



# CCRA E-News Bulletin



April 2010

*Welcome to the April edition of the Chemical Regimental Association  
E-News Bulletin*

## Message from Your Interim President LTC(R) Randy Kennedy

A lot has happened since the January 2010 E-News Bulletin was published. Donnie Killgore has stepped down after serving 3 years as President of the CCRA and Roger Gunter has stepped down after serving 3 years as the Chief Operations Officer (COO). I want to thank them personally for their outstanding efforts and many years of service to the CCRA. I know they will continue to serve the CCRA and to support Dragon Soldiers. I have the honor of replacing Donnie as the interim President and Art Bland replaces Roger as the COO.

Some of the other changes include revision of our website, which we expect to launch this Spring and revision of the Constitution and By Laws, which will be completed in April 2010. Perhaps the most significant change to the Constitution and By Laws involves the Honors Program. The Board of Directors (BOD) has approved revisions that include eligibility for award and approval authority for the Honorable Order of the Dragon. Changes include granting chapter presidents approval authority for award of the Honorable Order of the Dragon.

The CCRA as well as the CBRN School are preparing for Regimental Week to be held at Fort Leonard Wood 21-25 June 2010. The CCRA has been instrumental for many years in making this event a huge success for the Corps. I hope that many of you will be here that week and will attend the Green Dragon Ball.

This year promises to be very busy for the CCRA and we hope with your help it will be very successful. I encourage each of you to invite your eligible friends and co-workers who are not currently members of the CCRA to join as Lifetime members. If you are located in an area with a significant CBRN population, but don't have a CCRA chapter, we will be glad to assist you in establishing a chapter. Efforts are underway to establish chapters at Fort Bragg, Korea and Dugway Proving Grounds.

For our existing Chapters I want to remind you to ensure that your Charter is up to date and if you physically reside on a military installation to ensure your private organization validation is up to date IAW AR 210-22 and local Post policies and regulations.

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as President of the CCRA and deeply appreciate the support that everyone has provided. With your continued efforts we will be able to maintain the outstanding tradition of supporting Dragon Soldiers and their Families.

Randy Kennedy  
Interim CCRA President  
Member 4 Life

Message from Your Association Chairman BG(R) Pat Nilo and  
Association Vice Chairman CSM(R) Pete Hiltner

It is with regret the resignations of Donnie Killgore as our President, Roger Gunter as our COO, and George Heib as our Secretary. They contributed greatly to the success of our association and will be missed. Be assured that the CCRA continues to be a thriving organization. As an interim, until we have formal elections, the Board of Directors approved Randy Kennedy as our interim President, Art Bland is covering down on the COO position and Pat Nilo is filling in for the Secretary. Many thanks for your devotion and professionalism and rolling up your sleeves to step in and keep the CCRA operating.

On a very happy note, the leadership of the Chemical Corps is growing in rank. We congratulate Tom and Cynthia Spoehr on Tom's promotion to Major General. He is the first active duty Chemical two-Star since MG Wooten's retirement in 1999. Congratulations, Tom and Cynthia!

We also have a new USAR Chemical General. COL Lucas N. Polakowski has been the Commander, 415th Chemical Brigade since August 2009. He pinned on his Star as a Brigadier General in February 2010. Congratulations and we wish you many more stars!

The CCRA is spearheading the upgrading of the Memorial Grove Park. The soldiers that we honor there deserve the finest setting that we can provide. The Memorial Grove is showing signs of age and we need to give it a face lift. Shortly, we will be kicking off the first annual fund raiser with the intention of focusing our efforts on improving the site. We hope the generosity of our members will help make this a reality. We know that times are tough for everyone with the state of the economy but every little bit will help.

After serving his full term as the Honorary Sergeant Major of the Corps, Pete Hiltner is stepping down. During his six years in this position, he contributed tremendously in support of our Corps and Dragon Soldiers. He set the standards high. Pete will continue to be the Vice Chairman of the CCRA.

We are gearing up for the Joint Conference and Regimental Week. Thanks to the continued generosity of our Corporate Members we will be able to support events such as our CCRA BBQ, golf tournament, Hall of Fame and Distinguished Members of the Corps reception to mention a few. We will see you there!

BG(R) Pat Nilo  
Chairman, CCRA  
Member 4 Life

CSM(R) Pete Hiltner  
Vice Chairman, CCRA  
Member 4 Life

## Message from the Chief of Chemical and Regimental Command Sergeant Major

This commandants update is designed for Soldiers and Civilians that have an interest in events surrounding the Chemical Corps and Army.

**TRAINING UPDATES.** If you have not had a chance to look at CKN yet, need you to do so. We have almost 90 percent of our functional courses online now. Have asked our team to improve our number of "clicks" that it takes to get to each area. Keep telling us how to get better.

**MOBILE TRAINING TEAMS.** If you have a requirement to get training done, would ask that you first look in ATTRS to see which courses are available for training. IF that does not meet your timeline, please contact the directorate of education and training execution (DETE), Ms Kilthau about a possible MTT. We are working an MTT to 4ID right now. Goal is to get all training executed in FLW (with the best facilities and equipment) but we exist to support you.

**DIVISION CBRN SLOT KEY BILLET REQUEST.** Due to the reduction of BN level commands (primarily Chemical Materials Agency Ammo Plants and Depots), we are applying to have the 10 Division CBRN Slots become key billet. This does not reduce our drive to obtain O1A slots in Recruiting, Garrison and other positions but allows venues to select the leaders that are deploying with our divisions to have some recognition of the importance of their positions.

**CSM COMMAND SLATING LIST.** The Army is changing the way that we slate CSMs and SGMs to positions, It will become more aligned to the officer model of two year requirements with a reapplication. More information to follow from RCSM Lopez over the next few months.

**PRE-COMMAND COURSE (29 March - 9 April).** We are in the process of planning the next Bn, Bde Commanders / CSM and Division-Corps CBRN officer starting the end of March. Goal is to get all incoming Active Duty, National Guard and Army Reserve leaders to this course. We use it as a process to get leaders re-greened on what is going on in the Chemical Corps, interact with other teams from the Engineer and Military Police courses and meet with our next generation of Soldiers. Please look for updates and contact the Directorate of Training, COL Lydia Combs, for questions.

Message from the Chief of Chemical and  
Regimental Command Sergeant Major

JOINT SENIOR LEADER COURSE (15-18 April). This course is sponsored by the Joint Requirements Office, J-8, hosted by our team at FLW. This course focuses on a national to operational discussion on CWMD and CBRNE roles and missions. Also includes a visit to the CDTF for live agent training. Previous key speakers have included the Honorable Mr. Ashcroft former Senator Jim Talent and others. The next course is scheduled for 15-18 April. Look for information from Mr. Terry Johnson and COL Jon Byrom on this course.

8. JOINT CBRN CONFERENCE and REGIMENTAL WEEK June 2010 (21-25 June). Block your calendars for this strategic event. We have a projected great slate of speakers from OSD down to operational level commanders. The vendor exhibits and speakers, sponsored by the National Defense Industrial Association continue to grow and we expect more exhibits and demonstrations this year. Our normal Regimental week events include the golf tournament (bring your spouse on the links!), GO/ COL/ CSM/SGM discussions, Dragons Peak (a shift in focus to HAZMAT and team competitions), a Regimental Review and other events. See you there.

9.PROMOTION to MG. It is with Great Pride that I announce that BG (P) Thomas W. Spoehr was promoted to MG at the Pentagon.  
What a great day for the Army and the Chemical Corps! Hooah!!!

10.CLOSING. THANKS for what you do each day and the difference you make in our formations and Army. Keep up the great work and let us know how we can help you! Be safe!

VR,

LESLIE C. SMITH  
BG, USA  
Commandant, USA CBRN School  
25th Chief of Chemical  
o:573-563-8054  
<http://www.wood.army.mil>

## Chapter News . . .

**McClellan Chapter - Mike Lanphere 256-231-2186**

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[Michael.Lanphere@us.army.mil](mailto:Michael.Lanphere@us.army.mil)

- For those of you that haven't already joined Together We Serve (TWS), recommend you visit their site - <http://www.togetherweserved.com/>

TWS is an organization that provides its members (from all of the different services) a method of recording their personal military histories and sharing that information with other members. One of its main attractions is that a member can record his/her data in the form of a "Shadow Box" and use the web site to compare similar data with that recorded by other members who served in the same unit/organization; thereby, enhancing the renewal of old acquaintances. - We received a note from the 203rd thanking the McClellan Chapter for sending them the Magic Jacks and Phone Cards; they also sent us a US Flag that was flown over their camp in Iraq. Hope you all continue your support of our Service Members serving in Iraq and Afghanistan; the McClellan Chapter will continue efforts to raise funds to support our troops and their Family Support Groups. - Support the CCRA so they can better support our Troops. - The next McClellan Chapter Board Meeting is 2 Mar, 0700 - 0800, at the Cane Creek Golf Cafe at Ft McClellan.

The 151st Cm BN arrived home to Gadsden, AL on 27 Mar 2010 The 151st Chemical Battalion was in charge of all operations at the Buehring camp, a processing facility for all soldiers leaving or arriving in Iraq. The unit has provided service to about 250,000 troops.

McClellan Chapter will Support Armed Forces Day at McClellan on 15 May. We'll have BBQ to raise money for the different Soldier Support Programs we are involved in; we also help organize display CM Units and equipment.

Lowe's Companies, Inc. recently announced that it is expanding its support of the military by offering a 10% discount 24/7 to all military personnel who are active, reserve, retired or disabled veterans and their family members, with a valid, government-issued military ID card. All other military veterans (non-disabled) will receive the 10% discount only on Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Veterans Day weekends. The discount is available on in-stock and Special Order purchases up to \$5,000. Excluded from the discount are sales via Lowes.com, previous sales, and purchases of services or gift cards. In addition, Lowe's has also extended benefits for its employees serving in the military and offers employment opportunities to military personnel after their military service has ended. Currently, more than 12,000 Lowe's employees are military veterans or reservists.

## Chapter News . . . (continued)

The Chapter had Phil Trued, Chief of Staff Anniston Army Depot, as a Guest Speaker on 25 Feb; Phil provided an overview of activities at the Depot. Next Guest Speaker is LTC Herbst; will provide an overview of the Demil Program at AAD and what future activities may take place. Presentation is scheduled for 6 Apr at the Depot.

**NCR - Mandy Lopez**

[mandy.lopez@tex-shield.com](mailto:mandy.lopez@tex-shield.com)

NCR Vice President - COL Thomas Woloszyn, Edgewood

Vice President - Joseph Ortiz

Treasure - James Snyder and COL Joseph Marquart

Secretary - Lisa Cramer

Planning Director Dee Morris

The NCR/Edgewood CCRA Chapter has a full 2010 and we are in the planning stages. We hope all around the world can come and join us for these events and others, so if you are in the area around these timeframe call us for **details**.

### NCR Calendar of Events

#### WINTER (Jan, Feb, Mar)

- (1) NCR folks sponsor a membership meeting in the Fort Belvoir or Fort Myers area.
- (2) Edgewood folks sponsor a membership meeting in Aberdeen Proving Grounds or Edgewood Arsenal area.
- (3) NCR folks sponsor Regimental/Commandant coins to the wounded warriors at the Pentagon or Walter Reed.

#### SPRING (April, May)

- (1) NCR folks sponsor the Golf tournament in the Washington DC or Virginia area.
- (2) NCR folks sponsor an outing to a ballgame at the National's Stadium.  
And/or
- (3) Edgewood folks sponsor an outing to a ball game at the Oriole's Camden Yards



## Chapter News . . . (continued)

### **NCR - Mandy Lopez (continued)**

#### SUMMER (June, July, August)

- (1) Green Dragon Ball at Aberdeen Proving Grounds.
- (2) NCR/Edgewood folks sponsor a dinner cruise in the Washington DC Potomac area or a nice restaurant in DC or Baltimore.

#### FALL (Sep, Oct, Nov)

- (1) Edgewood Golf tournament in the Aberdeen area.
- (2) NCR/Edgewood AUSA membership gathering in the Washington DC area.
- (3) Edgewood folks sponsor a football game outing to the Ravens Stadium And/or
- (4) NCR folks sponsor a football game outing to the Redskins Stadium.

#### Winter (Dec)

- (1) NCR/Edgewood folks sponsor a trip to the Army/Navy game.
- (2) NCR/Edgewood Holiday gathering in the General's home.

### **Ozark (FLW) - Bobby Williams**

[bobby.c.williams@us.army.mil](mailto:bobby.c.williams@us.army.mil)

Chapter motto is "Dragonfire!"

This past quarter has been very busy affording little time to work Chapter business. Having said that we still made time to support the local community.

The Ozark Chapter proudly Sponsored the Genesis House (Battered Women's Shelter) fund raiser of Waynesville in honor of Women's History Month. This sponsorship is in the form of collecting donations of personal hygiene items, clothing kids toys and any item you feel that would bring these woman's life back to normal faster. All of this is in support of the Batter Women's Shelter honoring Women's history month in which BG (RET) Nilo is the guest speaker on 29 March 2010.

### **JBLM (Joint Base Lewis McChord) Chapter - CSM Ken Graham**

[kenneth.graham@us.army.mil](mailto:kenneth.graham@us.army.mil)

Currently undergoing chapter reinstatement process. Future project include Leader seminar and chapter kick off membership drive on 18 June 2010.

### **FDNY - CPT Hanibl Olmeda**

[ajrlop@aol.com](mailto:ajrlop@aol.com)

No Input this Quarter

## Chapter News . . . (continued)

### **Golden Wyverns (SC) - BG James Cook**

[james.t.cook1@us.army.mil](mailto:james.t.cook1@us.army.mil)

We are happy to report that our Community Give Back program is going well. The Golden Wyverns placed a receptacle at the entrance to the Thomas Kurkowski Reserve Center to collect toiletry (i.e. small travel soap, travel shampoo, combs, disposable razors) items for our Homeless Veterans.



(Photo taken by Mr. Charles Barber)

On 11 February 2010 COL James Crout (see picture below) donated these items on behalf of the Golden Wyverns to Miracle Hills Rescue Mission



(Photo taken by Mr. Charles Barber)

COL Lucas N. Polakowski (Commander, 415th Chemical Brigade since August 2009) received his 1st Star in February 2010. MG Dyer of the 335th Signal Command presented his Star and GO Belt (see picture below) on 7 February 2010 (BG Nuttall, previous 415th Cm Bde Commander) was a guest at the ceremony). BG Polakowski is a life member of the Chemical Corps Regimental Association. We are proud to have him as a member of the Golden Wyvern Chapter of the CCRA.



(Picture taken by Mr. Charles E. Barber)



## Chapter News . . .

### **Golden Wyverns (SC) - BG James Cook (continued)**

[james.t.cook1@us.army.mil](mailto:james.t.cook1@us.army.mil)

Some new items to our Regimental Room as you enter the main area there is a Military History of Greenville South Carolina from Camp Wetherill (Spanish American War, 1898-99), Camp Sevier (WW1, 1917-1919), and Donaldson Air Force Base(1942-1962). There is also a history of the Dog Tag, history of the P38 and P51 Can Opener and Old Panoramic photos of Units and Soldiers. We have also acquired some new items for our Regimental Room so come by and see all that we have added. We have also received numerous artifacts for the other Chemical Brigades which have passed into history.



Military History of Greenville



Panoramic Photos



New Items

## Our History Corner - - Did You Know?



One of the most unique items to be donated to the Chemical Corps museum recently is the swallow-tailed student guidon for the very first Chemical Officers Basic Course conducted at Fort McClellan, Alabama in 1958. It is made from dark blue cotton, approximately 19 by 29 inches, and features a cartoon character in a helmet (complete with second lieutenant insignia) wearing a protective mask and holding a rifle (or perhaps a blunderbuss) at "Port Arms", all while standing in a puddle of a G-series nerve agent. The paint used in the artwork was applied thickly, and has hardened over the years to the point of fracturing the cotton material underneath.

It has become a tradition for basic officer students to design and create a guidon to represent the class during its training. Unlike officially produced and issued unit guidons, these are not Army property and do not require disposition instructions and turn-in to the Army Clearinghouse upon disbandment of the unit.

The Chemical Corps museum has several examples of COBC guidons from throughout the past 52 years, most with similar humorous characters, symbols, or phrases, and incorporating the year and class number. However this guidon is unique in that it was for the first class, and did not incorporate the year. It is truly one of a kind, and apparently "set the standard" for the guidons that have followed.

## Last Roll Call

### *We Dedicate this Section to Those Who gave the Last Full Measure*

We are all saddened by the passing these Dragon Soldier heroes and offer our condolences to their families. They will be missed but will remain in our memories.



Northrop Grumman's Huntsville lead executive retired [Army Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen](#), seen here in a 2008 photograph, died February 20, 2010 of an apparent heart attack.

He was 60. Retired Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen was commander of Redstone Arsenal and the Army Space and Missile Defense Command before working in the defense industry. Dodgen was promoted to lieutenant general and became commander of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command headquartered at Redstone. Those of us who were fortunate to know General Dodgen remember him from his contributions to the Chemical School at Fort McClellan.

[MAJ Gary Anderson Parker](#), U.S. Army, Ret., Age 63, of Aurora, Colorado, formerly of Pocahontas, Arkansas, passed away Feb. 16, 2010. He is survived by his mother, Eugenia "Gene" (Dickson) Parker, of Pocahontas, AR; daughters, Michelle Blake, of Forest Hill, MD, Laura Lynn Graham, of Reyno, AR; brother, Michael Parker of Clearwater, FL; grandchildren.

## Contact Information

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Vice-Chairman - RCSM(R) Pete Hiltner at 573-528-0630

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President - LTC(R) Randy Kennedy at 573-216-6934

[rkennedy@astcorp.com](mailto:rkennedy@astcorp.com)

Chief Operating Officer - LTC(R) Art Bland at 573-336-0193ext 1516

[Arthur.J.Bland@saic.com](mailto:Arthur.J.Bland@saic.com)

Business Manager - Mrs. Jennifer Walton at 573-329-0600

[ccramanager@embarqmail.com](mailto:ccramanager@embarqmail.com)

WebMaster - SFC(R) Scott Newell

[ccrawebmaster@chemical-corps.org](mailto:ccrawebmaster@chemical-corps.org)

### Help increase CCRA Membership!

Do you know any Dragon Soldiers, Active, Retired, or former Dragon Soldiers who are not members of the CCRA? Get them on the web site and get them signed up!

### Please Make Sure Your Contact Information is Current

The CCRA wants to keep in touch with you! Please make sure as you move around or change email addresses that we have current information of file. You can drop and email with changes to our Business Manager or to any other of the email addressed listed above.

### Donations . . .

If you wish to provide a donation to the CCRA, you can send your check payable to CCRA to:

**Jennifer Walton - Business Manager**  
Chemical Corps Regimental Association  
PO Box 437, 495 S. Dakota Avenue, Bldg 1607  
Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473-0437

..... Detach Along This Line and Mail to the Address Above .....

### **CHEMICAL CORPS REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION DONATIONS**

Name (Last, First, MI): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Active Duty: \_\_\_ Reserve/NG: \_\_\_ Retired: \_\_\_ Veteran: \_\_\_ Civilian: \_\_\_

Donation: \$250\_\_\_ \$100\_\_\_ \$50\_\_\_ \$25\_\_\_ Other: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Donations to the CCRA are tax deductible