



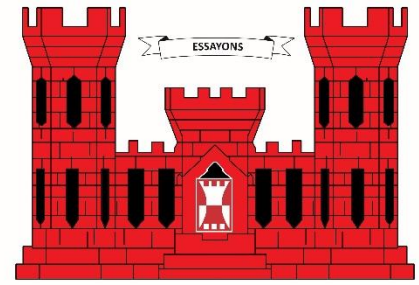
# 416th ENCOM

Association Newsletter

## “THE CASTLE”

Volume 22, Number 1, Fall/Winter  
5 November 2022

416th ENCOM  
ASSOCIATION



**The latest news, views, and announcements**

### **From the President**

News and  
direction for  
the  
Association

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### **Interesting News Updates**

Annual  
Dinner is  
Back

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**Get together May 2022 [Cantigny Park](#)**



## From the President

1) The 416th ENCOM Association, having amended its Constitution in 2020, is now federally recognized as a tax-exempt public charity by the IRS. Consequently, donations made to the Association are now, within limits established by the IRS, eligible as a tax deduction. This process, through the determined efforts of past and present Board of Director members, is complete. The Association's grant request form is almost ready for distribution. A year-round application process, so that a rolling application would better meet our needs to assist Soldiers. This year's budget allocation for these grants (e.g., not to exceed \$1,000 in 2022). I want to ensure this task is completed fully to enhance our new mission of helping fellow engineers.

2) It has always been the goal of the 416th ENCOM Association to serve our Reserve Component Soldiers, civilians, families, employers, and friends who support a strong engineer element in our nation's defense. I want to continue this goal by seeking greater interaction between the 416TH TEC and the ENCOM Association, which was limited by the current pandemic. First, we added an in-person luncheon meeting on Saturday, 14 May 2022 at Cantigny, 1st Infantry Division museum in Wheaton, Illinois. We had thirty participants and MG Baker, 416th TEC commander, gave an update on the 416 TEC's current status. MG Baker also invited 416th ENCOM association members to his change of command on 24 July 2022 and dining out on 22 July 2022. We still plan to conduct the traditional November Annual Dinner and Meeting on Saturday, 5 November 2022.

3) To actively seek new members in the Association. The reason I joined the Association was to maintain contact with the Soldiers and friends I made while assigned to the ENCOM/TEC. Currently the 416 ENCOM Association is in the initial process of developing a Northern (Minnesota/ Wisconsin) chapter for local events. The Eastern Chapter is planning an event at the US Army Museum Visit in the spring of 2023. I have personally been contacting retired friends of mine to join the 416 ENCOM Association.

COL (R) Robert Chevas

## **Combat engineer, bridge crewman class have unique experience during field-training exercise** By Brian Hill, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office September 8, 2022

**FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo.** — For trainees learning the skills they will need to perform their military occupational specialty, getting to see how their job fits into the larger Army picture is usually reserved for a later time, such as their first duty assignment or deployment.

During their culminating combat engineer field-training exercise, or CEFTX, this week, the combat engineer and bridge crewman trainees of Company B, 35th Engineer Battalion, were given the chance to see how military police detention and corrections operations factor into one of their most important combat roles — breaching enemy fortifications.

According to Capt. Taylor Huddlestun, Bravo Company commander, instructors from

Charlie Company, 701st Military Police Battalion, taught a class Wednesday at Training Area 250 on what's called point-of-contact transfer of a high-value target, or HVT — basically, securing individuals suspected of holding vital intelligence.

Huddlestun, who previously commanded an MP company here and played the HVT in the scenario, said his goal in reaching out to the MPs for this added instruction was to make the event more informational by showing how the combat engineer fits into the larger, joint operation.

“Everywhere we go, we work with MPs — MPs work with everyone, but engineers and MPs work really closely,” he said. “We need to have some understanding of what each other does. Fortunately, our brigade commander was willing to give us this chance to do a little bit of joint training. It is our hope that it resonates with the graduates and continues the bond between branches.”

Combat engineer and bridge crewman trainees with Company B, 35th Engineer Battalion, cross the lake at Training Area 250 Wednesday with poncho rafts as an add-on to the field-training exercise portion of their instruction. Building poncho rafts is not part of the required program of instruction for these trainees, but was conducted to show some of the additional knowledge available in follow-on schools Soldiers can attend throughout their career, such as the Sapper Leader Course. (Photo Credit: Photo by Angi Betran, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office)

One of the MP instructors for the 30-minute lesson was Sgt. 1st Class Brandon Grajeda, who called this a “fantastic opportunity” to help show some of the Army's newest combat engineers and bridge crewmen how the 31E military occupational specialty — called corrections/detention specialists — factors into their job.

“It gives these Soldiers a more holistic picture of what they would possibly encounter on the battlefield,” Grajeda said. “This helps us establish for them what our capabilities are and how we fit into a unit.”

Pfc. Nathan Vasquez, a National Guard combat engineer trainee from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, volunteered to help demonstrate for the rest of the company some of what the MPs taught in the lesson. He said the additional training was very interesting and helpful.

“I'm glad we got to see some of what another [military occupational specialty] does,” he said. “I enjoyed learning about how different [military occupational specialties] connect to secure a target.”

In addition to the MP training on Wednesday, Bravo Company also conducted a water crossing via Zodiac boats and poncho rafts — training not normally provided at this level of instruction.

“Typically, during CEFTX, we give the bridge crews a chance to take people across (the lake), but we wanted to expand on that and try to make it a more fulfilling event,” Huddlestun said. “The poncho rafting is a skill they learn in Sapper School. That's the key — these guys are engineers,

and we want to encourage them as they progress in their careers to come back and try to go through Sapper School if they feel like they're ready. Introducing a basic concept that they learn in Sapper School to them now might get them a little more excited to come back, and it's really just additional training; it's expanding on their engineer skills and giving them another tool for their toolbox.”



DISCOUNTS



The 416th ENCOM Association is a certified as a 501 c (3) federal non-profit charity. We have identified committees to help organize our efforts. Committee functions include developing operational guidance for procedures, conduct committee business, research objective targets, maintain monthly meeting minutes, report to the Board of Directors, ensure Association compliance with the Association Constitution and By-Laws, and fulfill legal requirements where necessary.

Additional duties added as needed as the functional details are developed. Below are the six committees:

Committee

- #1 - Development and Fund Raising Committee
- #2 - Communications and Outreach Committee
- #3 - Disbursements Committee
- #4 - Strategic and Long Range Planning Committee
- #5 - Membership and Recruitment Committee
- #6 - Core Documents (Constitution, By-Laws, Officer SOP and Vision & Mission Statement).

Volunteers are needed for all six committees, all need new perspectives. The member will help develop and plan the committee's duties and activities. Volunteers may contact **any** Board of Director member.

Military caregivers are eligible to participate in free online courses by nationally recognized experts. Provided by PsychArmor and sponsored by the USAA Foundation, Caregivers who complete the program will earn a Certificate of Achievement.

Search for community-based resources, national support organizations as well as programs and services serving every zip code in America. Categories for support include food, housing, goods, transit, health, money, care, education, work and legal. There are search filters for veterans, service members and caregivers.

[HERO RESOURCES](#)

[COLLECTIONS](#)

[AWARD](#)

[Grant Application](#)



**416<sup>th</sup> ENCOM Association Individual Grant Guidelines & Application**

Initial Draft - March 15, 2022 / Revised August 11, 2022

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this document is to establish the criteria and the approval process for individual grant awards. These awards are designed to provide modest financial support to those reservists facing acute financial hardship and who have served and/or are currently serving members of the 416<sup>th</sup> Theater Engineer Command (TEC), including the 416<sup>th</sup> Engineer Command (ENCOM). The goal of these grants are to reduce or eliminate the likelihood that these Citizen Soldiers will become destitute.

**II. REQUIREMENTS**

- a. New applicants must follow the guidelines herein provided to be considered for an individual grant.
- b. Applicants are self-nominated. To be considered for a grant, applicants must complete and submit the enclosed application form before the deadline to a member of the 416<sup>th</sup> ENCOM Association's Board of Directors or online at the association's website.
- c. All information collected will remain confidential – release of information to third parties is not authorized unless granted permission to do so by the individual applicant.
- d. Substantiating documentation may be requested by the association.

To see the full application, click on "Grant Application".

You can also go to Wild Apriot.



## East Coast Corner

### Mark Your Calendars for May 2023! (3<sup>rd</sup> weekend 19-21)

The East Coast Chapter of the 416<sup>th</sup> ENCOM Association is pleased to invite all members of the association, and the 416<sup>th</sup> TEC, to join us for a weekend of comradeship, education, and fun at Fort Belvoir VA from 19 to 21 May 2023. This event will begin with a social hour on Friday evening 19 May. The highlight of the weekend will be an opportunity to visit and tour the newly completed Museum of the US Army on Saturday 20 May. There will be ample opportunity to meet and socialize with old friends, and to meet new ones throughout the weekend. Saturday will conclude with a group dinner.

More information will be provided in the coming months. If you have any ideas for activities that you would like to suggest please write to Lee J. Pryor at [leejpryor@gmail.com](mailto:leejpryor@gmail.com).

Lee J. Pryor, COL (USA Ret)



National Museum of the US Army, <https://www.thenmusa.org/>

Fort Belvoir VA



## Chaplin's Corner

*“Don't walk behind me; I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend”- Albert Camus*

How are you being intentional in reaching out to build relationships and participate in the communities where you are present as a friend, neighbor, co-worker, volunteer. Even without COVID as a factor as we age it becomes too easy to get locked into a track where work is something we do, home is somewhere we sleep and routines take the place of relationships. As I tell my children, and have had to be reminded myself, you have to be a friend to have a friend. Reach out to call someone you used to have lunch with regularly, was a partner with you on a Command Team or Staff position, an old neighbor or someone you went to school with, participated in athletics alongside. Our phones, cable and the internet make it too easy to get lost in the land of social media and streaming media and miss the value that comes into our lives from intentional conversations over a meal, on the street, on the golf course or tennis court or any other field of athletic endeavor you are able to engage in. If just getting out and going for a walk is where you are at, that works as well.

As military service members we have had challenges to reach out to our Brothers and Sisters in Arms before. The VAMC has “Reach One” and the American Legion currently has “Be the One”, BE THE ONE challenging us to:

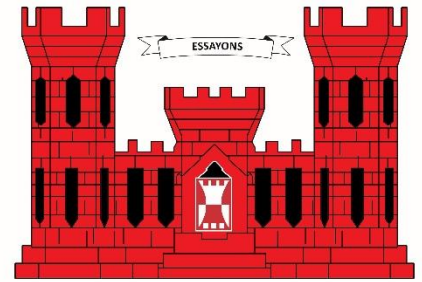
- To ASK Veterans in your life how they are doing.
- To LISTEN when a Veteran needs to talk.
- To REACH out when a Veteran is struggling.

We can only be there to listen and reach out if we are checking in and having conversations with those we served with, and who have served that are now in our circle of influence and care. They notice us just as we see them with our choices for head gear, what is on the back of our vehicles and our license plates, our logos on t-shirts and polo's. As we move through the remainder of the summer months into the Fall, look for one person a month, then one a week, who you can walk beside and listen and encourage as they continue their journey.



# Membership Form

416th ENCOM  
ASSOCIATION



## 416<sup>th</sup> ENCOM ASSOCIATION Membership Form

Past, Present, Working together for the future

I hereby apply for membership/bi-yearly renewal in the 416th ENCOM Association:

- Two-Year Membership (\$10.00)  
 Lifetime Membership (\$100.00 One Time fee)  
 Associate Membership (\$5.00) (Active Component, Reserve Component, Civilian)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment can be made by check or PayPal on the Association website:

<https://416thencomassn.wildapricot.org/join-us>

Please make check payable to the 416th ENCOM Association and mail completed form to:

LTC (R) Edgar Montalvo  
8719 Timbers Pointe Drive  
Tinley Park, IL 60487

Current Member Change / Update Records Request:

Name: Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ M.

Spouse: First \_\_\_\_\_ M. \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Army Info: Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Current Status (circle one): Active Reserve Civilian Retired Last

Unit Served: \_\_\_\_\_ Retirement Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (State Active if not retired)

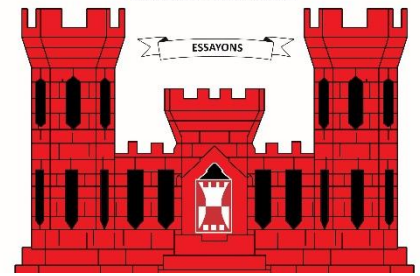
**Please Note: All Information provided to the 416th ENCOM Association is for Association use only and will be handled confidentially**





# Association Board Members

416th ENCOM  
ASSOCIATION



The Association Board is appointed by the incoming President, and each serve a two-year term effective in conjunction with the incoming President. The term begins at the annual dinner, November of every odd year.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Contact</b>
President	Robert Chevas COL (R)	robertas1@juno.com
President (Elect)	Eric Larson COL (R)	hoslarson@yahoo.com
Vice President (Membership)	Knute Weick CSM (R)	kwikair69@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Edgar Montalvo LTC (R)	edgar.montalvo@comcast.net
Secretary	Open	
Past President	Scott Shrader COL (R)	srs.shrader@gmail.com
Director at Large (Senior)	Robert Heine MG (R)	bobheine@sbcglobal.com
Director at Large (Programs & Events)	John Gessner COL (R)	japgessner@charter.net
Director at Large (Eastern Chapter)	Lee Pryor COL (R)	leeprior@me.com
Director at Large (Eastern Chapter)	Michele Marsden SGM (R)	michele.marsden@hotmail.com
Director at Large	Gerald Meyer COL (R)	gmeyer3131@yahoo.com
Director at Large	Robert Mittelstaedt LTC (R)	bmitt75@yahoo.com
Director at Large (Historian & Chaplin)	Robert Carter CH (COL)	robert.t.carter.jr@gmail.com
Director at Large (VP Membership Asst.)	Ed Evans CSM (R)	eevens3747@aol.com
Director at Large (Co-Treasurer)	Ken Yoshitani COL (R)	kenyoshitani@gmail.com
Web Master (non-voting position)	Shaun Murphy (Mr.)	slyan132@gmail.com