



The ROCKET

Fall/Winter 2007

Chairperson's Message

On behalf of the ROCKS, Inc. National Board, please accept our sincere appreciation for your commitment to the ROCKS in 2007. Your accomplishments are broad in scope and depth, and speak volumes for your dedication to our ideals: Concern, Dedication, and Professionalism. Despite your grueling optempo in general, the deployment of many ROCKS abroad, and/or in harms way, and many challenges within our Army, such as recruiting, sustaining, training, and equipping the force, you have found a way to serve and support this organization.

Your collective accomplishments are too numerous to detail here, but know that your support is crucial and the lifeblood of the ROCKS. How are you making a difference? You've raised thousands of dollars for various scholarships; you are actively supporting ROTC students in general, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities specifically; you are encouraging and preparing young people towards a life filled with opportunities; you are overcoming challenges at work, home, and in the community at large; you are taking the time to assist each other; and through your active mentoring, you are educating and helping cadets and officers to succeed. In other words, you continue to serve and excel despite seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

As we enter 2008, I'd like to encourage you to focus on 3 priority areas: Mentoring, Membership, and Resourcing. Why these areas? The ROCKS, Inc., understands the enormous short and long-term benefits associated with mentoring. There is clear and convincing evidence that engaging in relationships with experienced professionals who have your best interests at heart can serve as a powerful mechanism for growth and opportunity. In other words, if you have a chance to learn from successful role models who you trust, how can one not benefit from this experience? Additionally, the ROCKS are unwaveringly committed to outreaching to ROTC cadets and young officers to help equip them to succeed under very daunting circumstances.

In order to accomplish many of the ROCKS goals, increasing membership must be a priority. Realizing that today's young LTCs, Majors, and below have the potential to serve as future Army leaders, we are committed to their development today. Being a member of the ROCKS today

can be of enormous benefit to these leaders of tomorrow. Regarding resourcing – the reality for every organization is that it takes adequate resources to accomplish its goal. We are committed to sustaining our solvency to continue serving our membership and our overarching strategic goals.

Whether you are a member of a ROCKS Chapter, Interest Group, or individual member, I want you to know that the National Board stands ready to assist you in your efforts and I'd like to encourage each of you to "Make the Difference that Counts" in 2008. If you are eligible to join the ROCKS, I highly encourage you to participate in ROCKS events and join a local Chapter or Interest Group. Even if you are not near a ROCKS Chapter, you can still join using the application at the end of this issue and posted online.

A major event that directly addresses our goal of mentoring, teaching, and equipping you for the future will be held in the spring of 2008 at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The ROCKS, Inc., National Leadership and Training Conference will be held on 3-5 April and promises to be an incredible opportunity to hear from senior Army leaders. Details are included in this issue.

Finally, on a sad note, we'd like to extend our sincere condolences to the Doctor family in their loss of LTG(R) Henry Doctor on 7 December 2007. A longtime and staunch supporter of the ROCKS, Inc., General Doctor was a selfless servant-soldier who overcame incredible odds to ultimately serve at the highest levels in the U.S. Army, in the civil sector, in his church, and his community. You can read more about General Doctor in this edition.

My best wishes to you, your families and significant others for a healthy and happy New Year in 2008!

Clara L. Adams-Ender

Chairperson
National Board, ROCKS, Inc.



National Board of the ROCKS, Incorporated

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Atlanta, GA	COL Maurice Buchanan	maurice.buchanan@us.army.mil
Carlisle Barracks, PA	COL Clarence D. Turner	clarence.turner@us.army.mil
European Officers, Germany	COL Rodney McCants	rodney.mccants@us.army.mil
Fort Benning, GA	CPT Fiffiney Dimery	tiffiney.dimery@benning.army.mil
Fort Bragg, NC (All American)	LTC Maria Miller	maria.miller@us.army.mil
Fort Hood, TX (Phantom Warrior)	CPT Karel Butler	karelb1911@msn.com
Fort Jackson, SC (James Webster Smith)	COL(R) Maxie Joye	maxiejoye@yahoo.com
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Fort Lee, VA	CW4 Chester Morris	chester.h.morris1@lee.army.mil
Fort Leonard Wood, MO (Harry Truman)	LTC Oliver Saunders	oliver.saunders@us.army.mil
Fort Polk, LA (Gator ROCKS)	MAJ Michael Peeler	michael.peeler@polk.army.mil
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IN MEMORIUM
LtG Henry Doctor, Jr., USA (Ret)



A ROCKS, Inc., Life member, Lieutenant General Henry Doctor, Jr. US Army (Retired) was born on August 23, 1932 in Oakley, SC to the late Henry Doctor, Sr. and Annie Aiken Doctor, and died on December 7, 2007. His life journey between birth and death is full of many accomplishments but none meant more than loving and serving God, his family, the Army and people. General Doctor grew up in a Christian home on the family farm in Oakley, SC. He met his wife, the former Janie M. Manigault while in High School and they married at Ft. Lewis, Washington in 1956.

After graduation from Berkeley Training High School in Moncks Corner, SC, General Doctor attended the South Carolina State University, received his BS Degree, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. He completed 35 years of service in the U.S. Army and served with distinction in leadership positions from platoon, company, battalion, brigade, major commands, division, and Department of the Army Staff. His last three assignments before retirement were:

- Chief of Staff, US Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command, Alexandria, VA
- Commanding General, 2nd Infantry Division, Eighth US Army, Republic of Korea, and
- The Inspector General of the US Army, the Pentagon, Washington, DC.

During his service years, he received a Master of Arts Degree from Georgia State University. He loved the Army and after retirement stayed engaged as a mentor of soldiers and a supporter of the Department of Defense.

After retirement, General Doctor served in numerous business and civic leadership positions but none of his business activities meant more to him than his work with the Military Magnet Academy in Charleston, South Carolina and supporting the South Carolina State University ROTC program and its graduates.

General Doctor received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws from the South Carolina State University and an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Military Science from The Citadel, the military college of South Carolina.

General Doctor was a member of Greater Little Zion Baptist Church in Fairfax, Virginia where he served as

Chairman of the Deacon Ministry for five years. He served as President of the Mount Vernon Baptist Association from 2001 – 2002.

General Doctor is survived by his loving wife Janie M. Doctor; his children Constanza (Merlin) Smith, Lori (Richard) Williams, Cheryl (Terry) Mack, five grandchildren; one great-grandchild; two brothers; one sister; and other relatives and friends. His son, Kenneth Doctor preceded him in death.

Atlanta Chapter, Celebrates its 1st Anniversary and Scholarship Award Ceremony

By MAJ Catina Ricks

The highlight of an incredible journey from Interest Group, to Chapter, to the award of its first academic scholarships took place on 15 June 2007, at the Commons, Fort McPherson, GA, a day that also marked the celebration of the Chapter's 1-year anniversary. It was a special occasion in the lives of the Chapter members, scholarship recipients, National Chairman's Award recipients, newly elected officers, and the Atlanta Chapter's general membership.

After Major Angela Bowie provided the invocation, Colonel (Retired) Maurice "Buck" Buchanan welcomed invited guests and visitors on behalf of Colonel Robert "Kenny" Kendrick III, Outgoing President, Atlanta Chapter, ROCKS, Inc. He stated, "This ceremony marks our first year anniversary, and it was definitely a rough ride! The Chapter has so many dedicated members who are actively involved in the Fort McPherson community and the Atlanta Chapter." The guest speaker for the ceremony was Brigadier General Augustus Collins, Director, Mobilization Forces, HQ, FORSCOM, who earnestly supports the Atlanta Chapter and has given so much to ensure that the Chapter continues to flourish.

Scholarships were awarded to four deserving students in pursuit of academic excellence: Miss Sherita Robinson, Booker T. Washington High School, Atlanta; Mr. Alvin Miller, Daniel M. Therrell High School, Atlanta; Mr. Lazarius Davidson, Georgia State University, and Mr. Milton Maddox, Saint Leo University. The Chapter's Scholarship Fund is dedicated to recognizing Sophomore, Junior, and Senior students requiring financial assistance to continue their educational endeavors. To be eligible for consideration, students must be in good academic standing and must be nominated by their Professors of Military Science (JROTC/ROTC).

During the last year, the Atlanta Chapter worked hard to accomplish the milestones established in its strategic plan.

Acknowledging the hard work and successes of those efforts was both rewarding and worthy of recognition as the Chapter celebrated its first anniversary. The Atlanta Chapter is comprised of leaders and mentors who strive to ensure that their colleagues and ROTC cadets succeed. Brigadier General Augustus Collins stated "You have the mission of providing professional development and social interaction to strengthen the officer corps. Your field of labor could be the ROCKS foundation."



Guest Speaker and Chapter Mentor, BG Augustus Collins, Director, Mobilization Forces, HQ, Forces Command.

After the award presentation, COL(R) Maurice Buchanan, (newly elected President, Atlanta Chapter, ROCKS, Inc., ended the ceremony by stating, "As I stated earlier, it's been a rough journey; however, through the leadership of Kenny and a great group of officers, we have accomplished great things. One thing that I'm most proud of is the will and ability to help our young people. I only wish that Kenny was here to share in the experience of commemorating this first Anniversary and Scholarship Ceremony. I plan to work with the newly installed officers to accomplish greater things, not only for enhanced officership, but within the Atlanta community."



*Atlanta Chapter's 2007 Scholarship Recipients
(L-R): Sherita Robinson, Alvin Miller, Lazarius Davidson, and Milton Maddox*

The Atlanta Chapter, ROCKS, Inc., meets the first Thursday of every month, 1130- 1230, Army Community Service building, Fort McPherson, GA. For more information, contact CPT Temarkus Caldwell, Atlanta Chapter, ROCKS, Inc., Corresponding Secretary, COM: (404) 464-2351; DSN: 367-2351, Email: temarkus.caldwell@us.army.mil.

ROCKS SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER

Its scholarship time again! The ROCKS will once again oversee two scholarships for ROTC cadets and perspective ROTC cadets; the RC Cartwright Scholarship and an unlimited number of Army four-year ROTC Scholarships. Applications for the RC Cartwright Scholarship are due at ROCKS Headquarters no later than **March 7, 2008**. We will offer ten RC Cartwright Scholarships. These ten will be available to four Sophomores, four Juniors, and two Seniors. Winners will be announced on **March 14, 2008**.

Paper applications for the Army four-year ROTC Scholarship must be cleared through ROCKS Headquarters, Attn: BG (Ret) Simms before they are submitted to Cadet Command. The due date for this submission is **March 7, 2008**. All applications and information can be found at the ROCKS website <http://www.rocksync.org/>.

Contact Information: BG (Ret) Simms
(571) 213-2123 (cell) / (703) 723-9192 (home)
emsimms44@yahoo.com or fsimms44@yahoo.com

All American Chapter 10th Anniversary Awards & Scholarships Dinner

By LTC Conrado B. Morgan

The ROCKS, Inc. - All-American Chapter, conducted its 10th Anniversary Awards and Scholarships Dinner on June 22, 2007 at the Fort Bragg Officers' Club. The guest speaker was MG John R. "HAWK" Hawkins, III, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff (G-1). MG Hawkins words were very valuable to all in attendance. He spoke of "priming the pump" which means that we must help those that are coming behind us to be successful in life, in the military and civilian world. The MC for the dinner was CPT Steve Conrad and LTC Timothy Lance gave the invocation and benediction. CPT Tennille Gladden was the chairperson for the event. CPT Lashanda Mack-Caver made the scholarship presentation to Cadet Sinde Joseph and Cadet Toney Bernard, Jr. both of Fayetteville State University Army ROTC. CPT Mack-Caver and LTC John McLeod are to be commended for their fund raising efforts for the chapter's

scholarships. CPT Fredrick Moss assisted LTC Conrado Morgan, former Chapter President, in presenting the All-American Chapter Presidential Certificates of Appreciation to LTC Maria Miller, MAJ Margaret Thomas, CPT Tennille Gladden, CPT Fredrick Moss and CPT Steve Conrad. The All-American Chapter Leadership Awards went to Colonel Darline Deleston, Colonel James Granger, CPT Tyrone Nelson and CPT Tangela Robinson. The All-American Chapter Bobby Burke Award winner was MAJ Rafeal Boyd and the All-American Chapter ROCKS of the Year Awards went to BG Rodney O. Anderson and LTC Conrado Morgan. Lieutenant Morgan presented MG Hawkins with an All-American Chapter Coin of Excellence, Certificate of Appreciation and Iron Mike statue.



LTC Morgan congratulates scholarship recipient

Hampton Roads Chapter Scholarship Banquet - "An Evening to be Remembered"

By COL David Glover & LTC (Ret) Wendell Turner

The grand ballroom at the Fort Eustis Officers Club was the setting for the 2007 Hampton Roads Chapter Scholarship Banquet. The beautifully adorned ballroom was filled with families and friends of four JROTC cadets chosen to be the 2007 scholarship recipients. The four students, Kristine Salvador (Salem H.S./Old Dominion University), Larrine Lincoln (Deep Creek H.S./Winston Salem State University), Seniah Martin (Woodrow Wilson H.S./Christopher Newport University), and Vanessa Pfeiffer (Hampton H.S./Montgomery College) represented Army, Air Force and Navy JROTC programs.

The Hampton Roads Chapter membership showed strong support for this event selling over 120 tickets. Each student was awarded a \$1000 scholarship.

A number of distinguished guests were on hand to join in the celebration. Among them were MG and Mrs. Byron Bagby, Commandant, Joint Forces Staff College, and Mr.

and Mrs. Herman Wright, filmmaker and producer of the Long Black Line. The guest speaker for the evening was MG Abraham Turner, Deputy Commanding General for Operations and Training, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. General Turner delivered the evening's keynote address on Junior Officer Leadership for our Armed Forces. His address included many personal lessons learned, family stories and was well received by all.

R.C. Cartwright Annual Scholarship Campaign

The National Board would like to thank the following individuals for donating more than \$18,400.00 to the R.C. Cartwright Scholarship Fund.

Adams-Ender, Clara L. BG USA (Ret) / Lake Ridge, VA
Armstrong, Betram B. COL USA / Fallon, IL
Aikens, Herb E. COL USA (Ret) / Durham, NC
Allen, Fannie L. LTC USAR / Alexandria, VA
Allen, Charles D. COL USA / Carlisle, PA
Banks, Jr., Quentin W. LTC USA (Ret) / Clinton, MD
Barnes, Bernard A. COL USA (Ret) / Alexandria, VA
Bethea, Mearen COL USA / Carlisle, PA
Bethea, Robert L. COL USA / Carlisle, PA
Bingham, Raymond L. COL USA / Centreville, VA
Black, Frederick H. COL USA (Ret) / Chapel Hill, NC
Blackmon, Alvin CPT USA / Blue Bell, PA
Bosley, James M. COL USA (Ret) / Arlington, VA
Bowles, Joyce G. COL USA (Ret) / Lanham, MD
Braye, Rubye H. LTC USA (Ret) / Wilmington, NC
Brew, Marilyn D. LTC(P) USA / Columbia, MD
Brickey, Cynthia C. COL USAR (Ret) / Hertford, NC
Brooks, Ananias LTC USA (Ret) / Springfield, VA
Brown, Muriel L. LTC USA / APO, AE
Bryant, Dinah CPT USA / Silver Spring, MD
Cadonia, Sherian G. BG USA (Ret) / Mansura, LA
Capers, Norris R. LTC USA (Ret) / Washington, DC
Carlton, Keyia 2LT USA / APO, AE
Cary, Richard L. COL USA (Ret) / Jefferson, TX
Clarke, Gail W. LTC USA / Alexandria, VA
Coats, Julius COL USA / Yorktown, VA
Colbert, Rolanda MAJ USA / College Park, CA
Cromartie, Eugene R. MG USA (Ret) / Ft. Washington, MD
Cross, Jesse R. BG USA / Ft. Lee, VA
Dean, Arthur T. MG USA (Ret) / Great Falls, VA
Dillard, Oliver W. MG USA (Ret) / Greensboro, NC
Evans, Stanley L. COL USA (Ret) / Oklahoma City, OK
Franklin, Mary L. COL USA / Fort Washington, MD
Gillespie, Sr., Lawrence BG USA (Ret) / Fairfax, VA
Green, Donovan G. LTC USA / Fredericksburg, VA
Gregg, Arthur J. LTG USA (Ret) / Dumfries, VA
Hammond, Verle B. COL USA (Ret) / McLean, VA
Hampton, George M. LTC USA (Ret) / Dale City, VA
Harding, Robert A. MG USA / Dunn Loring, VA
Harper, Paul 1LT USA / Minneapolis, MN
Harris, Loston COL USA (Ret) / Fairfax, VA
Harris, John R. COL USA (Ret) / Burke, VA

Harris, Cecil B. COL USA (Ret) / Potomac, MD
Harris, III, Charles E. LTC USA / Catonsville, MD
Henderson, Joyce LTC USA (Ret) / Alexandria, VA
Henry, Terrence MAJ USA / Warner Robins, GA
Henry, Frederick COL USA / Fairfax, VA
Hensley, Willie L. LTC USA (Ret) / Fairfax Station, VA
Hobbs, Quincy C. COL USA / Voorhees, NJ
Hoffmeister, Thaddeus A. CPT USA / Washington, DC
Holden, Charles LTC USA (Ret) / Newport News, VA
Holmes, Arrington D. CW1 USA / Fayetteville, NC
Honor, Edward LTG USA (Ret) / Alexandria, VA
Howard, Edward B. COL USA (Ret) / Alexandria, VA
Jackson, James A. CW5 USA / APO, AE
Jernigan, Lafonda F. LTC USA / Alexandria, VA
John, Victor COL USA / Columbia, MD
Johnson, Chester F. COL USA (Ret) / Chantilly, VA
Johnson-Brown, Hazel W. BG USA (Ret) / Wilmington, DE
Jones, Martina L. MAJ USA / APO, AE
Korando, Deitra MAJ USA / Fayetteville, NC
Lindsey, Ross B. CPT USA / Lawton, OK
Mann, John E. LTC USA (Ret) / Baltimore, MD
Marks, Tommy L. LTC USA (Ret) / Woodbridge, VA
Marshall, Nikia M. CPT USA / Davenport, IA
Marshall, Jr., James L. COL USA (Ret) / Silver Spring, MD
McClenney, Lucretia M. COL USA / Alexandria, VA
McLeod, Ronald LTC USA (Ret) / Alexandria, VA
Meade, Clarence COL USA / Stockbridge, GA
Mercer, Warren H. COL USA (Ret) / Wayne, PA
Middleton, Norris C. COL USA (Ret) / Kingstowne, VA
Moore, Felicia R. MAJ USA / East Point, GA
Nabors, Robert L. MG USA / Fairfax Station, VA
Newby, Clarence COL USA (Ret) / Gainesville, VA
Nix, Carolyn H. LTC USA / MeBane, NC
Osborne, Tommy T. COL USA (Ret) / Fairfax, VA
Pierre, Delesia E. LTC USA / Stockbridge, GA
Powell, Colin L. GEN USA (Ret) / McLean, VA
Price, George B. BG USA (Ret) / Columbia, MD
Proctor, Hawthorne L. MG USA (Ret) / Clifton, VA
Quiles, Shirley I. LTC USA / Chester, VA
Richie-Melvan, Sharon I. COL USA / Inverness, FL
Roberts, Welford C. LTC USA (Ret) / South Riding, VA
Robinson, Mildred E. Mrs. Assoc. / Alexandria, VA
Russ, William H. MG USA / Alexandria, VA
Sands, Clifton A. COL USA (Ret) / Ft. Washington, MD
Saunders, Olin E. COL USA / Fayetteville, NC
Scott, Mary A. CPT ARNG / Sacramento, CA
Shaw, Rayford L. COL USA (Ret) / El Paso, TX
Shepard, Richard L. LTC USA / APO, AE
Simmons, Joseph J. HON / Woodbridge, VA
Solomon, Billy K. LTG USA (Ret) / Gainesville, VA
Speers, Kristin 1LT USA / APO, AE
Spells, Miriam A. LTC USA / Newark, DE
Strong, Carol L. LTC USA / Cypress, TX
Sunday, Natasha S. CPT USA / APO, AP
Tabb, Vandoster I. LTC USA (Ret) / Ft. Washington, MD
Tapscott, Donald A. COL USA (Ret) / Nokesville, VA
Thomas, David L. COL USA (Ret) / Springfield, VA
Thompson, Frances L. LTC USA (Ret) / Severn, MD
Thornton, Charles R. COL USA (Ret) / Prince George, VA
Ward, Emmett J. LTC USA (Ret) / Virginia Beach, VA
White, Ulysses X. COL USA (Ret) / Manassas, VA
Whitehead, Jr., James W. COL USA (Ret) / Accokeek, MD

Williams, Bobbie L. LTC USA / Stafford, VA
Williams, Howard M. COL USA (Ret) / Virginia Beach, VA
Williams, Samuel CPT USA / Keller, TX
Woolfork, Monikka A. CPT USA / Ft. Rucker, AL
Younger, Kenneth M. COL USA (Ret) / Alexandria, VA

IT'S NOT TOO LATE! Remember, as you plan your tax exempt donations for 2007, please consider donating to the R.C. Cartwright Scholarship Foundation. One hundred per cent of your donation goes to the Foundation for scholarships. You can do so by contacting our office at (888) 762-5757 or by mailing your donation payable to The ROCKS, Inc. to P.O. Box 471212, Forestville, MD 20753.

Harvard University Pays Tuition

In an effort to increase the diversity of its undergraduate student population Harvard University will pay tuition for students from low-income families. Harvard's president Lawrence H. Summers said, "When only 10 percent of the students in elite higher education come from families in lower half of the income distribution, we are not doing enough. We are not doing enough in bringing elite higher education to the lower half of the income distribution."

If you know of a family earning less than \$60,000 a year with an honor student graduating from high school, Harvard University wants to pay the tuition.

To find out more about Harvard offering free tuition for families making less than \$60,000 a year visit Harvard's financial aid website at: <http://www.fao.fas.harvard.edu/> or call the school's financial aid office at (617) 495-1581.

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO TELL YOUR STORY!

We are soliciting your candid feedback regarding the benefits and challenges of mentoring in general, or a mentoring relationship that you are currently in, or had in the past. Why not share your experience so that it might encourage, enlighten, or benefit others? Please submit your input for the next ROCKET to: therocks@aol.com no later than 11 April 2008.

James Webster Smith Chapter Gets “Back to Mentoring”

MAJ Matthew Green & CPT LaShada Lewis

On Saturday, 22 September 2007, COL (Ret) Maxie Joye, Chapter President, hosted a “Back to Mentoring” Social Gathering to kick off the Leadership Outreach Program for 2007-2008.



JWS Chapter hosts a “Back to Mentoring” Social Gathering.

On 26 September 2007, the USC Gamecock Battalion Cadet Society held its monthly meeting. During the meeting, selected JWS Chapter members participated in a Leadership Panel Discussion. Members of the panel were MAJ Matthew Green, MAJ Chris Washington, MAJ Cecil Stewart, CPT LaShada Lewis, CPT Luella Frost, 2LT Roger Dominic, SFC Anthony Brooks and SFC Darryl Derrick. All panel members shared their experiences as leaders with the Cadet Society and discussed a variety of topics focused on conducting initial counseling. Panelists discussed their initial experiences as officers. CPT Frost elaborated on her challenges as a NCO prior to attending ROTC and being commissioned. She and CPT Lewis both emphasized the importance of embracing leadership challenges and living Army core values. Experience has shown that soldiers are very observant of their leadership, and are often a reflection of their leaders.

SFC Brooks and SFC Derrick agreed that NCOs play a vital role in a young officer’s first impression of the Army and often lay the groundwork for new officer development. Officers and NCOs agreed on the importance of listening to NCOs, staying in shape by doing and conducting PT, setting the example, and doing the best on every job. CPT Lewis summarized by reminding Cadet Society members of the importance of investing, not only in their career as future officers, but in themselves.

Cadet Timothy Peters, Society President, presented USC gifts to all panelists. The Cadets in attendance really enjoyed the discussion and found the advice and counsel very valuable. They are looking forward to the next guest speaker and/or panel discussion.

At the October 30 meeting, LTC (Ret) Pat Hanly, an Airborne Ranger and USC Business Professor, gave a presentation on the Leadership Course that is being conducted each semester at USC. He stated that there are numerous management courses conducted almost everywhere, but very few leadership courses. Most of the attendees have been junior and senior Cadets, Student Body/Council Presidents, and fraternity and sorority Presidents.

Next Semester, the Mentoring Committee will focus more on presentations at SCSU.



MG Steve Read speaks to the James Webster Smith chapter on “Building the Organization.”



JWS Chapter hosts a financial investment professional development.

All American Chapter's Mentorship Dinner

By Colonel Billy J. Buckner, Public Affairs Officer

On September 13, 2007 more than 70 officers and civilians gathered at the Fort Bragg Officers' Club for their Annual Mentorship dinner.

To begin the evening, the Master of Ceremonies, CPT Steve Conrad, challenged the crowd to locate the youngest officers in attendance. As the group scurried around the room searching for the officers, seven lieutenants were identified with one being under the age of 22, a gold bar recruiter at St. Augustine College. Each officer was presented with an All-American Chapter Coin of Excellence.

COL (Ret) Don Porter, Executive Director of the Economic Development Committee for Raeford and Hoke counties was the guest speaker. He used humor and personal vignettes to make his point, focusing on the importance of the five C's for success: commitment — to God, family and one's health; courage — both physical and moral; competence — obtain a masters degree; candor — be honest and open; and character — maintain your integrity.

Although Porter said all of the five C's are equally as important, his favorite one is character. "Character and integrity are the hallmark," noted Porter. MAJ Margaret Thomas, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, has been a member of the Fort Bragg chapter since July 2006 and said she was impressed with the chapter's mentorship program and ability to reach out to junior officers.

"Character is the non-negotiable foundation for all Army officers," said Thomas. "You don't get anywhere in the military without character. The focus is on our junior officers — values that transcend the organization. ROCKS is a place officers come together to reinforce principles that are common to all officers."

The purpose of the ROCKS is to give junior officers an opportunity to meet with senior officers and to develop networks, direction and guidance, said LTC Maria Miller, chapter president. Miller and the All-American Chapter recognized LTC Conrado Morgan for his many years of service to the chapter including the past two years as chapter president as he transitioned to a new assignment.

The formal portion of the evening concluded with the chaplain's benediction and many of the attendees remained to mingle, eat and dance.

DC Chapter Conducts 16th Annual ROCKS 5 Miler and 2 Mile Run

By LTC Charles Harris, Committee Chair

The Washington DC Chapter of the ROCKS, Inc. successfully conducted its 16th Annual ROCKS 5 Mile Run and 2 Mile Walk on Saturday, September 15th, 2007 at Burke Lake Park in Virginia.



Runners Start

Over 140 walkers and runners participated with a team of over 35 volunteers consisting of ROCKS Members, families and friends. The race is conducted each year to help support DC Chapter scholarship and leadership outreach programs and also provides an outstanding opportunity for the chapter to socialize with local community members. The event is typically held two to three weeks prior to the Annual Army 10-Miler and serves as a great tune-up for that event. The overall male winner for the race was Mr. Jeff Doroh, of Alexandria, VA with a time of 29 minutes and 40 seconds and the overall female winner was Ms. Shannon Hendrix-Buxton of Indianapolis, IN with a time of 34 minutes and 35 seconds. Long time ROCKS Member, MG (Ret) Ike Smith received the first place finisher award in the Male Age 70 and over category.



1st Place ROTC – Morgan State

Also conducted during the event was the Annual ROTC Team Challenge where ROTC cadet teams from area colleges compete for the coveted ROCKS ROTC Challenge

Trophy. This year's 1st place winner was Morgan State University, with Georgetown University finishing 2nd and Howard University finishing 3rd. Also competing in the competition and following closely behind were Norfolk State and Bowie State Universities. Awards were also given for the top three male and female cadets.

The committee chairperson for the event was LTC Chuck Harris. Also serving in key leadership roles were COL (Ret) Al Schenck (Operations), COL(Ret) Andre Barnes (Logistics), COL(Ret) Tony Polk (Refreshment Operations) and LTC Seena Tucker (Registration Operations).

To view race results and photos from the 2007 and 2006 races, please visit www.therocksdn.org.

2007 Battle of the Bay, Football, Food, Fun and Mentorship

By Wendell Turner

The Hampton Roads Chapter (HRC) of ROCKS hosted its 4th Annual Battle of the Bay Sports Day Competition and tailgate on the campus of Norfolk State University in support of the Army ROTC cadets of the Hampton University Pirate Battalion and the Spartan Battalion of Norfolk State.

Both cadet battalions showed up ready to compete and have fun on a pleasant, sunny October morning. After assembling and setting up the game sites, cadets and cadre were treated to breakfast provided by members of HRC. Thirty minutes later following a pep talk, the whistle blew and smiles turned into masks of determination as both teams set out to earn scores to win the competition. After a couple hours of the score shifting back and forth during the flag football and volleyball games, the whistle blew signaling the end of the competition. Once the scores were tallied the Pirate Battalion from Hampton University emerged victorious for both sports. The Pirate Battalion was awarded the ROCKS 2007 Battle of the Bay trophy that will stay with Hampton University until next fall.

Cadets were treated to a tailgate menu of barbecued meats and an assortment of tasty home-made dishes provided by the cadre of both schools, members of HRC, and a host of friends and family. After the meal the cadets were given raffle tickets to participate in a raffle coordinated by HRC ROCKS members. The items given away were ideal for life in the dormitory. In all, there were close to 40 gifts distributed to cadets from both schools.

The final event of the day was undoubtedly the most significant and the most purposeful. Cadets from both universities were encouraged to complete a questionnaire

where they indicated their professional desires, hobbies and goals as well as giving consent to become part of HRC's professional mentoring program. The program pairs ROCKS members with willing cadets for the rest of the school year. Twenty three cadets eagerly signed up for this pilot program and the mentoring process has already begun.



Pirate Battalion receiving the ROCKS 2007 Trophy

Based on all the competitive action, mentorship, fun, and the full exercise of bragging rights on site, the stage for Battle of the Bay for 2008 has been set. Battle of the Bay 2008 will be held on the campus of Hampton University and is anticipated to be bigger and better than ever. ROCKS members and their mentees can look forward to another great day of fun, food, and mentorship in the usual HRC ROCKS style.



LTC Harry Greet, HU PMS receives trophy from LTC(R) Wendell Turner

ROCKET DEADLINE
Articles for the Spring ROCKET
should be submitted to
therocks@aol.com no later than
April 11, 2008.

2008 ROCKS National Leadership & Training Conference

**3 - 5 April 2008
Fort Belvoir, VA Officer's Club**

"Building a Bench of Current and Future Army Leaders"

Now is the time to make arrangements to attend the ROCKS 2008 Leadership & Training Conference. This year's program was developed based on input from many of our members. Generals Casey and Ward, and Army General Staff members - G1, G3, and G8 have been invited. Also invited are the Chief of Army Reserve and the Director, Army National Guard and selected commanders and Army Special Staff members.

A limited number of rooms for out of town attendees have been reserved. To make lodging reservations contact the Lodging on Ft. Belvoir at 703-704-8000.

The ROCKS National Board POC's are LTG(R) Ed Honor at 703-751-5617 or edwardhonor532@msn.com BG(R) Earl Simms, at esimms@yahoo.com and COL Ray Bingham, USA, at raymond.bingham@us.army.mil.

On the evening that the conference concludes on 5 April 2008, BG(R) Velma Richardson, President of the Washington, DC Chapter invites all to attend the Spring Gala and Awards Ceremony, also being held at the Ft. Belvoir Officers Club. Visit The Washington, DC Chapter of the ROCKS, Inc. website at www.therocksdc.org after **January 15, 2008** for further details.

We hope to see you there!

Hampton Roads Chapter Officer Professional Development Program

By LTC (Ret) Toney C. Mooney, HR Chapter Historian

The Hampton Roads Chapter prides itself in conducting outstanding Officer Professional Development sessions during its monthly general membership meeting.

The HRC Rocks kicked-off its fall 2007 Officer Professional Development series with presentations. According to LTC (Ret) Wendell Turner, HR Chapter President, the HRC of ROCKS intentionally puts mentorship and leadership into action through its monthly OPD programs. The program is designed to expose members to myriad opportunities for growth, professional

and personal development, and career support in the region and within the services.

At the September meeting, held at Hampton University's (HU) McGrew Conference Center, LTC Steve Van Straten, US Army Accessions Command, and Mr. Jim Ainslie of US Army Cadet Command, gave presentations on Leader Development Advance Course (LDEC), and ROTC Scholarship Incentives respectively.

LTC Van Straten centered his presentation on recent trends about the Leader Development and Assessment Course (LDAC), and specifically cited statistics from Warrior Forge 2007, held Jun-Aug at Ft. Lewis Washington. He emphasized the importance of cadets coming to Warrior Forge motivated, physically fit and ready to hit the ground running. He pointed out the events that most cadets fail: the land navigation, the physical fitness test, and the combat water survival test. He recommended that Professors of Military Science (PMS) include training outside of the campus setting, to give cadets training more similar to what they will encounter at Warrior Forge.



ROTC Cadets from Hampton University socialize and partake of hors d'oeuvre prior to the start of the September meeting

Mr. Ainslie provided a detailed briefing, on the current and projected incentives available to those joining the ROTC program. For example, he talked about how financial assistance was available for 4-year scholarships as long as students meet the minimum criteria of a 2.5 GPA and 920 on the SAT (math/verbal). He also stated that financial incentives are available for students recommended by ROCKS members.

During the October meeting held in the HU Student Union Building, MG (Ret) Wallace Arnold, USA Retired, was the OPD guest speaker. Included in the many jobs MG Arnold has held over the years are Commander of US Army ROTC Cadet Command, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, and most recently, Interim President of Cheyney University in Pennsylvania. MG Arnold spoke about "Preparing for the Future," to HR Chapter members and

their guests, including representatives from the Hampton University ROTC Department, Norfolk State University ROTC Department, and the Tuskegee Airman.



Pictured from the left is LTC(Ret) Wendell Turner, HR Chapter President; MG(Ret) Arnold; and LTC Shurman Vines, HR Chapter Vice President for Administration.

MG Arnold challenged the attendees by saying no matter what your status is in life, always head somewhere. It's not good enough to keep doing well right now, do more, do not slow down, he said. He encouraged everyone to help young people, stating that they need help on building confidence. It is important to ensure that young people receive the mentorship they need because the playing field is still tilted, General Arnold warned. Young people need confidence, focus, and determination to even the playing field. MG Arnold stressed that one way we could help is through scholarship money. Since education helps bridge the gap of middle and lower income families, sending young people to college is key to their confidence and future. He said ROTC is a good scholarship source.



COL (RET) Julius Coats, HR Chapter Senior Advisor, and LTC Vines, chat with NSU ROTC Cadet Battalion Commander Curtis Dotson at the November meeting.

The Norfolk State University ROTC Department, lead by LTC Weldon Harris, hosted the November meeting. The format for this meeting was less formal, without a guest speaker, but just as informative. Several of the Chapter

members, at invitation from LTC Harris, arrived about an hour earlier for the normal monthly meeting in order to spend more time and mentor the NSU Cadets in a smaller group, or one-on-one setting. This helps to put the Cadets at ease, and gave them an opportunity to meet HR Chapter Members and discuss whatever they wanted. Cadet Antonio Jemes, an aspiring medical service corps officer from Portsmouth, VA, volunteered to lead the opening prayer. After reports from the Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs, the OPD portion of the meeting began. Slightly different from the earlier session, this was an "open forum" OPD, where cadets could ask any question, or talk about any issue they liked. Topics ranged from assignments and branch selection, to preparing for a combat tour. The cadets had many questions, and there was a tremendous amount of HRC ROCKS experience present in the meeting to answer those questions.

The HR Chapter plans to take its December meeting to Ft. Eustis, VA, home of the US Army's Transportation Corps.

Commissioner, Georgia Department of Corrections Talks to the Atlanta Chapter

by L TC Valerie Conerway, Vice President (Operations)

The Atlanta Chapter, ROCKS, Incorporated sponsored an Officer Professional Development (OPD) session on 16 October 2007, at the Commons, Fort McPherson, GA. COL (Ret) Maurice Buchanan, President, Atlanta Chapter, opened the session by outlining the development of his proposed "Top 5" goals and milestones for Atlanta Chapter during upcoming year, that include: (1) Performing



COL (Ret) Maurice Buchanan, President, Atlanta Chapter, opening the OPD session.

Community Service: Atlanta Chapter has actively supported the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital and is actively engaged in laying the ground work on another enduring project, adopting one of the local schools; (2) Fundraising: Last year's 70's Flashback Party was a rousing success and was primarily responsible for the Chapter's ability to proudly present its first academic scholarships to four deserving students. It will become an annual fundraising event; (3) Programs: Atlanta Chapter is in the brainstorming stages of hosting an, Annual Spring Gala and energizing its HBCU Program, with proposals to visit Florida A&M University (FAMU), Tuskegee Institute, and Fort Valley State University. We are seeking General Officer Alumni to lead these teams; (4) Standing up an

Atlanta Chapter Website; and (5) Building its OPD Program. Our first OPD session was a successful financial planning presentation, given by Mr. Ronnie Payton, Financial Planner.

In keeping with its mission and charter, Atlanta Chapter continues the execution of its OPD Program with the goal of capitalizing on the wisdom and experiences of successful role models and experienced individuals committed to supporting military officers and enhancing the organization. By preparing leaders to perform well in military and civilian sectors, professional development becomes an investment in the future and fosters the traditions and goals of the organization.

The guest speaker for this OPD session was MG (Ret) James E. Donald, the current Commissioner, Georgia Department of Corrections.

*MG(Ret) James E. Donald,
Commissioner, GA Department of
Corrections*

MG Donald spoke about the current status of the Georgia corrections systems and spoke about the importance of having the “3-P’s” in your life, *purpose, passion and performance*. To have *purpose* in your life, you must have a plan, take ownership of it and pursue it.

“You have to have a plan to see the mountain top.” If that plan doesn’t work out for you, then you need to have a plan B ready in the wings because there is just no way you can get around not being technically and tactically proficient in the military and society. *Passion* is the energy you put into a task to get it done. Your organization will only move as far and as fast as you set the pace, then good *Performance* is critical. *“Hope is not a method,”* stated MG Donald. Today people tend not to focus on what you did in the past, they care more about what you can do now. Always do your best, set a professional standard and stick to it. MG Donald stated, *“...to those who much is given, much is required.”* He also spoke about mentorship and how everyone should have a minimum of three mentors - your supervisor, someone you want to be like, and someone you like and are close to and can talk. He suggested that females should also have a fourth mentor. Having another woman who has gone through the same thing that they are going through today may be very helpful.

MG Donald was appointed as the Commissioner of Corrections by Governor Sonny Perdue in December 2003 upon his retirement after serving 33 years of active duty service. Governor Perdue described MG Donald as “a

results oriented manager who excels at leading people and building teams.” Since his appointment, MG Donald has been the driving force behind transitional changes in one of the State’s largest departments, overseeing the fifth largest prison system in the nation with an annual budget of over \$1 Billion.



MG Donald leads the OPD session.



COL (Ret) Maurice Buchanan, President, Atlanta Chapter, presents MG Donald with the Chapter Certificate of Appreciation

The All American Chapter Mentors NC A&T ROTC Cadets during Veterans Day Program

Four officers from the All American Chapter of the ROCKS, Inc. traveled to North Carolina A&T State University on November 8, 2007 to participate in the university’s Veterans’ Day activities.

MAJ Garrick Benson presented a slide show to the cadets on professional military education, featuring the levels of schooling required of officers, the challenges, the missions, and goals and expectations of today’s Army officer. MAJ Anthony Linyard, CPT Steve Conrad and CPT Frederick Moss facilitated open discussions about serving on active duty.



From left: Major Garrick Benson, Major Anthony Linyard, MG (R) Hawthorne Proctor, Captain Steve Conrad, and Captain Frederick Moss

“Our goal was to provide them [the cadets] with a general overview of life as an officer and to let them know that the struggles they face can be overcome and a rewarding, successful military career is obtainable,” Conrad said.

The day’s events included an honorary luncheon for veterans, a panel discussion and a wreath-laying ceremony. During the luncheon the guest speaker MG (R) Hawthorne “Peet” Proctor encouraged active-duty service members to continue serving our country with pride during his speech entitled “Why Serve!” He stated that the time to serve is now because our country needs us more than ever. He recognized and thanked all of the veterans in attendance for their contributions to the nation’s freedoms.



LTC Jones (on the left) and NC A&T honored fallen Veterans during a wreath-laying ceremony remembering the Aggies who served and gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

The Veteran’s Day celebration was hosted by the university’s Veteran and Disability Support Services and the Aggie Battalion’s ROTC Program. The official event concluded with a wreath-laying ceremony at the Veterans Memorial (on campus) in honor of fallen Aggies.

“This was truly a remarkable event that should not be missed by any veteran.” MAJ Benson said with all of the Rocks members agreeing.

WE NEED YOU!! We are looking for a 1-2 LTs-MAJs who are interested and willing to join the ROCKET publication team. We are committed to having the ROCKET reflect your achievements, interests and concerns. There is no requirement to be in the MD/VA/DC area since most of the coordination is accomplished electronically. Interested?? Please contact theRocks admin office at: therocks@aol.com or 301-669-9319 or toll free at 888-762-5747.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!



National Board of the ROCKS, Inc.

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