



USAOTC Family Program's Community Binder of Events and Information

April 2013: Issue IIII

On behalf of the USAOTC Family Programs,

THANK *You*
IN APPRECIATION OF YOU, AND ALL THAT YOU DO.

Happy National Volunteer Week

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Scan the USAOTC Family Program's QR code



CALL, CLICK, CONNECT:

For more information contact the
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usarmy.hood.atec.mbx.otc-frg@mail.mil

Office: (254) 288-9964

Cell: (254) 368-3650

Visit:

www.facebook.com/USAOTC

[USAOTC Family Program Events](#)

Community Resource Links:

Resources and Information at your fingertips!

Fort Bragg:

www.bragg.army.mil/fbr/pages

Fort Sill:

sill-www.army.mil/pages/AtoZ.htm

Fort Bliss:

www.bliss.army.mil/Communityresourceguide

Fort Huachuca:

www.army.mil/info/organization/huachuca/

Fort Hood:

www.hood.army.mil/resources

FMWR:

Fort Bragg:

Fortbraggmwr.com

Fort Sill:

www.sillmwr.com

Fort Bliss:

Fortblissmwr.com

Fort Huachuca:

mwrhuachuca.com

Fort Hood:

Hoodmwr.com

NATION WIDE

Nominate your 2013 Service Member of the Year: Due on April 28, 2013! Each year Military Times honors an "Everyday Hero" - someone whose daily actions reflect remarkable compassion for their fellow service members, their involvement in the community and commitment to country. We invite you to Nominate someone with whom you are proud to serve. Nominations may be submitted by parents, fellow service members, supervisors and commanding officers -- making this grassroots award unique from any other awards given to members of our Armed Forces. Someone whose dedication, professionalism and concern for their community set a standard for us all. For more information visit <http://projects.militarytimes.com/smoj>

Tribute For Heroes! One veteran or military service member will be selected to represent each MLB Team. These 30 heroes will attend and be recognized at the 2013 MLB All Star Game in New York! Nominations are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on May 17, 2013. Nominate an extraordinary military service member or veteran today! For more information visit <http://mlb.mlb.com/tribute/2013/index.jsp>



VA Launches Hotline for Health Care, Women Veteran Questions: The Veterans Affairs Department has launched a new hotline (1-855-VA-WOMEN) to receive and respond to questions from veterans, their families and caregivers about the many VA services and resources available to women veterans.

For Me, for You, for Later: Each time your young child sees you spend money or use the ATM, he or she is building an understanding of what money is. You can guide that understanding with simple activities about making good choices; what has value; and spending, sharing, and saving. Over time you'll see that, through everyday conversations and fun activities, you can help your child grow up to make good financial decisions. Check out For Me, for You, for Later: First Steps to Spending, Sharing, and Saving, is a bilingual multimedia program created to help families share experiences in developing financial basics that will impact their children now and in the future. Podcast, playlist, saving and spending, printables and more! www.sesamestreet.org/parents/topicsandactivities/toolkits/save

inTransition coaches are skilled counselors who understand today's military culture and issues. If you've received new orders or are looking at an upcoming change in status, relocation or return to civilian life, a coach can be with you every step of the way! Learn more at <http://www.health.mil/intransition>

Blue Star Theatres is a partnership among Theatre Communications Group (TCG) with Leadership support provided by the MetLife Foundation through Blue Star Families. This initiative recognizes the profound contributions of service families and seeks to build stronger connections between theatres, military families and their communities. Each Blue Star Theatres participant is offering discounted or complimentary admission to all military personnel and their families, as well as veterans. For more information visit www.bluestarfam.org/Programs/Blue_Star_Theatres



Lowes Build and Grow FREE Kids Clinic! Build a Sweetheart Frame! The next FREE kids clinic is Saturday, May 11, 2013 at 10:00am. Hurry as space is limited! Registration required! Find and register for a FREE kids clinic today! www.lowesbuildandgrow.com



Home Depot Free Kids Workshops! Saturday, May 4, 2013. Come Discover the EPIC World Right in Your Own Back Yard! Build an herb planter and use stickers featuring "EPIC" and Team ENERGY STAR! Enjoy an "EPIC" and Team ENERGY STAR activity sheet with loads of fun things to do. FREE hands-on workshops designed for children ages 5 - 12 offered the 1st Saturday of every month at all The Home Depot stores between 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. All kids get to keep their craft and receive a FREE Kids Workshop Apron, commemorative pin and certificate of achievement. Paint will be provided at the workshop for children to personalize their herb planter! Find and register for a FREE kids workshop today! <http://workshops.homedepot.com/workshops/KidsWorkshops>



Don't forget to check out additional nation wide events by clicking the link here:

[Fliers, Information, Events \(Nation Wide\)](#)

F **Celebrate Killeen Festival:** April 25-27, 2013. The annual Celebrate Killeen Festival is Thursday through Saturday. The public is invited to enjoy the free family fun. The official kickoff party is Thursday night from 5 to 8 p.m. at Green Avenue Farmers Market, 717 N. 2nd Street. Activities will include refreshments, farmers market, craft vendors, and a live concert featuring The Funk Factory. The celebration moves to the Killeen Community Center Friday with a free concert in the park featuring The GTOs. A full day of fun is scheduled Saturday at the Killeen Community Center starting at 8 a.m. with the Celebrate Killeen 5K run. Festival activities will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and include entertainment, food, a petting zoo, hayrides and much more. Finally, an outdoor movie showing of Iron Man 2 starts at 8 p.m. Many other events including a carnival and low cost pet shot clinic are planned as part of the Celebrate Killeen Festival. A full schedule is available at www.killeentexas.gov/celebratekilleen. **KISD Annual Family Fitness and Wellness Fair** (Part of the Celebrate Killeen Festival): Saturday, April 27, 2013. ALL events and healthy snacks are FREE! Prizes! Live Demonstrations, cooking, bowling, material arts, face painting and more!

O **Free Family Flea Market on April 28, 2013:** The Jewish Community of Fort Hood, Jewish Federation of Greater Austin and Congregation Beth Israel in Austin will sponsor a Free Family Flea Market from 2-5 p.m. Sunday at the Spirit of Fort Hood Chapel. Families are encouraged to bring a bag and take what they need from this charitable event! Call 254-577-5199 for more information.

R **Law Day Information, events, and opportunities:** May 1, 2013! The theme this year is "Realizing the Dream: Equality for All." This year's Law Day theme provides an opportunity to explore the movement for civil and human rights in America and the impact that it has had in promoting equality under the law. Check out Law Day activities including Moot court competition, essay contest and flag art displays, law day luncheon and naturalization service, immigration benefits presentation for military dependents, Golf tournament and more!

T **Household hazardous waste collection:** April 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Copperas Cove Transfer Station, 2605 S. HWY 116. Household Hazardous Waste Collection Saturday. There will be a household hazardous waste collection event Saturday at the Copperas Cove Transfer Station, 2605 S. HWY 116. Killeen residents are invited to take advantage of this free disposal of household hazardous waste like paint, fertilizers, poisons and more. For more information visit www.killeentexas.gov/hhw

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day: Fort Hood's Directorate of Emergency Services hosts National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day at Fort Hood Friday. DES representatives will be available from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at both the Clear Creek and Warrior Way post exchanges to collect unwanted prescriptions from community members.



National Day of Prayer: May 2, 2013 at the Spirit of Fort Hood from 11:00 - 1:00.

H **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month observance:** May 22, 2013, 1:30 p.m.—2:30p.m., in the Grande Ballroom at Club Hood. Featuring guest speaker, Dr. Thomas Klinicar (Chancellor from Central Texas College) and cultural displays. Visit any of the Ft Hood Dining Facilities for lunch on 22 May for a taste of Asian and Pacific Islander Cuisine.



Auditions at Vive Les Arts: Auditions will be held Sunday May 26th and Monday May 27th from 6pm to 9pm at Vive Les Arts Theatre, 3401 South WS Young Drive, Killeen, Texas 76542 for the upcoming play, Legally Blonde

O **Mark your calendars for this upcoming exciting event:** Friday, May 31, 2013 at Abrams Gym, the USO and MWR presents Will Smith and son, Jaden Smith! More information will follow so don't forget to check the weekly USAOTC Community Binders for events and information!

Art & Wine on the Square: My Giving Tree Art Gallery & Nolan Creek Winery will host "Art & Wine on the Square" Saturday, 26 April from 2-7 p.m. at the Historic Bell County's Courthouse in Belton. This festival will have many talented and well known artists, several Central Texas wineries and a special art raffle and silent auction for "Aware Central Texas." For more information, contact My Giving Tree at 939-8733 or www.mygivingtree.net or Nolan Creek Winery at 613-447-5254 or www.winesofnolan creek.com.

O **Central Texas 2013 Airshow:** The Central Texas 2013 Airshow will be held May 3-5 at Draughon-Miller Central Texas Regional Airport in Temple. May 3 gates will open at 4 p.m. Many of the Airshow aircraft will be on static display for you to get up close and personal. Some of them will offer tours allowing you to get inside some of these great flying machines. Food vendors and children's play area available. The flying part of the Airshow will start around 6:30 pm and there will be a couple of nighttime acts. After the acts they will finish out the evening with some of the best fireworks in Central Texas. On May 4 and 5, gates will open around 8:00 a.m. Enjoy the static display and vendors at your leisure and stake out a prime location in the spectator area for the Airshow. Flying begins at 1:00 p.m. For more information and ticket prices, visit www.centraltexasairshow.com



D **Want More News You Can Use? Looking For Upcoming Classes? Holidays? Freebies? Events?**

For more information, flyers, events and freebies visit: [Fort Hood/Central Texas: Events, Information, & Announcements](http://www.hoodmwr.com/acs)

Fort Hood ACS: <http://hoodmwr.com/acs>

Community Service Council Monthly Events and Information: http://hoodmwr.com/acs/iro_csc.html

F **El Paso Zoo:** Put some wild in your life! In honor of Armed Forces Day, our friends at the El Paso Zoo are offering special pricing for ALL active-duty and retired military to thank you for your service. May 18-19, active-duty and retired military (with valid military ID) may purchase zoo tickets for just \$5 each, child and adult. Children under 3 are free, as always. Only one military ID is required per group for discounted pricing for the entire party. For more information, call the El Paso Zoo at (915) 521-1850 or visit www.elpasozoo.org. Don't forget to check out the Zoo Adventure Program's Nighttime Events!



O The **Junior Achievement Bowl-A-Thon** is coming to Fort Bliss' Desert Strike Lanes Saturday, May 4, and JA has several lanes open for FREE use by military bowlers of all ages. The bowling session begins at 10am and ends at noon. Bowlers will need to arrive at least 15 minutes early (by 9:45am) to pick up their shoes and receive their lane assignments. If you're interested in joining Junior Achievement for a fun, FREE morning, give them a call at (915) 772-5566 and let them know you're a military bowler and they'll set you up!

R **Elvis Lives!** April 27, 2013 at the Plaza Theater at 8:00 pm. ELVIS LIVES! is an unforgettable multi-media and live musical journey across Elvis' life. His iconic style, embraced by many of today's artists, continues to intrigue audiences of all generations. Featuring finalists from Elvis Presley Enterprises' worldwide Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest, as well as a tribute to Ann-Margret, audiences "Can't Help Falling In Love"® with this phenomenal theatrical concert experience. For more information visit [Elvis Lives!](#)



T **Better Opportunities for Single Parents (BOSP)** was put in place to give single parents a place to voice their concerns, find solutions to issues they may be having, to get resources, and to build a support group for themselves while networking with other single parents. To learn more, call the Single Parent Liaison at (915) 569-5500. **The program's main focus is to provide valuable information to Single Parents (Active Duty, DA Civilians, Retirees & Veterans) regarding educational support services such as school location, school programs, and Child, Youth & School Services (CYSS).** The program makes every effort to identify and support service needs of single parents within the Fort Bliss, El Paso & surrounding communities. The next upcoming Support Group Meeting will be at the Family Resilience Center, Bldg. 250, Club Road on May 23, 2013 from 5:30 - 7:00pm. Children are welcome to attend! For more information or to reserve your seat call 915-569-5500.



B **Veterans Recreation CENTER National Physical Fitness and Sports Month Event!** The El Paso Parks & Recreation Department will host a National Physical Fitness and Sports Month Celebration from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, 2013 at Veterans Recreation Center, 5301 Salem St. Chaplain (LTC) Karen Meeker, 1st Armored Division Fort Bliss will be the guest speaker discussing the importance of physical fitness for one's physical, mental and spiritual well being. Fitness demonstration classes, fitness equipment displays, free health screening, and events to promote health and fitness will be available. **The event is free and open to the public.** For more information call (915) 821-8909.

L **Military Spouse Appreciation Day:** Spouses are an integral part of the military's mission. Friday, May 10, Fort Bliss will honor its military spouses with a Military Spouse Appreciation Day event presented by Family and MWR and Army Community Service. From 1-4 p.m., head to the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center for a fun, free mini spa day and expo. Planned highlights include mini spa treatments, cooking demos, DIY demos, mini fitness classes, complimentary snacks, door prizes and more. It's all available on a first-come, first-served basis. Free child care is available for children registered with CYSS. Advance reservations with CYSS are required; a voucher will be provided at the event. Come early for lunch at the Centennial and enjoy free cake with your lunch purchase. Stay afterward for Martini and a Manicure at 4:30 p.m., and receive a manicure and one martini for just \$10. The Centennial is located at 11199 Sgt. E. Churchill St. on East Fort Bliss. For more information, visit blissmwr.com or call (915) 569-5500.

S **Martini and a Manicure:** Pamper yourself with Martini and a Manicure at 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 10 at the Centennial. For just \$10, kick off the weekend in style as you receive a manicure and one choice from our menu of carefully crafted specialty martinis. Additional martini selections may be purchased, as well. Martini and a Manicure is a great way to relax after a hard week's work. All guests must be age 21 or older - no children are allowed. The Centennial Banquet and Conference Center is located at Bldg. 11199 Sgt. E. Churchill St. on East Fort Bliss. For information, call (915) 744-1171.

S **Bowl with your hero for Mother's Day!** Moms bowl one game free when accompanied by a child from noon-6 p.m. Sunday, May 12. Shoe rental is not included. Desert Strike Lanes is located at Bldg. 2949 Carter Road. For more information, call (915) 568-6727.

S **Victorian Tea and Open House:** In celebration of Mother's Day, the Old Fort Bliss Replica requests the pleasure of your company at a Victorian Tea and Open House Saturday, May 11 from 2-4 p.m. Experience the replica's historic ambiance while you take part in a fun social event including classic tea-time refreshments and fantastic photo opportunities. Guests are invited to bring their sons and daughters, mothers or friends. The recommended attire is summer dress with gloves and, if desired, a hat. The event costs \$5 per person, and advance reservations are required. The Old Fort Bliss Replica is located at 5054 Pershing Road, at the intersection with Pleasonton. Call (915) 588-8482 for reservations, or visit blissmwr.com/oldfortbliss for more information.



FORT SILL

Arts for All Festival: May 10, 11, 12, 2013. The festival is both a celebration of the arts and a “thank you” to the community for supporting the arts throughout the year. The success of this wonderful event is due to a cooperative effort of teamwork between businesses, civic and community organizations, and hundreds of dedicated volunteers. Through the years, our little festival has grown into a large fine arts juried show, and artists across the United States clearly indicate that the Arts for All Festival in Lawton has become a highly sought after event for artists on a national level! Artists representing many states display in mediums of photography, pottery, sculpture, painting, jewelry, and more. Accompanying the wonderful array of visual arts are the art of cuisine. Entertainment is featured on two stages by our local children’s groups, schools, and dance studios. Location: Shepler Park, Gore Boulevard in Lawton, OK. For more information visit www.lawtonafa.org/Festival.htm

Family and MWR presents Spouse-A-Palooza! The event is free and will take place Wednesday, May 15. This year’s Spouse-A-Palooza features two time slots: 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm or 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The evening includes hors d’oeuvres, exhibitor demonstrations, product sampling, giveaways and more! Also new to this year, Oklahoma Tourism’s Road Show will be on site offering vacation and travel opportunities throughout the state. **Registration is available online now at www.sillmwr.com** Registration is limited to the first 300 spouses in each time slot. Spouse-A-Palooza is for spouses only! As a courtesy to other spouses in attendance, we ask that you do not bring children.

City of Lawton “Trash-Off” Event: Saturday, April 27, 2013 from 8:00am to 3:00pm at the McMahon Auditorium parking lot. Are you tired of seeing trash along your city streets? Do you cringe when you see someone throw litter out a car window onto the highway? Does litter really bug you? If so, this is the event for you! TRASH-OFF is the



Department of Transportation’s statewide cleanup day. Many groups have expanded TRASH-OFF Day into TRASH-OFF week, or even TRASH-OFF month! Cities often participate by arranging free dump days or curbside pickups. Many groups combine cleanups with other fun events such as picnics, contests or trash parades to encourage participation. View the flyer here: [2013 Trash - Off](#). All events are coordinated statewide efforts to “KEEP OUR LAND GRAND”! For more information call (580) 581-3467 or email agriffith@cityof.lawton.ok.us.

2nd Annual Hog Wild Ranch Rodeo on Saturday, April 27, 2013, 2:00 pm at LO Ranch Arena, 2102 SE 60 Lawton, Oklahoma 73501 For more information call 580-250-1300. On 27 April 2013, the 2nd Annual Hog Wild Rodeo will be held at the Lawton Rangers Arena, in Lawton Oklahoma.



Fort Sill-Lawton National Day of Prayer: Thursday, May 2, 2013 from 8:00 to 6:00pm at New City Hall-South Lawn, 8th and C Ave. For more information contact Dwayne Hall at 580-248-6927

Armed Forces Day Parade: Saturday, May 18, 2013 at 10:00am. Parade begins at 6th and C Ave and ends at Elmer Thomas Park.

3rd Annual Fort Sill Polo Classic: Family and MWR will host the 3rd Annual FREE Fort Sill Polo Classic, Sunday, May 12. Join us on the Polo Field for an afternoon of fun and excitement. The match begins at 2:00 pm and is free and **open to the public**.

3RD ANNUAL
**FORT SILL
POLO CLASSIC**

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2:00 P.M.
FORT SILL POLO FIELD

Presenting Sponsor: Sponsored By:

FREE Admission

Federal endorsement of sponsors not intended.

5K Walk/Run: The monthly 5K Walk/Run at Hedrick Stadium is Saturday, April 27, starting at 9 a.m. It's free and no registration is required! Open to all Soldiers, DA Civilians and their Families!

Did you know about the Fort Bragg Community Support Connection? The answers you have been looking for is only a phone call away. Whether you are looking for information on Fort Bragg, in the surrounding communities, or anywhere else, we can help! Call or stop by to visit us in person on the 1st floor of the Soldier Support Center. Call (910) 907-INFO (4636) or visit the 1st floor Soldier Support Center from 7:30 am to 6:00pm, Monday - Friday!

The **Fort Bragg Fair** opens today, Thursday, 25 April and runs through May 12th. It's also part of 31 Day Salute! Did you know you get unlimited rides and live entertainment with your admission price? Go have a great time! The Fort Bragg Fair is an annual event that takes place every spring. It is **open to the public** and accessible from Bragg Boulevard via Howell Street. Gates open at 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and at 1 p.m. on Saturday & Sunday. Parking is free. For more information visit the Fort Bragg Family and MWR website at <http://goo.gl/TuoM9> or call (910) 396-9126.



Dogwood Festival: This weekend is the Dogwood Festival in downtown Fayetteville. The Farmer's Market will be open as usual on Saturday from 8am-1pm. Come and visit some of your local growers, producers, and artisans. Check the link for a list of the events and locations for all that is happening at the dogwood festival this weekend. **Cape Fear Harley Davidson Experience** on Saturday April 27, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM. **Lafayette Ford Classic Car Show** on Sunday, April 28, 1:00PM – 6:00 PM!

Fascinate-U Children's Museum Dogwood (free!): Celebration on April 26, 2013 from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at 116 Green Street. For more information call 910 -261 - 6935. Visit during the Fourth Friday to create a beautiful dogwood flower as we bloom into Dogwood with various children's activities and half-price admission on Saturday and Sunday! For more information visit www.faydogwoodfestival.com

2013 TPC Pro-Am Golf Tournament: Public Always Welcome! Saturday, May 11, 2013 at 7:30 a.m.! Entry fee is \$10. Stryker Golf Course. Call (910) 396-3980 or visit fortbraggmwr.com for more information!



Newcomers Orientation and Bus Tour: Tuesday, May 7, 2013! Soldier Support Center, 3rd Floor - Main ACS. Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. RSVP required. Call (910) 907-3507/3374 for reservations and information. Register online at www.fortbraggmwr.com/register-for-a-class. Limited FREE childcare is available pending funding availability. Children must be registered with CYSS.

Operation Ceasefire: FREE movie Night! May 17, 2013 , 7:30! Operation Ceasefire proudly presents FREE movie night series! The next FREE movie night will be held at College Lakes Recreation Center, 4945 Rosehill Road, NC. Get to know your neighbors and local law enforcement in a safe, fun environment for all! It's outdoors and family friendly so bring your chairs, blankets, family and friends!



F **National Drug Take Back Day:** Saturday, April 27, 10:00am. You can drop off your unwanted prescription drugs at the Ft Huachuca PX. For those who can't make it to the PX, the SV Police Department on Coronado also has a drop box available every day!

O **Save the date! 3rd annual "An Evening on the Green" Jazz and Wine Festival:** May 11 from 4 to 9 p.m. at Brown Parade Field. **Admission is free, and includes wine tasting.** Everyone invited! Food and bottles of wine and beer will be available to purchase. Entertainment will be provided by the 62nd Army Band Jazz Combo, and the Duane Reilley Jazz Quartet. For more information, call 520-533-3354 or 266-0254.

T **Arizona Coalition for Military Families Annual Symposium:** The Arizona Coalition for Military Families will be having their annual symposium the 15th and 16th of May in Phoenix, AZ at the Desert Willow Conference Center. 2 days of programming, 4 tracks, 24 breakout sessions plus more! **Who should attend?** Representatives of the military, government and community, including health care & allied health professionals,



**ARIZONA COALITION
FOR MILITARY FAMILIES**
BUILDING SUPPORT FOR ALL WHO SERVE

H mental health counselors & social workers, first responders, managed care providers, Veteran Service Organization members, employers & HR professionals, military personnel (Active Duty, Guard, Reserve), educators (early childhood, K-12, higher ed), faith based community representatives, attorneys & legal advocates and other community members. You can find out more information, including scholarship information, at <http://arizonacoalition.org/events/symposium>

U The next **Right Arm Night** is set for April 26 starting at 4 p.m. at Thunder Mountain Activity Centre. The theme of this RAN is "bike night," and will feature motorcycle displays and contests. Everyone is invited to bring their bikes and compete for some great prizes. Free finger foods and a pay-as-you-go beer bar will also be available. As always, **RAN is free and open to everyone, including Soldiers, Civilians, Retirees and Family Members age 18 and older.** For more information, call 533-5642 or 678-4446.

C FMWR will present a **Free Moonlight Movie**, "The Life of Pi" Saturday, April 27, 2013 at Warrior/Sentinel Field. The movie will start at dusk. Free popcorn, hot dogs, water and soft drinks will be provided, while supplies last. For more information, call 533-3354 or 266-0254.

H Everyone is invited to "**old school night**" May 4 starting at 8 p.m. at Thunder Mountain Activity Centre. Come dance the night away to DJ music from the 80s, 90s and today. There will be a \$5 cover charge per person OR per couple. Free finger foods and a pay-as-you-go bar will be available. For more information, call 533-3802 or 533-7322.

C Sports, Fitness and Aquatics will host the **Strong B.A.N.D.S.** "Where-Is-It?" clue scavenger hunt May 11 beginning at 8 a.m. at Bujalski Field, next to Barnes Field House. This fun event is offered free for Active Duty military and their families. For all others, cost is \$5 per individual; \$7 for 2-person teams; \$10 for 4-person teams; \$10 for families with



A less than 4 members; and \$12 for families of more than 4 members. Awards will be given to the top three in each category, participants will receive water bottles, and post-event refreshments will be provided. Please register by May 8 by calling 533-9775 or emailing jeanna.m.lee.naf@mail.mil.

Points of Light believes people are at the center of change. The organization inspires, equips and mobilizes 21st century volunteers to address the pressing issues of our time. By engaging millions of volunteers each year to use their time, talent, voice and money to create meaningful change in their communities, we are transforming our world. Our vision is that one day every person will discover their power to make a difference, creating healthy communities in vibrant, participatory societies. Points of Light has emerged over two decades as the largest organization in the world dedicated to volunteering and civic engagement. We have a global focus to redefine volunteerism and civic engagement, putting people at the center of community problem solving. We are organized into three divisions: **Action Networks, Programs and the Civic Incubator.** **Points of Light's Action Networks** allow us to reach distinct groups with the tools and resources they need to engage people as change agents. These include: **HandsOn Network**, the largest network of volunteer centers across the country and around the world with 250 local affiliates; **generationOn**, the youth service movement that ignites the power of kids to make their mark on the world; **AmeriCorps Alums**, the national service alumni network that activates the next generation of service leaders; and the Corporate Institute, the go-to organization that supports companies engaging their employees and customers in volunteer service. Our **Programs division** builds and scales training, education and signature programs to address critical needs and build stronger communities. Our programs focus on the environment, education, economy, emergency preparedness, and veterans and military families. The Community Blueprint Network provides a framework for communities to support veterans and military families. Recognition programs like the Daily Points of Light Award and the Extra Mile – Points of Light Volunteer Pathway celebrate the power of individuals to create meaningful change and inspire others to serve. We offer year-round training programs and signature events like the annual National Conference on Volunteering and Service. The **Civic Incubator** is a locus for new forms of civic and volunteer action. The Civic Incubator identifies the best ideas from across the Action Networks and the sector to replicate or scale. The Civic Incubator supports entrepreneurs launching early stage ventures that engage people to create and drive positive change through training, seed funding and support services. Specific initiatives include the first start-up accelerator program for civic ventures, a "ventures in residence" program for new enterprises, and innovative models to expand the organization's global network of volunteer leaders in societies from El Salvador and Rio de Janeiro to Shanghai and Milan.

Call for nominations!

Nominate an individual for the Daily Point of Light Award: Nominations are open to EVERYONE! The power of the individual to spark change and improve the world – that's what the Daily Point of Light Award celebrates. Whether it's a teenager battling culture bullies or a plumber creating a school's volunteer network, a mom leading a homegrown disaster relief drive or an athlete wielding his celebrity for good instead of goods – a Daily Point of Light embraces the challenge of tackling a community need through volunteer service. Nominate a local hero for a Daily Point of Light Award today. Winners get formally recognized by Points of Light, a media advisory sent to their community, a certificate signed by President George H. W. Bush – and a bit of the world's spotlight. Nominate someone you know today!
www.pointsoflight.org/programs/recognition/dpol/nomination

Do you know a "Community Celebrity?" Nominations are open to EVERYONE! These celebrities may not be famous, but they are stars in their communities. One is a former nun and science teacher who dedicates her time to caring for hospice patients. Another is the founder of a homeless shelter for women. As we celebrate National Volunteer Week, Points of Light is proud to join with Cabot Community Celebrity Awards again this year to recognize the achievements and contributions of volunteers across the country. On January 11, 2014, dozens of Community Celebrities will set sail for an all-inclusive, six day/seven night cruise aboard the Celebrity Summit, with stops in Puerto Rico, Barbados, St. Lucia, Antigua, St. Maarten, and St. Thomas. You or someone you know could be one of them! The Celebrity Summit is not only a way to say "thank you" to some extraordinary volunteers, it's a chance for the volunteers to connect with each other. This year's Community Celebrities will be selected throughout 2013. Nominate your own Community Celebrity here and join us in saying "thank you" to the volunteers who make our communities better every day. For more information visit www.pointsoflight.org/current-news/recognize-your-volunteers-national-volunteer-week-or-year-round