

Happy Holidays to All!!

Your holiday gift from the Corps Chief will be a short message (relative term!)---OK, no excessive cheering! Cheer, yes; cheering, no!!

Seriously, we in the Corps Chief's Office wish each of you a wonderful, restful, enjoyable, rejuvenating, and above all SAFE holiday season filled with blessings. Enjoy your family and friends; celebrate the successes of 2011, to include your great contributions to our Army Medicine Team; and relax to prepare for what is sure to be a fast paced, intense 2012. As a reminder of just how important you are to our team, below is a quote cut and pasted directly from the opening of the recent MEDCOM change of command ceremony dialogue, a speech approved by both LTG Schoomaker and LTG Horoho.

THE COLORS ON THE STAGE REPRESENT THE MORE THAN 75 THOUSAND SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS ASSIGNED TO THE US ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND, SERVING ACROSS THE GLOBE INCLUDING EUROPE, AFRICA, ASIA, AND THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES. SINCE OUR INCEPTION, OUR CIVILIAN CORPS HAS, AND CONTINUES TO PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN ARMY MEDICINE. TODAY, ARMY CIVILIANS COMPRISE MORE THAN HALF OF THE MEDICAL COMMAND WORKFORCE. AS MILITARY MEMBERS FREQUENTLY TRANSITION, MEDICAL COMMAND CIVILIANS ARE THE GLUE THAT HOLDS THE ORGANIZATIONS TOGETHER.

Pretty cool! Thanx for what you do every day to make Army Medicine run. Know that our thoughts are with you and yours during this holiday season.

Only a few business items:

--We have members of our Civilian Corps deployed during this season. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers. Also, several of them are providing us updates on the deployments as they progress. Take the time to take a look. You can find the info on the AMEDD Civilian Corps web site <https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil> using the "Celebrate Success" link for Deployment Stories. Emergency Response Specialist, Darrell Irwin has provided an overview of a typical day in his Newsletter #2.

--If you recall, I mentioned in previous messages the AMEDD Civilian Corps strategic learning experience in the Corps Chief's office. We've just finished our first one. Here is the assessment by Tawanna Campbell from Winn Army Community Hospital, our first participant.

"The Strategic Learning Project was an experience of a lifetime. It was an honor to be selected to work on a project where you were the brains, if you will, behind it all. Thinking how this will enable AMEDD civilians to become even better civilians brings pride and joy to me because this was a project that started with me, but won't end with me. There's a plethora of opportunities for development and growth out there for all AMEDD civilians whether personal or professional. I encourage everyone to check out the AMEDD Civilian Corps website to take advantage of what's available. In taking on this project, I was fortunate to meet and work with a wonderful team who allowed me to lead. The experience I received is immeasurable and a pleasure to be a part of developing a product that will benefit the entire AMEDD Civilian workforce. Remember this „the more you know, the more you grow“."

I'd say we're off to a good start. There will be more opportunities in the future so stay tuned! In fact, the next project is scheduled to begin in late February. The details are posted under "What's New" on our website. Check it out and if you're interested, send in your submission by 3 February 2012.

--Remember, the due date for submissions for first Wolf Pack Award, to a combined team of civilian and military personnel who make a real accomplishment, is 5 January 2012 Submission is easy so take the opportunity to reward a team that makes you proud. Information is available on the web site under the "Celebrate Success" link.

--We've gotten many requests to provide training opportunities. To help meet that demand, we're starting to offer Video Tele Training (VTT) classes from the AMEDD Center and School. Two pilot programs tell us that this approach can add value for a very reasonable cost---like free to you! The first offerings will address "The Psychology of the Workplace". The course is comprised of 3 different lectures:

1) Fundamentals of Leadership Thursday, 12 Jan 12

2) The Basics of Personality and Social Psychology Thursday, 9 Feb 12

3) Organizational Psychology-Behavior & Development Thursday, 8 Mar 12

All courses will be at 1300-1500 CST. There is an overview of part 1 on the AMEDD Civilian Corps web site <https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil> on the "What's New" link.

You can access the courses by arranging for a VTC site at your location and linking in to the course. To sign up for the class and arrange for the VTC connection, follow the directions on the web site.

Note: For additional questions regarding our Civilian Lifelong Learning (CL3) Program email: CL3@amedd.army.mil. For questions specific to Video Tele Training/Video Tele Conference/Digital Training Facility concerns email: teleTNG.network@amedd.army.mil.

--I encourage you to look at the pictures on the Civilian Corps Photo link that show some of the successes our folks have achieved. New ones include Ms. Rhonda Hoffman, a pharmacist at Keller Hospital, West Point, receiving an award at a recent pharmacy conference, and Ms. Phyllis Bergen, AMEDD Center and School receiving a San Antonio 2011 Local Hero Award. Take a gander. Also, please think about sending us photos of great things AMEDD civilians are doing at your location!

--Most of the feedback we get from our messages is pretty positive, even when stating problems. Here is some from the last message authored by Rosemary Kyte out at Tripler. Pay close attention to the comment on the competency tool we mentioned last time. We'd like to know what you think and what you find useful as well.

"Mr. Stevens ...I appreciate your messages. Although to be honest, I also dread opening them because they often remind me that yet again there something else that I've been wanting to do and have not gotten to. <sigh> And from this message, it is IDP. But, I checked the links, I love the competency tool, and am now confident that I can get my IDP done (and help my employees). I have just one (small I hope) request.

The IPD form at link <https://ke2.army.mil/cl3/filedownload.aspx?docid=202> is "almost" competent (she says, as manager of forms and publications at her MTF ...). My request is - would the form proponent be willing to get it a real MEDCOM form number and publish it out on WEB-AEFSS? Failure to do so (1) introduces risk related to missing information like proponent and version and (2) misses out on the awesome routing and tracking features of WEB-AEFSS."

(NOTE: We'll be looking into making it a standard form once we find out where DA is going with the version they're currently working.)

Guess that's it for now. And I didn't lie too much about the "short" message. Again, thanx for what you do and may you have a wonderful, SAFE holiday season!! We look forward to a terrific 2012 for our AMEDD Civilian Corps. Take care.

Sincerely,

gregg

Gregg Stevens, SES
Chief, AMEDD Civilian Corps