

Tip of the Sphere



Army Space Cadre News

By Mike Connolly

Mike Connolly /// Bio



Initially commissioned as an Air Defense Officer, Mike Connolly served the majority of his 26 year career as an Army Aviator prior to being selected as a Functional Area 40 during the first Career Field Designation Board. His assignments as an FA40 included Chief of Staff, Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center; Director Command and Control Systems (J6) Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center; Command Director, Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center; Executive Assistant to the Commander, U.S. Strategic Command; Deputy, J36 (Current Operations), U.S. Space Command; Chief, Joint Space Support Team, U.S. Space Command; Chief, Standards and Evaluations Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center; and Mission Director, Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College as well as East Tennessee State University.

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Check out the ASPDO Web site

AKO ASPDO Web site link:

<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/343526>

Find out the latest on Functional Area 40 (FA40) and the Army Space Cadre. Site topics include:

- How to get your 3Y identifier and Air Force Space Badge
- Space Professional Development Opportunities
 - How to sign up for Space Fundamentals, Space 200 and Space 300 courses
 - Class schedules
 - Army Space Cadre Online Training Information
- - Latest Personnel News
 - Promotion results and analysis
 - Selection results for schools, internships and fellowships
 - FA40 billet information to include latest DA PAM 600-3 updates
 - Latest accessions
 - Latest FA40 roster



Army Space Cadre Symposium

Aug. 3-6

If you haven't already, mark your calendars for this year's symposium, Aug. 3-6, at the Scitor facility in Colorado Springs, Colo. Hotel, conference registration, agenda and security clearance details are currently being worked. Look for new updates on the ASPDO Web site.



New ASPDO Personnel

Please welcome Dave Hagedorn, our Army Space Cadre Knowledge Management Officer, who is hard at work designing the new Knowledge Management Web site. He served as the Operations Superintendent for the 50th Space Communications Squadron, Schriever Air Force Base, Colo., where he oversaw long haul communications, SIPRnet Help Desk functions, the COMSEC office, and communication operations. Dave then took a special duty assignment to Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station as the J6 Superintendent, Chief of Network Integration, Missile Correlation Center Crewmember, and Budget Officer. After retiring from the Air Force in 2007, he worked as a solutions architect for a defense contractor in Colorado Springs. Dave recently completed the AKO Qualification Course in February as the Distinguished Honor Graduate.

He can be reached at (719) 555-0454 or david.hagedorn@smdc-cs.army.mil.



COL Kendall Cunningham presents Chris Grayson of the G4 with a certificate inducting her into the Army Space Cadre. *Photo by Sharon L. Hartman*

METL and Mettle

The first time I heard the acronym for Mission Essential Task List, METL, was while attending a course in Germany as I prepared to take command of an Aviation Company assigned to the 8th Infantry Division in Bad Kreuznach. The brigadier general who was explaining to a room full of young captains and first sergeants what METL meant, stressed the importance of developing/defining organizational essential tasks by incorporating what subordinate elements and individual Soldiers accomplished. This building block approach insured that each member of a command understood the importance of their specific position while collectively contributing to the overall success of the organization. In the 25 years that have passed since my initial exposure, the significance of the METL concept has expanded as demonstrated with this edition of the Army Space Journal, where it is the theme.

As I have discussed in previous editions of the ASJ, the Army Space Personnel Development Office has taken significant actions within the past year to more effectively serve the Army's space Community. All of these changes have been formulated through use of the same building block approach that I heard described all those years ago. Our intent is to better serve by more efficiently accomplishing our essential tasks, both on the Army Space Cadre Office and FA40 Personnel Development Office sides of our organization. Even though we have completed the process of identifying our formal tasks off of the Universal Joint Task List and tied them to the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command METL, the task of providing the Army with a "Trained and Ready Space Cadre" is our primary focus. Developing space Professionals and Enablers by overseeing education and training opportunities, managing the Army's FA40 billets, coordinating for the coding of Space Enabler positions, serving as a member of the Officer Personnel Management System, Army Space Working Group,



Space Professional Working Group, and Joint Space Academic Group as well as awarding the Skill Identifier/Additional Skill Identifier 3Y and Air Force Space Badge are what we see as our essential tasks.

In addition to the acronym METL, the Army Space Personnel Development Office considers the phonic equivalent “mettle” which is defined as; Inherent quality of character and temperament; Fortitude and courage, as an important aspect in serving the Army Space Cadre. Although not always popular and sometime not well received, the actions that we take, the decisions we make and the recommendations we forward are all undertaken in an effort to:

- enhance the community and those associated with the execution of the Army’s space mission
- ensure space resources have or obtain the required skill set to support current space objectives
- ensure that the right level and depth of experience is assigned to the proper positions
- identify and assist in providing solutions to resource imbalance
- provide venues for the collaboration on and advancement of space issues

The Army’s Space Community is not a single, formalized organization and does not have a common METL creating a challenge in meeting the exact needs of everyone. However, Space Professionals and Enablers do share a foundation of essential tasks that move with them from assignment to assignment. We believe that by balancing our METL and mettle, we help prepare Space Cadre Members to be more capable of supporting their assigned organization’s METL.

As always, we appreciate your feedback, input and thoughts.

How do we contact you?

In order to maintain contact and stay up-to-date on all FA40 and Space Cadre issues, personnel news and announcements, you are highly encouraged to frequently check or forward your AKO e-mail account. The Army Space Personnel Development Office will use this common address as the primary means to provide you useful and pertinent information.

Promotions

Congratulations to the FA40s listed below on their promotions:

December 2009

MAJ Mark Cobos

MAJ James Edwards

MAJ Michael McGaffigan

February 2010

LTC Craig Cox (USAR)

Accessions

Congratulations and welcome to our newest FA40s:

CPT Rob Gleghorn

CPT Timothy Bennett

CPT Parsana Deoki

CPT David Peterson

CPT Steven Wojdakowski

CPT Otis Davis

Promotions Selections

Congratulations to MAJ Brett Gardner and MAJ John Hennessey on their selection for promotion to LTC by the U.S. Army Reserve Lieutenant Colonel Promotion Selection Board.