

Up and Down  
the

# Hill



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*Serving the Fort A.P. Hill Community*

January 7, 2009

2008

YEAR

on the

HILL



# What a memorable year it's been!

**T**eam mates,  
It is hard to believe 2009 is here. 2008 was an incredibly eventful year for Fort A.P. Hill and each of you played an important role in these various events.

The most memorable is probably the recognition we earned as the best installation in the Army as evaluated by the Army Communities of Excellence Program. It was very rewarding to take first place after finishing in third place three years in a row.

This is a great accomplishment and something I hope each of you will remember for many years. Before you know it, we will be submitting our packet again for the 2011 competition. I believe we will continue

to compete well in this program for the following reasons: our mission and vision are clear and critical, the entire post understands and believes in the mission and vision, and we understand the measurements to meet our mission and vision through our comprehensive strategic plan: the goals, objectives and actions.

If the increasing number of units and Warriors choosing to train at Fort A.P. Hill is an indicator, the criticality and popularity of our installation will continue to grow.

In fiscal year 2006, 45,000 Warriors trained here. This increased to 58,000 in FY07.

Finally, last year we jumped to 68,000. An overall increase of 23,000 Warriors over two years

is pretty dramatic and you all have performed magnificently. I only see this number increasing as each

of the services learn about the capabilities we are adding and the consequence to their success on the battlefield. I compliment all of the senior leaders for their contributions on the corporate board; this collective process continues to enable the installation to stay relevant.

The dedication of the Faulkenburg Urban Operations Center in memory of former Fort A.P. Hill Command Sgt. Maj.

Steven Faulkenburg proved to be an outstanding event. This Combined Arms Collective training facility, Urban Assault Course and live-fire shoot house is an example of how this installation will stay relevant as a training destination of choice for our nation's Warriors for many years to come.

Other noteworthy events were: the signing of the Community Covenant, multiple exercises (downed aircraft and live shooter), the U.S. Army Soldier Show, Installation Planning Boards, the Installation Management Command and Military District of Washington Soldier of the Year competition, visits by various dignitaries (including the IMCOM's Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson and our newly-elected congressman, the Honorable Rob Wittman), the opening of the Downtime Zone, safety and organization days, and a myriad of other events.

In the end, it was an action-packed year and you each played a very important part.

I am tremendously proud to serve as the commander of this fine installation and appreciate the daily effort each of you contributes. I look forward to another great year of providing The Best Training and Support ... Anywhere!

## Commander's Comments



Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Richard Cody, presents the 2008 Army Community of Excellence Award to Lt. Col. Michael S. Graese, Garrison Commander, while Judy Collins and James Coleman, Fort A.P. Hill's 2008 Employees of the Year, and Maj. Gen. John Macdonald, Installation Management Command, look on.



**Garrison Commander**  
Lt. Col. Michael S. Graese

**Public Affairs Officer**  
Christopher B. Joyner

**Garrison Command**  
**Sergeant Major**  
Command Sgt. Maj. Roger Chase

**Editor/Photojournalist**  
David San Miguel

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Photo by David San Miguel

Marines negotiate obstacles at the Leaders Reaction Course.

# Training ...

Units from around the globe trained at Fort A.P. Hill in 2008. Many of the Warriors that trained here in 2008 are now using techniques learned here in the defense of liberty.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

Service members brush up their marksmanship skills using the Engagement Skills Trainer.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

Military police use Fort A.P. Hill facilities to train and work with their canine partners.



Photo by David San Miguel

ROTC cadets from the University of Maryland conduct a tactical road march.



Marines practice sling-loading a vehicle using the Sea Stallion helicopter.



Soldiers guide their Howitzer cannon for a quick wash after a hard day of training.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

Army aviators get an opportunity to practice fire fighting operations.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

MPs practice processing enemy prisoners at the POW camp.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

Local SWAT teams conduct tactical operations to hone their police skills.

## ... more training



Many tactical vehicles can be found on any given day maneuvering through the range.

# ... and more training



Marines devise a makeshift bridge to cross an LRC water obstacle.



Soldiers enhance their NBC warfighting capability.



*Photo by David San Miguel*

An ROTC cadet moves off the firing range with an armful of magazines. His unit was qualifying with the M-16 rifle.



Navy SEALs practice tactical water operations.



*Photo by Christopher Joyner*

Units train in demolitions to learn new techniques for combat.

### Soldier of the Year

Soldiers came from all points far and near to compete in a rigorous competition designed to test the skill, resolve and technical abilities of the Army's best junior leaders.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

Soldiers are tasked with a series of missions to test their leadership skills.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

The enemy spotted, this Soldier warns his teammates to prepare for an attack.

## Soldier competition ...



Photo by Christopher Joyner

Soldiers stand guard for any sign of an enemy.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

An enemy role player prepares to set up an explosive device.

# ... more competition



Photo by David San Miguel

A range NCO ensures the range is clear for firing.



Photo by David San Miguel

A Blackhawk helicopter flies one of many dignitaries to observe training.



Soldiers conduct a perimeter defense posture.

Photo by David San Miguel  
Soldiers from neighboring installations come here to zero and qualify with their weapons.



# ... nature



Photo by Christopher Joyner

The American Bald Eagle ...



Photo by David San Miguel

Visitors to Fort A.P. Hill may become mesmerized by the beauty of its landscape.



Photo by David San Miguel

John Mullin, the installation's cultural resources manager, removes some wild brush surrounding Mill Creek to return the land to its natural and historic state when Native Americans once lived and fished along the banks.



Photo by David San Miguel

Environmental Division staff ensure that the installation's ponds are regularly stocked with fish for the enjoyment of area fishermen.



Photo by David San Miguel

Rappahannock Indian Tribe Chief Ann Richardson pauses to reflect at the site where her ancestors once lived.

# Facilities ...



Photo by David San Miguel

The “embassy” will challenge military forces training at the Faulkenburg Urban Operations Training Facility.



Photo by David San Miguel

The “shoot house” will offer military and other government agency users an opportunity to conduct live fire operations.



This building complex is designed to test the tactical and technical capabilities of personnel undergoing training here.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

The installation’s new mailroom was opened to afford users better mail distribution and accountability.

The Urban Combat Training Center was dedicated in November in memory of Command Sgt. Maj. Steven W. Faulkenburg who had served at Fort A.P. Hill as its Garrison Command Sergeant Major during the late nineties.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

The Downtime Zone opened this year to offer personnel an opportunity to relax after a hard day of training.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

The Marine team soundly defeated the Army team in Fort A.P. Hill's version of collegiate football play.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

Though the rain dampened the soil, Fort A.P. Hill employees enjoyed a friendly tug-of-war competition.



Photo by David San Miguel

About 20 runners participated in the 2008 Jingle Bell 5K Run.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

Despite heavy rains and the remnants of a tropical storm, Organization Day proceeded as scheduled.



Photo by Christopher Joyner

Soldiers enjoy some rest and relaxation at the newly opened Downtime Zone.

# Honoring our Veterans ...



Photo by David San Miguel

About 70 cyclists converged on Fort A.P. Hill as part of the annual Wounded Warrior Bike Ride.



Photo by David San Miguel

... an enthusiastic greeting by a proud cyclist.



Photo by David San Miguel

This World War II Veteran was one of 70 recognized during a Veterans' Day ceremony held at Caroline Middle School auditorium in Milford hosted to honor their contribution to the nation.



Photo by David San Miguel

Soldiers from the Wounded Warrior Transition Unit at Walter Reed converged at Fort A.P. Hill for a deer hunting experience.



Photo by David San Miguel

Veterans' Day activities were held nationwide to recognize those contributions of our military past and present.

# ... our Family!



Photo by David San Miguel

Members of Fort A.P. Hill's police force conclude the workday by bringing in the colors.



Photo by David San Miguel

The Fort A.P. Hill fire department provides Fire Prevention Week attendees a demonstration on how they rescue individuals trapped inside a vehicle after a crash.



Photo by David San Miguel

TISA material handler, Greg Torres, issues rations to units training at Fort A.P. Hill.



Photo by David San Miguel

The motor pool staff stand ready to provide visiting units with any transportation service required.



Photo by David San Miguel

A youngster enjoys rock climbing during the installation's annual Haunted Hay Ride Halloween festivities.



Photo by David San Miguel

Mayors David Storke of Bowling Green and Nancy Long of Port Royal sign the Army Community Covenant signifying their partnership with the post.