

CENTENNIAL SALUTE – 1st Quarter 2007

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE

DENVER CENTENNIAL CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

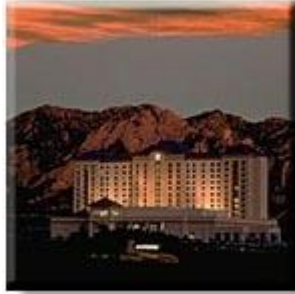


The Denver Centennial Chapter Association of the United States Army (AUSA)

Cordially invites you to the **Seventh Region Annual Meeting**

11 -14 April 2007

Omni Interlocken Resort
Broomfield, CO 80021



“Army Strong through Strong Partnerships”

Guest Speakers

GEN Gordon R. Sullivan

President & Chief Operating Officer, AUSA

Mr. Addison D. Davis, IV

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
Environment, Safety and Occupational Health

Dr. Randall H. Groth

Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for Arizona

LTG Joseph R. Inge

Deputy Commander, United States Northern Command,
and Vice Commander, U.S. Element, North American
Aerospace Defense Command

MG Thomas P. Bostick

Commanding General, US Army Recruiting Command

CSM Leon Caffie

Command Sergeant Major, US Army Reserve Command

COL (R) John E. Davies

Director of Regional Activities, AUSA

LTC (R) Jack J. Isler

President, Seventh Region, AUSA

CSM (R) Michael S. Levine

Director of Chapter Activities and Operations, AUSA

CSM (R) Jimmy W. Spencer

Director of NCO Affairs, AUSA

Mrs. Sylvia E. J. Kidd

Director of Family Programs, AUSA

Mr. Norman Campbell

Director of Information Systems, AUSA



**See Registration form in this Newsletter
Or visit our Web Page for complete Details and
Speaker Biographies**

<http://chapters.ousa.org/denver/events/>

The 2007 **AUSA Region VII Meeting** is being hosted by the **Denver Centennial Chapter**.

Region VII President Jack Isler and Chapter President Sam Thiessen have announced the dates and location for the conference to **AUSA National Headquarters** and to our fellow Region chapters. The dates are, starting Thursday morning, April 12, 2007, at the **Omni Interlocken Resort Hotel** in Broomfield, Colorado.

You are highly encouraged to participate as you can. Interesting and informative speakers have been scheduled for the conference and **AUSA President General Gordon Sullivan** is scheduled to be present.

If you can get involved as a volunteer, please let Charles Rodgers, (303) 652-2219, or Paul Baldwin, (303) 972-3546 know. We'll need all the help we can get, and we want to get maximum participation from our membership and show the **Denver Centennial** colors and spirit!

<http://chapters.ousa.org/denver/events/>



In this Issue:

Page

<i>Denver to Host AUSA Region VII Meeting</i>	1
<i>'Army Strong' a slogan for all soldiers</i>	2
<i>Army Recruits 200th Participant in PaYS Program</i>	2
<i>Recruiting Referral Bonus Raises to \$2,000</i>	2
<i>Colorado Artillerymen, Aviators deploy for Operation Hay Drop</i>	3
<i>Gates Promises Fewer, Shorter, More Predictable Guard Deployments</i>	3
<i>Armed Forces Vacation Club®</i>	4
<i>Army Personnel Eligible for Home Copy of Microsoft Office</i>	4
<i>Low Prices Meet Their Match at AAFES</i>	4
<i>Army introduces new pin for retired Soldiers</i>	4
<i>New DoD Mobile News and Information</i>	4
<i>AUSA Region VII Meeting Registration Form</i>	5
<i>Denver Centennial 2007 Annual Golf Tournament</i>	Cover

'Army Strong' – a slogan for all Soldiers

After 18 years of "Be all you can be" and five years as an "Army of one," the Army has adopted "Army Strong" as its new slogan and the focus of a new advertising campaign that showcases the strength of Soldiers past, present and future.



The Army Strong campaign builds on the foundation of previous recruiting campaigns by highlighting the Army's transformative power. Army Strong captures the defining experience of U.S. Army Soldiers.

"Army Strong is a strength personified by every U.S. Army Soldier – Active Duty, Army Reserve, National Guard, Cadet and Retired," LTG Robert Van Antwerp Jr., Commander of the US Army Accessions Command, said. "This campaign will show Americans that there is strong, then there's Army Strong. I am both inspired and confident that the campaign will build on the positive momentum within our recruiting program."

Army Strong was developed to address the interests and motivations of those considering a military career. The campaign also speaks to those who understand and support the decision of a family member, friend or employee to serve.

The new campaign was announced by Secretary of the Army Francis J. Harvey at the 2006 Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. The campaign highlights the strength the Army finds and forges in young Americans. Soldiers consistently take pride in making a difference for themselves, their families, their communities and the Nation. Army Strong conveys the message that there is a career, a challenge, a mission, and the opportunity to become a stronger person waiting in the U.S. Army.

Source: ARNEWS



Army Recruits 200th Participant in Partnership for Youth Success Program

The Army signed on Raytheon Corporation as its 200th partner in its Partnership for Youth Success program today at the Pentagon.

Secretary of the Army Francis J. Harvey penned his signature to the formal agreement along with Keith Peden, Raytheon's senior vice president for human resources.

PaYS is a strategic partnership program between the Army and a cross-section of U.S. companies and

the public sector that guarantees new Army enlistees an opportunity following their enlistments to work for one of the 127 corporations or 73 public-sector organizations presently participating in the program.

"We want to offer our Soldiers every opportunity to achieve a lifetime of success. Working with partners like Raytheon, who know the value of employing Soldiers, brings us further toward that goal," said Harvey.

Developed by Army Recruiting Command in 2000, PaYS seeks to attract and train young people who want to first serve in the Army, but who also want the opportunity to secure their future success outside the Army upon completion of their military obligation.

Recruits sign a statement of understanding with a specific PaYS partner when enlisting and agree to learn technical skills required by the Army as well as by the PaYS partner. PaYS partners in turn sign memorandums of agreement which obligate them to interview Soldiers for the jobs selected and trained for when they joined the Army.

PaYS is presently only open to new active-duty and reserve-component Army recruits, but PaYS Program Manager Robert A. Qualls at ARC in Fort Knox, Ky., said plans over the next year are to open the program up to more Soldiers.

For more information on PaYS visit www.armypays.com.

Source: J.D. Leipold, ARNEWS

Recruiting referral bonus raised to \$2,000

Bonuses have doubled to \$2,000 for retired Soldiers referring someone with no prior military experience to the Referral Bonus Pilot Program.

The bonus is not paid to those referring immediate family members, including spouses, children, parents, stepparents and siblings.

You can make referrals through the Army Referral System - Sergeant Major of the Army Recruiting Team (ARS SMART) Web site at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/smart>. To use ARS SMART, you'll need an Army Knowledge Online (AKO) user name and password. To make a referral, you'll have to establish a user account and submit personal information such as your social security number to facilitate payment of the bonus. You can also make referrals by calling 1-800-223-3735, ext. 6-0473.

The bonus is paid in two lump sums. The first half is paid when the Soldier begins basic training, and the second half is paid after the Soldier graduates from One-Station Unit Training or Advanced Individual Training.

Source: ARNEWS



Artillerymen, Aviators deploy for Operation Hay Drop

Following on the heels of one of the state's biggest blizzard, was, well, yet another blizzard. A second slow moving snow storm dubbed the "Holiday Blizzard-Part Deux" dumped nearly three feet of snow on the southeastern plains of Colorado Dec. 28.

The bizarre winter double whammy closed major highways and stranded motorists, but also important, it threatened the livelihood of these small ranching communities. Within less than 24 hours some \$1.8 billion in free roaming livestock were trapped on the open range in snow drifts as high as ten feet—with little means of sustained survival.

By New Year's Day, Colorado Governor Bill Owens had signed a state-wide disaster declaration, and called the Colorado National Guard to assist with emergency aviation relief operations in those areas hit hardest by the storm.

The Colorado Guard's 2nd Battalion, 157th Field Artillery Regiment conducted ground missions delivering bales of hay to local ranchers, rescuing residents who had been snowed in and providing assistance to local government agencies.

Field Artillery Soldiers worked diligently bringing smaller loads of hay in trucks to ranchers and farmers who had fewer animals to care for. Although cattle had been the primary focus of the mission, hay drops have been made for horses and other livestock as well.

Unofficially dubbed "Operation Hay Drop," Owens signed a second disaster declaration. Colorado Guard aviators flying Blackhawk and Iroquois helicopters arrived at the Lamar Municipal Airport to begin what would become the second largest emergency aerial livestock feeding effort in a decade. The Oklahoma Guard provided a CH-47 Chinook, and Nebraska also contributed to the effort.

Colorado and Wyoming Air National Guard units were on the scene as well, dropping bales of hay out of a C-130, said Air Guard 2nd Lt. Ed Acosta of the 140th Logistics Readiness Squadron of Colorado. The 140th LRS and the 187th Airlift Squadron of Wyoming, flew out of Pueblo Memorial Airport dropping a total of 45 bails of hay to stranded cattle in the region totaling 1,800 lbs.

"On our first day we fed more than 10,000 head of cattle," said Army Guard Maj. Scott Fredrickson, Air Operations Coordinator for the air relief mission. Ranchers used everything imaginable to blaze

Loss of these cattle would have been devastating not only to the ranchers in the area, but for the

entire state as well. In Colorado, agriculture is the third largest industry, about a \$16 to 17 billion contribution to the state economy, explained Don Ament, the Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture. Two thirds of the agriculture business is livestock.

Soldiers and Airmen say they feel a sense of pride in being able to help out in a time of crisis.

As Army Staff Sgt. John Assaad, a section chief with Battery C, 2-157th said: "It feels real good to help out and do what we can to help these people who need it."

Source: Spc. Jessi Stone, High Ground



Gates Promises Fewer, Shorter, More Predictable Guard Deployments

The Defense Department is committed to implementing changes in policy that will mean fewer, shorter and more predictable deployments for reserve-component troops, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates told the National Guard's 54 adjutants general today.

Speaking to the Adjutants General Association of the United States mid-winter conference, Gates said his goal is for Guard members to serve a one-year deployment no more often than every five years.

This met with resounding applause by the adjutants general, whose state forces have been strained in the past five years supporting federal and state missions of historical proportions.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 275,000 Guard members have been mobilized in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. This, in addition to state emergencies such as snow storms, floods and forest fires, and border-patrol missions have heavily strained pools of National Guard troops available for deployment. In a historical mobilization in response to a natural disaster, 50,000 Guard members were called up in 2005 from across the nation in support of Hurricane Katrina disaster relief.

Until now, National Guard troops called up for the Army's standard one-year tour in Iraq would actually serve for 18 months, including pre-deployment training and post-deployment administrative requirements. Gates is imposing a one-year limitation to the length of deployment for National Guard soldiers effectively immediately, he said.

Gates said the influx of 92,000 troops into the active Army and Marine Corps over the next five years should help take some of the load off of the reserve component. He said the larger pool of ground forces available will make it less likely Guard troops will be needed for deployments.

Source: Fred W. Baker III, AFIS



The Armed Forces Vacation Club® offers

authorized MWR patrons and their families Space-Available vacations for just \$299 USD*. (That's per unit, not per person.) Membership is free, and once you register you can choose from over 3,500 resorts in more than 80 countries. You can even book nightly stays and get spacious accommodations for last-minute trips. So the next time you're given leave, make sure you go — with AFVC.

You are eligible to participate if you are a:

Member of the Uniformed Services or an adult dependant (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy; active duty and both active and inactive reserve and National Guard)

Retired Member of the Uniformed Services or an adult dependant (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy)

Civilian employees of the DoD (appropriated, non-appropriated, or retired) or an adult dependant Disabled American Veteran @ 100% with 2765 ID Card

Call 1-800-724-9988 to obtain your account number or go to <http://www.afvclub.com/register.asp> to register online.

AFVC Online: <http://www.afvclub.com/>

Army Personnel Eligible for Home Copy of Microsoft Office

All Army Soldiers and civilian personnel are now eligible for a licensed copy of Microsoft Office desktop applications to use on a home computer.

The only cost is for packaging, shipping and program administration. An Army Knowledge Online account is required.

"In an information-based Army, this tremendous benefit helps our personnel be better trained in applications they use daily in units and offices," said Vernon M. Bettencourt Jr., deputy chief information officer for G-6.

Applications include Office for Windows and Mac, Visio, Project and OneNote.

Soldier and civilians will pay approximately \$20 for what is typically several hundred dollars, Bettencourt said. The benefit stems from the Army Microsoft Enterprise License Agreement.

For more information, visit the Army Small Computer Program Web site at <https://ascp.monmouth.army.mil/scp/software/hup.jsp>.

Source: Margaret McBride, ARNEWS

Low Prices Meet Their Match at AAFES

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service's "We'll Match It!" initiative has been updated to allow authorized shoppers to compare prices between the exchange and "warehouse clubs."

"Previously, AAFES didn't match warehouse clubs as their shelf prices are offset by required membership fees," said AAFES' Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Master Sgt. Bryan Eaton. "Military families made it clear that while they understood the PX and BX do not charge fees, they still considered it to be the original 'members only' club. Honoring warehouse club prices is just another example of AAFES adapting to meet the expectations of those it serves."

"We'll Match It!" works in two ways. Shoppers who see a price differential of less than \$10 can tell the cashier who will match it on the spot. Customers who report a price difference of greater than \$10 need only to bring a current local competitor's ad to receive the reduced price. In either "We'll Match It" scenario the merchandise being compared must be identical.

Army introduces new pin for retired Soldiers

The Army has created a new pin for retired Soldiers to emphasize your lifelong bond with the Army. The pin combines the Army logo with the word "retired" emblazoned above.

Why a new pin? The Army Chief of Staff's (CSA) Retiree Council recommended replacing the "Retired, Still Serving" lapel pin. The Council asked for a larger pin that could be recognized from afar, be worn on clothing other than a suit jacket, and that would show the continuing bond between the retired Soldier and the Army.

Will you get one? Over the next few months, a packet containing the new pin will be mailed to retired Soldiers. It will also include a letter from the CSA and the Sergeant Major of the Army, underlining the unending commitment between the Army and its retired Soldiers. Completing the packet will be news on the Army Strong theme and the recently increased recruiting referral bonus. It will be sent to the correspondence address on file at the Defense Finance and Accounting Service's Retired Pay Center.

In an effort to provide faster and easier access to current Department of Defense news and information, DoD announced today a new mobile-device-friendly format, available at the new Web address <http://www.DoD.mil/mobile>.

The new format is condensed and customized for use with cell phones, blackberrys and other mobile devices.

SOURCE: DoD News, News Release No. 046-07



**Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Seventh Region Conference
11-14 April 2007
Registration / Optional Events Form**

'Army Strong through Strong Partnerships'

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES	by Mar 11	after Mar 11	# Attending	Cost
<u>Staying</u> at the Omni (Fee includes Presidents Reception and Soaring Eagle Banquet)	\$99.00	\$109.00	X ___ = \$	_____
<u>NOT</u> staying at the Omni (Attending on a daily basis 1 day \$20, 2 days \$35, 3 days \$45) Fee includes Coffee breaks; but does NOT include Presidents Reception or Soaring Eagle Banquet)	Conferee (\$20, \$35, or \$45)		X ___ = \$	_____
	Spouse (\$20, \$35, or \$45)		X ___ = \$	_____
<u>Presidents Reception</u> (Those NOT staying at the OMNI)	\$30.00	\$35.00	X ___ = \$	_____
<u>Soaring Eagle Banquet</u> (Those NOT staying at the OMNI)	\$55.00	\$65.00	X ___ = \$	_____
Registration Fees Sub Total				\$ _____

OPTIONAL EVENT FEES		# Attending	Cost
<u>GOLF</u> - Afternoon 12 or 13 April, 18 Holes (Special rate for conferees)	\$75.00	X ___ = \$	_____
<u>TOUR OF COORS BREWERY</u> - Afternoon, 12 April (2-3 hours)	Transportation \$15.00	X ___ = \$	_____
<u>BOULDER DINNER THEATER</u> - Evening, 12 April Featured: "Ragtime, Music of the 1930's"	Center Seats \$38.00	X ___ = \$	_____
	Side Angle Seats \$35.00	X ___ = \$	_____
	Transportation \$15.00	X ___ = \$	_____
<u>TRIP/TOUR OF MOUNTAINS AND TOWN OF BLACKHAWK</u> Afternoon, 13 April (5 hours) - Activity includes about 2 hours of mountain sightseeing and about 2 1/2 hours of gambling in Blackhawk Casino	Transportation \$15.00	X ___ = \$	_____
<u>EVENT TO BE DETERMINED</u> - Afternoon, 14 April	No Cost	X ___ = \$	0.00
Optional Event Fees Sub Total			\$ _____

It is essential that you indicate total number of participants for each event so that we may make appropriate reservations.

OTHER POSSIBLE OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Denver Zoo, Museum of Natural History, Shopping, Redeveloped Downtown Denver 16th Street Mall, Ball Canning Facility, National Center for Atmospheric Research, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Butter Fly Pavilion and Flatirons Shopping Center

Conferees and Spouses are "on their own" to visit these interesting sites. If enough interest is generated for any potential activities, the Denver Centennial Chapter will endeavor to arrange transportation. If interested in visiting one or more of these optional sites, contact one of the Denver Chapter Representatives for further information after arriving at the Omni Interlocken Resort.

Conference Registration & Optional Event Fees Grand Total \$ _____

Please include your check for the total of the cost of the events you chose and the total registration fee made payable to **Denver Centennial Chapter, AUSA** and mail together with this form to: Treasurer, Lindy Blackburn.

Your Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Phone Number _____

Mail this form together with Check to: Treasurer, Lindy Blackburn, 11350 Night Heron Drive, Parker, CO 80134

Note: You MUST make your own Hotel reservations directly with the Omni. To make lodging reservations, call Omni Interlocken Resort 1-800-THE-OMNI, or 303-438-6000. Breakfasts and Coffee Breaks are included in the lodging rate of \$124.00 per night, Single/double occupancy.

*AUSA: Voice for the Army – Support for the Soldier - 5
Catch us on the Web: <http://chapters.ausa.org/denver/>*

**The Denver Centennial Chapter
Association of the United States Army (AUSA)**

Annual Golf Tournament - 25 June 2007



**7301 West Bowles Avenue - Littleton, Colorado
Phone: 303.932.0199**

Entry Fee: \$125 per Person

Includes Lunch, Prizes and Cart w/Global Positioning System

For Additional Details & Registration Form
See <http://chapters.USA.org/denver/events/>

Or Contact

Richard L. Little at (303) 932-0893 or Paul Baldwin
at (303) 972-3546

AUSA is an IRS registered Non-Profit Organization. Proceeds of this tournament are used to promote the United Services Organization (USO), together with the welfare of Active Duty, Reserve/National Guard and Retired military personnel and veterans.



**The Association of the
United States Army (AUSA)**

A private, non-profit educational organization that supports America's Army - Active, National Guard, Reserve, Civilians, Retirees and family members.

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Voice for the Army – Support for the Soldier

The Denver Centennial Chapter of the AUSA thanks
**Steve Ferency, Senior Sales Manager,
Renaissance Denver Hotel** for printing its
Newsletters



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TREASURER Lindy Blackburn

EVENTS

11-14 April 2007 AUSA Region VII Meeting
8 May 2007 V-E Day
14 June 2007 Army Birthday
25 June 2007 Annual Golf Tournament

CATCH US ON THE WEB: <http://chapters.USA.org/denver/>

AUSA: Voice for the Army – Support for the Soldier