



The REGISTER

Winter 2018

GENERAL HERSHEY REMEMBERED

The annual Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans in Canada-U.S. Unit (ANAVICUS) Breakfast meeting was held February 26, 2018, with Director Benton as one of the guest speakers at the event. ANAVICUS was formed after World War II to maintain the bond established between veterans in Canada and the United States during the war. The organization has a history of distinguished members from both the military and diplomatic professions. Several current and former Selective Service employees and board members are active members in the organization. At the Breakfast the Director spoke about how the Selective Service is proud to stand as a visible symbol of national resolve. The Agency provides the last remaining link between today's all-volunteer military and our society-at-large. Following the breakfast, all were invited to attend the annual wreath-laying ceremony at the Arlington National Cemetery gravesite of Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, former Director of Selective Service and the well-respected and former president of the U.S. Unit. Director Benton joined American Legion National Commander Denise Rohan and placed the Selective Service wreath beside Gen. Hershey's gravesite.

Special thanks to the small crowd of Selective Service employees and American Legion leaders who attended the ceremony.



Director Benton and American Legion National Commander Denise Rohan placed the Selective Service wreath beside Gen. Hershey's gravesite as ANAVICUS President Jake Comer looked on.



SSSRegistration



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SelectiveServ

DIRECTOR BENTON ADDRESSES AMERICAN LEGION CONFERENCE

On Monday, February 26, 2018 Director Benton spoke before the American Legion's 60th Washington Conference National Security Commission Meeting. The Director gave his perspective regarding the future of the Selective Service System and the role of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service. Director Benton stressed that the Selective Service continues to remain vigilant and prepared. Under his leadership the agency is enhancing their capabilities and he has directed that every employee internalize and perform with the understanding that their essential focus is on readiness and registration. He also thanked the American Legion for its continued support.



American Legion National Commander Rohan and Director Benton



Director Benton and ANAVICUS President Comer

DELAWARE STATE DIRECTOR RICHARD C. CECIL RECEIVES AWARD

After almost 14 years of exemplary service as Delaware's State Director for the U.S. Selective Service System, Richard C. Cecil retired on December 31, 2017. He was recognized by Agency Director Donald M. Benton, who presented him the Agency's Distinguished Service Award with Gold Medal.

When presenting the award to Mr. Cecil, Director Benton said, "he has worked tirelessly to promote readiness and registration with the Selective Service." As State Director, he served as liaison between the Selective Service and the Governor's office and represented the Governor regarding all agency matters in Delaware. Under Mr. Cecil's leadership, Delaware achieved a 100 percent registration compliance rate for males 18-25, one of only seven states to achieve such distinction. "He invested countless hours of his own time to fill Local Board Membership and helped the State become 100 percent mobilization ready," Director Benton said.

Mr. Cecil resides in Lewes, Delaware. There he serves as Charter President for the Rehoboth Beach/Lewes Sunrise Rotary Club, sits on the Board of Trustees for

the Delaware Symphony Association, and is a member of the American Legion. Mr. Cecil reflected upon his years with the agency, stating "It's been a privilege to serve the Selective Service System. I'm proud to have contributed to our nation's readiness by improving registration rates and local board membership. Registration is not just a law; it's an important civic duty. It's also very important to a man's future because there are numerous benefits tied to registration."

Mr. Cecil said he thoroughly enjoyed his role and contributions, and he felt it was time to pass the torch. He expressed gratitude for the recognition and privilege to serve his home state in such capacity.

A native of Delaware, Mr. Cecil holds degrees from University of Delaware and Cornell University, and he has served in many leadership capacities for the state. For more than 20 years, he served on New Castle County Council, and he currently serves as director of the Delaware Association of Counties.



(L to R) Wadi A. Yakhour, Jim Di'Nato, Judy Travis, Lynne Cecil, Ryan Cecil, Roxanne Cecil, Dick Cecil, Robert Cecil, Donald Benton and Arthur Travis

VERMONT GOVERNOR SCOTT PROCLAIMS FEBRUARY SELECTIVE SERVICE MONTH

The Agency would like to extend a sincere thank you to Vermont Governor Phil Scott for proclaiming February 2018, Selective Service Month.

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, to achieve and maintain adequate armed services for the security of our nation, the Military Selective Service Act, 50 U.S.C. 3801 et seq., requires with a few exceptions, that all male U.S. citizens and male immigrants residing in the United States ages 18-25, register with Selective Service; and

WHEREAS, the Selective Service System helps to protect the nation against the maximum level of threat and maintains a state of readiness in the event of a war or a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, this peacetime registration program involving America's young males is to help insure any future draft, if needed, would be fair and impartial; and

WHEREAS, any reduction in the size of the Active and Reserve components of the Armed Forces reinforce the need to preserve the historic link between the volunteer military and society-at-large.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim February 2018 as

SELECTIVE SERVICE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of January, A.D. 2018.

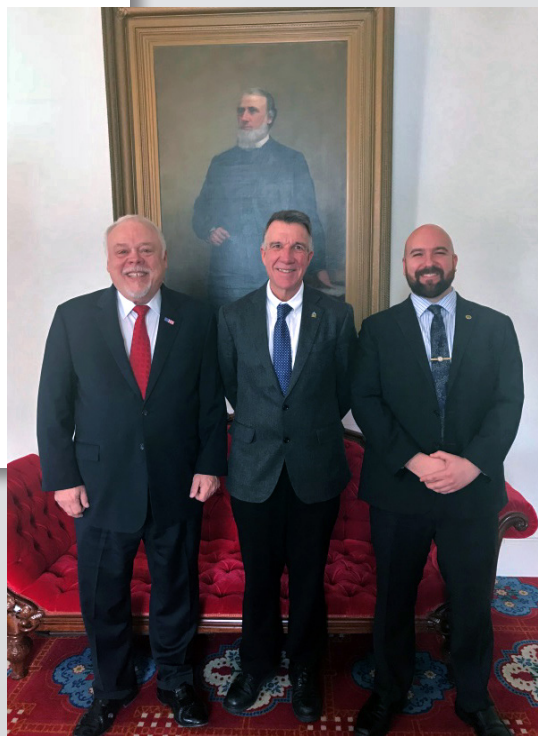


Philip B. Scott
Governor

Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs



Director Benton , Governor Scott and Vermont TAG General Steve Cray



Director Benton, Governor Scott and Mr. Wadi Yakhour

VERMONT OUTREACH

In February the Director traveled to Vermont where he met with the Governor and the TAG of Vermont MG Steven Cray to discuss ways to increase registration compliance for the state. During his three day visit, Director Benton participated in many outreach events. His schedule was filled with meetings, TV and radio interviews and speeches. The Director had interviews with TV stations Fox 44 and ABC 22 . The oldest radio station in Vermont, WVET AM620 hosted Mr. Benton on their very popular drive-time show, *Charlie, Ernie, and Lisa in the Morning!* He also met with Ms. Rebecca Holcombe, Secretary of Education; the Mayor's offices of Montpelier and Burlington; interviewed with NPR Radio, met with staff from the Young Writers Project; the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity; Boys and Girls Clubs; Spectrum Family and Youth Services; the Young Writers Club; and Burlington City Council member Adam Roof. Montpelier TV station WCAX3 did an on air feature about the Director's outreach and Selective Service. The Director gave the keynote address at a special Burlington Rotary Meeting where 4 Rotary clubs came together for lunch to hear the presentation. Mr. Benton also met with numerous other local officials and community organizations. It was a very busy and productive trip.



Director addressing the Rotary Club in Essex, VT



Director Benton and VT State Director Phil Murdoch being interviewed

DIRECTOR'S ACTIVE ROLE IN OUTREACH EFFORTS

The Director is building relationships with Congress and recently met with Washington state Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Buetler and Congressman Dan Newhouse.



While as a guest on the Lars Larson radio program broadcasting live from Washington, DC., Director Benton discussed the importance of Selective Service and the registration requirement



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DIRECTOR'S OUTREACH EFFORTS *CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE*



The Director recently participated in a briefing discussing troop strength and readiness with Major General Jeffrey J. Snow commander of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command and Major General Malcolm B. Frost, Commanding General United States Army Center for Initial Military Training.

MG Frost, Director Benton and MG Snow

As part of the Agency's ongoing efforts to reach all communities and raise awareness of the registration requirement, Director Benton met with Ms. Michelle-Misook Won, President of Korean Women Veterans Association of Washington.



REGION I ANNUAL AWARDS

Each year Region I presents awards for outstanding achievements. The Region announced the this past years Annual Award Winners.

Civilian of the Year: Ms. Randi McRobbie
Reserve Force Officer of the Year: MAJ Arnold W. Weber,
Detachment IL 1-2

Top Detachment of the Year: 1-MI: LTC Daniel Allen,
MAJ Robert LaPoint

To achieve this award the Detachment has to submit their achievements for the year in improving its mission, overcoming challenges, and excellence of the officers assigned; as a minimum must have zero inoperable boards and zero boards with three members. Must have 100% DAB assigned, RFO Training 100% complete (IBMT and Recertification if applicable), 95% of LBM completed IBMT, Detachment Drill AARs completed and forwarded to RHQ on time (within 24 hours of drill completion) at least 90% of the time; and zero AAR turn in after 10 days for the Fiscal Year.

Most Improved Detachment of the Year: WI 1-16: CDR Alex Flakas, LCDR Troy Emmerich

To achieve this award the detachment has to have the greatest improvement in percentage of assigned local board members. All District Appeal Board Members (DABs) percentage assigned need to be at 100%, and the greatest improvement in training (RFO initial and recertification, and LBM IBMT) percentage from previous year).

The Detachments listed below received the Region I Manager of Excellence Award. To achieve this award, detachments must have achieved 100% DAB manning, 95% or higher LBM manning, no 3 man boards or inop boards, 100% AAR turn in, and all members of the detachment in good standing with military duties.

1-MI, LTC Daniel Allen, MAJ LaPoint
1-NJ, LTC Patricia Richter, Maj Roy Thompson,
CPT Michael Malloy, CPT Louis Capezzuto
NY 1-9, LCDR David Hartz
1-RI, MAJ Braford Labine

Congratulations to all recipients!



KY GOVERNOR AND LT GOVERNOR OPEN THE CAPITOL TO SSS

On February 12, 2018, the Governor of Kentucky, Honorable Matt Bevin opened the State Reception Room in the Capital Building to the Selective Service. Gov. Bevin, who is a former Army Captain and Lt. Gov. Jenean Michelle Hampton a former Air Force Captain, took over an hour of their busy day to host the award and swearing-in ceremony. Both executives pledged their support to the SSS in KY. As veterans themselves, they understand the importance of the registration and the insurance Selective Service brings to the Nation. Gov Bevin told Director Benton that he will ensure all SSS matters in the Capitol will receive his support and will expedite the approval of new Board Members. This event was definitely a hit for the Selective Service and the Commonwealth of KY.



(L to R) Director Benton, Region Director Perez, Gov. Bevin, SD Belt, Lt. Gov. Hampton, Retiring SD Wilcutt



KY SD WILCUTT, OVER 33 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE SSS

Gov Bevin and Director Benton presented the Selective Service System Distinguished Service Award with Gold Medal to SD Dennis K. Wilcutt. Mr. Wilcutt started his military career in the US Air Force. He later joined the KY Army National Guard where he served as an RFO for 23 years. As a State Director for over 10 years, Mr. Wilcutt lead the Commonwealth of KY to impressive numbers. More than 90% compliance rate, 93% school registrars and a constant 90% or better in local boards. Mr. Wilcutt was accompanied by his wife. He is an attorney and has contributed to his city and state serving as President of the Lion's Club, coaching little league baseball, and participating in many other activities. Best of luck, Mr. Wilcutt!



(L to R) Mrs. Wilcutt, Gov Bevin, SD Wilcutt, Director Benton, Lt Gov Hampton



Region Director Carlos Perez reads the citation during the ceremony

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KY SD WILCUTT, OVER 33 YEARS OF SERVICE

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SD Wilcutt addressing the audience



Lt Gov Hampton thanks Mrs. Wilcutt for her many years of support to the SSS, KY NG, and the Commonwealth

KY TAG WELCOMES SSS

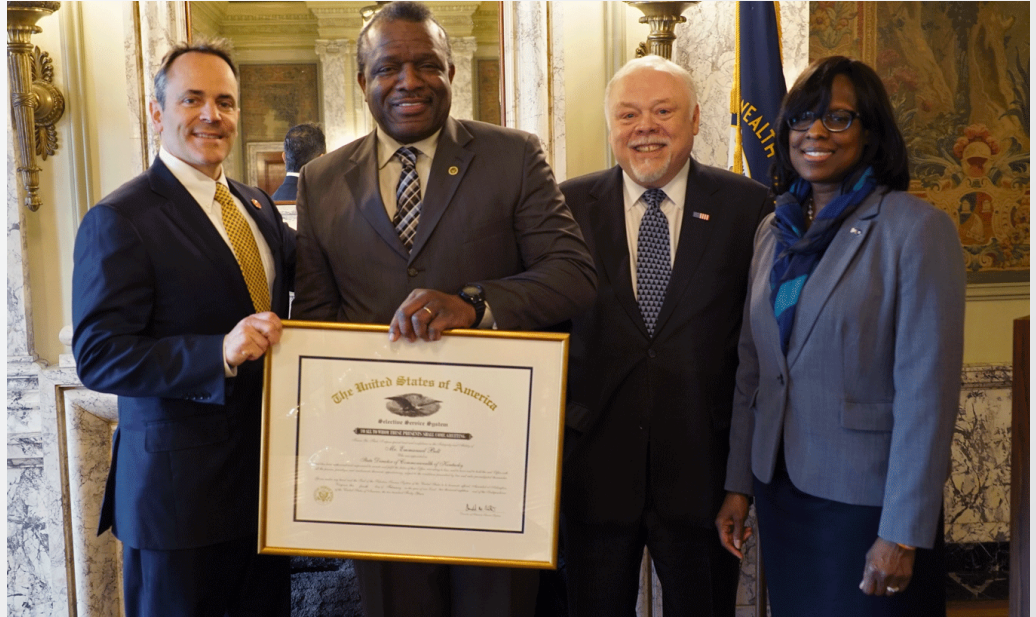
Major General Stephen R. Hogan, the 52nd Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky welcomed Director Benton and Mr. Perez to the National Guard Joint Force Headquarters in Boone National Guard Center, Frankfort, KY. Director Benton took the opportunity to thank MG Hogan for the consistent support the KY NG has given the Selective Service. MG Hogan expressed his commitment to continually support the Agency and to keep the SSS NG position filled with quality officers to ensure the Commonwealth is always well represented. MG Hogan already met with Mr. Belt, the new State Director of KY. Mr. Belt is a retired NG officer that has worked with the TAG before. Superb visit!



(L to R) Director Benton, MG Hogan, and Mr. Perez

KY GOVERNOR WELCOMES NEW STATE DIRECTOR

The Honorable Matt Bevin, Governor of the Commonwealth of KY, hosted the SSS at the Capitol Building to the SSS in Frankfort on Feb 12, 2018. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor Jenean Michelle Hampton hosted the swearing-in ceremony for the new KY SD Emmanuel Belt. Mr. Belt, a former RFO and retired KY Army National Guard officer received his appointment certificate from Director Benton and Gov. Bevin. The Director administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Belt. He was recommended by outgoing SD Wilcutt and endorsed by the Governor. Mr. Belt is the manager of the AAFES Military Clothing Sales Store in Fort Knox, KY. Welcome aboard State Director Belt!



(L to R) Gov. Matt Bevin, SD Belt, Director Benton, Lt. Gov. Jenean Hampton



Director Benton swearing-in new KY SD Belt.

AGENCY WELCOMES NEW STATE DIRECTOR EMMANUEL BELT

LTC (Ret.) Emmanuel Belt returns to the Agency, this time in the role of State Director. Replacing our outgoing State Director Dennis Wilcutt, who retired in January, he will serve as the Kentucky State Director for the Selective Service System.

On October 19, 2017 he was nominated by Kentucky Governor Matthew Bevin and was sworn in on February 12, 2018, by the Selective Service System Director, Mr. Donald M. Benton. As State Director, he will provide liaison between the Selective Service System and the governor's office. He will represent the Governor and the Selective Service Director regarding Agency matters in Kentucky.

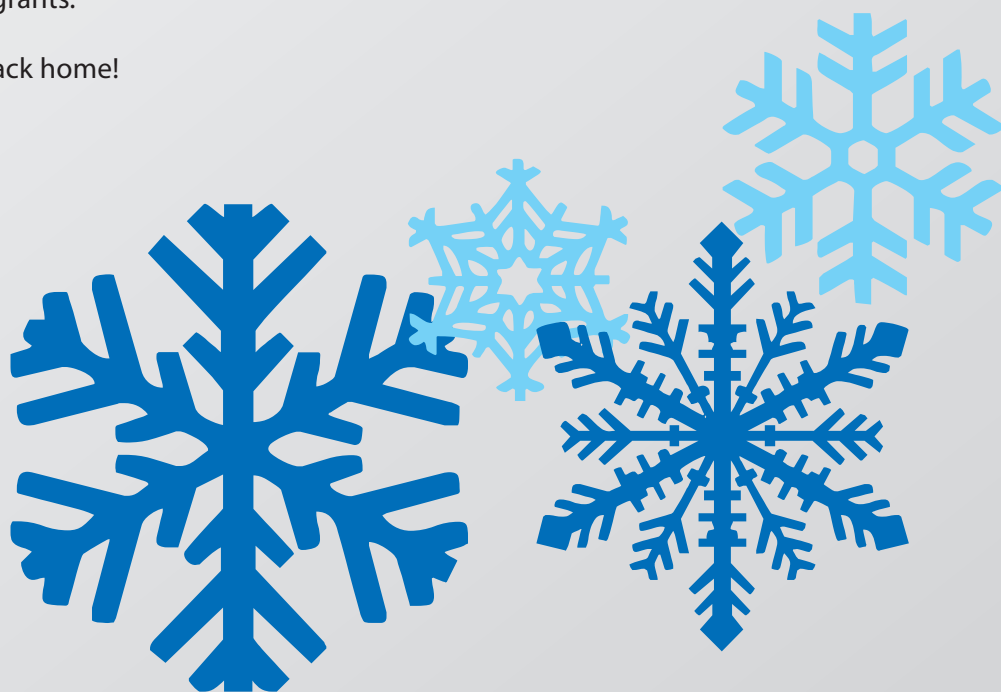
LTC Belt has over thirty years of military service. He was with the Selective Service System from 2001 until 2014. During his tenure he served in a variety of positions including Detachment Commander. He has volunteered and served on Active duty to assist with a variety of missions Post 911.

In his civilian career, he serves as a Retail Manager for the Army - Air Force Exchange Service at Fort Knox, Kentucky and has provided services for more than twenty-five years to all service members and their families. He has also been a Director or Principal Investigator on several National Science Foundation, (NSF), Department of Education and the University of California projects/grants.

We welcome him back home!



Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Emmanuel Belt



DIRECTOR BENTON VISITS THE US ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND (HRC)

On February 13, 2018, Director Benton and Mr. Perez visited the US Army Human Resources Command (HRC), Fort Knox KY. HRC is the Command responsible for managing the Active Army and Army Reserve personnel as well as their records. Brigadier General Young welcomed the SSS Director, Mr. Benton, to the headquarters. Attending the meeting was also LTC York and Ms. Watkins from the HRC IMA managing team. The group discussed ways to improve support to the Army Reserve officers assigned to Selective Service. A very productive meeting, the team discussed readiness reports, submission of DA 1380's and TDA. Director Benton and Mr. Perez had the opportunity to meet Ms. Watkins. Ms. Watkins is the person responsible for approving military orders to the RFOs in SSS.



(L to R) Mr. Perez, BG Young DCG (HRC), and Director Benton



(L to R) Mr. Perez, LTC York, Ms. Watkins, Director Benton, BG Young

REGION MANAGER VISITS DET 2LA AND 2-9

Region II Manager Carlos Perez visited the Louisiana team during drill weekend November 4-5, 2017. The team met at their assigned office in the J1, Jackson Barracks, Joint Force Headquarters, Louisiana National Guard. During the visit the team discussed their boards and their plan of actions for the annual contacts. Mr. Perez discussed the Director's vision and focus regarding Readiness and Registration. The team also reviewed their High Schools and discussed ways to improve on the number of registrars. Mr. Perez and State Director Bonner discussed the registration rates by parishes in Louisiana.



(L to R) Major Dewayne Wells, LTC Robert Remy, SD Bonner, Carlos Perez, LTC Horridge

Currently, Louisiana has a 98% completion rate for IBMT and 73% completion on their Continuation Training, the highest by far in our Region. Also, 14 out of 15 DABMs have completed their CT training and 133 out of 188 LBMs have completed their CT training.

On Saturday night, the team met at "Manning's" in New Orleans with their spouses to have dinner and watch the LSU vs Alabama game. State Director Bonner and Mr. Perez strongly encourages family time in the Region's events.



(L to R) Mr. & Mrs. Perez, Mr. & Mrs. Wells, Mr. & Mrs. Remy, Mr. & Mrs. Horridge, and Mr. & Mrs. Bonner

STATE DIRECTOR RETURNS TO SCHOOL IN ABSENCE OF TEACHERS

After two category 5 hurricanes struck and devastated the Virgin Islands, many residents had no choice but to migrate, mostly to the United States. Many of those who left the Islands included teachers. Although some schools reopened, the majority lacked basic necessities like electricity, and had to resort to generators in order to operate. As the schools and most students tried to return to normalcy, the Virgin Islands had to face the fact that with the many residents who had left, many of them were teachers.

Understanding the crisis, Citizen-Soldier State Director Warrington "Bird" Tyson, State Director for the Virgin Islands, answered the call of duty. A retired teacher, he returned to the classroom at the Ivanna Eudora Kean High School as a volunteer to teach Social Studies and Caribbean History.



State Director Warrington "Bird" Tyson and students from the Ivanna Kean High School

The Virgin Islands is slowly returning to normalcy, thanks in part to individuals like State Director Tyson. Selective Service salutes you for your dedication to the students of the USVI.



DIRECTOR'S ALASKA OUTREACH

Director Benton was invited to be a guest speaker at the Alaska Federation of Natives Conference in Anchorage, AK. According to the organization's website, The Alaska Federation of Natives is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska. Its membership includes 151 federally recognized tribes, 150 village corporations, 12 regional corporations, and 12 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract to run federal and state programs. While in Alaska, the Director saw an excellent opportunity to raise awareness of the Selective Service registration requirement. He reached out to the young men of Alaska and in particular those that have a big influence on Alaskan young men. Alaska's registration rates are not as high as they should be especially when compared to other states. Mr. Benton wants to ensure that no young man loses out on the many federal and state benefits linked to Selective Service registration. The Director participated in and spoke at over 15 events during his brief two and a half day trip in Alaska!

Upon arrival, Mr. Benton immediately started his outreach efforts. He met with SSS Region Manager John Wilber, Alaska State Director Alan Ezzell and former Senator Jerry Ward to discuss the compliance rates and ways to increase awareness. The next morning on October 17th, Mr. Benton traveled to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) where he met with MG Laurie Hummel, The Adjutant General for the Alaska National Guard and several military recruiters from all branches, active and reserve. From there the Director met with cadets from the Alaska Military Academy and approximately seventy 16-18 year-old young adults in the National Guard Youth Challenge youth intervention program for at risk youth. Following that meeting, Mr. Benton participated in an interactive discussion with the Alaska National Guard Joint Staff, Alaska State Defense Force, Alaska Air National Guard, and Alaska Army National Guard and was given a tour of JBER, by the Executive Director Col Don Weckhorst. Director Benton spoke at the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), The Last Frontier Chapter at the Lee US Army Reserve Center. AUSA is a non-profit headquartered in Arlington, VA that supports the Army. The event was hosted by Larry Bethel, Vice President, General Manager and Director of Training, Environmental Management, Inc.



Director Benton receiving a briefing on the AK National Guard and Alaska State Defense Force from MG Laurie Hummel, AK TAG and her Joint Staff.



AK State Director Mr. Alan Ezzell, RIII Manager John Wilber, Director Benton, at the Alaska Military Youth Academy breakfast.



MG Laurie Hummel

[MORE IMAGES ON FOLLOWING PAGE](#)



AK TAG, MG Laurie Hummel and Director Benton



Director Benton speaking at the Alaska Federation of Natives conference



Director Benton and Jody Potts, from Tanana Chiefs



AK Lt Governor Byron Mallot, Director Benton, AK Governor Bill Walker, and Mr. Jerry Ward



Director Benton with AK Native veteran's, AK national Guard and Air Guard representatives, and recruiters at the Alaska Federation of Natives conference



Director Benton speaking to a WWII Veteran

[MORE IMAGES ON FOLLOWING PAGE](#)



Director Benton with members of the Anchorage Police Department at the Alaska Federation of Natives conference



Director Benton speaking at the Robert Service High school Junior ROTC class



Region Manager John Wilber, Service High School Principal Mr. Frank Hauser, Director Benton, Alaska School District Chief Academic Officer Mr. Mike Graham, Service High School JROTC commander CDR George Tolbert USCG (ret).



AK Air Guard Craig Fleener; Mr. Emil Notti, AK Lt Gov Byron Mallot, Director Benton, Mr. Nelson Anapak, Mr. Jerry Ward, Mr. Bob Doehl, Mr. John Wilber



Plaque from the AUSA "Last Frontier" chapter

[MORE IMAGES ON FOLLOWING PAGE](#)



Mr. Emil Notti, AK Lt. Gov. Byron Mallot, Director Benton, and Mr. Nelson Anapak



Director Benton, Rep. Dan Saddler Alaska State Legislature



Director Benton speaking at the AUSA luncheon



Director Benton speaking at the AUSA luncheon



AK TAG MG Laurie Hummel, AUSA Chapter President Mr. Lawrence Bethel, AK NG Senior Enlisted Advisor CMSgt Paul Nelson, Director Benton



Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) 673rd Air Base Wing Executive Director Mr. Donald Weckhorst, Mr. John Wilber, Director Benton, Mr. Jerry Ward on a tour of facilities at JBER

[MORE IMAGES ON FOLLOWING PAGE](#)



Director Benton, Mr. Jerry Ward in front of the Alaska National Guard Headquarters



Mr. Benton with Mr. Todd Palin, a four-time champion of the world renowned Iron Dog Race in Alaska.



MG Laurie Hummel, Director Benton, AK State Defense Force commander COL John C. James



Director Benton with MG Hummel and her staff at the AK Joint Force Headquarters



Director Benton receiving the AK Guard and Air Guard briefing from the AK Joint Forces headquarters staff and MG Hummel

REGION III NOSD TRAINING

In December, 2017 Region III held New Officer State Director (NOSD) training. The attendees are listed below. Associate Director Adam J. Copp and all Region III staff were also in attendance. The training was very well received by all and everyone passed with flying colors.



Matthew Miklos	CPT / ARNG	CA 3CA
Paul Bostwick	CWO / USCGR	CA 3-3
Arian Linscott	CWO / USCGR	CA 3-5
Felix Schofield	MAJ / USAR	CO 3-7
Cesar Cuadros	MAJ / ARNG	HI 3HI
Brian Robey	CWO / USCGR	IA 3IA
Michael Hall	MAJ / ARNG	IN 1IN
Traci Earls	LTC / ARNG	KS 3KS
Charles O'Connell	LTC / ARNG	MN 3MN
Matthew Nagler	Capt / USMCR	MO 3-11
William Cooper	CSM (R) / ARNG	MT State Director
Mark Fratrack	Lt Col / USAFR	NM 3NM
Steven Valdez	Program Assistant	Region III Headquarters



Classroom training



Brett Williams

[MORE IMAGES ON FOLLOWING PAGE](#)

REGION III NOSD TRAINING CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE



Angie Henry



Region III Staff Maryann Rangel and Angie Henry

REGION I ANNUAL HOLIDAY CARD CHALLENGE WINNER

Region I participated in the Naval Station Great Lakes' Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Annual Holiday Card Challenge. Participants were supplied basic materials and decorated 4x8 sheets of plywood to share their Holiday Spirit and compete in four categories: Best Holiday Theme, Most Military Pride, Most Artistic, and People's Choice. The cards were collected and displayed as part of the base's holiday decorations on historic Ross Field. Entries were judged by Naval Station Great Lakes regional personnel and winners were announced at Naval Station Great Lakes' Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 6, 2017. Region I took home First Place for "Best Holiday Theme" and was awarded a plaque and a bowling pizza party at the MWR EPICENTER.



SSS Region I displays their First-Place and "Best Holiday Theme" entry for Naval Station Great Lakes' 2017 Holiday Card Challenge. Photo: Ross Field, Naval Station Great Lakes. On Left: Mrs. Katherine Murphy, Ms. Randi McRobbie, and Mr. Michael Skovranko. Right, back row: Mr. Thomas Birchmeyer; front row, L to R: Mrs. Karan Fraley, Mrs. Margaret Stilke

REGION II GIVES THANKS



On Wednesday, November 15, 2017 Region II celebrated Thanksgiving with their families, former SSS employees and for the first time with the Air Force Regional Environmental Engineers collocated in their building. It was great sharing SSS stories with former employees. Annually, the Region reaches out to all former employees, inviting them to a Thanksgiving celebration.

Region II former and current staff members along with Air Force Environmental Engineers

CELEBRATING THE JOY OF THE SEASON

On Friday, December 15th, Region II met at "House of Lu" in downtown Marietta to celebrate their Annual Christmas luncheon. Every year Region staff selects a different International restaurant and cuisine. During the last three years they have sampled various fares including TexMex, Puerto Rican and Chinese. We can only wonder what next year's choice will be.



(L to R) Michael Edwards, Sabrina Cunningham, Richard Ogniewski, Michael Corbin, Mrs. & Mrs. Perez, Yudian Georges, Charles Kinsey

DMC 2017 HOLIDAY PARTY

Data Management Center (DMC) employees gathered on December 15, 2017, at Primo Italian American Cuisine in Gurnee, IL for the Annual DMC Holiday Party. We celebrated with family, friends, and several DMC retirees. This was a great time to catch up. A spectacular lunch of roasted chicken, braised short ribs, mashed potatoes, vegetable medley, house salad, rolls with butter, and non-alcoholic beverages was on the menu.

To savor the moment and memories, many pictures were captured. The party continued with Christmas trivia games and with the crowd favorite...reverse charades!



The DMC Holiday Party served, as always, as a wonderful opportunity to unwind with co-workers. Thanks to the 2017 Holiday Party Committee of Beverly Allen, Pamela Miller, Andy Gonzalez, Vanessa Thompson, and Marisela Negrón who made it all possible and successful. DMC employees are already looking forward to the next party in 2018!

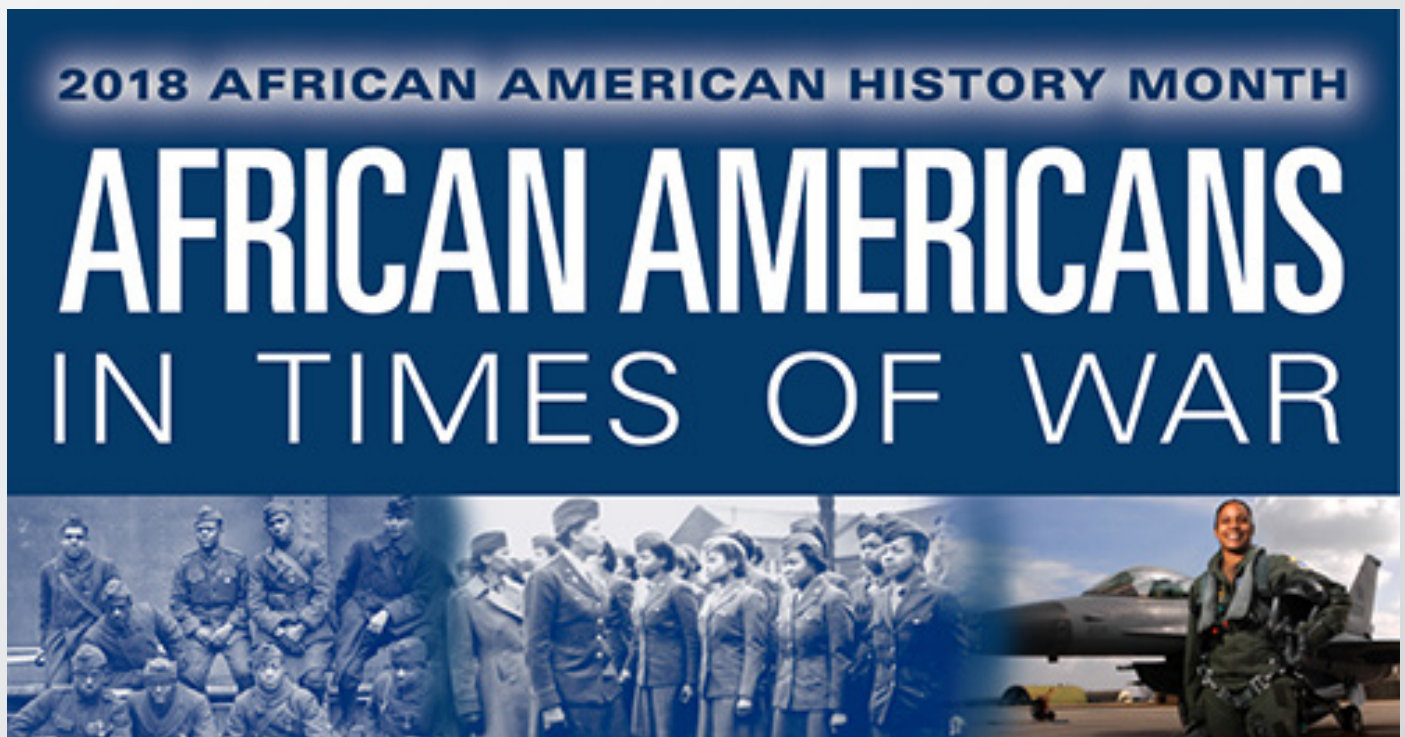


AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Every February during African American History Month, we celebrate the many contributions that African Americans have made to our Nation's history and culture. This year's theme was "African Americans in Times of War." Many African American men and women, have served in the U.S. Armed Forces and have defended our country. The following article was reprinted with permission from the Office of Personnel Management and features Mr. Roderick Lawrence, the agency's Logistics Manager and Agency Contracting Officer. We are very proud of Mr. Lawrence and are grateful for his service to the Nation.



Mr. Roderick Lawrence



In February, the nation joins together to celebrate African American History Month. It is a time to reflect on and celebrate the rich culture of African American history in the United States.

This year's theme is "African Americans in Times of War." Many African American men and women across the nation, and from all walks of life, have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. This year also commemorates the centennial of the end of the First World War in 1918.

Over the past one hundred years, African Americans have contributed to the fight for freedom for the United States and those we support. Despite enduring challenges and struggles, like racial injustice, we have made great strides over the years while serving in times of war to fight for freedom, peace, and respect.

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AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE.

Many contribute greatly to society but are not as well known, such as the women of the 6888th, also known as the "Six Triple Eight." These African American women from the Women's Army Corps (WAC) of the U.S. Army were designated as the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion. During World War II, this group of military women tackled the massive task of organizing and distributing a huge backlog of letters and packages in Birmingham, England. Letters and packages were stacked to the ceiling and were not appropriately addressed for delivery to soldiers in the field. These women worked long hours in poor conditions. The warehouse was unheated and dimly lit, the windows blacked out to prevent light showing during nighttime air raids. Rats had contaminated the packages. As men were at war, the Six Triple Eight women worked tirelessly around the clock to track soldiers and to deliver their mail to them.

Like the women of the Six Triple Eight, there are many courageous men and women who have served our country and are family members, neighbors, and coworkers. They return home and work in our local communities, in public, and private sector jobs. Recently, I had an opportunity to speak with two of my friends about their service: Roderick Lawrence, Chief Warrant Officer 4 (Retired) and April Beldo, Fleet Master Chief (Retired).

Chief Warrant Officer Lawrence served in the U.S. Army including military tours in Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, and Operation Iraqi Freedom before retiring after 25 years of dedicated service to his country. He received several medals. His highest medal was the Bronze Star, which he received for his exceptional performance for 18 months in Iraq overseeing soldiers and civilians during sensitive operations. Our men and woman often make sacrifices while serving their country. Lawrence continues his service as a public servant at the Selective Service System.

Fleet Master Chief Beldo served in the U.S. Navy for more than 33 years. Her tours of duties were the Persian Gulf War, War in Afghanistan, and the War in Iraq. She received numerous awards including Meritorious Service Medals, Commendation Medals, and Achievement Medals. Beldo was one of the first woman sailors aboard an aircraft carrier. At one point in time, she was the only African American female in her Command. After Beldo's exceptional military career, she continues to be an example for future leaders as a Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) Instructor.

Here, at the Office of Personnel Management, our Veterans Employee Resource Group continues to highlight African American coworkers who serve and have served in the military.

I am inspired by all those who put on the uniform and serve our country. Both, the historical events and those who have touched me personally continue to inspire me even after 35 years of my joining the Armed Forces.

I encourage you to take some time to learn more about the heroic African American men and women who have dedicated their lives to serve. In addition, the [National Museum of African American History and Culture](#) holds events to commemorate the life, traditions, history, and culture of African Americans.

Posted 5:06 PM by LaShonne Williams, Acting Deputy Director, Office of Communications

FINAL FAREWELL TO STATE DIRECTOR YEAGER



BG Jack Yeager (Ret.), Former Region II State Director for West Virginia

Brigadier General Jack Yeager (Ret), Region II State Director for West Virginia, passed away on December 20, 2017, after a short, courageous battle with cancer.

General Yeager enlisted in the West Virginia Army National Guard at age 18. He would continue with the Guard for the next 39 years during which time he served as acting Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard, retiring as a Brigadier General. Upon retirement, he was promoted to Major General, a two-star ranking in the West Virginia National Guard. His service to our state and country continued by way of his role as the State Director of Selective Service.

General Yeager completed his Doctorate at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Doctor Yeager was a Professor of Leadership Studies at Marshall University, where he held Professor Emeritus Status, before becoming the Mayor of Dunbar in 2008. He retired from city leadership in 2013 and spent more time on his Christmas Tree farm in Roane county. Throughout his extensive career, he also served on Saint Albans' City Council and was the Dean of Student Affairs at West Virginia State University.

General Yeager is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Barbara Creamer-Yeager and his 5 children.



BEV LADD RETIRES

Ms. Beverly Ladd, the Mail and Logistics (M/L) Branch Manager at DMC for the last 25 years, retired on January 3, 2018. Ms. Ladd has been with the DMC since it opened in August, 1981.

Ms. Ladd worked in the medical field in a hospital office setting prior to entering Federal service in 1981. She started in the Registration Information and Research (RI/R) Branch as a Research Clerk in 1981, and moved to the M/L Branch in 1983 as a Mail and File Clerk. Since then, Bev has been an M/L Lead Machine Operator, an M/L Supervisory Machine Operator, and since 1992, the M/L Branch Manager.

Ms. Ladd was the last employee remaining with DMC since it opened its doors. Ms. Ladd intends to enjoy her retirement by leading “a quiet life” with Norris, her husband of 31 years. She plans to spend as much time as possible with her great granddaughter.

Everyone at DMC wishes her a fond farewell and hearty hopes for a long, enjoyable retirement.



Beverly Ladd presented award by Nicole Harris

LARRY SHEARD RETIRES



Mr. Larry Sheard, Mail Processing Assistant in the Mail and Logistics Branch (MLB) at DMC, has retired from SSS. His retirement was effective January 5, 2018.

Mr. Sheard started with DMC in March, 1990, as a Contact Representative in the Registration Information and Research Branch. He transferred to MLB in September, 1996. Mr. Sheard operated the DMC High-Speed Printer, Mail Inserter, and Microfilm machines, as well as sorting mail and other mailroom work. Mr. Sheard will be missed. Good luck, Larry!

FLORA TERRAZAS PROMOTED



Ms. Flora Terrazas was promoted to Lead Mail Processing Assistant in the Mail and Logistics (M/L) Branch effective November 2017. As Lead Mail Processing Assistant, she oversees all incoming and outgoing correspondence, the printing and inserting of large volume of bulk mail, and workload distribution and assignments to meet strict deadlines. Prior to her promotion, Flora was hired in October 2015 as a Bilingual Contact Representative. Ms. Terrazas is both excited and thrilled about her new responsibilities within the Data Management Center, and looks forward to both the challenge and experience it has to offer!

GLENN RAPANOS, DMC

Glenn Rapanos was born in Leesburg, Florida. He graduated from Buffalo Grove High School in 1980, and currently lives in Round Lake, IL. He served in the US Navy from 1980-1992, and is a Desert Storm veteran. On March 13th he will be married to his high school sweetheart for almost 36 years. They have four sons ranging in age from 17, whom they lost 27 hours after birth, 20, 27 and 32 years old.

He joined the Selective Service System - Data Management Center (SSS-DMC) in December 2017 working in the Mail & Logistics (M/L) Branch as a Mail Processing Assistant who is responsible for processing all incoming and outgoing correspondence. In addition, Glenn operates and maintains several mail processing machines which enables DMC to meet and maintain a high level of production. Prior to joining the SSS family, Glenn worked for 10 years as general manager at two restaurants, five years as a warehouse manager, and 17 years as a civilian contractor with Goodwill Services here in Great Lakes.



Glenn is a huge football, hockey, and baseball fan. His future goal is to be fully trained in all areas of the M/L Branch, and someday complete all items on the "Honey-Do" list his wife tasked him with when they first bought their house two years ago.

MARIA VILLARREAL, DMC

Ms. Maria Villarreal is married and currently resides in Wadsworth, IL, with her husband. Together they share caretaker responsibilities for her mother. She is the proud parent of three adult children (two boys, one girl), and four grandchildren.

She joined the Selective Service System, Data Management Center family in December 2017 as a Bilingual Contact Representative. She is one of several employees responsible for researching, retrieving, and validating documents submitted for registration, answering registrant calls, explaining the SSS registration process and consequences of non-registration, reviewing reports to remove duplicate registrations, and verifying registration status. Prior to coming to SSS, Maria worked in sales and corporate customer service for over 20 years.



She is involved with her community through previous employment (sales), children's schools, and sports activities. Ms. Villarreal is delighted to be a part of the SSS family because of her fellow employees' knowledge,

compassion, and professionalism, which she feels are second to none. Maria is looking forward to making a difference to her community, while representing this government branch.

CATHERINE DEHM DEPARTS DMC

Ms. Catherine Dehm, Research Assistant in the Registration Information & Research (RI/R) Branch at DMC, has left Selective Service. Her last work day was 2-16-18. She started as a Contact Representative in March, 2014. She was promoted to Research Assistant in June, 2015. Her high work ethic and attention to detail was well-respected throughout DMC.

Ms. Dehm's husband is on active duty in the US military, and received orders for a permanent change of station, requiring a move to Maryland. Ms. Dehm was counted on as a superb Contact Rep and Research Assistant, and her help at DMC will be greatly missed. Thank you, Catherine, for all you have done while with DMC.

FELICIA BEN-YISRAEL DEPARTS DMC

Ms. Felicia Ben-Yisrael, Contact Representative in the Registration Information & Research (RI/R) Branch at DMC, has left the agency. Her last work day was January 5, 2018. Ms. Ben-Yisrael started as a Contact Representative in May, 2017. She advanced quickly in her ability to perform her duties. Unfortunately, due to the high commute and travel times of the Chicagoland area, Ms. Ben-Yisrael had to seek employment elsewhere. While everyone at DMC understands and respects her decision, we regret losing her bright attitude and knowledgeable work. She will be greatly missed.



PAM HUNTER DEPARTS DMC



Ms. Pamela Hunter, Contact Representative in the Registration Information & Research (RI/R) Branch at DMC, has left SSS. Her last work day was 2-2-18.

Ms. Hunter started at DMC as a Contact Representative in June 2015. She quickly learned her duties and performed at a high level. She has taken a position with the Department of the Army in the local area here at Great Lakes.

Ms. Hunter handled a tremendous work load and her help at DMC will be greatly missed. Thank you, Pamela, for all you have done while with DMC.

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PHOTOS TAKEN BY GLENN ARONWITS,
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