



# INSIDE IMCOM-E

JUNE 2022



## COMMAND CORNER



Teammates –

Hope everyone is enjoying the wonderful weather and taking time to enjoy all the opportunities available here in Europe, now that COVID travel restrictions have been reduced.

May was a busy month, and June is shaping up to be equally eventful. Our Spring Garrison Leaders' Working Group, at USAG Benelux, was a tremendous success. We began with a great team-building event at the Bastogne War Museum, where we also recognized many of our award winners from the past year. During the Working Group, we also focused on our Lines of Effort and reviewed our Annual Command Guidance that we continue to refine as we grow as leaders and a team. We also recognized five of our great garrison commanders, who change command over the next couple of months, and enjoyed hearing their words of wisdom as they shared lessons learned and best practices with the team.

Those changes of Garrison Command are among the many that we will experience in the next couple months. Both the USAREUR-AF and IMCOM Commanding Generals – and key members of their staffs – will change out, as will many key staff members in this headquarters. It is very important that we over communicate and coordinate during this significant time of transition.

(Continued on page 4)

## AROUND THE GARRISONS



**USAG ANSBACH** — U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach and the city of Ansbach hosted the final of three speaker series events May 13 at the Karlshalle in downtown Ansbach with a discussion on the future of the transatlantic partnership. [Read more.](#)

**USAG BAVARIA** — U.S. Army Health Clinic Hohenfels hosted an open house to discuss implemented policies and procedures aimed at removing the stigma associated with seeking and receiving mental health services. The main goal was to increase collaboration between behavioral health and the units. [Read more.](#)

**USAG BENELUX** — The ACS team is positioned physically and professionally to guide individuals through the PCS process. ACS provides support for the duration of assignments, easing stress and equipping service members, civilians and families to make the most of their new home. [Read more.](#)

**USAG ITALY** — The Army Maintenance Activity, a new mobile-friendly website to submit work orders, is now live for U.S. Army Garrison Italy. ArMA digitizes work orders for all Army-owned facilities. It's a centralized system for online submission and tracking. [Read more.](#)

**USAG RHEINLAND-PFALZ** — U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz and the 16th Sustainment Brigade hosted more than 100 participants at a Soldier and Family Readiness Training event May 13 at the Rheinlander Community Club on Smith Barracks here. [Read more.](#)

**USAG STUTTGART** — Germany will make a significantly discounted flat-rate public transit ticket — known as the “9-Euro-Ticket” — available to the public in June, July and August as a relief measure against high gas and energy prices. [Read more.](#)

**USAG WIESBADEN** — U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden opened its gates on Hainerberg to an international audience for the first German-American Flea Market. German and American sellers were able to offer their goods to a diverse audience from near and far. [Read more.](#)



# YOUR GARRISON RESOURCES

[USAG Ansbach](#)

[USAG Bavaria](#)

[USAG Benelux](#)

[USAG Italy](#)

[USAG Rheinland-Pfalz](#)

[USAG Stuttgart](#)

[USAG Wiesbaden](#)

[Army News Europe](#)

[Army MWR](#)

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Name: Sam Barnes  
Position: Assistant Chief of Staff, G8



Throughout his 32-year civilian career, Sam has worked for Army organizations in Massachusetts, Virginia and Europe and across the resource management career field as a budget analyst, and in programming and manpower. In June, Sam was awarded as the Army Comptroller of the Year for below command level award by Caral Spangler, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller (photo left). According to Sam, this is really a team award.

"It's very humbling to be recognized for, what I consider, is really a team effort – a very

large team," Sam said. It's not just resource managers, it's the Directorate of Public Works, it's the operations teams, it's commanders, it's resources management specialists, it's our headquarters. "It's a whole bunch of people that resulted in one person being recognized, so it's pretty humbling."

### What is something you might not know about Sam?

Sam retired in 2010 as an Army Reserve lieutenant colonel, and this July he'll return to Virginia with his family.

*Learn more about Sam in this feature story at <https://www.army.mil/article/257101>.*

## Congratulations, but not good-bye to FMWR's Gasparino

Mr. Mize took a moment at the Spring 2022 Garrison Leaders' Working Group at USAG Benelux to honor Dan Gasparino, who retired in May after serving Soldiers, Families, Civilians and Retirees since 1972, when he entered the Army as military policeman but spent most of his time playing basketball.

Calling him "an absolute legend in Army MWR," Mr. Mize talked about all of the things Dan has personally contributed to the Army family, from being the author of the Army MWR Quality of Life Standards to being the architect of MWR support to remote locations, including Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq, Afghanistan, Poland and Romania, among others. Dan also received the Army's prestigious and rare Peter F. Isaacs Lifetime Achievement Award. Luckily for IMCOM-Europe, Dan will still be offering his support and assistance to MWR programs in retirement.



Read more about Gasparino's career: <https://go.usa.gov/xuJGW>

## HAILS (1APR-25MAY22)

Tonya Weaver, G1  
Andrew Strouse, G1

## FAREWELLS (1APR-25MAY22)

Idalia Leza, G1

13 – Town Hall, Care Center Chapel Annex, Sembach

14 – Army Birthday; Flag Day

17 – USAREUR-AF training holiday (telework day)

19 – Father's Day

19 – Juneteenth

20 – Juneteenth (federal holiday observed)

25 – Army Ten Miler Qualifier, Grafenwoehr

## JUNE EVENTS

Army Heritage Month; [LGBT Pride Month](#); [PTSD Awareness Month](#); [Army Safety Month](#); PCS Season

6 – [D-Day anniversary](#)

8 – U.S. Army Europe and Africa 80th Birthday

9-15 – [Army Birthday Week](#)

10 – Newcomer's Orientation, *(Rescheduled for Aug. 26)*

**CONNECT**  
WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

### FIND DEALS FAST

Check out the hottest deals on brands you love straight from your Exchange



DIGITAL GARRISON  
POWERED BY





## ANSBACH

**Bruce Eckenroth**, Army Substance Abuse Program prevention coordinator, has been diligent in his actions to get the word out on responsible drinking. During April's Alcohol Awareness Month, he was present at key areas with high traffic and visibility to promote low-risk guidelines when consuming alcohol, a key concept that could prove to be a valuable tool against drunk driving.

**Diana Stupele**, Relocation Program manager, conducted a Host Nation Orientation by request of 12th CAB senior spouses. Diana consulted with the spouses, who expressed that others in their unit were unable to attend the orientation when they arrived in Ansbach due to COVID restrictions. She coordinated a local bus tour for the group, provided information on public transportation and basic German phrases to use when exploring the local area, talked about the history of Ansbach, and helped them practice ordering food during their group lunch at a local German restaurant.



## BAVARIA

**Andrea Tischler** was persistent and professional in completing the fire alarm upgrade and office renovation at the Grafenwoehr main fire station, an extremely challenging project. Andrea was not deterred and pressed the contractors to fulfill obligations. She exhibited remarkable negotiating skills and was able to understand the very complex technical aspects of the project. Andrea maintained her intense oversight of this project for four years, resulting in an upgraded fire alarm system better protecting the families of Grafenwoehr and Vilseck.

**SGT Phoebe Yozamp** came from 18th MPs, and she has been an expert and professional since joining the military police investigation section. Not only does she play an instrumental part as the only female in the section, she recently graduated MPI school, received a well-deserved promotion, graduated BLC as the Distinguished Leadership Graduate and was named on the Commandant's List. We are so proud of her and all of the hard work and dedication she has shown the community. We also look forward to her future contributions and the motivation and leadership skills she will continue to instill in her teammates.



## BENELUX

**Gerard Imbaking**, DPW Housing special projects manager, together with the SACEUR engineer, created a detailed schedule for change of occupancy for quarters. This high-visibility position requires a more detailed transition than most quarters. Gerard created a document for the command to have full visibility on the timing and scope of the project. Gerard and the entire team will continue to meticulously track the progress of maintenance actions throughout to ensure a seamless transition for the outgoing and incoming commanding generals.

**Nicole Hatch**, chief of future operations, is an excellent supervisor, who always listens and takes care of her team. Nicole's selfless service while putting mission needs first above her own shows her genuine commitment to being a servant leader. She spearheaded the Brunssum LSA mission planning efforts and incorporated external and internal feedback to solve challenges rarely encountered. Her efforts ensured that that LSA could support up to 500 deployed Soldiers for over six months. The LSA mission set the conditions and standards for any upcoming missions to provide long-term services support to new transient units in an austere environment.



## ITALY

**Jessica Melendez**, Risk Management Internal Control administrator, is the hero of the week for her outstanding management of the USAG Italy RMIC program. The RMIC program helps commanders ensure effective internal controls are in place, assess areas of risk, and identify and correct weaknesses in those controls. The USAG Italy FY22 RMIC found no material weaknesses. USAG Italy received feedback that no issues were identified; in fact, IMCOM-E saw "several outstanding examples on how it should be done." This was Jessica's first time managing the RMIC process, and her efforts were commendable.

**Mark Sansone**, video communications teacher at Vicenza High School, is USAG Italy Hero of the Week. As a video production teacher, Mark has inspired countless students to embrace this art form and has continually supported them in their pursuits. He is known for providing his students with real-world learning experiences that regularly result in their projects reaching wide audiences. Most recently, and as a testament to his skill, members of his class were selected to participate in a highly competitive IMCOM Europe - DoDEA youth sponsorship program. He has positively impacted the lives of countless military-connected students and should be commended for his efforts.



## RHEINLAND-PFALZ

**SSG James Gilman**, Physical Security inspector and Best Warrior Competition competitor, over the last month, SSG Gilman volunteered to conduct physical security duties in support of current operations at ASA Black Sea. While conducting his required duties, he also prepared himself to excel in the IMCOM-E Best Warrior Competition. SSG Gilman finished as first runner-up, just a few points behind the winner for the NCO category. Within a few days of the competition, he returned to ASA-BS picking-up where he left off, ensuring mission success.

## COMMAND CORNER, CONT.

(Continued from page 1)

Please join me in congratulating Alex Knutson from G6 and Joanne Fitzgerald from G3/5/7 for winning the IMCOM-Europe Staff Professional of the Quarter Award for the second quarter. Also please congratulate Jason Mohilla from USAG Wiesbaden and Sheila Barthel from USAG Bavaria for winning the Region-wide Professional of the Quarter Awards. These great professionals are exceptional examples of the professional and dedicated teammates we're privileged to serve with here in IMCOM-Europe.

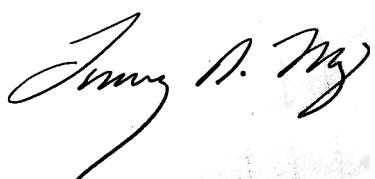
CSM Truchon and I conducted several community visits in May, in conjunction with Garrison Real Property Planning Boards. The visits are a great opportunity for me and CSM Truchon to recognize and thank many of our outstanding teammates for their service.

In June we will celebrate the Army's 247th Birthday and USAREUR-AF's 80th Birthday. These events are a great time to remember and celebrate the importance of what you do each and every day, and the support that our great professionals provide to the Army.

Thanks to all of you for what you do for our team and for the service you provide to our Soldiers, Civilians, Family members, and Retirees here in Europe. I am honored to serve with each of you and also am very proud of our team and thank you for all you do. As our ACG review at the GLWG reminded me, we have accomplished much but also have much to look forward to.

As always, please continue to communicate and let me know if there are any issues or concerns I need to address. Remember, my door is always open. I'll answer every email or phone call. Thanks again for all you do.

Ready Garrisons for Strong Europe!  
Sustain, Support and Defend



(Photo by Sandra Roemer, EMC-VISE)

### GARRISON LEADERS' WORKING GROUP

Garrison command teams and IMCOM-Europe staff toured Bastogne, Belgium, during the Spring Garrison Leaders' Working Group. Leaders gather in the spring, this year at U.S. Army Garrison Benelux, and in the fall to shape installation strategy, share ideas and develop solutions for issues that impact garrisons across Europe. For more photos, visit [https://www.flickr.com/photos/vise\\_media/albums/72177720299077492](https://www.flickr.com/photos/vise_media/albums/72177720299077492).



### MOVING IN, MOVING ON

Above: Newcomers to command teams across IMCOM-Europe include Bruce Griggs, deputy garrison commander, USAG Benelux; CSM Jonathan Dyon, USAG Italy; Michael Terilli, ASG Poland manager; SFC Kevin Aleckna, ASG Poland senior enlisted advisor; Mike Abbey, USAG Bavaria executive officer; and CSM Gary Yurgans, USAG Benelux. Below: Employees leaving IMCOM-Europe: Dianna Cole, G1; Dana Bovender, G9; Nathan Rowland, G4; Harry "Ed" White, G1; Kirk Devezin, G5; David Krall, G3; Katie Lehmann, SJA; and Matt Metcalf, G5.



## HEROES OF THE WEEK, CONT.

**Oliver Riegler**, fire inspector, was selected to support contingency operations at ASA Black Sea. During his deployment, he conducted fire protection assessments to evaluate life safety code compliance on all facilities, and provided fire extinguisher training and fire safety educational briefings. Oliver also ensured fire protection measures were met to protect all critical mission aircraft on location. He is a valuable asset and positive influence for all to emulate.

**Glenda Dunlap**, Baumholder vehicle registration clerk, received a positive ICE comment from a customer who “was greeted with a smile after waiting only a few minutes. Ms Dunlap had her work cut out with our transaction, as we went from one road bump into the next.” Further, the customer wrote, “I have been in the KMC for 20-plus years, a visit to vehicle registration is nothing anyone ever looks forward to. Glenda has changed my view, and I wish I fell under the Baumholder Military Community to complete my next transaction … She is truly SEC-OND TO NONE!!!”

**Oluwatimilehin Olusanya** is a military spouse who just started her career with ACS in April. Her main duties consist of providing outreach, information and referrals. She hit the ground running and had only been on board for a couple of weeks when she provided an innovative idea to celebrate Military Spouse Appreciation Day by soliciting videos from Soldiers in which they shared their appreciation of their spouses. She requested and received videos within a short amount of time and made this celebration a success. Her energetic personality, her desire to serve the military community and her superb execution of her duties in such a short time will undoubtedly make her a great addition to our team.

### STUTTGART



**Aurora D. Tovar**, the lead human resources technician in the Passports and SOFA/Military Personnel Division. From April 1-29, she conducted eight passport outreach sessions to meet the Department of Defense mandate for civilian employees and family members to hold a Special Issuance Passport. Aurora presented an information brief for the community to include a Q&A session. During the last month, she led an eight-person team to process 150 official passport applications and served approximately 375 customers. Her initiative, technical competence and leadership talents enhanced the support garrison provides to the Stuttgart Military Community.

**Veronica Vu**, environmental protection specialist, and **John Crosson**, Army Family Housing facilities chief, are heroes for their swift, professional reaction to a legionella exceedance in a housing building. After testing samples showed a legionella exceedance, the team jumped to work to notify residents and implement mitigation measures. Veronica drafted a notification letter to residents and immediately notified John, who had an email out to residents less than half an hour later. Simultaneously, Veronica worked with the PAO to ensure water quality information was up-to-date on the garrison website and app, and to review draft public communications. Their swift, competent action kept residents informed, reassured and safe.

### WIESBADEN



**Dr. Mirko Grimm** from DPW Environmental led the planning and execution of two significant events. He led Earth Day observance, coordinating with several external organizations to set up information booths and to provide the community with items such as bike repair kits, flower seeds, and reusable shopping bags. He also incorporated Wiesbaden Middle School by displaying art that the students created with recycled material. Mirko also took it upon himself to coordinate the support of Girl's Day for children of DPW employees. He provided the girls the opportunity to observe and receive briefings at the airfield, fire department, and maintenance shops within DPW. His efforts facilitated an extremely successful partnership event between the local community and USAG Wiesbaden.

**Firefighter Sascha Schubert** was driving home in the early hours of May 9. As he was nearing the Frankfurt airport area, he came across a mass-casualty event caused by multiple car accidents. Sascha used his training as a firefighter to triage over a dozen patients. He also directed multiple personnel on scene on providing medical attention to injured personnel. Ultimately, he personally saved the lives of three people by providing emergency medical care prior to the arrival of the German Emergency Services. For his distinguishing actions, Sascha will be nominated for a Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service, as well as for recognition from the State of Hessen.

## ASK THE DIRECTOR

The "Ask the Director" virtual box is available to all staff from the IMCOM-Europe SharePoint portal. This format allows individuals to post anonymous questions, comments or provide feedback and concerns to the Command Team.

All responses to questions/comments will be posted to the site, unless your message specifically requests not to.

Ask the Director Link: <https://intranet.eur.army.mil/imcom-e/hq/ask-rd/default.aspx>