

Castle Gram

THE ARMY ENGINEER OFFICERS' WIVES' CLUB
OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

Next Board Meeting:
Thursday
December 1, 2005
10:00am

Julie Strock's home
233 2nd St., Qtrs 9
Ft McNair
**NO BOARD MTG IN
JANUARY**

Inside this issue:

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Reservation Information

Last Names beginning in

A-M Mollie O'Neill
(703)317-3961 or
jomo67@aol.com

N-Z Pat O'Neill
(703)378-3624 or
pponeill6@aol.com

Volume LI, Issue 4

December 2005

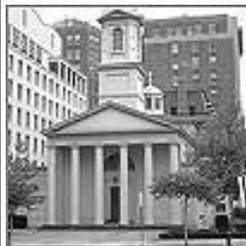
Lunch at the Army - Navy Club
Wednesday, December 14
11:30am
901 17th Street NW
(Metro - Farragut West - 17th St Stop)



Luncheon Choices:

- Southern Fried Chicken Salad (Corn Bread Croutons & Honey Mustard) (\$15)*
- California Cobb Salad (Chilled Lobster meat, tomatoes, eggs, cucumber, bacon and lemon) \$22.50*
- Broiled Crab Cakes (Saffron Rice, Lemon, Thyme Sauce) \$22.75*
- Grilled Delmonico Steak (Shitake Mushrooms, Demi-glaze) \$21.25*

followed by
Tour of St John's Episcopal Church
(Church of the Presidents) 1:00pm



Please RSVP by December 7th with your luncheon selection. Phone numbers and emails are on the bottom left of this page - reservation form is on the back page.

Save The Date!

Thursday, January 19th
11:45am

Tour of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian with Georgeanne Reynolds, Tribal Liaison, Corps of Engineers
Lunch in the Museum Café
RSVP by January 12th



AEOWC 2005 – 2006 Executive Board

Honorary President	Julie Strock	202-554-0995	strockcj@aol.com
Honorary Vice President	Bobbie Griffin	703-780-5155	pidogriff@vzavenue.net
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Services	Kathy Candido	703-780-3135	ace7corps@aol.com
	Mary Pratt	703-491-4976	billwplva@aol.com

Still haven’t renewed your AEOWC Membership?
 You can download an application from our website:
www.aeowc.com
 or you can contact Sarah Pearce at 703-815-7365 or
 email her at pearcesall@cox.net.



See what’s new with
**National Military
 Family Association at www.nmfa.com**



Did I mention that this beautiful painting of Magnolias was not only donated to Quarters 9, the home of the Army Chief of Engineers, from a former Chief himself, **LTG(Ret) Art Williams**, but was also **PAINTED** by him? What wonderful talent and generosity. Thank you, LTG(Ret) Williams.



The Gavel

~ a note from our President



This newsletter will serve us for the next 2 months -- December 2005 through January 2006 -- so you should find quite a bit in its pages. Hopefully I won't write a message twice as long as usual. Each month I sit down and wonder what I'm going to say and, when I'm finished, I'm always amazed as to how much I write.

Our October and November activities kept us really busy. The house tour in October was supplemented by the wonderful tour of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project organized by Russ Fuhrman. Everyone who was able to attend thoroughly enjoyed the trip. Hopefully, we'll be able to have another chance at the tour in the spring for those of us who weren't able to attend.

The play at the Kennedy Center (Shear Madness) was a great opportunity for a good time also.

Our December event -- lunch at the Army-Navy Club (not the country club) sounds like a special time. Personally, I've never been there and I'm looking forward to the day for the luncheon and the tour of the "President's Church", St. John's Episcopal Church. We're lucky to have Vice-Presidents who come up with such great ideas. For January we'll be going to the National Museum of the American Indian for a very special tour.

The board has been busy with other activities -- printing the Red Book, helping the Chaplain with soldiers at Walter Reed, contributing to Hurricane Katrina efforts, among other things. I've been very pleased and proud of this board. They have stepped up and done their jobs without any extra prodding and have volunteered for many things definitely not in their "job description."

I was able to go with my husband to the AEA conference in Orlando. It was a great 4 days. You all should consider attending sometime, if you have a chance.

It's about time to start thinking about the Castle Ball which is scheduled for February 4th. This event is always a good time to reconnect with old friends and meet a few new ones.

I hope you all had (have) a great Thanksgiving followed by a wonderful holiday season. We surely have plenty to be thankful for, especially our families and old friends. Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

Bette Meuleners

***DID YOU KNOW?* Army Engineers Ran the White House?**

In early 1877, President Ulysses S. Grant appointed Colonel Thomas L. Casey as his Commissioner of Public Buildings for the District of Columbia, which also made him Administrator of the White House. Thus began the 57-year tradition of an Army Engineer occupying that position. That officer also served as the Army's military aide to the president. This custom lasted until 1934 when, as part of a larger reorganization, President Franklin D. Roosevelt transferred that position to the National Park Service. Prior to Casey's appointment, the Army officer selected could come from any branch of the Army. Appropriately, the last Engineer officer to hold that responsibility was Colonel Ulysses S. Grant III, grandson of the president who first appointed an Army engineer.

Colonel Spencer Cosby served as White House administrator and commissioner from March 1909 to October 1913. Like Casey, Cosby was "first" in his West Point class and well versed in the social graces.

Shortly after his appointment Cosby oversaw design and construction of new executive offices at the White House. One new office for President William H. Taft's use became known as the Oval Office. Cosby remained commissioner into the early months of President Woodrow Wilson's administration. He not only helped guide the new president through his first inauguration, but also worked with his family on remodeling their quarters. Cosby went on to become military attaché to the American Embassy in Paris, France, as World War I began in Europe. After additional diplomatic and military service, Cosby retired in 1928 as Division Engineer of the Lakes Division in Cleveland, Ohio.



December Birthdays

Linda Bayles	December 20
Sallie M. Birmingham	December 25
Paula M. Cushing	December 28
Jennifer Coats	December 1
Carol Daniel	December 6
Mari Ann Farrell	December 20
Shelley Hatch	December 7
Beth Jarvis	December 14
Jill McCoy	December 26
Jenny Offringa	December 10
Martha Lavion Soo	December 24
Janice Smith	December 4
Isabel C. Stevens	December 15
Joan Stockton	December 29
Heather Wagenaar	December 23
Geraldine M. Williams	December 1

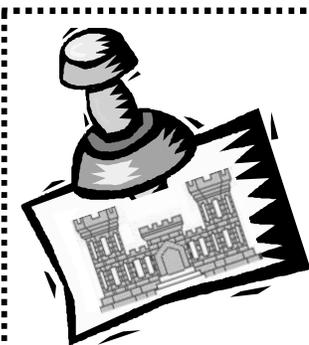
January Birthdays

Helen Bachus	January 08
Margie R. Bailey	January 10
Susan L. Bender	January 20
Barbara Chappell	January 1
Diana Dinsick	January 15
Anne Donovan	January 21
Joan Fontana	January 19
Priscilla V. S. Noah	January 06
Julia O'Rourke	January 26
Joyce Rebh	January 5
Sue Schmidt	January 15
Susan Sentinella	January 01
Mrs C Rodney Smith	January 06
Juliana Strock	January 16
Anne K. Totten	January 03
Ann York	January 15

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The problem with after-Christmas sales is the lack of after-Christmas money.



I decided to take an aerobics class. I bent, twisted, gyrated and jumped up and down for an hour. But, by the time I got my leotard on, the class was over.

There will be no Castle Gram in January so be sure to RSVP for the January event and the Castle Ball.



138th Annual Engineer Dinner and Castle Ball Saturday, February 4th

A Recipe for the Holidays

Cheese Stack by Anne Kem



- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1 package (4 ounces) crumbled blue cheese
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- ½ cup pesto
- ½ cup drained chopped oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes
- 3 large fresh basil leaves, for garnish

1. Line a 1 quart bowl with plastic wrap so that the wrap extends over the edge of the bowl. Set the bowl aside.
2. Place the cream cheese, blue cheese, and pepper in a food processor and process until the mixture comes together and is well combined, 10 to 15 seconds. Spread a third of this mixture in the bottom of the lined bowl. Spread ¼ cup of the pesto over the cream cheese mixture, then layer on 2 tablespoons of the sun dried tomatoes. Spread half of the remaining cream cheese mixture on top of the tomatoes, then the remaining ¼ cup of pesto, and the remaining 2 tablespoons of tomatoes. Top with the remaining cream cheese mixture. Bring the edges of the plastic wrap up over the top of the stack to cover it. Place the bowl in the refrigerator to chill for at least 2 hours, or overnight.
3. Thirty minutes before serving, remove the stack from the refrigerator, peel the plastic wrap off the top, and turn the stack out onto a serving plate. Remove the remaining plastic wrap. Arrange the basil leaves down the center of the top of the stack.
4. Serve with crackers.



On 12 October, AEOWC was represented at the Appreciation Coffee at Knollwood. Cynthia Kam,

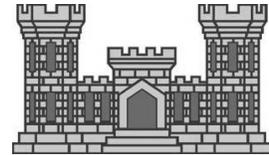
Kris Schuster, Priscilla Noah, Betty Swygert and Don Swygert attended. They greeted members of Knollwood and enjoyed the performance of the Army Chorus. Our group brought Engineer

items for use on a display table to let Knollwood residents know what kind of work we do. Our annual bake sale will be held on 15 March 2006. The funds generated from the sale benefit Knollwood residents by way of the Fellowship Assistance Fund.

For more information on Knollwood check out their website at www.armydistaff.org.



Army Engineer Memorial Awards Army Engineer Officers' Wives' Club



The Army Engineer Officers' Wives' Club of Washington, D.C. announces the availability of the Army Engineer Memorial Awards to be given to qualifying high school seniors. To qualify for an award, an applicant's parent must be a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Officer presently on active duty, a retired U.S. Army Corps of Engineer Officer, or a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Officer who died either while on active duty or after retiring from active duty. These awards, established in 1973 as a living memorial to Engineer Officers killed in Vietnam, are given annually to honor all Engineer Officers who died in the line of duty.

The Army Engineer Officers' Wives' Club, through efforts of its membership and outside contributors, has established a permanent fund for the perpetuation of the Army Engineer Memorial Award. Individuals may make a tax-deductible contribution to this fund, either as a gift or as a memorial.

The award is based on academic and extracurricular achievement during high school; and it must be applied toward tuition or scholastic expenses at a college, university, technical or vocational school.

Completed applications for the 2006 award must be submitted by 1 March 2006.

For further information, please contact the AEMA Assistant Treasurer of the Army Engineer Officers' Wives' Club, Tammie Morris, 15550 Smithfield Place, Centreville, VA. 20120, (703) 815-9982 or email at TAMMORRIS @ aol.com.

Application is on page 7 or can be downloaded from our website at www.aeowc.com.



Here's an item from our AEOWC Gift Shop that you do not want to miss out on. It's a beautiful snowflake ornament with an Engineer castle in the middle. Approximately 2" tall, you can use this ornament as a gift, on your tree or on your mirror to help celebrate the season. (Use suction cups to hang ornaments to your mirrors or even tile.) These snowflakes are \$15.00 each and can be ordered through our website: www.aeowc.com

Happy Holidays!!!

www.aeowc.com

**ARMY ENGINEER MEMORIAL AWARDS
 ARMY ENGINEER OFFICERS' WIVES' CLUB
 APPLICATION
Deadline: March 1, 2006**

Name of Applicant (last, first, middle) Age _____

Address

Phone (include area code)

To qualify for an award, you must be a graduating high school senior, and have a parent who is presently a U.S. Army Engineer Officer on Active Duty, is or was a retired U.S. Army Engineer Officer, or was a U.S. Army Engineer Officer who died while on active duty.

Parent's Name and Rank: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Most recent duty station: _____

Status: Active Duty _____ Retired _____ Deceased _____

A photocopy of the front and back of the applicant's Military Identification Card, must be submitted with this application.

Name and Address of High School: _____

Name(s) and location(s) of Accredited Institution(s) of Higher Learning Applicant plans to attend:

Scholastic Record: Please enclose a copy of your official transcript (including Fall 2005 semester grades) and SAT/ACT scores.

Extracurricular activities: Please attach a list of your extracurricular activities (offices held, sports, clubs, volunteer work, employment, etc.), honors and awards.

Let us know about you: Enclose a brief description (350 words) about yourself to include your hobbies, special interests, and future goals. Please indicate that this was in your own words and sign.

Signature of Sponsor or Guardian

Signature of Applicant

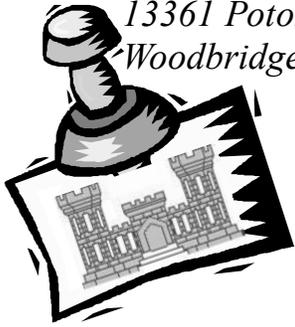
*****Please make sure all elements are complete. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Only those items requested will be considered. Eligibility is subject to verification.*****

**SEND TO: AEMA, c/o Tammie Morris, 15550 Smithfield Pl. Centreville, VA. 20120, (703) 815-9982.
 DEADLINE: March 1, 2006**

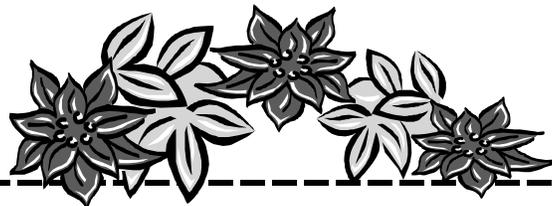
Cynthia Kam

13361 Potomac Path Drive

Woodbridge, VA 22191



Castle
Gram



Reservation Form (please fill in, cut out and mail to Pat O'Neill 13508 Granite Rock Dr
Chantilly, VA 20151)

Lunch at the Army - Navy Club & Tour of Church of the Presidents
Wednesday, December 14th

Reservation deadline: December 7th (with payment)

Name(s) Attending _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Amount Included: \$_____ Be sure to make checks payable to AEWOC.

Luncheon Choices:

_____ Southern Fried Chicken Salad (Corn Bread Croutons & Honey Mustard) \$15.00

_____ California Cobb Salad (Chilled Lobster Meat, Tomatoes, Eggs,
Cucumber, Bacon and Lemon) \$22.50

_____ Broiled Crab Cakes (Saffron Rice, Lemon, Thyme Sauce) \$22.75

_____ Grilled Delmonico Steak (Shitake Mushrooms, Demi-glaze) \$21.25