

Officers step into civilian communities

By Suzanne Reynolds

Officers step into civilian communities

Speakers share experience, knowledge of military, its missions



Col. Martin Clausen, the U.S.AWC student was invited to share his experiences at a Veterans Day event at the Tri-Valley High School.

Dec. 27, 2011 -- The U.S.AWC Speakers

bureau is unlike any other.

In the past four months, U.S.AWC students, staff and faculty members have spoken to more than 100 audiences representing organizations from New Jersey to Virginia, to include high schools, colleges, veterans' service organizations, civic groups, and more.

Throughout the year, about 350 events feature knowledgeable speakers, from the Army War College, reaching out to a vast number of fellow citizens. Speakers share insights and stories about their own military experiences, discuss specialty expertise and the military role in national security, and informed perspectives on today's security issues.

Col. Dennis Tewksbury, Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute, spoke to several audiences in his hometown for Veterans Day 2011.

“At the conclusion of my remarks, I was approached by a lady who was in tears and said that her son had just deployed to Afghanistan. At that point she had no idea where he was based,” said Tewksbury.

“Prior to my presentation, she had no idea what the situation was like in Afghanistan but she had gained a better understanding,” said Tewksbury. He said that he had met many with a poor understanding of what was taking place “over there--communicating the mission, what life was like for the average

Service Member, and what the Afghan culture and people were like,” said Tewksbury.

The West Chester University Military History Club hosted U.S.AWC speakers to discuss personal experiences about counterinsurgency in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The student newspaper described Air Force **Lt. Col. Michael Florio’s** discussion of the U.S. military’s work with Afghanistan to create jobs. “In order to help the government, Florio talked about meeting with Mayors, Sheiks, and populace, and listening to their feedback,” wrote Angela Thomas in the West Chester University student newspaper, *The Quad*.

Student **Lt. Col. John Krenson** traveled to Hanover, Pa., to speak to high school students. He linked the service of his fellow Tennessee National Guardsmen with the legacy of veterans’ service.

“Both school programs included mentions of faculty members’ previous military service. This was an excellent opportunity for students to see that military role models are present in their daily lives,” said Krenson.

Faculty and students who engage outside audiences represent a wide and deep range of topics. The strategic focus of the Army War College encourages students to speak of their experiences through a strategic lens.

Recent topics –

- Military role in the national security process
- U.S.-China relations
- Counter-SCUD operations in Operation IRAQI FREEDOM
- Ethics and Law of War
- Climate change and the challenges/opportunities for U.S. national security
- NATO and the European Union today
- Contemporary lessons from the U.S. Army in the Indian Wars
- Marine Corps role in national security
- Norway and its military

- The Military and Hollywood

- Military space operations.

U.S. Army War College Archives - News Article - 29 December 2011