

**Nashville District
Family Support Monthly Newsletter**

SEPTEMBER 2008

As the summer months passed by with the hot weather, vacation time, and busy family schedules, we felt that it would be best to check in with you via a monthly newsletter rather than the monthly Family Support Teleconference. I am excited to share the good things happening in Nashville District and the Corps.

Let me be the first to say Hello Fall! I know the fall of the year is one of the most beautiful seasons we enjoy. The weather cooling down, the trees taking on their beautiful colors, children back on a schedule at school, and looking at the accomplishments we have all made during the summer. Thank you all for the support that you continue to give your spouses and children as they are striving to maintain the hectic schedule and producing the good work being done in Iraq and Afghanistan. You are heroes for running the household, keeping the lawn in good shape, working, and doing the million things that must be done. This summer has been an opportunity to be proud of what you have done and proud of what your loved one has accomplished overseas with the support that you have provided.

At the beginning of September, Nashville District had eleven employees deployed. Nine folks were in Afghanistan, two in Iraq. One of our deployees in Afghanistan returned mid month. We have four more leaving in mid October for Iraq. More heroes in the making!

In August, Nashville District was honored to be a part of the USACE 2008 Senior Leaders Conference where the Chief of the Corps of Engineers, LTG Van Antwerp, and his senior leaders, and emerging leaders were gathered to create and improve initiatives that make the Corps of Engineers great. I have been a part of a USACE team since May 2008 working on standardizing a Pre-Deployment Family Support Handbook (much like the handbook that we shared with the deployee and family prior to deployment) for the Corps of Engineers. We have completed the handbook for review by the Corps of Engineers Divisions and Districts and hoping to have it released to the Divisions by the end of October. The Chief is dedicated to supporting the men and women supporting our GWOT missions.

It's NEW! Family Support Network Website! We are pleased to offer you the opportunity to go on line to find information and help in answering questions and concerns in our new Family Support Network Website. The address is: <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil>. Once on the Nashville District home page, click on Family Support Network on the right side of the page. Take the time to review the different links. We have provided a link for you to ask questions, or to share your comments on the site. We look forward to hearing from you!

This month's helpful hint for keeping the separation time in check.....look up an Afghanistan or Iraq historical fact each day. Share these with the family. The areas in which your loved one is serving are mentioned as the "cradle of civilization", find out why!

Have a great October. We will have more news in the making!

Victoria Hooper
Deployee Support Coordinator
DA, Corps of Engineers, Nashville District
Executive Office
Telephone: (615) 736-7965