

"The Standard"



Be-Know-Do!

Commandant's Corner



CSM Carrie R. Glover

LEADERS: This last year was an awesome year here at the NCOA, and we plan to make this year even better. Our NCOs are doing great things here at the academy. Last year, we completed the pilot program redesign of the 42A Advance Leaders Course (ALC). Additionally, we started the pilot for the 42A and 79R Senior Leaders Courses (SLC). The 56M, 36B and 79S ALC and SLC are in the process of redeveloping their Programs of In-

struction (POI) and should start utilizing the Army Learning Model (ALM) facilitation style soon. We have received lots of positive feedback from your NCO on the new course curriculum and are continuing to improve it after each class.

CSM/SGMs, with the ever changing Army we serve in today, it is important that our leaders become as diverse as possible. I would ask that you canvas your ranks for those Top NCOs whom you feel has the potential to become NCOA Small Group Leaders (SGLs). We are always looking for knowledgeable and experienced NCOs to join our team and contribute to the training and

professional development of the "Back Bone of the Army".

I hope you all enjoy this 1st edition of our quarterly newsletter. Each edition in the future will feature and highlight the great NCOs attending SLC/ALC. I look forward to hearing from you all.

Thanks!

"Embrace the Challenge
Exceed the Standards"



Happenings:

- 56M SLC Class#002 Graduation, 6 Feb 14
- 42A SLC Class#002, 36B ALC Class#002 Graduation, 13 Feb
- 42A ALC Class#003, 79R SLC Class#007 Graduation, 21 Feb
- 42A MTT Class# 701, FT Campbell Graduation, 4 Mar
- 56M ALC Class#002 Graduation, 19 Mar
- 42A ALC Class#004 Graduation 21 Mar
- NCOA New Student Ice Breaker 21 Mar

Deputy Commandant's Corner



SGM Lee A. Thomas

LEADERS: Our NCOs are continuing to Embrace the Challenge and Exceed the Standard by coming to the NCOA excited and ready to learn critical skills that will help sustain them as leaders with the most current changes in the Human Resources, Financial Management, Recruiting and Retention and Chaplain Assistant fields.

As most of you may know, the NCOA has transitioned from the Instructor Led Conference style of teaching to the Army Learning Model 2015 (ALM).

At the NCOA, the Army Learning Model focuses on functional courses and instills 21st Century Soldier Competencies through a learner-centric learning environment

supported by an adaptive development and delivery infrastructure that enables career-long learning and sustained adaptation.

The Army Learning Model increases the rigor, relevance and effectiveness of face-to-face learning experiences in Army schoolhouses through context-based, collaborative, problem-centered instructional strategies that focus on mastering fundamentals and maximizing the effectiveness of limited resident learning time.

CSM/SGMs, please encourage your NCOs to go to the NCOA Website and download or review the advance readings prior to reporting.

This tool will ensure a much more enjoyable time here, and definitely, a less stressful one. And for those who are technology savvy. They can download the Adjutant General School (AGS) Senior/Advance Leaders Course Application.

These applications provide an overall layout of each course in detail. They contain all study aids and advance sheets for the entire course curriculum.

Thank you all for what you do for our Soldiers and the Army every day. I look forward to addressing you all in our next quarterly issue.

Thanks!

"Embrace the Challenge
Exceed the Standards"

Inside this issue:

- Cadre SpotLight 2
- Student SpotLight 2
- Class SpotLight 2
- Headline Stories 3
- Professional Readings 3
- Hail/Farewells/
Promotions 4
- The Standard 4
- Contact Information

Soldier Support Institute NCO of the Year Competition at Fort Jackson, SC.

Sergeant First Class (SFC) Patrick Patterson was selected as the NCO Academy NCO of the Year, which resulted in him competing in the Soldier Support Institute's NCO of the Year Competition.

In competition on the 10th and 20th of February 2014, SFC Patterson squared off against several of Fort Jackson's most accomplished Soldiers in a competition that measured the following capabilities: APFT,

weapons qualification, road march, land navigation, and technical and tactical skills.

The winner of the Soldier Support Institute NCO of the Year Competition will be announced on 4 March 2014. The NCO Academy hopes to congratulate SFC Patterson as the winner.

SFC Patterson states. *"Take the time to ruck up now and then. You never know when you'll be called on to represent something larger than yourself."*

*Written By:
Sergeant First Class Ingrid K. Ryan*



"SFC Patrick Patterson performs in the SSI NCO of the Year Competition at Fort Jackson, SC."

Transitions Homeless and Recovery Center Project

Noncommissioned officers (NCO) attending courses at the Soldier Support Institute NCO Academy are afforded the opportunity to serve the community. This article spotlights a recent class community project.

On 30 January 2014, the 42A Senior Leader Course (SLC) Class 002B-14, under the instruction of SFC Kevin Williams (SLC Senior Small Group Leader, volunteered services to a homeless shelter called Transitions Homeless and Recovery Center on Main Street in Columbia, SC. The purpose of the project was to help the center replant flower beds and help landscape the back yard entertainment area.

The class moved, remade and replanted about 15 flower beds and cleaned up the back entertainment area. The area housed a few covered picnic tables and offered a nice seated view for people to come and enjoy the outdoors. The students talked to a few of the residents who thanked them for making this a better landscape. Some added that the area had been dull and boring, and they were grateful to the students for "sprucing" things up.

Story written by: SSG Shawnta Marie Hernandez, SLC Class 002B-14 Bulldogs



NCOES Course Redesign at the Soldier Support Institute

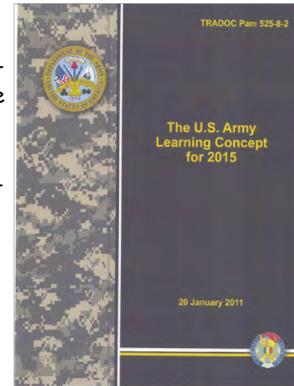
The Soldier Support Institute Noncommissioned Officer Academy recently experienced a course redesign for the human resources courses. Additionally, the financial management, chaplain, and recruiting and retention NCOES courses are currently involved in the same redesign process. The following is an excerpt from an article written for the professional bulletin, "Army Sustainment," by Mr. L. Z. Harrison, Jr., chief of the Adjutant General Branch, Training Development Directorate, Soldier Support Institute, at Fort Jackson, SC. This reprint is provided with the author's permission.

Soon after taking command of the Soldier Support Institute (SSI) in March 2012, Brig. Gen. David MacEwen set his top priority as redesigning the SSI Noncommissioned Officer Academy (NCOA) curriculum. MacEwen's assessment of the state of curriculum and the subsequent findings by a curriculum redesign team were directly in tune with what Training and Doctrine Command Pamphlet (TRADOC Pam) 525-8-2, The U.S. Army Learning Concept for 2015, describes as the outdated baseline model of instruction prevalent in Army institutional schools. Conversely, the Army Learning Model (ALM) 2015 calls for continuous learning that promotes adaptive qualities in Soldiers by improving the relevance and effectiveness of face-to-face learning experiences through outcome-oriented instructional strategies that foster thinking and initiative and provide an operationally relevant context.

The challenge was to completely rebuild the course using the latest principles, techniques, and procedures to ensure that NCO education system (NCOES) training at the SSI NCOA was keeping it "REAL" (relevant, engaging, adaptive, and learner-centric). Students prepare for classes by using mobile technology. Mobile applications, or apps, can be downloaded to a smart device, or students can use their home computers to have immediate access to the course material.

Throughout the courses, students demonstrate the 21st century Soldier competencies by using reflective, critical, and creative thinking skills to complete course requirements, including written and oral communication assignments, practical exercises, small group work, facilitated discussions, and homework. No longer will a student be able to just show up and pass. The courses require the full engagement of the student from start to finish.

Submitted by: Ms Virginia Winfrey



Without Hesitation - The Odyssey of an American Warrior by Gen. (Ret) Hugh Shelton with Ronald Levinson and Malcolm McConnell

General Hugh Shelton was sworn in by President William Jefferson Clinton to serve as the 14th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on 1 October 1997. In his memoirs, General Shelton conveys to the reader invaluable leadership lessons from serving as a platoon leader in Vietnam to decisions made as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on 11 September 2001.

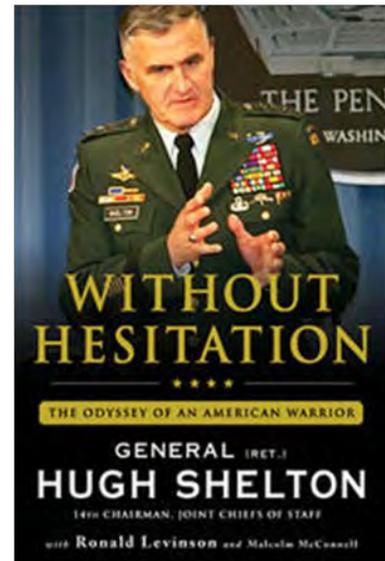
General Shelton concluded his acceptance speech by stating, "This is a responsibility that I accept without hesitation or reservation, and I certainly look forward to continuing to serve along beside America's best -- the great men and

women of our armed forces who serve proudly and selflessly."

General Shelton would later revisit his speech for the title of his autobiography: [Without Hesitation: The Odyssey of an American Warrior](#).

General Shelton's lessons learned and command decisions he executed for nearly four decades of service makes *Without Hesitation: The Odyssey of an American Warrior* a must read for today's Army Leader.

Book reviewed by SFC Benaiah Hicks





HAILS/FAREWELLS/PROMOTIONS



The NCOA Family welcomes the following Soldiers:

SFC Keeyonia T. Washington, SLC 42A SGL, Arrival - December 2013

SSG Steven D. Thomas, ALC 42A SGL, Arrival - February 2014

The NCOA Family wishes the following Soldiers Farewell:

SFC James M. Alexander, SLC 79R SSGL, Departure - January 2014

SFC Kareem D. Castillo, ALC 42A SSGL, Departure - March 2014

SSG Jennifer L. Martinez, ALC 42A SGL, Departure - March 2014

SFC Patty W. Howethomas, SLC 42A SGL, Departure - March 2014

SFC Rolan F. Saribay, SLC 42A SGL, Departure - March 2014

The following Soldiers assigned to the NCOA were promoted this quarter:

SFC Rickey R. Mayo - 1 January 2014

SSG Danyielle A. Cills - 1 January 2014

SSG Ingrid Ryan - 1 February 2014

SSG Mayraibeth G. Berry - 1 March 2014

SFC Patrick D. Patterson - 1 March 2014

The following Soldiers assigned to the NCOA were selected for promotion to Master Sergeant (MSG):

SFC Erick L. Crist - SLC SGL, 79S

SFC Benaiah J. Hicks - SLC SGL, 79R

SFC James H. Munford Jr., - SLC SSGL, 79R

SFC James M. Alexander - SLC SSGL, 79R

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