

ADA Association establishes Sill presence

Story, Photo
By Marie Berbera

The Air Defense Artillery has established roots at Fort Sill over the past few years, but there was still one part of ADA that has been working hard to ascertain a footprint.

That changed with a quick signature and the cut of a ribbon Nov. 10 as the Air Defense Artillery Association celebrated its physical presence and new home in Building 758, Callaway Hall on McNair Avenue.

"This is really a big deal for us. It lends a lot of credibility to the organization, and it gives air defenders that come and visit a home or a place that they can come and do some work," said Ken Horn, ADAA executive director.

The association is a private organization formed in 1980, with the goal of supporting ADA Soldiers and retirees,

and to foster unity and esprit de corps among the members of the branch. The ADAA has made significant strides since its arrival and relocation here as Brigitte Stacey, ADAA executive secretary, said their work prior was done out of peoples' basements and by cell phones.

"Just building our presence is really important. The ADA Association was at Fort Bliss for 40-plus years. It's been here for almost two years and it's taken a while to get everything rebuilt and move things from one spot to another," said Stacey.

Stacey among many others was applauded for her hard work in making that happen, but she said that's not what counts.

"We just want Soldiers to know that we're here. And hopefully, when they know that we're here, we can assist them when they come to us," said Stacey.

Col. Paul Hossenlopp, Fort Sill garrison commander, signed the permission to operate and the crowd celebrated inside.

"Since 2008 I've been kind of the BRAC guy for the Air Defense," said Col. Daniel Karbler, ADA School commandant and Chief of ADA. "Every first step, every first mile driven, every first shovel full of dirt turned resulted in training capability air defense families and community coming here to Fort Sill, and getting ensconced here in the Fires Center. Now with the standing up of the ADA Association here and the ribbon cutting it's just one more first step that we're taking as a branch to be a part of the fires community."

The ADAA is currently working on many fundraisers including its brick campaign. For more information visit firsttofire.com or the ADA Association's Facebook page.



Col. Daniel Karbler, Air Defense Artillery School commandant and chief of ADA, Col. Bill Stacey, 6th ADA commander, and ADA Association board members cut the ribbon on the association's new headquarters, Building 758 on Nov. 10.

Internet tool maps out Fort Sill

Did you know that the Fort Sill community has a robust geographic information systems program that provides a secure Web-based map application?

The program is accessible from most government work stations on the Fort Sill secure Internet site.

According to the Department of Labor, GIS technology is one of the fastest growing industries in the United States. It gives Fort Sill a data management and mapping platform to connect divisions like range control, public works, real property and accounting. It is a reliable performance measurement tool that streamlines work flows, work order management and operations, and delivers transparency and enhances accountability.

The Fort Sill GIS Mapper allows Soldiers, civilians and contractors with approved access to the Fort Sill Intranet to securely



Did you know?

By Col. Paul Hossenlopp
Fort Sill Garrison commander

locate, analyze and visualize data specific to post in the form of customizable maps, reports and charts.

For those people who have had problems locating a building or road on Fort Sill, the GIS mapper has a tool that allows the user to enter a building number or road name, and with the touch of a button have access to a customizable aerial map of that area that can be printed or included into a computer graphics presentation.

The same works for planning a training exercise and locating it on a map, with a change of map services, you now have access to an updated scaled range con-

trol map that can be modified specifically for your unit exercise or mission.

Need a list of all the buildings on Fort Sill that house hazardous material? GIS has a query for that. Need to know how many trees or fire hydrants are within 50 yards of your building? A GIS tool can provide that information, too. Need to see how many security lights are in your neighborhood? GIS has a layer for that. Need to see the condition of a roof in the 6000 area? GIS has an aerial imagery tool for that.

The GIS program tracks and updates more than 400 feature data sets and aerial images that range from

facilities, transportation, agriculture and utility infrastructure to lesser known features such as signs, camera surveillance points, designated hunting areas or grounds maintenance zones.

Our team has performed vital mapping and analysis services to the Fort Sill community that range from predictive crime analysis, range surface danger zones, grounds maintenance cost calculation to creating physical addresses for the Lawton-Fort Sill 911 emergency response database.

Last year, the GIS program resurveyed and mapped the electrical utility infrastructure and as a result the installation will receive about an additional \$2.3 million in facility sustainment funding. Recently, they began resurveying the natural gas utility infrastructure with more to come in the future.

Briefs

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ASAP closure

The Army Substance Abuse Program office at Fort Sill is closed Nov. 25 and Dec. 23.

Crossing closure

Hoyle low water crossing in the 6000 Area is closed for reconstruction until April 20. Hoyle Bridge is open to wheeled vehicles eight tons or less. All vehicles in excess of eight tons must use alternate routes to access the northeast ranges. For more information, call Hershel Tuck, DPW construction branch, at 442-6524.

OKC businesses off-limits

By order of the Fires Center of Excellence and Fort Sill commanding general the following Oklahoma City businesses

are off-limits to all military personnel assigned to Fort Sill: BS Unlimited, FatHedz, Mr. Coolz, Outter Limits, Pipe Dreamz and Ziggy's Smoke Shop. This action is necessary to protect the health, welfare and safety of personnel. This is a lawful general order and its violation is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Utility work

American Water is smoke testing cantonment area sewer lines until Nov. 15 to check for leaks in lines. People will be notified about 48 hours prior to testing in their area. The ingredient used has no harmful side effects. It is not uncommon to see smoke coming from sewer vents on roof tops or inside structures where plumbing problems exist. People who see smoke but are uncertain if it is part of the test should call 911 and take necessary fire evacuation precautions.

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