



Soldiers, defense industry representatives, DoD leaders and other attendees receive badges for the 2023 AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C. (AUSA PHOTO)

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AUSA Annual Meeting registration opens

Registration is now open for the Association of the U.S. Army's 2024 Annual Meeting and Exposition.

Scheduled for Oct. 14–16 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C., the three-day event will feature addresses and professional development forums by top Army and DoD leaders on the Army's transformation and its efforts to grow and prepare the force for a complex future battlefield.

There will be more than 700 exhibits spread over five halls featuring the latest technology and equipment.

Attendees also can register for housing, which opened in June.

For more information or to register, click here.

All Annual Meeting registrants

will receive AUSA's new Digital Access Pass, which can be downloaded on your smartphone and used to access events in the convention center, including contemporary military forums and receptions.

A printed badge is still required to visit the exhibit halls.

Pre-registered Annual Meeting attendees will receive their Digital Access Pass in early October.

The Army is in a period of "profound transformation," Army Secretary Christine Wormuth said earlier this year, as it modernizes its equipment and capabilities, overhauls its recruiting workforce, restructures the force and boosts quality-of-life programs for soldiers and families.

And it's doing it all quickly, said Army Chief of Staff Gen. Randy

George. "The world is more volatile today than I have seen it in my 36-year career," George said. "A spark in any region can have global impacts. Meanwhile, the character of war is changing rapidly. Our Army is as important as ever to the joint force. We must deter war everywhere and be ready to respond anywhere."

In addition to keynote addresses and contemporary military forums featuring senior Army leaders, Annual Meeting attendees also will be able to view Warriors Corner and Innovators Corner presentations, visit more than 700 exhibits and network with leaders from the military and industry.

Also scheduled are several award presentations, including the winners of the Best Squad Competition, NCO

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NOONREPORT

AN AUSA WEBINAR SERIES

DR. LESTER MARTINEZ-LOPEZ

Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs

Moderated by **Joseph Carvalho, Jr., M.D.**

Major General, U.S. Army (Retired)

President and CEO, The Henry M. Jackson Foundation



JOIN THE DISCUSSION!

This webinar will include a Q&A session in which questions submitted by the audience will be selected and asked by the moderator.

A recording of the webinar will be available on our Youtube page the following day.



30 JULY 2024

1200-1300 EST

Join us on Tuesday, 30 July, at 12:00 PM EDT, to hear a presentation by Dr. Lester Martinez-Lopez, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. He will give a top-to-bottom rundown on MHS Genesis, the Military Health Service's state-of-the-art, streamlined electronic health record system, designed for servicemembers, veterans and their families.



LEARN MORE & REGISTER ONLINE AT

WWW.AUSA.ORG/EVENTS

Army graduates 1st class of recruiting warrant officers

The Army's effort to modernize its recruiting enterprise reached an important milestone with the graduation of the first warrant officers to become talent acquisition technicians.

Twenty-five warrant officers who were serving in 19 career fields in the Regular Army were recognized July 11 upon completing the Talent Acquisition Course. They are the first to become recruiting warrant officers in the Army's newest MOS, 420T.

The 420T warrant officers will fill the ranks at multiple echelons as leaders, advisers, trainers and technical experts, bringing a new generation of recruiting support into the career field. Talent acquisition warrant officers will play a key role in recruiting operations, data analytics, marketing techniques and public relations, according to an Army news release.

"I was recruited back in 2006, so the times have drastically changed," Chief Warrant Officer 2 Juana Trujillo, a 420T graduate, said in the release.

"We are more focused on recruiting talent and ensuring that our benefits and incentives remain competitive with civilian markets," Trujillo said.

The creation of the new MOS is part of the Army's broader strategy to address a stubborn recruiting cri-



Twenty-five warrant officers are the first to become talent acquisition technicians in the Army's newest MOS, 420T. (U.S. ARMY/LARA POIRRIER)

sis that has kept the service from meeting recruiting needs for more than three years.

Among a set of initiatives announced in October aimed at overhauling the recruiting enterprise are creation of the warrant officer MOS, expansion into new talent markets, reorganization of the curriculum at the Recruiting and Retention College, better identification of soldiers suited to the recruiting job and establishment of an experimental group to rapidly test and field new ideas for attracting future soldiers.

By overhauling the way it recruits,

the Army hopes to turn the tide in a bid to attract talent into the ranks.

"As a former recruiting company commander and battalion commander, I see the value [these new warrant officers] bring instantly to the team," Col. Rick Frank, Recruiting and Retention College commandant, said in the release. "Wish I had them on my team as a recruiting battalion commander."

Frank added that the new MOS is "a great investment and one of the many changes that we will need to make to accomplish our mission not only now, but in the future."

Meet the AUSA headquarters staff

Rasheena Rowley

Exhibit Sales and Operations Manager

Rasheena Rowley has been with AUSA for seven months and comes from an Army family—her father, brother, two uncles and husband all served. Rasheena enjoys running, sewing, watching baking competitions and spending time with her family. She won first place in her age group at a 5K race in March and aims to complete a 10K next.



AUSA registration

From Page 1

and Soldier of the Year and the Marshall Medal, AUSA's highest award for selfless service to the country.

This year's Marshall Medal honoree is the United States Army Non-commissioned Officer.

The annual meeting is free, but registration is required. Some seated events require separate reservations and may have a fee.

Updated information will be available here. You can register here. Housing registration is available here.

AUSA book, webinar shine light on Ninth US Army leaders in WWII

The leadership team behind the Ninth U.S. Army, described as “uncommonly normal” in their time, contributed to Allied success in World War II and offers lessons about today’s military command structure, a military history expert said.

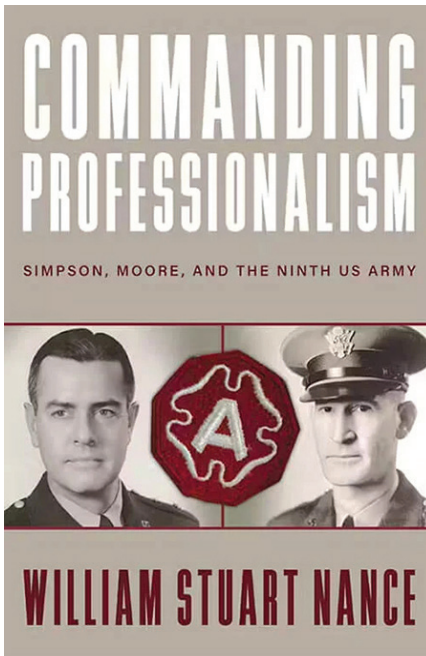
“The Ninth Army ... met the trifecta,” retired Lt. Col. William Nance said Tuesday during an Association of the U.S. Army Noon Report webinar. “Their bosses liked having them in their organization, their peers liked working with them and their subordinates liked being in their organization. As a leader, you don’t do better than that.”

A retired armor officer and civilian associate professor of history at the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Nance has written several books on military history. After commissioning from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Nance served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He joined the Department of Military History at the Command and General Staff College in 2018 and retired from the Army in 2022.

In his book, *Commanding Professionalism: Simpson, Moore, and the Ninth US Army*, part of the AUSA Book Program, Nance highlights the leadership of Lt. Gen. William Simpson, commander of Ninth U.S. Army, and his chief of staff, Brig. Gen. James Moore, and analyzes how their understanding of command and staff relationships contributed to the 1940s war effort and to military command structure today.

From the start, Simpson and Moore hit it off, Nance said. “They ... both [have] kind of the same personality. ... They both like discipline, they both like procedure [and] they both like doing things by the book,” Nance said. “They just kept finding ways to work with each other.”

Simpson recognized that doctrine



was becoming “increasingly important” during World War II, Nance said. “The Army, particularly in times of war, where [there are] large influxes of people, we need a good enough, repeatable process that can be executed by almost everybody, and that’s what doctrine gives us,” Nance said. “That’s what Simpson and Moore [understood] from the get-go.”

Their approach was incredibly effective.

Under Simpson’s command, Ninth Army captured more than 750,000 German prisoners of war and liberated nearly 600,000 Allied POWs and over 1.2 million displaced people between September 1944 and May 1945, according to a National World War II Museum webpage.

Soldiers today can learn from the “absolute and utter trust” that Simpson and Moore placed in one another. “Simpson trusted Moore to run things as he asked him to be ran, and Moore trusted his superior, Simpson, to have his back at all times,” Nance said. “And, to my knowledge, they never broke that.”

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PERK OF THE WEEK



Access your AUSA member discount at www.ausa.org/choice for savings at more than 7,400 locations from Choice Hotels. Their 22 brands provide hotel options that fit every trip and budget.

Stubbs nominated to be next Army National Guard director

Maj. Gen. Jonathan Stubbs has been nominated by President Joe Biden to be the next director of the Army National Guard, the Pentagon announced.

If confirmed by the Senate, Stubbs, the adjutant general of Arkansas since January 2023, would receive his third star and succeed Lt. Gen. Jon Jensen, who has led the Army National Guard since August 2020.

A career Army National Guard officer, Stubbs has spent more than 27 of his 29 years in uniform in the Arkansas Army National Guard. After two years as an enlisted soldier in the Tennessee Army National Guard, he commissioned as an infantry officer after completing Officer Candidate School at the Tennessee Military Academy.

Stubbs has held every leadership position within the 39th Infantry



Maj. Gen. Jonathan Stubbs. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

Brigade Combat Team, from rifle platoon leader to brigade commander. He led Company C, 3rd Battalion, 153rd Infantry Regiment, in Baghdad from 2004 to 2005 and served as the 39th Infantry Brigade Combat

Team operations officer in Baghdad in 2008.

He also served as an Active Guard Reserve officer in the Arkansas Army National Guard from 1997 to 2021, where he completed a variety of training and administrative assignments. His last staff assignment was as chief of staff for the Arkansas Army National Guard.

He was promoted to brigadier general in September 2021 and assigned as the vice director of operations at the National Guard Bureau in Arlington, Virginia, with a follow-on assignment in January 2022 as deputy director for operations, readiness and mobilization in the Department of the Army at the Pentagon.

In January 2023, he was selected for promotion to major general and appointed by the governor of Arkansas as the state's 54th adjutant general.

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Back-to-school resources for military kids, families

At this time of year, families start planning to pack lunch boxes and battle the school drop-off line. The Association of the U.S. Army's Family Readiness directorate wants to help you and your family prepare for the new school year by stocking your toolkit with helpful resources.

Need help with back-to-school shopping? Operation Homefront's Back-to-School Brigade is an annual program

that collects, packs and distributes backpacks with essential school items to eligible military children.

The program has distributed over 550,000 backpacks and nearly \$55 million in school expenses, according to the organization's website. It is available on a first-come, first-served basis to military children registered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System in kindergarten through 12th grade.

View a list of Back-to-School Brigade events here.

When homework starts to give you a headache, turn to Tutor.com's webpage for U.S. military families. Tutor.com offers free, online and on-demand tutoring and homework assistance for eligible military-affiliated students. The program has over 4,000 vetted tutors in more than 150 subjects, with Spanish-language options that are available 24/7 for students of all ages.

New school

Have you recently moved to a new duty station? The Military Child Education Coalition provides quality education programs, resources and advocacy for military-connected children to help ease the challenges of military life. Student 2 Student is one of its many programs that brings military and civilian students together to welcome and integrate their peers into new schools.

AUSA's Family Readiness team

will host a booth at the coalition's Global Training Summit July 29–31 in Washington, D.C. Come learn more about how we support military families and their educational needs.

United Through Reading helps military parents stay connected to their children through recorded video story time sessions. The soldier selects a children's book and records a video of themselves reading it. The video and a copy of the book is sent to their children and family to watch and read along together.

The free United Through Reading program is available to all military branches and components.

Parents and students also can reach out to School Liaisons at their installation to help navigate the school system, connect with resources in the community, inform families about graduation requirements and more.

Supporting kids

Sesame Street for Military Families offers resources that can help young children learn more about military life, such as relocation, separation and routines, through fun activities. Military-connected children can learn more about Army life with

Elmo and Cookie Monster through games, printable activity sheets and videos.

The AUSA "Army Matters" podcast offers discussions on relevant topics to the military community, including organizations that provide support and quality-of-life resources. The podcast includes episodes like "Special Edition: Back to School" with the Military Child Education Coalition, "Elmo's Journey from Sesame Street into the Military Family," and "How United Through Reading Keeps Families Connected."

These episodes highlight helpful back-to-school resources and programs for military families.

Join AUSA today and gain access to a range of benefits like ACT/SAT prep. It is never too early for your student to start preparing for academic testing, and our resources can help you achieve your goals.

AUSA's Family Readiness team is dedicated to ensuring military families are prepared and supported. We wish all your students a successful and exciting school year.

Kaylee Spielman is AUSA's Family Readiness intern.



Thea Green, AUSA's deputy director of Family Readiness, examines a display at the United Through Reading booth during the 2022 AUSA Annual Meeting. (AUSA PHOTO)

Chapter honors VA optometrist for outstanding service

In June, the Association of the U.S. Army's Coastal South Carolina chapter presented its quarterly Outstanding Service Award to Dr. Kelly Singleton for her work as an optometrist, professor and veterans advocate at the Ralph H. Johnson Veterans Affairs Medical Center and the Medical University of South Carolina.

Retired Lt. Col. Larry Dandridge, the chapter's vice president for veteran affairs, presented the award to Singleton at the VA medical center.

"This award ceremony and the work of Dr. Singleton provided more proof that veterans should enroll in VA health care," said Dandridge, who has served as the chapter vice president for the past two decades.

"Many patient evaluations, supervisor appraisals, and coworker comments have described and commended Kelly Singleton as a polite, kind, compassionate, understanding, calming, and highly skilled doctor, communicator, teacher, and patient advocate. Her patients rank Dr. Singleton in the 99th percentile in the 'rate my provider' category," the award plaque states.

Impaired vision care

On average, the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center's main eye clinic sees more than 10,000 patients each year, Dandridge said. Approximately 20% of the patients are blind or visually impaired.

Singleton and her team provide a variety of services, including low-vision evaluations, support groups for visually impaired veterans, recreational therapy and Braille instruction. They also have a rehabilitation specialist who teaches blind patients to use a mobility cane and assists with technology devices to enable patients to be independent.

The primary focus in the low-vision clinic is to ensure veterans remain



Retired Lt. Col. Larry Dandridge, left, vice president for veteran affairs at AUSA's Coastal South Carolina chapter, presents the chapter's Outstanding Service Award to Dr. Kelly Singleton of the Ralph H. Johnson Veterans Affairs Medical Center. (AUSA PHOTO)

independent even if they develop a visual impairment from disease or injury.

"Dr. Singleton patiently and professionally evaluates veterans who are visually impaired to give them opportunities to improve their functioning vision. Her job is tough since what her patients want is to have normal vision again, which is unfortunately almost always impossible," Dandridge said.

Caring staff

The Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center Eye Clinics have received the highest Press Ganey patient satisfaction score, and many members of the eye care team have also received iCare awards, which give veterans, their caregivers and family members a voice to recognize those who mean something to them.

The staff includes three primary eye care optometrists, 14 ophthalmologists, four nurses, 17 eye clinic technicians, six medical surgical assistants and residents and students.

Singleton "tirelessly works with optometry students and residents to improve their training and learning experience at the [VA center] ... training that ensures her resident students complete their examinations and patients are referred appropriately," the award plaque states.

Although options are available to schedule an appointment with a civilian optometrist, most patients prefer to wait to see a VA eye clinic doctor, Dandridge said. "However, it is time for the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center to hire more optometrists," he said.

Singleton and her staff "do not dwell on the negative with their patients. Instead, they encourage them to learn new skills that will allow them to be more independent," the award plaque says, adding that Singleton "kindly answers the tough questions from veterans and their families about things like driving."

"Congratulations to Dr. Singleton and her highly skilled and greatly appreciated staff," Dandridge said.

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