More than 300 competitors took part in the 10th annual Warrior Games, held this year in Tampa, Florida, and hosted for the first time by the U.S. Special Operations Command.

The Army’s team of about 100 competitors included soldiers from the Regular Army, Army National Guard and Army Reserve and veterans.

Army Capt. Casey Turner tied for second in the Ultimate Champion result count, with Staff Sgt. Ross Alewine—the 2018 Ultimate Champion—finishing third.

Alewine was also part of Army’s gold medal-winning 4x100 relay team, along with Staff Sgt. David Cochran, Staff Sgt. Samuel Daniels and Spc. Austin Harwick.

Staff Sgt. Matthew Lammers received the Army’s Heart of the Team award for his attitude, resilience and selfless support.

Lammers lost both legs and left arm in Iraq in 2007 from an improvised explosive device blast.

A cross-country runner and basketball player in high school, he has used swimming as exercise and therapy.

During the 2019 games, Lammers won gold medals in the seated shotput and seated discus. He captured attention at the games by wearing a sign painted on his back wishing his daughter, Jaelen, a happy 13th birthday.

Team Army also won a bronze medal in the highly competitive wheelchair basketball competition, defeating Team Marines 61-51.

Turner was part of the Army team, and she described the victory as a big comeback after being defeated earlier by Navy. Army’s high scorer was retired Spc. Brent Garlic, with 27 points.

“Team positivity was the key in this matchup,” Garlic said.

The Army will host the 2020 Warrior Games in San Antonio, Texas.
ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

2019 MEETINGS & EVENTS

ILW BREAKFAST SERIES –
LTG PAUL A. OSTROWSKI
ARLINGTON, VA
July 16, 2019

EANGUS 48TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2019
DES MOINES, IA
August 4-7, 2019

HOT TOPIC:
ARMY CYBER + NETWORKS
ARLINGTON, VA
September 16, 2019

ILW BREAKFAST SERIES –
LTG JAMES F. PASQUARETTE
ARLINGTON, VA
September 18, 2019

ILW LEMNITZER LECTURE
& BOOK SIGNING –
DAVID L. ROLL
ARLINGTON, VA
September 23, 2019

ILW ROGERS STRATEGIC
ISSUES FORUM –
ADM CRAIG S. FALLER
ARLINGTON, VA
September 30, 2019

For more details visit www.ausa.org/meet
Membership offers ID protection, education savings

By Susan Rubel

My focus this month is on education and protection, but since we’re also in the summer fun months, I’d like to remind you to save on theme parks, vacations, hotels and car rentals.

Visit us at www.ausa.org/savings to quickly access your discounts.

You save, the Association of the U.S. Army receives support for its mission, and everybody benefits.

ID Theft Protection and Legal Services

I recently received a letter from a company telling me they had identified a data security incident that “may have” involved my information—including my name, address, Social Security number and password.

This was not the first notice like this that I’ve received.

Today, many companies practically require that you do business online, so how do we protect ourselves from the bad actors?

How about a comprehensive identity theft protection plan that monitors your identity (including the dark web), provides alerts so that you can stay on top of the situation, and provides restoration services if you become the victim of identity theft?

AUSA has a member benefit for these services for just $6 per month ($11 for family coverage).

We also have excellent rates ($15.95 per month in most states) for legal service plans that provide access to advice and counsel—on an unlimited number of personal legal issues—by attorneys with an average of 19 years’ experience.

The rate includes you, your spouse and never-married, dependent children under 26 years of age.

Coverage includes advice, letters and calls on your behalf, contract and document review, trial defense services, will preparation, powers of attorney, residential loan document assistance, motor vehicle services (tickets, drivers’ license reinstatement, etc.), adoption, uncontested divorce and much more.

And, there’s an excellent app with an emergency button to provide access to your attorney 24/7 in the event of an emergency.

Learn more at www.ausa.org/legal.

Educational Benefits

Last year, AUSA began working with edX, the trusted platform for education and learning, to provide quality learning opportunities for our members.

Founded by Harvard and MIT, edX is home to more than 20 million learners, most top-ranked universities in the world and industry-leading companies.

As a global nonprofit, edX is transforming traditional education, removing the barriers of cost, location and access.

Through our partnership with edX, AUSA members can take courses from Harvard, MIT, UC Berkeley, Columbia, RIT, Dartmouth, Microsoft, Amazon Web Services, IBM and more.

Whether you want to advance your career, pursue graduate-level credentials, or just enjoy learning, you’ll find something that fits.

The courses change often, so visit www.edx.org regularly to find something that’s right for you.

AUSA members get 20% off with the code edXAUSA.

Another way to meet your personal and professional goals is through an online degree from Trident University.

AUSA has teamed with Trident University to offer all members—regardless of military service—the military discount for tuition.

If you’re not a veteran, you must be an AUSA member for at least one year to take advantage of these savings.

Trident provides educational opportunities through exceptional service and affordable, flexible, high quality, innovative academic programs.

With a rich tradition of serving the women and men in military service, Trident is uniquely positioned to serve individuals who balance family and work commitments while striving to earn a quality education.

Offering 100% online courses with 22 degrees and more than 60 concentrations to choose from, there is an ideal program for almost all working professionals.

We’re working to provide programs and services that you find valuable and are always open to your feedback.

My email is srubel@ausa.org—please write to me anytime with your questions, comments and suggestions.

Susan Rubel is AUSA’s Affinity Programs Director.
Congressional challenges: Defense budget deal, debt limit increase

By Mark Haaland

The Association of the U.S. Army continues to meet with members of Congress and congressional staff to advocate for a budget deal and solution to the threat of sequestration.

Without a budget deal between the administration and Congress, the Department of Defense and the military services will face significant reductions to current funding levels—cuts that will harm readiness, the Army’s top priority.

The good news is that members and staff all believe a new agreement to raise the funding caps that are part of the Budget Control Act is indeed possible.

The Army’s fiscal year 2020 budget request will continue to build readiness and make positive improvements in Army lethality.

AUSA is advocating for these requests in our congressional meetings and correspondence.

Another challenge our federal government must address in the coming months is raising the debt limit to prevent the risk of the United States defaulting on the nation’s financial obligations.

The potential exists for the administration and Congress to combine a new budget deal for fiscal 2020 with an agreement to raise the debt limit.

But even with a combined fiscal 2020 budget deal and debt limit increase—as important, even essential, as that is—the DoD and other federal agencies still need their appropriations passed by the beginning of the new fiscal year on Oct. 1, or the passage of a continuing resolution to allow the U.S. government to operate at fiscal 2019 levels and avert another government shutdown and furlough of the civilian workforce.

As we celebrate this Independence Day holiday and enter the fourth quarter of fiscal 2019, the House has passed its version of the defense appropriations bill, and the Senate has passed its version of the National Defense Authorization Act.

The House Armed Services Committee has marked up its version of the NDAA and is now waiting for approval for the bill to go to the House floor.

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee has yet to mark up its bill but plans to so in mid-July.

So, much remains to be accomplished in the three months between now and Oct. 1.

The number of legislative days is shrinking faster than Congress is moving forward through legislation.

But, being optimistic, Congress still has time to agree to a budget deal, pass legislation to raise the debt limit, and send a final defense appropriations bill and NDAA to the president in time for the new fiscal year.

The cup is half full—for now.

Mark Haaland is AUSA’s Government Affairs Director.
Revolutionary War lessons hold true for modern Army

In the first volume of his “Revolution Trilogy” about America’s war for independence, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Rick Atkinson acknowledged that Gen. George Washington demonstrated “tactical shortcomings as a commander,” but succeeded as a leader whose “great responsibility enlarges him.”

“He readily embodies the sacrifice of personal interest to a greater good, as well as other republican virtues of probity, dignity, moral stamina, incorruptibility—traits that should remain true norths for every citizen today,” Atkinson said at a Lemnitzer Lecture series event hosted June 26 by the Association of the U.S. Army’s Institute of Land Warfare.

As described in his new book, *The British Are Coming: The War for America, Lexington to Princeton, 1775–1777*, Atkinson said the first two years of the American Revolution “certainly brought bitter lessons to Washington” that would be familiar to Army commanders today—that war “was rarely linear, preferring a path of fits and starts, ups and downs, triumphs and cataclysms; that only battle could reveal those with the necessary dark heart for [years of] killing; that only those with the requisite stamina, aptitude and luck … would be able to see it through.”

In 1776, Atkinson said, the hardest of war’s hard lessons was that “for a new nation to live, young men must die, often alone, usually in pain and sometimes to no obvious purpose.”

“Creation of the American republic is one of mankind’s most remarkable achievements,” Atkinson said, pointing out that the “existential struggle” for American independence “churned up issues that perplex us to this day.”

He urged everyone to keep that struggle in mind.

“Keeping faith for those who fought, suffered and died for the principles we profess to still cherish requires more than a nodding acquaintance with them, more than a perfunctory acknowledgement of their struggles,” Atkinson said.

Deadline looms for 44 AUSA national scholarships

The deadline is fast approaching to apply for 44 national-level scholarships that will be awarded this fall by the Association of the U.S. Army.

Applications, which in some cases require submission of an essay, letters of recommendation and a biography, must be received by July 31.

Scholarship recipients will be notified by November.

More than $315,000 will be awarded in scholarships to provide financial assistance for students enrolled in college-level institutions.

Membership in AUSA—to include a member’s spouse or child—is a requirement for 38 of the scholarships.

The other six are Army scholarships administered by AUSA that do not require membership.

Scholarships requiring AUSA membership include three programs targeted to science, technology, engineering and math for those who have been accepted into an accredited college or university.

Eighteen scholarships are available, ranging from $2,000 to $10,000.

Also limited to AUSA members are three full-ride scholarships for Trident University, an accredited online institution offering bachelor’s and master’s degrees that gives credit for leadership and professional experience.

These scholarships are valued at up to $48,000 each.

Additionally, AUSA membership is required for 10 general studies scholarships, ranging from $2,000 to $25,000, three debt-reduction scholarships of $2,000 each for those who have completed a degree in the last two years, and four professional certification scholarships of $2,000 each.

For details, including eligibility rules, visit www.ausa.org/resources/scholarships.
AUSA chapter recognizes Wreaths Across America founder

The Association of the U.S. Army's Greater Kansas City Chapter recognized Morrill Worcester, founder of Wreaths Across America, with the Colonel Roger H.C. Donlon Patriot Award for his continued support of veterans and families of the fallen.

The award was presented June 15 during an event that also recognized the chapter's 20th anniversary and celebrated the Army's 244th birthday.

The evening's program included an enlistment ceremony led by retired Gen. Carter F. Ham, AUSA president and CEO. Three recruits from Lenexa, Kansas, stood side-by-side as Ham administered the oath of enlistment.

Ham also joined retired Maj. Emma Toops, the chapter president, and newly commissioned 2nd Lt. Eric Haas of the Pony Express ROTC Battalion at Park University, in the ceremonial cutting of the Army birthday cake.

In his remarks, Ham highlighted this year's Army birthday celebration theme, "Honoring the call to service from D-Day to today."

He also thanked Worcester for all that Wreaths Across America does to remember the soldiers buried at Normandy, as well as those laid to rest throughout the nation.

The inaugural Donlon Patriot Award was presented last year to philanthropist Gary Sinise, and it honors Donlon as the first American soldier of the Vietnam War and the first Special Forces warrior to be awarded the Medal of Honor.

"Let us all join together with Wreaths Across America to forever continue to honor our fallen heroes by saying their names aloud as we place a veteran's wreath at their gravestones," Donlon said at the event. "We pledge to hold high their torches and emulate their legacies of service and sacrifice. In doing so, we teach the next generation about freedom and patriotism."

WWII vets honored at chapter’s Army birthday celebration

By Tiffany Stanton

The West/Central Alabama Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army honored three local World War II veterans and welcomed four new National Guard recruits while celebrating the Army's 244th birthday in the Tuscaloosa Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse.

"I'm really thankful for all that they do for us, and I'm just really glad that they formed and that they protect our freedom," 11-year-old Kate Cain, a Tuscaloosa homeschooler associated with the Children of the American Revolution, said of the Army before sharing her poem, "An Ode to the Armed Forces," with attendees.

Those honored at the celebration included veterans of the Korean, Vietnam and Gulf wars, with special guests Wilson Ruffin, 97, Alfonso Romanello, 94, and Ray Farabee, 92, who are WWII veterans.

Ruffin said the recognition, which included a grand entrance with applause for the veterans as they took their seats up front, was uplifting.

"Today has made my whole life," he said. "And it means everything to me, and [I'm] glad to be here."

As the oldest service member in the room, Ruffin cut the Army birthday cake with the youngest member, Hillcrest High School JROTC Cadet Jackson Smith, 15, as per tradition. They were joined by the new Guard recruits, Christian Holler, Judson Stanfill, James Andress and Preston Reynolds.

Lt. Col. Nicolas Britto, president of the local AUSA chapter, said the organization partnered with American Legion Post 123, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 301, Veterans of Foreign War Post 6022, and the Tuscaloosa Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution to sponsor the gathering.

Tiffany Stanton is a staff reporter for AUSA's West/Central Alabama Chapter.
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