

# From the Commandant's desk

## Pre-2017 Fires Conference

I would like to start off this edition of the Redleg Update by inviting everyone to attend the 2017 Fires Conference "Cross Domain Fires: Now and in the Future the Multi-Doman Battle" either in person or virtually May 3-4, 2017.

This is a great opportunity to learn, understand and discuss all things Fires. This year's conference will focus on what we can do now and in the future to expand the capabilities of Cross Domain Fires in support of Multi-Domain Battle. Scheduled speakers include GEN David Perkins, TRADOC Commander; RADM Mark Montgomery, J3, USPACOM, and BG Peter Jones, the Infantry School Commandant. These leaders bring unique personal experiences, perspectives, and knowledge that will help us map a clearer path forward into a very complex multi-domain environment.


Our Field Artillery breakout session is scheduled during the second day of the conference from 9 a.m. to noon. Tentatively scheduled speakers include COL Markus Jones, the 8th Army Chief of Fires; COL David S. Lee, Commander, 19th Battlefield Coordination Detachment, U.S. Army Europe; and COL Thomas R. Bolen, Commander, IID DIVARTY, who will have an update on their successful engagements in Operation Inherent Resolve. Each of these speakers will share their extensive knowledge and understanding of their very unique operational environments and how Cross Domain Fires are integrated and synchronized to meet, and often exceed, their maneuver commander's expectations.

We will acknowledge the winners of the 2016 Knox, Gruber and Hamilton awards on Day 2. Congratulations to Charlie Battery, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery Regiment, the Henry A. Knox award winner; Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery Regiment of the Utah Army National Guard as the Alexander Hamilton Award winner; and SFC Zachary S. Wilkerson, 1st Battalion, 94th Field Artillery Regiment, 17th Field Artillery Brigade, from Joint Base Lewis McChord, Wash., as the Edmund L. Gruber Award winner. To learn more about these outstanding awardees, please read the March-April 2017 edition of

the Redleg Update.

On May 4th, there will also be a dedication ceremony recognizing a legendary Artilleryman - General John William Vessey, Jr. GEN Vessey served in the U.S. Army from 1939 to 1985 beginning as a Private in the Minnesota Army National Guard and ending as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He was a combat veteran of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. GEN Vessey is remembered as a "Soldier's Soldier," fair and firm, who always stood up for his troops. So, it is very appropriate that Bldg. 6005, which currently houses the 95th Adjutant General Battalion (Reception), will be dedicated to him. The 95th AG BN (Reception) conducts reception operations for Basic Combat Training, Advanced Individual Training, and English as a Second Language Training Soldiers here at Fort Sill, Okla.

Once again, if you cannot attend in person, please log on to the web and participate in understanding and shaping today's Fires force. Thanks for all you do. We are the world's premier Artillery force - modernized, organized, trained, and ready to integrate and employ Army, Joint, and Multinational fires because of the tremendous efforts of you and your Soldiers,

24/7/365,  
Regardless of weather,  
In any terrain,  
Quickly, Accurately, and Danger Close! 

**King of Battle!**  
**Redleg 6**

*COL Stephen J. Maranian*

For more info, or to register go to  
<http://sill-www.army.mil/fires-conference/>.

To attend virtually, log onto  
<https://conference.apps.mil/webconf/FiresConference2017>.  
To virtually attend the FA Breakout sessions go to <https://conference.apps.mil/webconf/FiresConferenceFACMDT-BreakoutRoom>