Greetings from the President:

ALA’s elections are over and the Annual Conference is just around the corner, which means this is my farewell “Greetings from the President”. Welcome to the incoming and returning Board members!

This is a good time to suggest that FAFLRT could really use more participation from its members, as we try to develop meaningful and cost-effective programs, and decide how to best use our limited resources to promote our services. Despite looming budget cuts and policy changes that make it more and more challenging to plan and attend meetings and programs, it is more important than ever that the Federal and Armed Forces Librarians work together to ensure our voices are heard and our customers served. We may know how hard we’re working and how much our communities rely on us, but we face a very high risk of being overlooked by those who are making the tough decisions about allocation of Federal funds.

Please take a look at the last page of this newsletter, and contact the representatives listed there if you’d like to volunteer for any of the Committees or projects FAFLRT sponsors. We would like to have more candidates run for FAFLRT Board positions as well, and working with the Committees is a great way to learn the inner workings of FAFLRT so you can take on the challenges of a Board position. Everyone on the Board is a current Federal employee, as understaffed and busy as everyone else, and we would greatly appreciate your help as we respond to the suggestions we received through our FAFLRT Membership Survey.

Our Fundraising Committee has been especially busy, seeking corporate support in hopes that we will not only be able to offer educational programs in the upcoming year, but perhaps be able to webcast them for maximum member participation. If your current position doesn’t preclude you from helping with fundraising, or if you have any experience with producing webcasts of programs, please contact the Board as soon as possible.

It was clear from the responses to the FAFLRT Membership Survey that, while many members enjoy receiving a paper copy of this Newsletter, there was not nearly enough support to justify the expense of producing and distributing it in print any longer. It was also clear that members want more programs and more timely communication channels for sharing information, so that FAFLRT continues to be a worthwhile investment for its members.

Because of these factors, the FAFLRT Board has decided to discontinue the printed version of the Federal Librarian effective with the next issue. We will continue to produce the newsletter at least quarterly, but it will be posted to the ALA FAFLRT web page and notifications will be sent out to the FAFLRT Listserv when new issues become available for download. This will allow the maximum amount of FAFLRT revenue (from member dues, corporate donations, and advertising in the Federal Librarian e-newsletter) to be invested in programming for the entire membership.

These are challenging times for all of us, and, more than ever, change is the norm. Please help FAFLRT make the changes we need to remain viable and relevant.

Thanks again for your interest in FAFLRT. We look forward to hearing from you!

Vicky Crone
FROM THE EDITOR:
This is my last issue as Editor of the Federal Librarian. I have enjoyed serving FLRT and FAFLRT in this capacity since 1997 and I thank all who have submitted pieces throughout the years. In particular, I would like to thank Shirley Loo and Cynthia Shipley for their work on the Fabulous Feds articles; Lucille Rosa for editorial assistance; James King and Alba Scott for their maintenance of the web presence; and Ros Reynolds at ALA for her great administrative help. Finally, many thanks to Martha Jolkovski, who has so ably undertaken the layout and composition of the Federal Librarian throughout my tenure.

Jane Sessa, Editor

News from DTIC

Successful DTIC 2012 Conference: “Connecting Lab Research with the Warfighter”

The Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC) held its annual conference 27-28 March at Ft. Belvoir, VA. In addition, individuals from the Department of Defense (DoD) were able to participate virtually on a secure site, Defense Connect Online (DCO). The Honorable Zachary J. Lemnios, Assistant Secretary of Defense Research & Engineering, served as the conference keynote speaker. He began his remarks by announcing that Mr. Christopher Thomas was appointed DTIC’s Administrator. Mr. Thomas had been Acting Administrator since December 2010. DoD and DTIC speakers highlighted tools and technologies that enable a faster conversion of mature technologies to the warfighter, while maintaining technological superiority on any battlefield. Capt. Alvin E. Shell, Jr., USA, (Ret) offered his “Recollections of a Wounded Warrior.” Mr. Thomas provided his thoughts on “DTIC 2012...And Beyond.” Go to http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/annualconf/2012/2012AgendaA.html to see many of these presentations.

DTIC Supports Operation Warfighter (OWF)

The OWF is a Defense Department program that provides internship opportunities for wounded, ill and injured service members. DTIC is proud to participate in this program. OWF not only positively impacts the recuperation process, but offers the service member an opportunity to augment their employment readiness and build upon the skills they have learned in the military. At the same time, it provides Federal agencies a vehicle for permanent recruitment of transitioning service members. Since it was established in 2006, more than 2,000 service members have participated in OWF internships at more than 105 Federal agencies. There are nearly 400 service members currently participating and approximately 350 service members have transitioned into a Federal job. If you are interested in providing internship opportunities to OWF service members or learning more, contact Ms. Katie Spencer, Operation Warfighter Coordinator at katherine.spencer.ctr@osd.mil, call 703-428-7565 or visit http://warriorcare.dodlive.mil/wounded-warrior-resources/operation-warfighter/.

Sandy Schwalb, Public Affairs Officer

Rates for Advertising in the
FEDERAL LIBRARIAN

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Federal Librarian newsletter, is the quarterly journal of the American Library Association’s Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT), publishing two times electronically and two times in hard copy. It presents recent developments and events of interest to the Federal and Armed Forces library community, including news and reports on international, federal, state, and local government issues. The Federal Librarian subscription base is approximately 600.

The Federal Librarian is published four times per year. In 2009, Volume 27 was issued as two print copies and two electronic-only issues. All issues are available at ala.org/faflrt/

ADVERTISING RATES (Single Issue)

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Ms. Aimee Babcock-Ellis began a new position as a Program Specialist at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)’s National Institute of Allergies & Infectious Diseases (NIAID). She received the 2012 EBSCO/ALA Conference Scholarship to attend the American Library Association Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA.

Mr. Chris Belter, Public Services Librarian at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)’s Central Library, was nominated by the NewFeds for the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT) Rising Star Award. He also published an article titled “Visualizing Networks of Scientific Research” in the May/June 2012 issue of Information Today: http://www.infotoday.com/online/may12/Belter-Visualizing-Networks-of-Scientific-Research.shtml

Ms. Sarena Burgess, Librarian at the National Library of Medicine, contributed to two articles that will be published in the May/June 2012 issue of IEEE IT Professional: “MedlinePlus Connect: Linking Health IT Systems to Consumer Health Information,” and “MedlinePlus Mobile: Consumer Health Information On-the-Go.” She served as a panelist for the FEDLINK Human Resources Working Group Panel, “The Future of the 1410 Series, A Multi-Generational Dialogue,” at the Library of Congress on February 9. This past fall, she was designated as Technical Lead for MedlinePlus Connect (http://medlineplus.gov/connect), a service that links electronic health records to patient-specific education resources in MedlinePlus.gov. In 2011, the MedlinePlus Connect team was the recipient of the HHSinnovates award, a program that recognizes, rewards, and promotes innovation across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Ms. Kristin Carr, Librarian at the Drug Enforcement Administration Library, published an article titled “Marketing the Drug Enforcement Administration Library” in Law Library Lights. She also presented a session at the Library 2.011 virtual conference in November, entitled “Online Library Degrees: The Pros and Cons.”

Ms. Caralyn Champa, IT Specialist in the Army Knowledge Leader (AKL) Program, was nominated by the NewFeds for the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT) Rising Star Award. Published an article titled App Reviews in the American Library Association New Members Round Table’s November 2011 issue of Footnotes: http://www.ala.org/nmrt/news/footnotes/november2011/app-reviews

Ms. Michelle Chronister, Program Analyst at the U.S. General Services Administration, was named a Library Journal 2012 Mover & Shaker in the Change Agent category for her role in leading social media efforts at USA.gov, the federal government’s web portal: http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2012/03/people/movers-shakers/michelle-chronister-movers-shakers-2012-change-agents/

Ms. Andrea Davis, Reference and Instruction Librarian at the Naval Postgraduate School’s Dudley Knox Library, was named a Library Journal 2012 Mover & Shaker in the Advocate category for her role in coordinating librarian participation in the 2011 South by Southwest (SXSW) technology conference: http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2012/03/people/movers-shakers/andrea-davis-movers-shakers-2012-advocates/

Ms. Yani Yancey Foote was hired as an Outreach Librarian with NLM’s Office of Communications and Public Liaison in December 2011. She also completed the University of Pittsburgh’s Certificate of Advanced Studies in Health Sciences Librarianship, and had a poster accepted for the Medical Library Association’s Annual Conference: “The road to here: educational backgrounds of health sciences librarians and their motivations for choosing the profession.”

Ms. Jessica Hernandez transitioned from Librarian at the FDA Biosciences Library to Program Analyst at the Office of Science & Engineering Laboratories at the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA)’s Center for Devices and Radiological Health in November 2011. Jessica completed a Master’s of Science in Educational Technology from the University of Arizona in December 2011, and co-authored a forthcoming book chapter titled “Formal, Non-Formal, Informal E-Learning Experiences with Emerging Technologies: A Case Study of a Graduate Educational Technology Program” in Cases on
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Formal, Non-Formal, and Informal Online Learning: Opportunities and Practices. She is beginning a Certificate of Advanced Study in Data Science from the Syracuse University’s School of Information Studies in May 2012.

Ms. Candice LaPlante, a recent MLIS graduate, will soon be joining NewFed ranks. Ms. LaPlante has happily accepted a Presidential Management Fellowship (PMF) position with the U.S. Department of State, Office of Regional Coordination, International Information Programs (IIP/R). Graduating December 2011 from St. Catherine University (St. Paul, MN), Ms. LaPlante looks forward to starting her professional career as a new fed in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Aileen Marshall, Librarian at the National Transportation Library, has published an article titled “Intelligence in transportation: exploring insights and Opportunities” in the April 2012 issue of FUMSI Magazine: http://web.freeprint.com/go/shop/magazine/1790

Ms. Jamie Navarette received her MLS from the University of Arizona in December 2011, and recently obtained an Analyst position at the Department of Defense after completing internships at Congressional Research Services and the National Institutes of Health Library.

Ms. Danielle Walker received her MLS from the University of Arizona in December 2011, and was converted in February from a SCEP Librarian Trainee to an Acquisitions Librarian at the National Agricultural Library.

Mr. Bill Drew, has begun a new assignment as a technical librarian at US Air Force Research Laboratory, Information Directorate, Rome Research Site in Rome, NY, which is located on the site of the old Griffiss Air Force Base. Mr. Drew has worked as an academic librarian since 1985 and has an MLS from Drexel University.

Mr. Jeff Gluff, MLIS, arrived in March 2012 from Fort Gordon’s Woodruff Consolidated Library to US Army Garrison Kaiserslautern Libraries and will manage the USAGK Kleber Branch Library.

Ms. Nancy E. Gwinn, Smithsonian Libraries Director was awarded the 2012 Ainsworth Rand Spofford President’s Award. Named for the first president of DCLA and a former Librarian of Congress, this award recognizes outstanding contributions to the development or improvement of library and information services. Ms. Gwinn also served as the 63rd president of DCLA from 1979-1980.

A frequent consultant and speaker, Nancy has published often on library-related and historical subjects. Her writings have received the Waldo Gifford Leland prize of the Society of American Archivists and the Blackwell North American Scholarship Award of the ALA. She has also written on aspects of the joint history of the Smithsonian Institution and the Library of Congress.

The Department of State Ralph J. Bunche Library received a Franklin Award in recognition of outstanding customer service to the Bureau of Intelligence and Research. The Franklin Award, named for Benjamin Franklin in honor of his distinguished service as a public servant and U.S. diplomat, recognizes the achievements in a variety of areas of importance to the Department.

The Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division Newport, RI announces the

Mrs. Barbara Busch on right

Mrs. Barbara Busch retired March 30, 2012 after a forty-five year career with the federal government. Her tenure included serving in various capacities around the San Diego area.

Barbara spent many years working for the SSC Pacific Technical Library as a Librarian as well as the Defense Technical Information Center as a Technical Specialist. She returned to SSC Pacific Technical Library in 2004 as the Library Director. As Director, Barbara served the technical community at SSC Pacific, LANT, and Hawaii with much vigor and enthusiasm.

In addition to her federal librarian work, Barbara served on various library boards around the city, as well as with the Historical Society of San Diego as a volunteer. She also served as board member on the San Diego County Citizen’s Scholarship Foundation, which awards college scholarships and grants to low income applicants.

Barbara’s retirement event in March was well attended by family, co-workers, retired SSC Pacific employees and friends. Many of whom she had assisted with research projects. Her legacy will be remembered by all these and more.

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Continues on page 8
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FABULOUS FEDS
continued from page 6

retirement of Ms. Mary Barravecchia - Head Librarian. They also announce the new Head Librarian, Ms. Elizabeth Ann R. Peimer.

Ms. Martha Knott, Director of the Redstone Scientific Information Center at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, retired on 31 December 2011.

The Dudley Knox Library and Naval Postgraduate School announces that Ms. Valerie Moule, Associate University Librarian, received the Navy Meritorious Service Award for exemplary service.

Other DKL staff news includes:

New Hires: Ms. Stacy DeMatteo, Library Systems Manager and Mr. Tom Doughty, Metadata Services Manager

Promotions: Mr. Russ Bernhardt, Systems Library Technician; Ms. Irene Berry, Digital Services Librarian; Ms. Tenly Connor, Restricted Resources & Services Library Technician; Ms. Sherri McMullin, Access Services Library Technician and Mr. Matthew White, Purchasing Agent

Departures & Retirements: Ms. Eileen Schnur, Reference & Instruction Librarian left for a position at SPAWAR and Ms. Mary Ann Watson, Metadata Services Library Technician retired.

Cynthia Shipley

ALA 2012 Election Results
Vice President/President elect: Virginia Sanchez
Secretary: Kathleen Hanselmann
Armed Forces Director: Lucille Rosa
Federal Director: Betty Landesman

Naval War College Library Overseeing Digitization of Nimitz Gray Book

Librarians at the Naval War College (NWC) will oversee digitization of Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz’s detailed operational diary covering activities and correspondence of the Pacific Command from December 7, 1941 through August 31, 1945. The 8-volume running summary, commonly referred to as the Nimitz Gray Book, is described by Naval War College Professor Douglas V. Smith as “the most authoritative source on the Pacific war available anywhere.” NWC librarians are carrying out the project in cooperation with the Navy History and Heritage Command (NHHC) in Washington, DC, which maintains custodianship of the volumes. The volumes will be released for the project and returned to the NHHC following digitization.

The project is funded by the Naval War College Foundation and will be carried out in increments, beginning with high-resolution digitization of the more than 4,000 pages of typescript as well as copies of dispatches and other communication that make up the Gray Book. NWC librarians engaged with various aspects of the project include Sue Cornachia (Digital Initiatives Librarian), Michael McHenry (Metadata/ILS Librarian), Tammy Kirk (Reference Librarian), and Evelyn Cherpak (Director, Naval Historical Collections).

Pages will require careful handling during the digitization process, as they are mostly a very lightweight onion-skin. The volumes include numerous 8.5” x 14” fold-outs that will need to be carefully flattened for scanning. Digitization will be outsourced to a vendor specializing in archival work, or the NWC will obtain the specialized overhead scanning equipment needed for this effort and for future in-house projects. High resolution TIFF images will be created for digital archiving and will be used to generate derivative formats (i.e. PDF, JPG) for web access.

Future steps of the project will include making the Gray Book web-accessible and creating a searchable full text transcript. The NWC may investigate options for crowdsourcing transcription of the text if OCR is not feasible. OCR challenges are posed by the numerous handwritten notations throughout the text, variations in formatting, variations in legibility of type, and lower contrast of typescript on color onion skin. Many of the pages were compiled from various layers of carbon forms.

Concurrent with this effort, the NWC is engaged in a college-wide assessment of digital asset management and preservation needs. An infrastructure for storage, preservation, description, discovery, and presentation of digital assets will be required to sustain the digital Gray Book and other digital materials with permanent historical value.

The Naval War College looks forward to making the Gray Book broadly accessible to researchers, historians and scholars. A full-text transcript of the Gray Book should inspire exciting text encoding initiatives in the future, as scholars seek improved ways to analyze the content or link it with related sources.

Lucille Rosa
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FAFLRT Programs at ALA Annual

FAFLRT is sponsoring several programs and events at ALA Annual in Anaheim. The first two programs, on Social Media and Disaster Response-Lessons Learned, will be held on Saturday, June 23 in the convention center. On Sunday, a program on Managing your Career and FAFLRT membership events will be held at the Red Lion Hotel, a short walk from the convention center.

Saturday, June 23

Social Media in Federal Libraries
10:30 am - 12:00 pm Anaheim Convention Center Room 213C
Join your federal colleagues for presentations and discussion of using social media in their library operations.
Michelle Chronister, Content Manager of USA.gov, will describe USA.gov’s adoption of social media – one of the first U.S. government entities to do so – and how it uses various methods to assist the public in both English and Spanish.
Kathleen Hanselmann, Chief Librarian at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey, Ca., and previously Librarian at the RAF Lakenheath Base Library in the United Kingdom, will tell us about using Facebook to interact with the Air Force base community and provide a platform for sharing participation in library programs.
The five libraries in the U.S. Diplomatic Mission to South Africa actively use a wide variety of social media tools on a daily basis. Steven P. Kerchoff, Information Resource Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria, will discuss how library staff use social media tools, promoting library outreach programs and services as well as providing content for the Embassy’s social media presence.
Attendees will be encouraged to ask questions and to share their own experiences and tips for using social media in federal libraries.

Disaster Response - Lessons Learned
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Anaheim Convention Center Room 213C
Disaster can strike an organization in any number of ways, often without warning. Planning for disaster response and continuity of operations (COOP) will help federal libraries better respond to unexpected calamities that can affect the services they provide to their staff and the public. Because every disaster is different, circumstances may require improvisation and deviation from your written plan.
Julie Page, Co-Coordinator, California Preservation Program (CPP) and Western States & Territories Preservation Assistance Service (WESTPAS) will present information on WESTPAS, an organization that provides disaster planning and response training to libraries in the western United States. Nancy E. Kraft, Preservation Librarian for the University of Iowa Libraries will present first-hand experiences responding to disasters and lessons drawn from them. Jeanne Drewes, Chief of Binding and Collections Care for the Library of Congress Preservation Directorate will talk about federal contracting for disaster recovery services and developing continuity of operations plans (COOPs) for libraries within the larger federal agency context.

Sunday, June 24

Managing your Career in Federal Libraries and Information Centers
9:00 am - 11:00 am Red Lion Hotel - Serafina A & B
The technical expertise, training, and management skills gained from your career in librarianship can transition to other jobs in the federal system and also translate into follow-on careers in other areas. This program will focus on helpful advice for current federal library personnel; e.g., how to survive downsizing, coping with change, proactively participating in your agency’s reorganization, and preparing for your next interesting career path.
The guest speaker, Dr. Sandra Hirsh, Professor and Director, School of Library and Information Science at San Jose State University, CA, will offer relevant information for experienced library professionals who might be facing a planned or an unplanned early retirement and who are, therefore, considering new career paths which utilize their skills and education.
A panel of current and former professional federal librarians will share their personal experiences in career management.

Continues on page 14
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Research you can use
such as applying and transferring to internal or external opportunities, expanding their responsibilities and moving upward during an agency’s reorganization, successfully preparing for a desk audit or non-competitive promotion process, and transitioning to a follow-on career.

Panelists:
Vicky Crone, Head, Continuing Resources Unit, National Agricultural Library;
Richard Huffine, Director, USGS Libraries Program, U.S. Geological Survey;
Jane Killian, Librarian, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory;
Doria B. Grimes, Senior Analyst, Riverside Technology, Inc., who will explain her smooth transition after federal retirement to a second career as a contractor;
Blane Dessy, Executive Director, FEDLINK, Library of Congress
Helen Q. Sherman, Director, Component Information Support, Defense Technical Information Center.

During an interactive session, attendees will be encouraged to ask questions and to share their own tips for managing careers in information environments by successfully meeting current challenges and/or moving to new career paths.

FAFLRT Membership Meeting
11:00 am - 12:00 pm  Red Lion Hotel - Serafina A & B

It is now more important than ever that federal and armed forces librarians work together to ensure our voices are heard and our customers served. We encourage you to attend the membership meeting, which is open to all, to help us set our goals and priorities for the upcoming year; we welcome new ideas to help keep the Round Table active and useful. Meeting agenda items include reviewing the results of the FAFLRT member survey conducted this winter and introducing the FAFLRT officers for the upcoming term.

FAFLRT Awards Reception
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm  Red Lion Hotel - Serafina A & B

Please come to the annual awards reception to celebrate your colleagues’ accomplishments and congratulate the winners of our awards: FAFLRT Distinguished Service, the Adelaide Del Frate Conference Sponsorship, Cicely Phippen Marks Scholarship and FAFLRT Rising Star. The reception provides an opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new friends as well. Food and beverages will be provided.

See the online preliminary program for brief descriptions of the programs:
http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/hall-erickson/ala_anaheim_2012prelim/#/0
Visit the ALA Conference Scheduler for fuller descriptions and other conference information:
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Leanna Bush of the US Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., is the Federal Library and Information Network’s (FEDLINK) 2011 Federal Library Technician of the Year. Ms. Bush received her award on May 14 at FEDLINK’s “Brave New World” exposition in Washington, D.C.

“We all recognize Leanna as an invaluable asset to our library,” said Col. Peter Schultheiss, MRICD’s commander, upon hearing of Ms. Bush’s selection. “Certainly no library technician is more deserving of this award.”

Ms. Bush was nominated by Pamela Scheuermann, the librarian at MRICD’s Wood Technical Library. Scheuermann’s nomination cited Ms. Bush’s “outstanding customer service, in-depth knowledge of the collection, and understanding of researchers’ information needs.”

“Leanna has established herself as the go-to information resource at MRICD,” said Scheuermann.

Among Ms. Bush’s duties are preparing and administering the library budget, managing the journal subscription contract, copy cataloging, developing the collection, fulfilling interlibrary loans, tracking library use metrics, and maintaining the library’s administrative files. In 2011, Ms. Bush initiated a project to scan the library’s entire translation collection, which she saved to a shared network drive, making individual articles available to the institute’s investigators from their desktops through links on the library’s SharePoint site. Ms. Bush also collected or created PDF files of over 3700 articles, technical reports, proceedings papers, abstracts, and posters authored or co-authored by institute staff, thereby expediting the staff’s access to past and current research in the medical chemical defense program.

Ms. Bush was “quite surprised” when she received an email from the Library of Congress notifying her of her selection for the award and is grateful to Scheuermann for nominating her as well as to Dr. Alfred Sciuto, Dr. Heidi Hoard-Fruchey and Lt. Col. Shannon Stutler, who provided letters of recommendation to accompany the nomination package.

“I feel honored and humbled to be recognized by my library colleagues with this prestigious award,” said Bush. “It is a very gratifying feeling to know that I have contributed in a small way to the research of my agency.”

The letters of reference from Sciuto, Hoard-Fruchey and Stutler all praised Ms. Bush’s proficiency, dedication, and customer service. Sciuto, a senior research physiologist at MRICD, noted her impressive ability to procure even hard-to-find documents.

Ms. Bush began her career in MRICD’s library as a contract employee nearly twenty years ago and became a civilian employee in 2006.

MRICD is the nation’s center of excellence for medical chemical defense research. Please visit our website at http://usamricd.army.mil/ and our Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/USAMRICD.

by Cindy Kronman, MRICD
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