educating military support liaisons and CIRT members on topics ranging from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder to employee rights for National Guard and Reserves staff. Following that conference, a plan of action for implementing a comprehensive Military Support Program was developed. Its goal is to produce no or low cost proposals that could be easily implemented, and would make a real and meaningful difference for those who have served our country. After many hours of discussion, four proposals were selected as a starting point for improving military support over

the next year:

First, the MSP members committed to publishing pre and post deployment transition protocols. Transitioning back to civilian life can be stressful for military members who are returning after lengthy deployments. Coming back to work can be particularly difficult for veterans, as numerous policy and procedure changes may have occurred while they were deployed. As an employer, the ADC plays an important role in easing the stressors of readjustment. New protocols will ensure that returning employees will receive the best training, improved access to benefits, and referrals to community resources for them and their families.

Second, the ADC established collaborations with numerous governmental and community based agencies. Through on-site benefits fairs and the formalization of specific points of contact, ADC Veterans of all eras are now able to more readily access the services and benefits they are entitled to.

Third, the committee focused on improving peer support for Veterans. In collaboration with Vets 4 Vets, a national non-profit, non-partisan agency, ADC began developing peer support groups in our institutions and adjoining communities. In addition, CIRT members have received additional training on Veterans’ issues and are better equipped to provide support and referrals.

Finally, MSP members worked closely with the ADC’s Training Bureau to develop an ongoing training program to ensure that all ADC supervisors across the state know the standards set forth in The Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act of 1994.

The Department’s Military Support Program is excited to refocus its energy on improving services available to our soldiers and to provide a true example of ADC’s ability to break new ground in the field of corrections. With the support of Director Schriro, the efforts of Military Support Liaisons, and the dedication of numerous community partners, the Military Support Program will continue to build upon this foundation to improve our support of our troops, not just in words, but in practice.

A Soldier’s Christmas

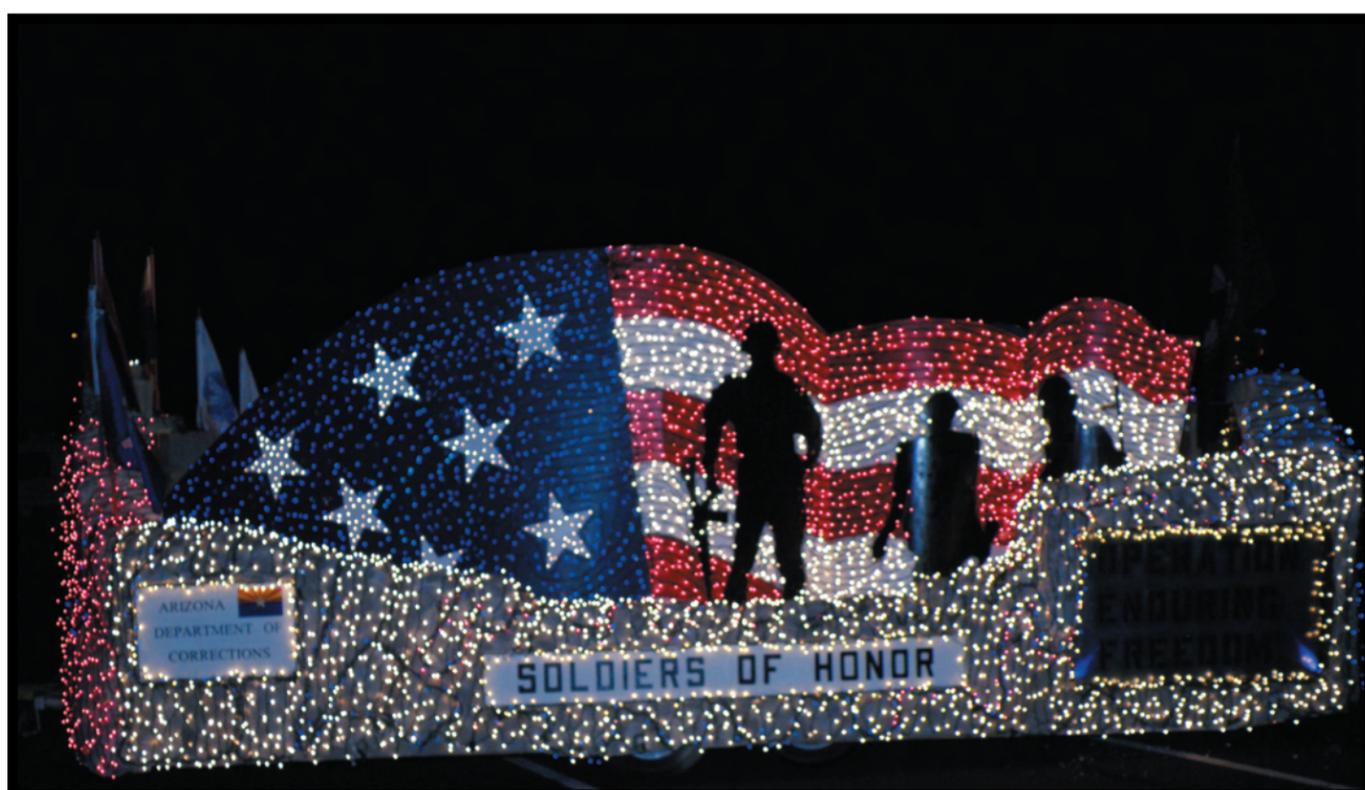
Written by Poet Michael Marks
Recipient of the Bronze Helmet
Top Poet Award of Excellence

*The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light,
I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight;
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,
My daughter beside me, angelic in rest.
Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,
Transforming the yard to a winter delight;
The sparkling lights in the tree, I believe,
Completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.
My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep,
Secure and surrounded by love I would sleep
In perfect contentment or so it would seem,
So I slumbered, perhaps I started to dream.
The sound wasn’t loud, and it wasn’t too near,
But I opened my eye when it tickled my ear;
Perhaps just a cough, I didn’t quite know,
Then the sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.
My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear,
And I crept to the door just to see who was near;
Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night,
A lone figure stood, his face weary and tight.
A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old,
Perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold;
Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,
Standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.
“What are you doing?” I asked without fear,
“Come in this moment, it’s freezing out here!
Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve,
You should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!”
For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift
Away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts
To the window that danced with a warm fire’s light,
Then he sighed and he said “It’s really all right,
I’m out here by choice. I’m here every night.
“It’s my duty to stand at the front of the line
That separates you from the darkest of times;
No one had to ask or beg or implore me,
I’m proud to stand here like my fathers before me.
“My Gramps died at ‘Pearl’ on a day in December,”
Then he sighed, “That’s a Christmas ‘Gram’ always remembers;
My dad stood his watch in the jungles of ‘Nam,
And now it is my turn and so, here I am.
“I’ve not seen my own son in more than a while,
But my wife sends me pictures, he’s sure got her smile;”
Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,
The red white and blue ... an American flag.
“I can live through the cold and the being alone
Away from my family, my house and my home;
I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet,
I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat.
“I can carry the weight of killing another
Or lay down my life with my sisters and brothers
Who stand at the front against any and all,
To insure for all time that this flag will not fall.
“So go back inside,” he said, “harbor no fright,
Your family is waiting and I’ll be all right.”
“But isn’t there something I can do, at the least
Give you money,” I asked, “or prepare you a feast?
It seems all too little for all that you’ve done,
For being away from your wife and your son.”
Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret,
“Just tell us you love us, and never forget
To fight for our rights back at home while we’re gone,
To stand your own watch, no matter how long.
“For when we come home, either standing or dead,
To know you remember we fought and we bled
Is payment enough, and with that we will trust
That we mattered to you as you mattered to us.”*

ADC Veterans Parade float



Clockwise from top: Rio Salado instructor Ray Hixon and some of the inmates who helped construct the float. The back of the float displayed 123 gold stars, one star for each of the men and women from Arizona who have served and died in Operation Enduring Freedom. The ADC Tucson honor guard carried a banner showing that last year the ADC won the Veterans' Day Parade Pride Award. Over 35,000 lights adorned the float for its entry into the "APS Festival of Light Electric Light Parade." The Honor Guard Van and ADC veterans in uniform made a patriotic statement as it traveled the parade route.





ADC Chaplain presented Life Service Award

Submitted by PPS Karen Fouts Program Services.



Administrator of Chaplain Services Mike Linderman was presented the Southwest Baptist University Life Service Award on October 10. The award is given annually to alumni who have exemplified the principles of the university.

Although Mike Linderman Administrator of Chaplain Services was quite surprised to receive the Southwest Baptist University Life Service Award, his selection was not surprising to those who work with him. First awarded in 1955, the Life Service Award is given annually to alumni who have exemplified in their lives the principles which are upheld at Southwest Baptist University. Each year, the SBU National Alumni Association Executive Committee nominates a maximum of six prospective recipients from business, missions, church-related vocations, education and other fields of service. The award is presented by the president of the university during Homecoming, and is the highest recognition that the university can bestow upon a graduate.

In October, Chaplain Linderman and his wife were invited to attend SBU's annual Homecoming in Bolivar, Missouri. He and his wife were recognized at an honors chapel celebration where the award was presented by University President, Dr. C. Pat Taylor. Throughout the weekend, they were guests of honor at University events and the annual Homecoming Parade. "To be on the platform in the Chapel service with the other three recipients and hear their life stories was really humbling. I am still somewhat taken back by the whole thing," Chaplain Linderman humbly confesses.

Prior to coming to work for the Department, Chaplain Linderman served honorably in the US Air Force and the US Postal Service. His many

areas of community service include working with local fire departments, veterans centers and the Salvation Army. Some of his previous awards include election to the Alpha Chi National Honor Society, receipt of the 1989 Volunteer Service Award from the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Kansas City, MO, and receipt of the 1994, 1995 and 1996 Firefighter of the Year Award from the Buckeye Fire Department.

Chaplain Linderman is an integral part of the Arizona Department of Corrections Program Services Division where he oversees religious and volunteer services. He leads 10 Senior Chaplains who supervise 34 Correctional Chaplains and oversees the volunteer program consisting of nearly 1,000 volunteers.

The enthusiasm and dedication Chaplain Linderman brings to the job make him a favorite among his peers. He is well deserving of this recognition. Please join us in congratulating him on winning this prestigious honor.

Hockey tournament raises money for children's hospital



CO II Joe O'Halloran and Sergeant Blake Jensen get ready to rumble on the ice to help raise money for Arizona children's health-care facilities.

Last October, CO II Joe O'Halloran of ASPC-Florence organized a charity hockey tournament at the Polar Ice Chandler hockey arena in Chandler to raise money for the Companions in Courage Foundation, which contributes money to children's hospitals around the country. CO II O'Halloran, a Buffalo New York native, learned of the foundation set up by Hall of Fame Hockey Legend, and longtime Buffalo Sabre, Pat Lafontaine and wanted to help raise money for the Phoenix Children's Hospital.

It was three days of great sportsmanship and great people coming together for a great cause. There

were eight teams participating, made up mostly of members of local police and fire departments. Along with Officer O'Halloran, CO II David Haley of ASPC-Lewis and Sgt. Blake Jensen of ASPC-Florence also participated in the tournament. O'Halloran put a lot of time and effort into organizing this tournament and he thanks Terry Berman and Kent McWherter both of Polar Ice Entertainment for being instrumental in making the tournament a reality. Thanks to all the teams that participated, a total of \$2500 was raised.

Arizona Service Dogs In The Spotlight

Service Dog Administrator Ralph Pendergast contributed to this article.

The Arizona Department of Corrections utilizes specially trained dogs to perform numerous tasks around the state, both as security and search dogs. These ADC service dogs have also been involved in three, high profile media events in recent months.

On October 20, 2008 CO II Bradley Gerard, ASPC-Lewis, was off duty when he was murdered in what later was determined to be a car-jacking by two juvenile suspects. Although Buckeye Police was the lead agency, CO II James Russell and CO II Robin Teed, from ASPC-Lewis, with trailing hounds Sonny and Belle and CO II David Wymore and Sgt. Jose Matty, from ASPC-Perryville, with trailing hound Thelma, were called to the scene to help with the investigation. The officers and their dogs eventually found what police now say is key physical evidence that led to the arrest of the suspects.

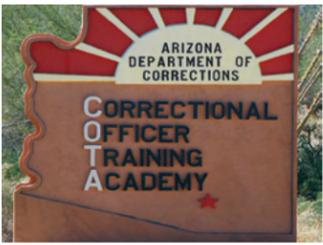
On October 27, 2008 the Apache County Sheriff's office contacted ASPC-Winslow and asked for ADC help in finding a hunter who had been reported missing for several hours in the rugged terrain of the Apache White Mountain area. Lieutenant Darren Reeves and CO II Jake Fancher arrived with trailing hounds J.R. and Diamond Rio. The dogs began trailing at a brisk pace, with the officers and support team having to jog up and down the steep mountainous region in order to keep up. After 10 miles of trailing, they located the lost hunter who expressed his thanks and joy at being found by hugging and petting the dogs.

On November 1, 2008 ASPC-Winslow/Apache Unit got a call from Apache County Sheriff's Office asking for help in searching for an assault suspect who was considered armed and dangerous. CO II Kelly Taggart with trailing hound Louise responded. After being presented with a scent article from the suspect, Louise quickly began leading CO II Taggart and four deputies on the suspect's trail. About two hours later, Louise found the suspect hiding inside of a drainage culvert and the suspect surrendered without incident.

Finding lost hunters and helping law enforcement are only a small part of what our ADC Service Dogs do. Service Dog Program Administrator Ralph Pendergast oversees a force of 84 dogs, with 55 officers who work with the dogs in one form or another. The Department has 50 dual-purpose dogs, German Shepherds who are essential to the security of each of our prisons, working in narcotics detection and security patrol tasks. The ADC also has 30 Bloodhounds who are trained in following a scent and one dog that has been trained for explosives detection.

In addition, ADC has three dogs specially trained in 2008 in detecting and finding cell phones! Pendergast says since cell phones have gotten so much smaller over the years, finding phones that are smuggled in to inmates has become a concern. Our three "Cell Phone" dogs have been trained to sniff out odors that are unique to cell phones, including cell phone chargers. Pendergast says the program has been successful with numerous finds and they are in the process of getting this resource to every ADC Institution.

ADC Service Dogs work an average of six years before retiring to the home of their officer, who will then get a new dog and begin the training process anew. Twice a year, COTA hosts a nine-week Service Dog Academy, which is also open to other law enforcement agencies. The ADC Service Dog Academy has the only lesson plan in Arizona approved and supported by the Arizona Peace Officer and Standards Commission. ADC Officers and their dogs receive 320-hours of training in security patrol, detection, trailing and other classes. This training allows the dogs to become what every dog aspires to be, an ADC Service Dog!



COTA CORNER

The Arizona Department of Corrections congratulates the recent graduates of the Correctional Officer Training Academy. COTA is located on 40 acres in the foothills west of Tucson, with additional classes held at ASPC-Perryville and other locations as necessary and twice a year COTA also hosts a K-9 Academy. COTA provides training for ADC cadets and tenured staff and for county jails and other detention centers around the state. The curriculum encompasses 360 contact hours and the graduating cadets receive 21 Community College credits, which they can then use towards higher-level education degrees. Cadets are trained and assessed in six different areas including academics, physical fitness, firearm qualification, self defense, professional behavior and ethical standards. Following nine weeks of training, graduates are sworn in as Correctional Officers.

COTA Class #829



Class Lt.: Lisa Oberle
Class Sgt.: Norma Rubio

Advisor: CO II Jose Cruz
Advisor: CO II Richard Quiroga

CLASS ROSTER

John H. Alba, Calvin Barcena, Jose M. Barnett, Mark D. Campbell, Tonal Carreras, David R. Ciccati, Lucino Contreras, Crystal Cook, Jorge A. Garcia, Shad K. Gardner, Christopher George, John A. Glavin, Hipolito Guerrero, Hazel B. Hadley, Allison L. Jacobsen, Willie G. Johnson Jr., Anthony P. Johnston, Dennis S. Kruse, Stephanie Madrid, Jeffrey T. McIntyre, Claudia L. Moreno-Najera, Jonathan S. Nettles, Amber M. Pace, Robin K. Payne, Christopher Platt, Kendrick Roundtree, June J. Simolang-Molo, James C. Walker, Barbara M. Washington, Daniel B. Wise.

CLASS AWARDS

Professionalism: Calvin Barcena; Barbara M. Washington. Academic Achievers: James C. Walker - 95.02%; Crystal Cook - 94.10%; Anthony P. Johnston - 93.73%. Firearms Expert: Daniel B. Wise - 244; Anthony P. Johnston - 243; James C. Walker - 243; Amber M. Pace - 242

COTA Class 830



Class Lt.: Lisa Oberle
Class Sgt.: Alfred Martinez

Advisor: CO II Connie Patricia Sanchez-Valdez
Advisor: CO II Alfredo Montano

CLASS ROSTER

Thomas J. Anderson, Suzanne K. Coon, Seth M. Ford, David E. Gomez, Timothy L. Hawk, Daniel Hernandez, Kelvin W. Horten, Samantha J. Johnston, Jaclyn M. Metcalf, Candy M. Navarrete, Derek L. Raetz, Jose M. Ramos Jr., Kelly Rodriguez, Anna M. Saiz, Gabriel Samora, Misty G. Saucedo, Jessica Spencer, Casey L. Stroumronald, Teeter, Jesus A. Vizcarra, Dorota Wielogorska.

CLASS AWARDS

Professionalism: Samantha J. Johnston; Gabriel Samora. Academic Achievers: Jose M. Ramos, Jr. - 93.36%; Seth M. Ford - 91.51%; Jaclyn M. Metcalf - 89.30%. Firearms Expert: Seth M. Ford - 249; Jose M. Ramos, Jr. - 242

COTA Class 831



Class Lt.: Lisa Oberle
Class Sgt.: Tom Dimmick

Advisor: CO II Denise Ochoa
Advisor: CO II Paula Dudley

CLASS ROSTER

Monique M. Alvarado, Grant A. Bingham, David J. Bishop, Ervin L. Cannon, David P. Carl, Stacey W. Chambers, Jose R. ChavezJuan, Cruz Jr., Amber K. Haroldson, Derrick E. Lawson, Dawn J. Lee, Regina M. Lewis, Rachelle R. Lopez, Reaford Mcilwaine, Alayna R. McNulty, Ernest M. Melendez, Lana R. Miller, Liborio A. Ortiz, Christina Padilla, Jose I. Portillo, Adon D. Rippey, Joseph E. Sellers, Melinda M. Shalley, Suenwesa Y. Soohafyah, Marco A. Valencia, Manuel E. Velasquez, Jeremy T. Willis.

CLASS AWARDS

Professionalism: Monique M. Alvarado. Academic Achievers: Melinda M. Shalley - 96.31%; Jeremy T. Willis - 96.13%; Joseph E. Sellers - 92.99%. Firearms Expert: Joseph E. Sellers - 247; Ernest M. Melendez - 242; Marco A. Valencia - 242; Ervin L. Cannon - 241; Rachelle R. Lopez - 241.

COTA Class 832



Class Lt.: Lisa Oberle
Class Sgt.: Shawn Sanders

Advisor: CO II Judy Ebeling
Advisor: CO II Benjamin Rodriguez

CLASS ROSTER

Emerson Benally, Shane D. Bourgeois, Dianne C. Busch, Duffy S. Campbell, Jeffrey L. Choate, Christopher J. Colwell, Telfel Guerrero Morillon, Michael S. Irvine, Darryl F. McEachern, Estella K. Monroy, Oscar Reyna, Lorena I. Romano, German Vargas II, Juan Victoriano.

CLASS AWARDS

Professionalism: Darryl F. McEachern. Academic Achievers: German Vargas II - 97.97%; Dianne C. Busch - 97.79%; Darryl F. McEachern - 97.23%. Firearms Expert: Emerson Benally -240.