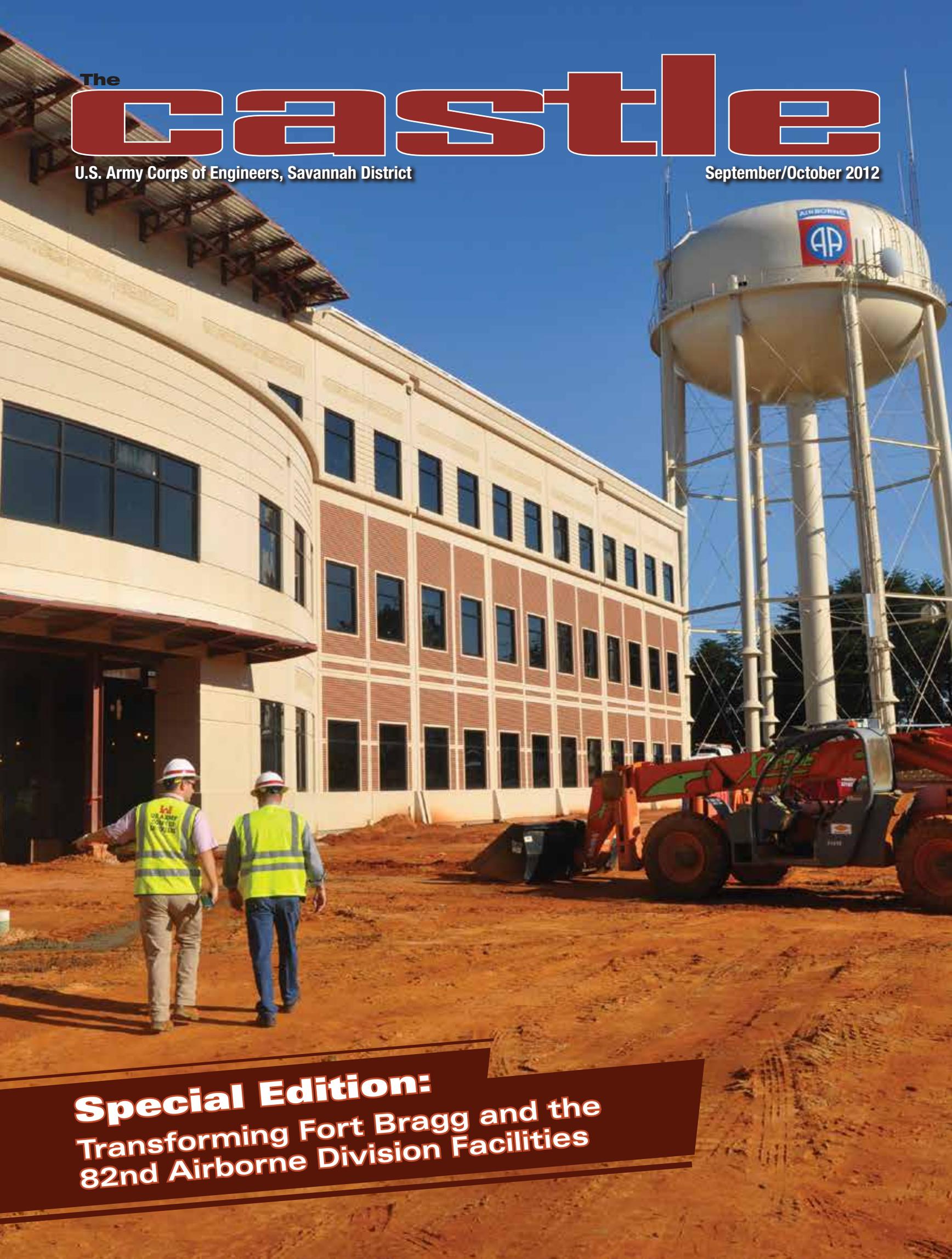


The

castle

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District

September/October 2012



Special Edition:
Transforming Fort Bragg and the
82nd Airborne Division Facilities

News magazine of the
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
Savannah District

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(Cover Photo and Above) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District began construction in October 2011 on a new \$35.7 million headquarters for the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C., shown here under construction on Sept. 11. The project is scheduled for completion next fall. *USACE photo by Tracy Robillard.*

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Viewpoint

From Where I Sit

The Inspiration Behind a Modern Fort Bragg

It might be easy to draw the wrong conclusion about Fort Bragg, N.C. as you browse through the pages within this publication. You will see new, better, and modern construction of barracks, company operations facilities, dining facilities, chapels, support facilities and headquarters. You will see before and after images that demonstrate the contrast of what was then, and what is now and you will read about an installation that has transformed into a contemporary city at extraordinary speed. Since 1994, the U.S. Army Corps Engineers, Savannah District has completed 209 projects at Fort Bragg, totaling 5.2 billion. Thanks to the efforts of the Savannah district, Fort Bragg is now one of the most modern military installations and home to 10 percent of the Army. The massive transformation will give you pause. But if this issue does nothing more than impress you with the volume of recent construction accomplished at Fort Bragg, we have communicated the right idea but the wrong conclusion. The construction at Fort Bragg is not an end in itself.

Transforming Fort Bragg and its facilities changes the lives of soldiers and their families. Given the time constraints, Savannah district faced a herculean task. The team succeeded at this effort because we care deeply for American soldiers. In the years following 9/11 we sent those soldiers to fight a war in bitter places to secure and defend our freedom. Conscious of their sacrifices, the Savannah district aimed to make a positive and meaningful impact at Fort Bragg. After reflecting on what we have accomplished there, I think those patriots helped us in more ways than securing our freedom through their sacrifices in combat.

The vision to provide better quality of life for soldiers existed before 9/11, but the attacks served as a catalyst to accelerate the process. When soldiers deployed to the Middle East in response to the attacks on the nation, many of their aging barracks stood empty. This eased the burden to find temporary housing while new ones were built. Most importantly, when our soldiers deployed to fight in miserable conditions for long periods, many of us wanted to contribute to the effort in a meaningful way. We didn't want them to return from the hardship of war to conventional rolling-pin barracks and other aging facilities. Cramped and outdated buildings were not the ideal places for a professional soldier to recuperate. So in order to provide a better quality of life for the returning warriors we were tasked to re-build Fort Bragg – and to build fast.



In order to meet the strict time demands, we knew we had to reduce construction time significantly. This forced us to change the way we operate. The Savannah district teams involved in Fort Bragg's transformation found innovative ways to work together. We cut construction time by half for barracks and company operations facilities. We met the time demands on every project. We worked closer as a

team because we shared a common drive; the will to serve soldiers in a time of war. It was this common goal that led the Engineering, Construction and Project Management teams to collaborate in new ways, to willingly go the extra mile, to step outside of comfort zones and to take chances on new operating ideas. The end result produced some of the finest facilities ever built.

And this is what I meant when I wrote that American soldiers helped us in more ways than ensuring freedom. By their sacrifices, soldiers inspired us to be better at what we do. The Fort Bragg transformation is a tangible result of that inspiration. As you browse the pages of this issue and see the progress made at Fort Bragg, I'm confident you'll be impressed by the absolute transformation in such a small amount of time. The point of it all is not that we built it – but rather, who we built it for. Let us marvel not at the product, but who inspired it. The service of our soldiers made it all possible – in more ways than one. 

By Ken Gray, Chief of Construction

Military Transformation In a Nutshell

Global events, such as the aftermath of 9/11 changed the nation's security needs. As a result, the Army underwent a massive reorganization focused on modular units, such as brigade combat teams, to fight different kinds of battles in new conditions and environments. Today, the Army Campaign Plan calls for a "balanced Army for the 21st century that is a versatile mix of tailorable and networked organizations... to provide a sustained flow of trained and ready forces for full-spectrum operations and to hedge against unexpected contingencies..." The transformation has brought military units together to live and train in real-world scenarios and created an urgent need for new or improved infrastructure.

Corps Delivers Advanced, Modern Facilities for World-Class Warfighters

Since its origins in World War I, the 82nd “All American” Division—later designated the 82nd Airborne in World War II—has built a reputation of excellence in the U.S. Army.

Fitted with jump boots, maroon berets, and the iconic “AA” shoulder patch, these Fort Bragg, N.C.-based warfighters specialize in parachute landing operations and serve as the primary fighting arm of the Army’s 18th Airborne Corps.

As the Army’s first designated airborne division, soldiers of the 82nd have fought in wars across the globe, from Europe, Vietnam and Korea to Iraq and Afghanistan. Today, they are recognized as America’s Guard of Honor.

In keeping with that standard of excellence, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District provides these famous paratroopers with world-class facilities that not only support Fort Bragg’s transformation goals, but also reflect the division’s warrior ethos.

“The facilities we’ve built for the 82nd Airborne have totally transformed the soldiers’ living and working conditions,” said Karl Gabzdyl, resident engineer for the Corps’ Barracks Resident Office at Fort Bragg. “They went from ’50s-era buildings that were long past their

lifecycles to brand new facilities that better accommodate the modern soldier.”

“These projects symbolize the 82nd’s image as world-class warfighters,” Gabzdyl said.

As part of a 20-year transformation on the installation, the Corps’ Savannah District has constructed millions of dollars worth of new facilities at Fort Bragg. This includes 29 projects constructed for the 82nd Airborne totaling \$1.3 billion.

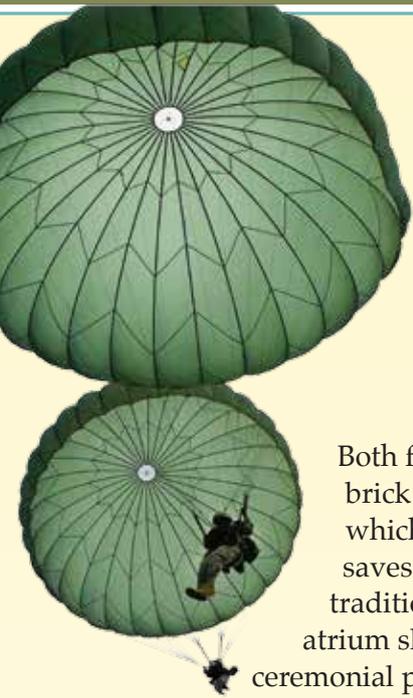
Many of the new facilities are for the 82nd Airborne, such as barracks, vehicle maintenance facilities, a chapel, and—perhaps the most notable—a state-of-the-art division headquarters.

At a cost of \$35.7 million, the headquarters project has been nicknamed “mini-FORSCOM” because of its similarities to a large-scale, \$304 million headquarters the Corps finished last year on Fort Bragg for the U.S. Army Forces Command and U.S. Army Reserve Command (FORSCOM/USARC).

In fact, both headquarters’ projects included Fentress Architects of Denver Colo., on the design team. Both buildings are fortified with red brick to match the Georgian style of the Fort Bragg historic district, while blending elements of English royal crescent architecture.



Rendering: Artist's illustration of the 82nd Airborne Division Headquarters by Fentress Architects.



U.S. Army paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division descend to the ground after jumping out of an Air Force C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, over “drop zone Sicily” during a Joint Operations Access Exercise. U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Quinton Russ.

Both facilities were built using precast brick panels for the exterior walls, which reduces construction time, saves money, and lasts as long as traditional brick work. They both have atrium skylights, command terraces, ceremonial parade yards, joint operations centers, conference rooms, and other features of a command and control facility.

“The construction of the new 82nd Airborne Division Headquarters is a significant milestone in the transformation of the division, maximizing the systems and the process for mission command,” said Col. Mark A. Murray, Task Force All American chief of staff. “The new facility features cutting-edge technology that integrates our mission command systems, creates a collaborative work environment, and ultimately allows the command to visualize the nature and design of an operation.”

“It gives us more agility and flexibility when responding to our nation’s needs by ensuring there is a shared understanding of operational environment, problem set, and the systems to prosecute within the commander’s intent,” Murray said.

Construction on the three-story, 143,090 square-foot building began in October 2011 and is slated for completion next August. The work is being performed by prime contractor Sauer Inc., of Jacksonville, Fla. The facility will accommodate 540 soldiers and support staff.

Sauer officials said they plan to submit the building for a formal certification by the Green Building Certification Institute as a Gold-level facility on the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system. All Corps construction must meet LEED Silver criteria; however, this project will achieve additional energy milestones to make it eligible for a higher rating.

“The building will produce 5 percent of its required energy from a 100-kilowatt photovoltaic solar system on the roof,” said George Blackard, Corps’ project engineer. “We’ll also have a separate set of solar panels to heat 35 percent of the facility’s hot water.”

Overall, the new headquarters will reduce energy usage by 40 percent and reduce water usage by 50 percent, compared to an average facility of its type, Blackard said.

As construction continues, soldiers and staff of

the 82nd headquarters only need to glance out their windows across the parking lot to see the progress of their new office space. The current headquarters was built in 1960 as a noncommissioned officer’s club and was converted to a division headquarters in 1980.

Once all personnel move into the new headquarters, Sauer will demolish the old one as part of the Corps’ contract—marking the end of one era and the advent of another.

“The 82nd Headquarters project is an icon for the transformation of Fort Bragg,” said John Flint, senior project manager. “Once complete, it will culminate more than a decade-long effort by the Corps, the Fort Bragg Department of Public Works and the 82nd leadership to modernize and transform the 82nd area.” 

By Tracy Robillard, Corporate Communications Office



Project Engineer George Blackard (left) and Resident Engineer Karl Gabzdyl inspect the interior construction of the 82nd Division Headquarters at Fort Bragg, USACE photo by Tracy Robillard.



The current 82nd Division Headquarters was built in 1960 as a noncommissioned officer’s club and was later renovated in 1980 as a headquarters. The facility will be demolished as part of the construction contract for the new 82nd headquarters. USACE photo by Tracy Robillard.



Corps Completes \$1.3 Billion Transformation for 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg



By the Numbers

Total Site Acreage	830 Acres
Barracks Spaces	7,038
Admin Facilities	91 Buildings
Dining Facilities	7 Buildings
Vehicle Maint. Facilities	13 Buildings
Chapel	1

Before



After



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District demolished all of the three-story, 1950s-era barracks at Fort Bragg (before) and constructed new four and six-story barracks along Ardennes Road (See pages 8-9).

Illustration by George Jumara

82nd Chapel Combines Old With New

To meet the religious, social, and counseling needs of soldiers and families, 82nd Airborne Division leaders asked the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District to construct a new chapel. As the first chapel erected at Fort Bragg, N.C., since the Vietnam War, the project doubles the size of the current 82nd chapel built in 1971. At a construction cost of \$13.5 million, the 22,600-square-foot facility will seat 629 people. As part of the project, workers from Shenandoah Restorations of Irmo, S.C., removed, restored and reinstalled the original stained glass windows from the old chapel into the new sanctuary. Each window represents a war in which the 82nd Division fought. The new facility's design contains extra window space to allow for future placement of new stained windows. The entire project, scheduled for completion in December, spans 9 acres located off Ardennes Road, one of Fort Bragg's major thoroughfares, next to the 82nd Airborne Division Memorial Museum. 

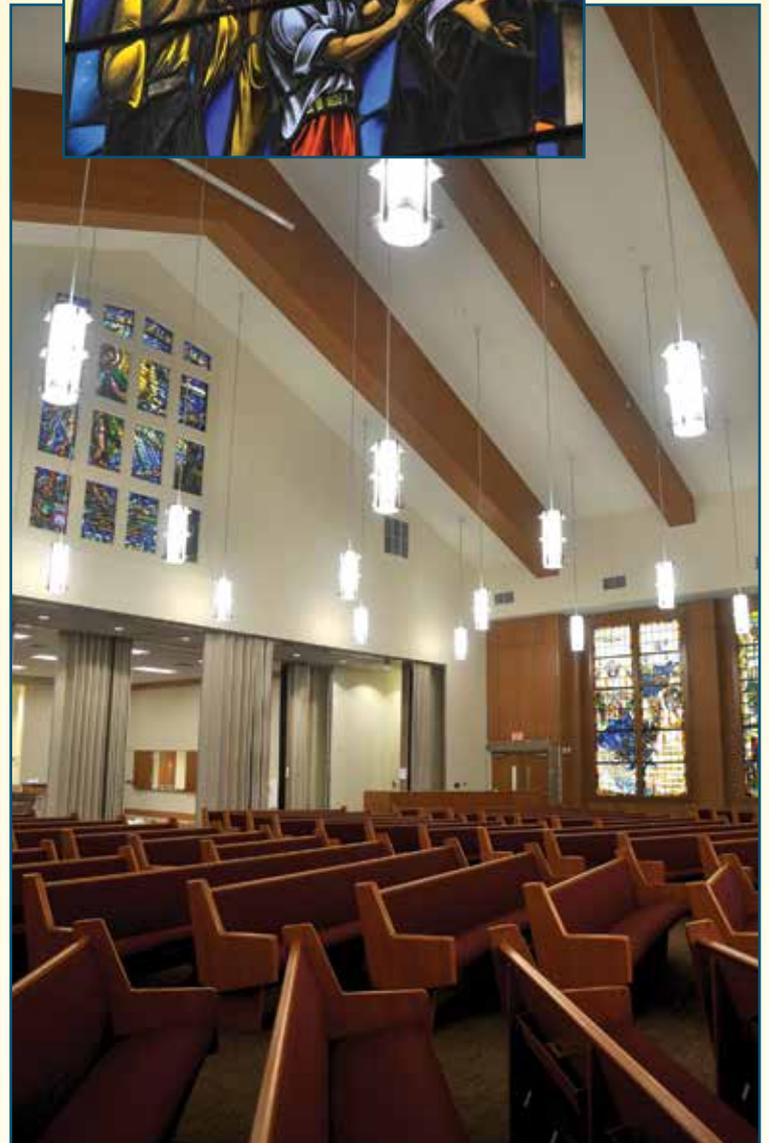
Article and photos by Tracy Robillard.



The current 82nd Chapel, constructed in 1971.



Construction continues on the new 82nd Chapel, shown here on Sept. 12, 2012.



The new 82nd Chapel contains the original stained glass windows from the old chapel. Each window depicts a war the 82nd has fought in.

Transforming the 82nd Division Barracks and Support Facilities

It all began with the Faith Barracks in the late '90s—a project that revolutionized on-post housing for single soldiers of Fort Bragg's 82nd Airborne Division. Since then, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District has demolished building after building of three-story, '50s-era barracks and constructed new four and six-story barracks along Ardennes Road. The final barracks were finished this year, rounding out the completion of a \$973 million rehaul of the 82nd barracks area and creating more than 7,000 personal living quarters.

The most notable differences between the old and new barracks are private bedrooms for each soldier within a two-person suite. Each suite has a kitchen, common area and bathroom, shared by two occupants. There's also a laundry facility on each floor and a recreation area in the main lobby. The old barracks, nicknamed "Hammerheads," had shared latrines on each floor and shared bedrooms for every two soldiers, similar to a traditional college dormitory.

"We've given the soldier more privacy and more amenities to enhance his comfort and convenience," said Karl Gabzdyl, resident engineer for the Corps' Barracks Resident Office at Fort Bragg.

Another major difference is that the Hammerheads often incorporated administrative facilities on the first floor as a result of space shortages. A small building in front of the barracks, originally intended as the company headquarters, served as the battalion headquarters. The transformation, however, has split these areas into three separate facilities—a barracks, a Company Operations Facility (COF), and a battalion headquarters.

"We've really transformed the whole 82nd compound to function more like a college campus," Gabzdyl said. "Instead of combining administrative spaces with the lodging spaces like the old facilities had, we've created three separate structures to meet the specific needs for each Brigade Combat Team."

What once formed block after block of gray, monotonous Hammerheads now contains a tall, flourishing campus of modern facilities that better accommodate the modern warfighter. And with a 50-year minimum lifecycle, these buildings will house the "All American" Division for decades to come.

Other support facilities throughout the 82nd area include a new chapel, dining facilities and Tactical Equipment Maintenance Facilities (TEMFs). The TEMFs provide soldiers with all necessary space and equipment



A view of the last-standing "Hammerhead" barracks built in 1953. *USACE photo by Tracy Robillard.*

An aerial view of the '50s-era "Hammerhead" barracks, stacked in between Ardennes Street and Gruber Road on Fort Bragg. *Courtesy photo.*



to work on their vehicles efficiently and effectively. In fact, the Savannah district is the Corps' Center of Standardization for TEMFs, COFs and headquarters facilities. The district produces standard, energy-efficient designs for these facilities that can be tailored to specific needs across each installation. 

By Tracy Robillard, Corporate Communications Office



Soldiers of the 82nd Airborne Division run down Ardennes Street during their morning physical training, Sept. 12, 2012. In the background stands the last six-story barracks constructed in the 82nd area of Fort Bragg, signifying the completion of an 18-year effort by the Savannah district and Fort Bragg to transform the 82nd area. *USACE photo by Tracy Robillard.*



Soldiers of the 82nd Airborne Division run down Ardennes Street during their morning physical training, Sept. 12, 2012. *USACE photo by Tracy Robillard.*



A view from the sixth-story balcony of a new barracks looking out at a portion of the transformed 82nd area of Fort Bragg. The new construction includes barracks, Company Operations Facilities, dining facilities, battalion headquarters, and other support facilities for the paratroopers to live and work. *USACE photo by Tracy Robillard.*



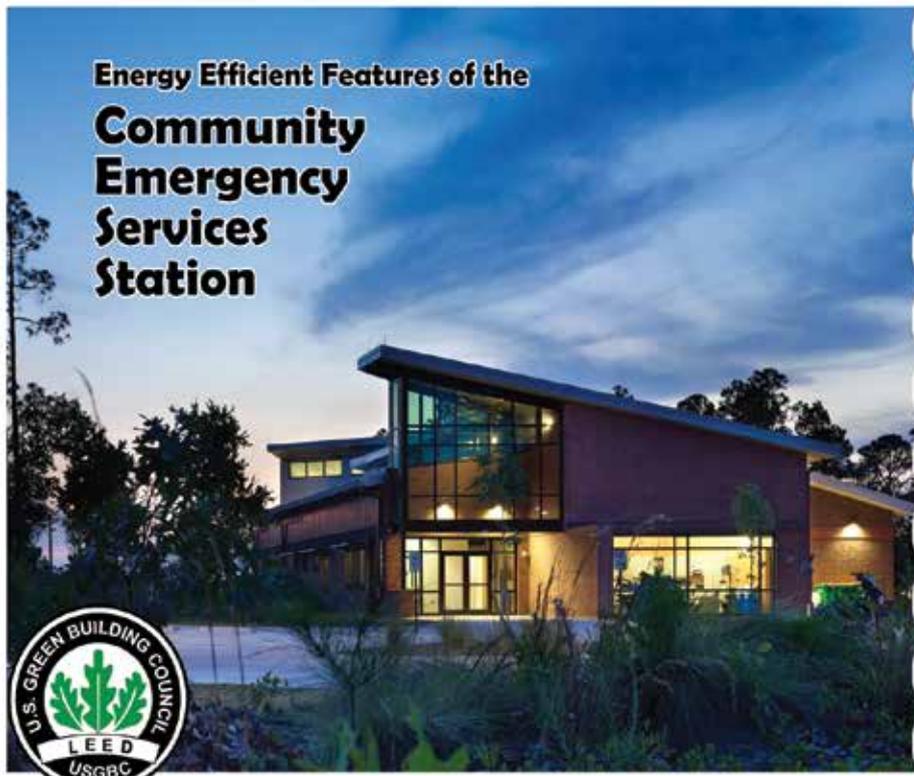
A new tactical Equipment Maintenance Facility for the 82nd Airborne Division, located off Gruber Road on Fort Bragg. *USACE photo by Tracy Robillard.*

Achieving Environmental Sustainability Through Military Construction

As the design and construction agent for the Army, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers builds efficient and sustainable facilities to meet future missions and support soldiers and families. The construction of Corps projects at Fort Bragg, N.C. and other military installations involves the use of eco-friendly practices which meet minimum criteria of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver, as mandated by the Army in 2008. Established and managed by the U.S. Green Building Council, the LEED rating system incorporates

a point-based “checklist” used to evaluate a building’s design. The more environmentally friendly features a building has the higher it will score in the LEED system. Buildings that qualify as LEED certified can be rated as Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. The Savannah district projects highlighted here are examples of how military construction is achieved in an environmentally sustainable way, by meeting LEED standards. 

By Rashida Banks, Corporate Communications Office



Energy Efficient Features of the Community Emergency Services Station

- 1 Geothermal Heat Pumps**
- 2 Solar Thermal Water Heating**
- 3 Recycled Building Materials**
- 4 Drought Tolerant Landscaping**
- 5 Rainwater Capture**
- 6 Daylight Sensors**
- 7 Construction Waste Recycled**
- 8 Local Suppliers**
- 9 Energy Efficient Plumbing**
- 10 Air Sensors**
- 11 Building Occupant Controls**

The \$2.6 million Community Emergency Services Center (Shown left) at Fort Bragg is the first LEED Platinum certified facility in the Army. Completed by the Savannah district in March 2011, the 8,300 square-foot facility includes mechanisms that save 35 percent more energy than a typical building of its kind. Additionally, the project received national recognition through the 2012 Chief of Engineers Awards of Excellence in two sustainability categories: “Lean, Clean and Green” and “Building the Future.” *Illustration by George Jumara.*

1. Geothermal heat pumps cool and heat the facility. They use the earth’s moderate and consistent temperature to heat and cool water in pipes drilled 400 feet into the ground. The water temperature from the ground helps heat air in the winter and cool air in the summer.
2. Solar thermal water heating system offsets at least 7.5 percent of total building energy costs.
3. Twenty percent of the products used to construct the building consist of recycled building materials.
4. Outside the building, native and locally-adapted, drought-resistant plants eliminate the need for any irrigation beyond the first year of establishment.
5. Rainwater, captured from the roof, feeds a 10,000-gallon cistern below the ground, which collects an estimated 45,000 gallons of water each year to flush toilets and wash vehicles.
6. Daylight sensors adjust the artificial light based on the amount and brightness of natural light. This energy saving strategy provides consistent light levels throughout the day while reducing lighting costs.
7. Ninety percent of construction waste and debris was recycled.
8. Local suppliers provided most of the materials for construction, reducing the amount of energy to transport them.
9. Low-flow toilet fixtures use less collected rainwater, making it available to wash vehicles.
10. Air sensors help ensure that indoor environmental air quality is adequate for ventilation.
11. Building occupants control their lighting and thermal comfort through the use of day lighting, artificial overhead lighting, thermostats, and operable windows.



The photovoltaic solar collectors mounted on the roof of the new \$28 million Battle Command Training Center can produce 25 kilowatts of electrical power using renewable energy, which helps the Army meet its renewable energy goals. Once completed, the 148,000 square-foot facility will be used to train soldiers, leadership teams, and units the skills necessary for successful battle command. *USACE Photo by Tracy Robillard.*

LEED Certified Facilities at Fort Bragg

Project	Level
4th Brigade Combat Team TEMF*	Silver
FORSCOM/USARC Headquarters (Marshall Hall)	Gold
Training Support Center	Gold
Community Emergency Services Center	Platinum
Blood Donor Center	Silver
Warrior in Transition Dining Facility	Silver

**Tactical Equipment Maintenance Facility*

U.S. Army Forces Command and Reserve Command

The new \$304 million combined headquarters for the U.S. Army Forces Command and U.S. Army Reserve Command (FORSCOM/USARC) at Fort Bragg was designed and constructed with sustainability in mind. The building's air distribution system lies under raised floors to improve ventilation efficiency, reduce energy use and increase comfort by allowing occupants to control air flow. The raised floor also allows for flexibility for reconfiguring walls. Other LEED features include reduced energy and water consumption, use of sustainable materials and environmentally friendly construction practices. The 631,000 square-foot facility was completed by the Savannah district in June 2011. As part of the Base Realignment and Closure Plan of 2005, the two headquarters were moved from Fort McPherson, Ga., to Fort Bragg. The facility is LEED Gold Certified. *Photo by Lawrence Stevens.*

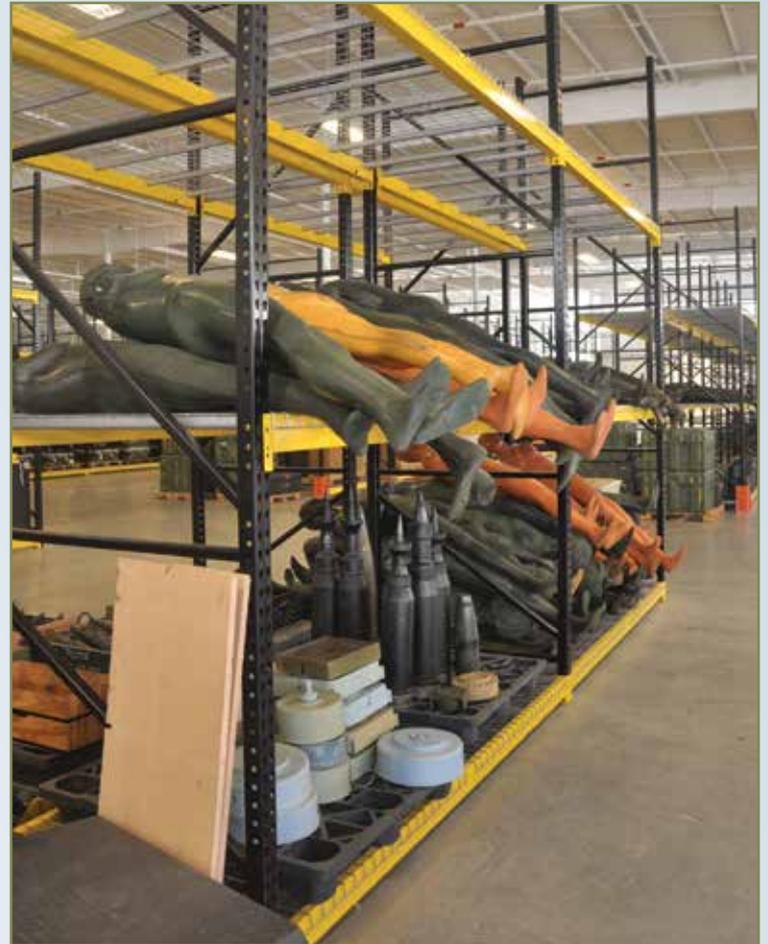


Enhancing Warfighter Training Capabilities

Training is a vital part of soldier readiness. For the warfighters at Fort Bragg, N.C., much of their training comes in the form of newly-constructed educational facilities and state-of-the-art training complexes geared to prepare them for the battlefield. Facilities like the Training Support Center highlighted here and the new \$28 million Battle Command Training Center, slated for completion by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District in October, operate at the cutting edge of new, groundbreaking technologies, providing soldiers the best combat advantage. 

By Rashida Banks, Corporate Communications Office

(Below) Soldiers participate in simulated arms training at the Training Support Center at Fort Bragg. The 118,700 square-foot facility constructed by the Savannah district provides a central location for all Army training aids, products, devices and services on the installation. Additionally, the facility includes 12 training rooms which allow soldiers to participate in interactive, virtual training scenarios much like they would encounter on the battlefield. Completed in April 2011 by Osborne Company, of North Carolina, the \$11 million center is the first warehouse facility of its type in the Army. It will serve as a prototype for similar facilities at other major Army installations worldwide. *USACE Photo by Tracy Robillard.*



Increasing Access to Quality Medical Care

Quality medical facilities on military installations are critical to soldier and family welfare. At Fort Bragg, N.C., the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District constructed more than \$154 million in new, renovated, and expanded healthcare facilities to help increase and improve access to medical care for soldiers and their families. In addition to the Behavioral Health Clinic and Warrior in Transition Complex featured below, the Corps also completed an addition to the Robinson Clinic and is nearing completion of a 51,000-square-foot Troop and Family Medical Clinic. Construction will also begin soon to renovate and upgrade the Womack Army Medical Center. Corps constructed medical facilities like these not only meet high energy and environmental standards, but include features such as soothing colors, textures, furnishings, natural views, and controls that allow patients to adjust the temperature, lighting, and electronics. 🏠

By Rashida Banks, Corporate Communications Office

Behavioral Health Clinic

Corps Project Engineer Eman Sundquist (right) talks to Fort Bragg Project Manager Forward Helane Church (center) and Project Manger Neal Bullock for Hensel Phelps Construction at the new \$14.7 million Behavioral Health Clinic currently under construction by the Savannah district. The 63,500-square foot clinic will provide behavioral health and social work/family advocacy services in support of soldiers, family members, and the Fort Bragg community. Additionally, the facility will house the Directorate of Business Operations for the Womack Army Medical Center. The clinic's design incorporates a walking trail and extensive garden areas, including an on-grade healing garden for individual patient relaxation, one-on-one conversation, and group discussions. One side of the building will be constructed of transparent and frosted glass which will provide views of the garden and existing wetlands from the patient waiting rooms. The project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2012. *USACE Photo by Tracy Robillard.*



Warrior in Transition Complex

Wounded and injured soldiers at Fort Bragg have a new \$88 million Warrior in Transition Complex to help them rehabilitate or transition back into duty or civilian life. The 250,000 square-foot complex, completed by the Savannah district in February 2012 provides quality housing and assistance for soldiers during the healing process, as part of the Army's Warrior Care and Transition Program. Conveniently located adjacent to the Womack Army Medical Center, the complex includes a soldier and family assistance center, 500-seat dining facility, brigade headquarters & company operations facilities, and a 153,911 square-foot barracks to accommodate 256 soldiers. In addition to other energy efficient features, the complex includes photovoltaic/solar panels to help Ft. Bragg meet their goal to reduce energy consumption by 18 percent. "This unique project provides the first three-deck parking garage ever built at Fort Bragg, and it is one of only two Warrior in Transition Complexes in the Army with a dining facility," said Corps Project Manager Ruben Del Rio. "These facilities honor the sacrifice of the injured and wounded warriors by providing a higher quality of life and better health care service." *Photo provided by Ruben Del Rio.*



Transforming Fort Bragg Schools

Within the past few years, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District has completed more than \$100 million worth of family support projects at Fort Bragg, N.C. These include schools and child development centers, which help meet the demand of military families arriving at the installation due to Army stationing initiatives. The Department of Defense Education Activity finances and manages the schools world-wide while Family, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation finances the childcare facilities. “Family support facilities like these not only help to improve the quality of life for deserving military families who support soldiers, but they also provide convincing incentives for soldiers to continue their service,” said Michelle Peralta, Corps project manager for schools at Fort Bragg. Between 2013 and 2020, another \$90 million is budgeted for continued school facility development at Fort Bragg. 

By Rashida Banks, Corporate Communications Office

Students use the computer lab at the Irwin Intermediate School. The Savannah district completed construction on the new \$14.9 million facility in April 2012, replacing the original Irwin building built in 1962. Located off of Normandy Drive, near Butler and Murray elementary schools, the new facility serves 725 students in grades two through five. Amenities include art, music, and general purpose classrooms, computer labs, a playground, gymnasium, and multipurpose rooms with a stage and kitchen. USACE Photos by Tracy Robillard.



Front view of Irwin Intermediate School

CORPS DAY 2012

Celebrating the Army Birthday and Diversity

Hundreds of Savannah district team members and their families gathered at J.F. Gregory Park in Richmond Hill, Ga., to celebrate Corps Day on June 22. Corps Day is held every year in honor of the U.S. Army birthday (June 14), which is also the same birthday as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This year marks the 237th birthday of the Army and the Corps.

Activities included an awards ceremony, reading of the Army Engineer Regimental Muster, a talent show, and games such as volleyball, horseshoes and cornhole. Children's activities included face painting, a water slide, and an inflatable bouncy castle.

This year for the first time, the Savannah district combined Corps Day with its annual Diversity Day celebration—showcasing cultural exhibits and displays, Polynesian dances and Native American presentations. Other displays and giveaways were presented by the Savannah district Family Readiness Network, the Safety Office, and the Formerly Used Defense Sites team. 

*By Tracy Robillard,
Corporate
Communications
Office*



Team Member of the Year Awards



William G. Bailey, Team Member of the Year, Engineering and Scientific Field

As Savannah district's Planning division Chief, Bailey led the district's coordination within the Corps of the final Savannah Harbor Expansion Project, products and reports. Approval by Corps headquarters and the Office of the Assistance Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) of the mitigation plans in October 2011 removed most of the issues that commonly surface during the Corps' review of the final reports. Bailey oversaw the response to the review of the final reports, and personally ensured that requested revisions were incorporated in the documents, so they could be forwarded to headquarters. He led the district team as it addressed remaining headquarters concerns prior to the Civil Works Review Board (CWRB). The CWRB unanimously and unconditionally approved public release of the reports. Bailey's body of work for SHEP qualifies him for the team member of the year in engineering and scientific field award.



Renee Atkins, Team Member of the Year, Other than Engineering and Scientific Field

Renee L. Atkins was selected for her notable contributions to the district while serving as the supervisor, administrative section, engineering technical specialties branch, engineering division. As part of her many duties, Atkins serves as the Savannah district intern coordinator for the CP-18 Engineers and Scientists Career Program. She fully administers the program for not only the Savannah district, but all Department of Army interns, ensuring compliance with program requirements. Atkins has volunteered to be a member of the employee recreation association, currently serving as President, where she oversees a variety of fundraising and morale boosting activities for the employees and retirees of Savannah district. Atkins was also the Savannah district Combined Federal Campaign Key Person and has been involved with Toastmasters International on many levels. The positive reflection she gives to the organization as well as the employees of district make her the Savannah district's 2012 Other than Engineering and Scientific Team Member of the Year.



Matthew Rorick, Supervisor of the Year

Matthew Rorick is the supervisory power project manager at J. Strom Thurmond Power Plant. Considered one of the top power project managers in the South Atlantic Division, Rorick was a true inspiration to a team member who was struggling as an operator trainee. Leading up to the final trainee examination period, Rorick recognized the skills of the trainee and his value to the organization. He got several other team members involved to help the trainee study, resulting in one of the best exams ever presented in the Savannah district. In another instance, Rorick astutely determined that a trainee was clearly in "the wrong seat on the bus." He led an effort to re-route the employee to the mechanic craft where the trainee completed the training program, passed all exams, and has earned recognition for innovations in his new assignment. Rorick exhibits excellent leadership traits and has great communication skills. His meetings promote a 360-degree leadership style where he consistently solicits feedback. Rorick's diligence and professionalism truly make him the choice for the 2012 supervisor of the year.



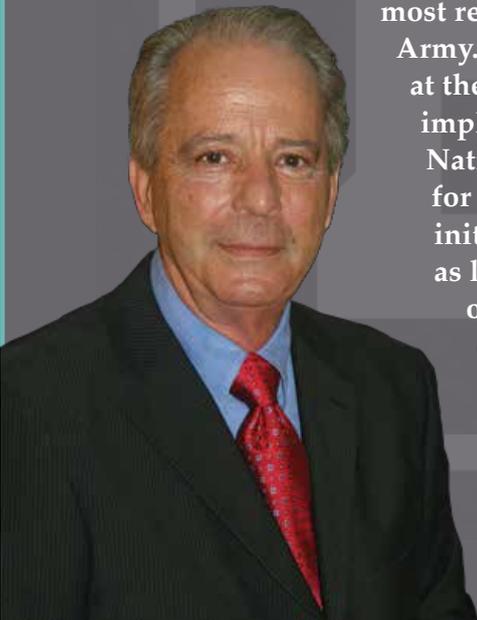
Nicholas Ruff, Student Team Member of the Year

Nicholas A. Ruff is a powerplant trainee, III at the J. Strom Thurmond Project. Ruff's determination has pushed him to continue to complete all of his training requirements at a performance level far superior to his peers, while working a 40 hour work week and going to school at night. Yet he's always the first person ready to go to work in the mornings. Ruff identified problems with equipment and suggested solutions. He remains positive and upbeat and was a critical player in cost savings efforts of more than \$500,000 dollars of taxpayers' money with immense innovation in his team's support of Single Award Task Order Contracts. Ruff continues to build communication and leadership skills and is the future of hydropower, the Savannah district and Corps.



William Huff, Distinguished Gallery Civilian

William A. Hough served as the Savannah district Counsel from January 1987 through December 2004. Hough's consistent professionalism, vision, maturity, dedication and communications skills resulted in exceptional contributions at the district, regional, and national levels. As the result of Hough's superlative leadership, the Savannah district Office of Counsel has been and continues to be recognized regionally and nationally as one of the most respected in the Army. The office was at the forefront in implementing the National Law Firm for the USACE 2012 initiative, was chosen as lead district office in 2003 on potentially responsible party claims from across the division, provided



trial, labor counselor, procurement advice and other significant assistance to other SAD offices while successfully prosecuting its own extremely heavy workload. Hough personally contributed invaluable expertise on numerous matters of legal and policy significance on both regional and national levels, including fiscal law implications on the Fort Stewart modularity project, hospital roof issues at Fort Bragg, the Georgia Beach Restoration Act, the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project, the Richard B. Russell Mitigation Lands Transfer, and the Brunswick Harbor Project and protest in federal court. Hough consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership ability, trust, and confidence in his subordinates. An exemplary personnel manager, he delegated well and employed a trusting "hands off" management style only interceding when sought out or needed for his expert counsel. For his pattern of excellence, consistently high performance and commitment to duty, Hough is nominated as the 2012 inductee into the Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees.

2012 Charles F. Trainor Team Awards

Charles Trainor was assigned to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District as a civil engineer in 1929 and became the first Chief of the Engineering division. He served the district with distinction for almost 40 years, retiring in 1968. Some of his notable accomplishments include widening the district's design experience and organizing the Construction-Operations division. The Trainor Team Award recognizes any team or group of team members who were significantly involved in executing programs, projects, or improving processes.

Military Project/Program/Process Team of the Year Randall David Shughart Elementary & Middle School Team



Randall David Shughart Elementary and Middle School is the Department of Defense Education Activity's (DoDEA) newest and largest school project to date. The Savannah district team worked together to design and construct a facility to enhance the educational environment and experience. It is the first DoDEA School to receive a LEED Silver Certification. The 20,000 square foot facility serves children from kindergarten through the sixth grade. The school forms the design outline for the DoDEA 21st Century Schools. The school named in honor of Sgt. 1st Class Randall D. Shughart, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for actions in Somalia in 1993, was built to support the surge of troops migrating to the area because of the Base Realignment and Closure and Grow the Army Plans.

Civil Project/Program Process Team of the Year Savannah Harbor Expansion Deep Draft Navigation Study team

Savannah Harbor Expansion Project will increase efficiencies at Savannah Harbor through deepening the existing 42-foot channel allowing larger, more efficient vessels to call at Savannah. Through unprecedented analysis, coordination among natural resource agencies, the project's unique authorization gained approval by the Departments of Interior, Commerce and Army, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The Corps Civil Works Review Board voted to release the final plan on March 22, 2012. Representing a synergistic solution to engineering and environmental challenges, the project will bring more than \$174 million annually in economic benefits to the nation while balancing commerce with the environment.





Environmental Project/Program Process Team of the Year

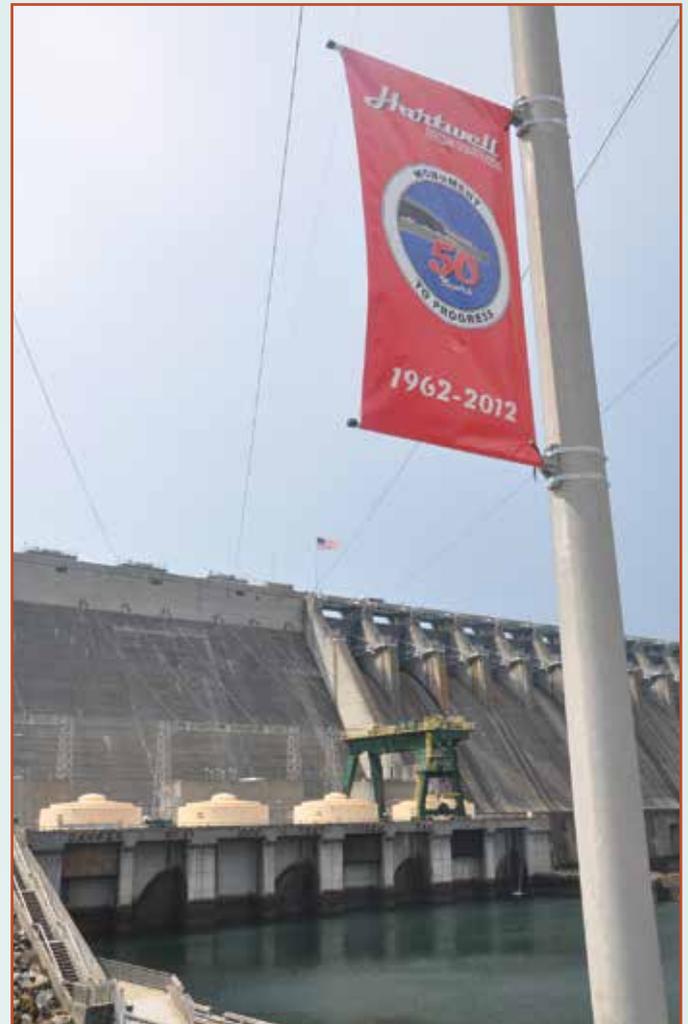
Savannah District Subsurface Investigation Team

The Savannah district Subsurface Investigation Team used direct-push technology to perform contaminant delineation and monitoring well installation at the former Petroleum Product Corporation Superfund site in Pembroke Park, Florida. The team used technology that allowed discrete-interval sampling of site soils, maneuverability within the limits of existing treatment systems, and access to limited-space areas for the placement of 11 monitoring wells and 81 soil borings. This far exceeded the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) expectations of nine monitoring wells and 25 borings, which was based on previous experience with contracted drilling teams. The information was considered "invaluable" by the EPA in revising the site conceptual model and potentially reducing the remediation costs by 40 percent – as much as \$44 million in 1990s dollars. Because of the diverse array of equipment and experience of the Savannah district team, they were able to deliver superior results that far exceeded the customer's expectations and will lead to considerable savings realized by the customer.

Special Project/Program Process Team of the Year

Hartwell Dam and Lake 50th Anniversary Project Delivery Team

Preparations began in 2011 to plan an "invitation only" ceremony scheduled for April 27, 2012, the 50th anniversary of the date hydroelectric power was first produced at the Hartwell Power Plant. Team efforts included development of an invitation list focusing on recognition of former construction and natural resources employees, development of the official 50th logo and ceremonial programs and banners, media coordination, planning tours of the Hartwell Dam and Power Plant and all other logistical challenges associated with hosting such a high profile event. In addition, the Project Delivery Team effectively partnered with other agencies to design and acquire coins and to re-purpose an existing granite monument to commemorate the event. The success of the 50th anniversary of the Hartwell Project is directly attributable to the quality teamwork displayed by this comprehensive team to effectively plan, leverage resources and overcome challenges to ensure the proper recognition of this momentous occasion.



District employee wins national award

Savannah district employee, Helane Church was named the Corps' 2012 Installation Support Professional of the Year. Church was recognized for her outstanding accomplishments as the installation support manager / project manager forward for the Savannah district's Fort Bragg Area Office. She serves as a liaison between the Directorate of Public Works and the Savannah and Wilmington districts.

The Corps' director of military programs established the award to recognize a Corps employee who supports the Installation Support Services program by leading or performing work that has contributed to the success of operations at the installation level of Corps.

Church was presented her award during the Corps Summer Leaders Conference Awards in Little Rock, Ark., on Aug. 6. 



By Rashida Banks, Corporate Communications Office

Corporate Communications Office garners journalism awards

The Savannah district Corporate Communications office placed first in four categories and garnered seven awards overall in this year's Herbert A. Kassner and Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Journalism competitions.

The Castle Online won first place in the Corps for "Web-based Publications" in the Kassner competition and went on to place third Army-wide in the Keith L. Ware competition.

First place honors also went to "Promoting Water Safety through Social Media" in the "Initiatives in New Media" category and to the Leadership Development Program Recruitment video in the "Television Spot Production" category.

The district was also a contributor for the Corps' entry "Building Strong People," which won first place Corps-wide and first place Army-wide in the "Command Information Campaign" category.

The "Balancing the Basin Video" captured 3rd place in the "Television Information Program" category and

the *Balancing the Basin* E-Newsletter also placed 3rd in the "Community Relations Program" category.

The Castle's "New Home for the Armor School" received an Honorable mention in the "Picture Page Category."

The Kassner Awards recognize military and civilian employee print and broadcast practitioners for journalistic excellence in furthering the objectives of the Corps' internal communication program. All first place winners go on to compete in Keith L. Ware, the Army-wide journalism competition program. First place winners of the Keith L. Ware competition compete in the Thomas Jefferson Journalism competition, which is the Department of Defense's highest accolade for military journalists and broadcasters. 

By Rashida Banks, Corporate Communications Office



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