

# Space Professional

## Personnel Update



by LTC Clay Scherer

LTC Clay Scherer is an FA40 officer serving as the Chief, FA40 Personnel Proponent Office. LTC Scherer served previously with U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command in the Space Division of the Force Development and Integration Center where he worked on Space Control requirements development. His previous tour was at the Naval Post Graduate School where he completed a Masters of Science in Space Systems Operations. He served as a Field Artillery Officer prior to entering the Space Operations Career Field in 2001.

An outstanding annual training conference was held in Long Beach May 30-31. There were 88 military personnel plus government civilians present. We greatly appreciate the support and assistance from everyone in preparing this event. The presentations provided quality information and promoted beneficial discussions. We have received a great deal of input requesting to rotate the FA40 Conference site. Recommended locales include Colorado Springs, Colo.; Huntsville, Ala.; Omaha, Neb.; Washington, D.C.; and Las Vegas, Nev. These options will be provided to the Command leadership for consideration and we anticipate the next conference to be held in the Colorado Springs area. Some other focus areas for the FA40 Proponent Office include:

### Accessions

The ranks of FA40 officers continues to grow with Year Group 96 officers designated late Fiscal Year 2005 and three year groups designated in Fiscal Year 2006 (Year Group 97 and Year Group 98 results were released this July and August; Year Group 99 designation board meets this September).

A warm welcome goes out to our newest members.

**Year Group 96:** MAJ Michael Belton, MAJ Oscar Delgado, MAJ Sean Duncan, MAJ Mindy Kimball, MAJ Luke Koerschner, MAJ Aaron Luck, MAJ William Moncrief, MAJ Christopher Oxendine, MAJ William Riley, MAJ Gregory Sharpe and MAJ Dillard Young.

**Year Group 97:** CPT (P) Craig Blando, CPT (P) Alexander Braszko, CPT (P) Bill Eldridge, CPT (P) Lawrence Fields, CPT (P) Martin Lally, CPT (P) Louis Lancon, CPT (P) Jason Lange, CPT (P) Steven Moseley, CPT (P) Thomas Pugsley, CPT (P) Jeff Sheehan and CPT (P) Jonathan Taylor.

**Year Group 98:** CPT Wade Birdwell, CPT Brandon Harris, CPT Glen Hees, CPT Jeff Kacala, CPT Neill Macleod, CPT Christopher Ortona, CPT Matthew Schreiber, CPT Bryan Shrank, CPT William Starr, CPT Mark Stone, and CPT Bill Symolon. Beginning with Year Group 99, designation will occur at the seven year mark with the board meeting in September.

The branch transfer process into functional areas is much more efficient than in the past and seems to be favoring the officer's desires as long as the losing branch is not short inventory and the gaining branch needs inventory. The FA40 ranks have recently added five officers through this process and we extend a warm welcome to MAJ Tim Dalton, MAJ Jeffrey Groskopf, MAJ Kenneth Klock, MAJ Kevin Laughlin and MAJ David Reid. Another successful FA40 recruiting effort is the Call to Active Duty Program which enables Reserve and National Guard officers to join the Active Duty ranks. Please welcome the following officers who have recently joined our ranks through this program: LTC Robert Nieves, MAJ Chris Crawford and CPT Anthony Tingle. Please contact the FA40 Career Manager, MAJ Jerome Driscoll if you have questions about the branch transfer process or the Call to Active Duty program. MAJ Driscoll can be reached at [jerome.driscoll@hoffman.army.mil](mailto:jerome.driscoll@hoffman.army.mil)

### FA40 Authorization Growth

The FA40 authorization based on Fiscal Year 2007 Army documents is for 170 FA40A/Cs, in comparison with an authorization of 165 in Fiscal Year 2006 and 159 in Fiscal Year 2005. The majority of growth continues to be at the tactical level with Space Support Elements now established in eight of the 10 active Divisions as of 2006. The 1st Infantry Division and 1st Artillery Division Space Support Elements will be established and manned in Fiscal Year 2007 to complete divisional fielding. Army and Corps SSEs standup will follow in the out years. We will also have FA40s in the six Fires Brigades by the summer of 2007.

## Air Force Space Badge

The Air Force approved the award of the new Air Force Space Badge to Army Soldiers. Aug. 22 the Army approved the acceptance and wear of this badge on Army uniform. The old Air Force Space and Missile Badge was retired by the Air Force and will no longer be awarded. The new Space Badge has much more rigorous qualification criteria based on training/education and experience. The Space Badge will now be awarded only to Army personnel who are serving in validated Space Cadre positions. This is a change from the award criteria for the old Space and Missile Badge. Although everyone who was awarded the Space and Missile Badge will not qualify for the Space Badge, the Space and Missile Badge can continue to be worn by Soldiers who received it prior to the new Space Badge. Both badges cannot be worn at the same time. See the article on page 13F.

## Army Space Cadre

The Vice Chief of Staff of the Army approved the results of the Army Space Cadre Force Management Analysis (FORMAL) and Way Ahead plan in January 2006. The lead for execution of the Army Space Cadre phased-implementation plan will remain with the Future Warfare Center, Directorate of Combat Developments (DCD). The Army Space Cadre currently consists of only the FA40s, Space professionals, but in April 2007, an update to The Army Authorizations Document System (TADDS) is expected to document for the first time an Army Space Cadre that includes officers, NCOs, enlisted and Department of the Army civilians as Space Enablers. The expected number of Army Space Cadre billets is between 1500-2000 Space professionals (FA40s) and Space Enablers. Additional information about the Cadre status will be provided in future Space Journal updates.

## Promotions

FA40 promotion numbers continue to meet or exceed Army averages. The last O-6 promotion board selected three of our FA40s. Congratulations to COL Michael Postma, COL Thomas Quintero and COL Patrick Frakes on their selection. Their success speaks highly of the quality of our senior leadership and continues a trend of strong showings by FA40s in promotion and Senior Service College selection boards. Three officers were selected for Senior Service College: LTC Rick Dow, LTC Jim Meisinger and LTC Tom James.

Likewise, FA40 officers fared very well in the recently released LTC promotion board. Congratulations to MAJ Joe Carroll, MAJ Steve Choi, MAJ Jay Curry, MAJ Jay Driscoll, MAJ Rich Lewis, MAJ Chris Livingstone, MAJ Tori Miralda, MAJ Jim Patterson, MAJ Larry Roberts, MAJ Sam Russ and MAJ Lem Williams.

## OPMS III Review

The OPMS review continues via an ongoing series of Action Officer-level workgroups, Councils of Colonels and General Officer Steering Committees. The most obvious change is the Functional Realignment of the basic branches and the functional areas. OPMS XXI grouped the branches and functional areas into four Career Fields — Operations, Information Operations (FA40), Operations Support and Institutional Support. The OPMS design has realigned the branches and functional areas into three Functional Groupings — Maneuver, Fires and Effects; Operations Support; and Force Sustainment. Within the Operations Support Grouping, FA40 is organized with the Signal Corps basic branch, the Information Systems Management (FA53) functional area and the Telecommunications (FA24) functional area in a sub-grouping called Network and Space Operations. A key aspect of the OPMS review is the opportunity for basic branch officers to occupy functional area billets through a “shared access billet.” This process would enable a non-FA40 officer to occupy an FA40 position with prerequisite training (FA40 Space Operation Officer Qualifications Course). This system will also enable FA40s to occupy non-FA40 billets in such areas as Information Operations in the Maneuver, Fires and Effects grouping. One of the goals of the OPMS review is to increase Joint Inter-Agency, Inter-Governmental, Multi-National (JIIM) experience to develop multifunctional leaders. The FA40s have a great deal of JIIM experience and billet access due to the Joint nature of the Space mission area and the multitude of Space stakeholders with whom we interact. The functional areas and basic branches will identify from 10-20 percent of their authorized billets for shared access opportunities. The OPMS development will also reviews all 01A and 02A billets (branch immaterial and branch specific) for recoding to functional areas and branch specific positions. This is important for FA40s because the functional designation process assesses Captains at the seven-year mark, we will need FA40 billets to provide them experience. Many of the captain billets in the 1st Space Brigade and 1st Space Battalion are 01A billets that may be recoded to FA40.