

The Association of the U.S. Army's 2019 National Awards will be presented in October during its Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C. (AUSA PHOTO)

2019 national award winners announced

he Association of the U.S. Army has announced the recipients of its 2019 National Awards, which will be presented in October during AUSA's Annual Meeting and Exposition at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.

General Creighton W. Abrams Medal

The General Creighton W. Abrams Medal for exceptional service to the U.S. Army will be awarded to Elaine Rogers, the president and CEO of the USO of Metropolitan Washington-Baltimore.

Rogers has worked for the USO since 1976 and has been president of USO-Metro for 42 years.

"Those of us who know Elaine know that she is as passionate today about giving back to those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom as she was when she began her work at the USO of Metropolitan Washington," said Karen Lowe of AUSA's George Washington Chapter. "She has nonstop energy and never accepts no for an answer."

USO-Metro is the USO's largest global affiliate with 10 locations plus a mobile facility serving a region with more than 300,000 troops and family members.

"Under Ms. Rogers' leadership, USO-Metro has increased the scope and depth of the programs it provides to active-duty military and their families, as well as wounded, ill and injured service members and their caregivers," Lowe said.

During her tenure, annual donations grew from \$100,000 to more than \$14 million in cash, goods and services, and her roster of volunteers grew from 50 people to more than 1,200.

Sergeant Major of the Army William G. Bainbridge Medal

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The Sergeant Major of the Army William G. Bainbridge Medal for contributions to the Army Noncommissioned Officer Corps will be awarded to retired Command Sgt. Maj. Frank Minosky of AUSA's Central Texas-Fort Hood Chapter.

After 25 years of service, Minosky continues to serve through civic duties, including volunteering and working for local government, nonprofit and civic organizations in which he has formed lasting friendships and partnerships in the military and local communities.

"Simply put, Command Sgt. Maj. Minosky is the hub through which nearly all support to veterans and their families in the Fort Hood area flows. He connects people and organizations, enables their impact, and his See Awards, Page 5





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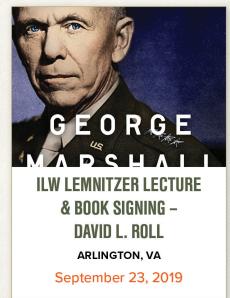
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ILW ROGERS STRATEGIC ISSUES FORUM – ADM CRAIG S. FALLER ARLINGTON, VA September 30, 2019

For more details visit www.ausa.org/meet

New vice chief sworn in as leadership changes continue

en. Joseph M. Martin succeeded Gen. James C. McConville on July 26 as Army vice chief of staff as changes in Army leadership continue.

The 56-year-old Martin, a 1986 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and former 1st Infantry Division commanding general, had been serving as the three-star director of the Army Staff when he was nominated for the four-star assignment as the Army's second-ranking uniformed leader.

Married with two children, including one who is serving in the Army, Martin made five deployments to Iraq in his career.

"I am humbled and grateful for this tremendous honor," Martin said in a statement. "I have had no greater privilege than leading and serving with the great men and women of our United States Army, and am truly blessed to be able to continue being by their side as vice chief of staff."

Martin was promoted and sworn in as the 37th vice chief by current Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley,



Gen. Joseph M. Martin, left, is sworn in by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley at the Pentagon while his wife, Leann, holds the Bible. (U.S. ARMY/SPC. KEISHA BROWN)

who is confirmed to become the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs, succeeding Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford Jr.

McConville, 60, will succeed Milley as the Army's top officer. This leadership change is expected in August. Also ahead is a change in the Army's senior enlisted adviser.

Command Sgt. Maj. Michael A. Grinston will succeed Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey, who has held the post since Jan. 30, 2015.

National Army museum seeks volunteer applications

he National Museum of the United States Army is now accepting applications for its volunteer program.

The museum, which is under construction at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, is scheduled to open in 2020. The first volunteers will be selected this summer in preparation for the museum's opening.

"We want our volunteers to reflect the diversity of the Army and our expected visitors," said Tammy Call, the museum's director. "Our volunteer opportunities will complement our daily operations and there is a spot for you as a volunteer."

The museum is seeking volunteers for a variety of roles, including visitor services, special events, tours, education, gardening and administration. Applicants must be at least 18 years old. Those selected as volunteers will be matched to roles based on skills and interests shared during the application process, and they can choose their preferred shifts. The museum, which will be open seven days a week, 364 days a year, expects to attract more than 750,000 visitors a year. To learn more or to apply, visit https://bit.ly/2YiuHri or call 1-800-506-2672.



The National Museum of the United States Army, scheduled to open in 2020, is looking for volunteer applicants. (ARMY HISTORICAL FOUNDATION PHOTO)

AUSA member benefits include student loan help, school supplies

By Susan Rubel

he end of summer is a good time to think about school—whether it's back-to-school planning for your kids or any student loan debt you may be facing.

Student loans, saving for college

The Association of the U.S. Army is working with Gradifi to provide a new member benefit to help members with saving or paying for college.

Gradifi's financial wellness benefits include a learning center, one-on-one student loan and college planning counseling through American Student Assistance, and a student loan refinancing marketplace.

ASA is an independent nonprofit that can advocate for you and ensure you are on the right track to pay down your student loans.

ASA's expert counselors can help you decide if student loan refinancing is right for you and explain how to evaluate different lenders.

If refinancing is the right choice, Gradifi Refi offers access to some of the lowest student loan refinancing

Member Benefits

rates, best-in-class service, and a special \$300 bonus when you refinance

through the platform.

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School supplies and electronics

Back-to-school shopping?

Take advantage of one of the most popular AUSA member benefits—discounts at Office Depot and OfficeMax.

Savings can be as high as 75% on some items. Use coupon code 77305623 online or in store to save an additional 10% off qualifying purchases (some restrictions apply) through Sept. 26.

Visit www.officediscounts.org/ausa and create an account if you want to



Make sure to check out your AUSA benefits for back-to-school shopping. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO) shop online or click "shop in store" to print a discount card that you can use in Office Depot and OfficeMax stores.

You can write to srubel@ausa.org and I'll mail you a laminated card or key ring card.

Don't forget the special printing, copying, binding, folding and cutting prices for members.

For new electronics purchases, AUSA partners with Apple, Dell and HP.

Apple: The recently improved AUSA member benefit includes iPhones, Apple watches and iPods.

Save up to 10% on items in the Apple store at www.ausa.org/apple or mention AUSA if you're in a retail store to get your discount.

Dell: The company offers the best pricing to members through its Member Purchase Program, and now AUSA has an exclusive additional 10% off coupon.

Send an email to Chris Pringle at chris.pringle@dell.com, tell him you're an AUSA member, and he'll get you the best pricing and the additional coupon.

Hewlett Packard: Pay a visit to www.ausa.org/HP and register to shop its Member Purchase Program site, which provides everyday savings of up to 35%.

Susan Rubel is AUSA's Affinity Programs Director.



Voice for the Army – Support For the Soldier

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PERK OF THE WEEK

Legal services

LegalShield provides you with direct access to a dedicated law firm that can assist you with personal legal matters such as preparing a will or reviewing documents. A legal service plan can help with all sorts of planned and unplanned legal issues. AUSA members can cover themselves and eligible family members for a special negotiated rate of \$15.95 per month in most states. This is an excellent opportunity to get affordable legal protection. Visit www.ausa.org/legal.

Awards

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presence affords legitimacy to whatever he supports," said Capt. J. Patrick Robinson, who described Minosky as his mentor.

"From assisting with transitions from active duty, to helping grieving families with the death of a family member, Command Sgt. Maj. Minosky is there lending an ear and hand and a shoulder to help folks in times of need."

For two decades, Minosky has been a business development specialist with Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, which helps find jobs for veterans.

He is a volunteer with the Fort Hood Veterans Treatment Court, a mentoring program.

On behalf of AUSA, he conducts newcomers' briefings, developed an adopt-a-unit program and has increased community partnerships.

"His selflessness and commitment to the military community epitomize what it means to be an NCO and Soldier for Life. He uses every opportunity available to him to advocate for soldiers, veterans and their families," Robinson said.

Major General Anthony J. Drexel Biddle Medal

The Major General Anthony J. Drexel Biddle Medal for outstanding contributions to the Association of the U.S. Army will be awarded to retired Col. Hugh "Sandy" McLeod, a Life Member of the association and former Second Region president who remains an active member of the Arsenal of Democracy Chapter.

Widely respected throughout the association, McLeod has been a leader in the growing and adapting AUSA.

He was among the first to appoint chapter vice presidents for young professional programs while emphasizing the importance of education and professional development programs.

Under his leadership, underperforming and dormant chapters grew.

McLeod was co-leader of AUSA's Chapter Excellence Project, a major

Army officer strikes gold



First Lt. Sarah Beard of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit won the gold medal in the women's 50-meter Three-Position Rifle Finals on July 28 at the 2019 Pan American Games in Lima, Peru. (U.S. ARMY/MAJ. MICHELLE LUNATO)

internal study that refocused the association by looking at the characteristics of the most successful chapters.

This led to many changes in operations, communications and awards.

His steady, energetic and thoughtful leadership has been a model for others.

Joseph P. Cribbins Medal

The Joseph P. Cribbins Medal for exemplary service by a Department of the Army civilian will be awarded to Craig Hannum of Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

A retired military policeman, Hannum holds a multidimensional job as suicide prevention, intervention and mitigation training and response, and employee assistance program coordinator at Fort Huachuca, a demanding job requiring a well-organized, efficient and proactive manager.

"Craig has been an invaluable asset for the garrison and installation leadership by providing sound guidance and informational briefings to the command teams," said Jennifer Smith, Fort Huachuca-Sierra Vista Chapter president.

"He possesses an extraordinary understanding of each phase of each project he oversees while staying current with innovative methods to improve his programs. His hard work has resulted in a reduced number of suicide attempts and a higher rate of awareness."

One of his greatest achievements is "his constant ability to provide levelheaded, calm and effective decisionmaking under pressure while defusing active suicide attempts of all ages, to include children as young as 6 years old," Smith said. "Craig has partnered with the local community to reduce suicide by teaching local schools about suicide prevention to educators that better enables them to recognize signs of suicidal thoughts."

Michael J. Barber, Fort Huachuca's human resources director, said Hannum "is always willing to offer his assistance and has an excellent rapport with the many patrons served by our Soldier and Family Readiness Center." See next page

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John W. Dixon Award

The John W. Dixon Award for outstanding contributions to national defense from industry will be awarded to Peter Martin, president and CEO of Ameripack Inc., a Robbinsville, New Jersey-based company celebrating its 30th anniversary.

Ameripack, a supplier of protective packaging for military equipment, is a community partner of AUSA's Monmouth Chapter and a supporter of the MG Harry Greene, Aberdeen Chapter.

Martin started the company after 13 years of teaching health and physical education.

Kentucky State Sen. Jimmy Higdon said, "As a result of Ameripack's extensive work with our military, it has always been its mission to supply our warfighters with the best protection for their equipment while they are in theater."

The business' philosophy is protecting troops when they are forward and taking care of them when they return, Higdon said, which for Martin means contributing to foundations supporting warriors and families such as Fisher House and other nonprofits.

Retired Gen. Thomas Schwartz, the former U.S. Army Forces Command and U.S. Forces Korea commander, endorsed the award, calling Martin "a patriot beyond compare. He is a man of character and impeccable integrity," Schwarz wrote. "I know of no man more deserving of this recognition."

Lieutenant General Raymond S. McLain Medal

The Lieutenant General Raymond S. McLain Medal, given to a current or former member of the National Guard for advancing a seamless and component-integrated Army, will be awarded to retired Maj. Gen. John L. Gronski, who previously was the U.S. Army Europe deputy commanding general for the Army National Guard.

With 40 years of military service, Gronski has proven he's a successful leader in building integrated forces.



The AUSA National Awards honor service to all Army components—Regular Army, Army National Guard and Army Reserve. (U.S. ARMY/SGT. NICHOLAS HOLMES)

"He possesses an unmatched set of experiences involving the integration and employment of units comprised of National Guard, active component and reserve component soldiers," said David V. Fulton, president of the Gen. Creighton W. Abrams Chapter of AUSA.

In 2000, Gronski was military liaison chief in Lithuania, coordinating combat readiness objectives with U.S. and foreign troops.

In 2005, he commanded a National Guard brigade in Ramadi, Iraq, alongside U.S. Marine and Regular Army troops.

In 2014, he commanded the 28th Infantry, deploying the division headquarters to France for an exercise and training.

As deputy commander for the National Guard, he worked in Europe with all Army components.

"His tireless presence throughout the theater has helped to identify and set the standard for what right looks like," Fulton said. "Gronski's persistent communication and outreach has strengthened leader understanding and confidence in the U.S. Army's ability to field a unified and component-integrated Army."

Gronski is now a senior mentor for the Army's Mission Command Training Program. His "long and exemplary service has paved the way for a stronger and more integrated Army," Fulton said. "His legacy is one of leading change and enhancing the seamless integration of National Guard units wherever and whenever that integration improves readiness."

Major General James Earl Rudder Medal

The Major General James Earl Rudder Medal, given to a current or former member of the U.S. Army Reserve for advancing a seamless and component-integrated Army, is awarded to retired Col. Olin Brewster, a U.S. Army Reserve Ambassador since 2006.

Brewster retired after 29 years of combined active and reserve duty that began when he was commissioned in 1966 as part of the corps of cadets at Texas A&M University, where the president was retired Maj. Gen. Rudder, for whom the award is named.

After retiring in 2006 from civil service, Brewster continued to serve in military-related and civilian programs, including being a charter member and past chairman of the San Antonio Community Action Committee, which assists Army recruiting battalions, and the national nonprofit Our Community Salutes, which supports high school seniors who enlist in the military.

"Olin Finley Brewster has left an enduring imprint on the success of the Army, the Army Reserve, and so many other efforts that have contributed to the success of the U.S. Army within the Fort Sam Houston and Joint Base San Antonio footprint as well as the state of Texas," said retired Lt. Col. Rich Stinson, president of AUSA's Alamo Chapter.

AUSA Volunteer Family of the Year Award

The Volunteer Family of the Year Award for promoting the well-being of soldiers and their family members is presented to the family of Army Reserve Sgt. Maj. Dianne Ellwein and retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Frederick Ellwein.

The couple and their three children—Tyler, Kaitlin and Austin have amassed almost 4,400 hours of volunteer work over the past year in a variety of Scouting, church and civic causes, even though two of the children are now grown, including one who is an Air Force officer deployed to Japan.

They were recently named Family of the Year in Wiesbaden, Germany, where the couple resides.

"The Ellwein family embodies all of the Army's values but most particularly selfless service, honor and personal courage," said Fulton, the AUSA Gen. Creighton W. Abrams Chapter president. "They continually build trust and confidence within the community and exemplify the virtue of good citizenship, proving themselves true stewards of the Army profession and a superior family for all Army families to emulate."

Sgt. Maj. Ellwein is president of U.S. Army Europe's prestigious Sergeant Morales Club in addition to being a Scout leader, and is active in school-related community organizations.

CW4 Ellwein, a disabled veteran and former commander of The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, is a high school jazz band volunteer. Eighteen-year-old son Austin volunteers in Scouting, church and community activities.

Kaitlin, 25, is busy serving as an Air Force intelligence officer but still amassed 100 hours of volunteer work.

The Ellweins' oldest son, 27-yearold Tyler, is a certified trainer and teacher who amassed 1,200 hours of volunteer work.

"The Weisbaden military community takes great pride in the Ellwein family," Fulton said. "We are better because they are part of the Army family."

AUSA National Service Award

The Association of the U.S. Army is honored to present its National Service Award to Team Rubicon, a nongovernment organization that puts veterans looking for something meaningful to do to work on disaster response and humanitarian assistance missions.

With its motto "Disasters are our business, veterans are our passion," the nonprofit has made an international impact by sending training teams of veterans to respond to disasters and humanitarian crises.

Its first mission came in 2010 with a medical team of veterans responding to an earthquake in Haiti, using a rented truck and donated equipment.

Nine years later, the organization

now has more than 100,000 available volunteers and is certified by the World Health Association as having a Type 1 medical emergency team, the first North American nongovernmental organization to receive the designation that shows it can deploy on short notice to provide lifesaving care under austere conditions.

Their model is to help people and help veterans at the same time.

"For many men and women of our armed forces, the desire to serve their country and fellow man does not diminish once they take off the uniform," they say in advocating that "continued service helps us build stronger communities and supports transitioning veterans."

Team Rubicon has performed about 200 operations, responding domestically and globally to floods, tsunamis and border conflicts.

Operations are not always shortlived. In Houston, Team Rubicon is in the middle of a long-term plan to rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey, which hit in 2017.

In addition to these awards, AUSA previously announced that retired Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, the 18th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and 37th Army chief of staff, will receive its highest award for distinguished public service, the George Catlett Marshall Medal.

Swan appointed to USMA Board of Visitors

President Donald Trump plans to appoint retired Lt. Gen. Guy C. Swan, vice president of education for the Association of the U.S. Army, to serve as a member of the Board of Visitors to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Swan, a 1976 West Point graduate, would serve a three-year term that expires Dec. 30, 2021, according to the White House.

The Board of Visitors provides independent advice and recommendations to the academy on matters relating to morale and discipline, curriculum, instruction, fiscal affairs and other matters relating to the academy.

"All of us at AUSA are so incredibly proud of Guy, and we know he will perform superbly in this role," said retired Gen. Carter F. Ham, AUSA president and CEO.

Swan is a career armor/cavalry officer who spent more than 35 years on active duty.

He also is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Aspen Institute Homeland Security Group, and the FEMA National Advisory Council. ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEMBERSHIP SAVINGS

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AUSA recognizes this year's most successful chapters

he Association of the U.S. Army has announced its six "Best Chapter" winners for 2019 based on their achievement and success in growing membership, hosting events, raising money for scholarships and other programs, and supporting units and recruiters.

The awards will be presented in October at AUSA's Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C.

The awards are calculated in six groups, with five based on chapter size and one for the best overseas chapter.

• The George Washington Chapter of Washington, D.C., is Best Chapter for those with membership greater than 1,000 members.

• The MG Harry Greene, Aberdeen Chapter in Aberdeen, Maryland is Best Chapter for those with 600 to 999 members.

• The Columbia River Chapter in Portland, Oregon, is Best Chapter for groups with 350 to 599 members.

• The Texas Capital Area Chapter in Austin, Texas, is Best Chapter for groups with 200 to 349 members.

The Charleston Chapter in Charles-

ton, South Carolina, is Best Chapter for membership of less than 200.

• The Best Overseas Chapter is the Gen. Creighton W. Abrams Chapter in Wiesbaden, Germany.

The rankings result from a review of activities reports from 122 chapters, looking at achievements including membership growth across all categories, meetings and events, scholarship programs, support for local military units and recruiters, and engaging local politicians about AUSA priorities.

The overall level of achievement was high, as 69 chapters increased membership in the operating year, 72 held events for Army families, 67 sponsored professional development programs, 52 supported recruiters, 48 had events for ROTC, 32 had events to honor Vietnam veterans, 25 hosted young professional events and 63 held a celebration for the Army birthday.

Combined, the chapters also awarded \$124,000 in scholarships.

AUSA also announced its President's Club and Chapters of Distinction.

Chapters attain Eagle status by

showing positive membership growth, Chapters that achieved Eagle status for 10 or more months during the operating year, which ended June 30, qualified as Presidents Club chapters.

They are: **Gold** Columbia River (12) **Silver** George Washington (11) Texas Capital Area (11)

Bronze Braxton Bragg (10) Charleston (10) Fairfax-Lee (10)

The following chapters were designated Chapters of Distinction for achieving Eagle status for at least eight months during the operating year.

- Greater New York-Statue of Liberty (9)
- Greater Augusta-Fort Gordon (9)
- Francis Scott Key (8)
- Arsenal of Democracy (8)
- MG Harry Greene, Aberdeen (8)
- Space Coast (8)
- New Orleans (8)
- Rock Island Arsenal (8)

Army astronaut launches into space on historic anniversary

ol. Andrew Morgan on July 20 successfully launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan aboard a Soyuz MS-13 spacecraft for a nine-month mission as a flight engineer for Expedition 60 aboard the International Space Station.

The launch took place exactly 50 years after Neil Armstrong first stepped on the moon after Apollo 11's historic landing there.

"I was blessed to be selected as an astronaut, but in the Army, I know for a fact that if I had stayed and I had continued to serve in special operations as a physician, I would have been equally fulfilled," Morgan said, describing himself as "one of the very fortunate few" selected by NASA in 2013 to become an astronaut.



Col. Andrew Morgan, an Army surgeon who served in special operations, is pictured inside the International Space Station's 'window to the world,' the seven-windowed Cupola. At the time, the orbiting lab was flying 261 miles above the Caspian Sea. (NASA PHOTO)

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