

COMMUNITY CORNER

Upcoming Oktoberfest next big on-post celebration, commander says

By Col. William Clark
GARRISON COMMANDER

If you didn't have enough fun at Fort Riley last weekend at the Fall Apple Day Festival, we've got another special event planned for you next weekend – Oktoberfest.

A traditional German celebration, Oktoberfest at Fort Riley will feature many of the same staples of the German festival – German food, beer and music.

From 4 p.m. to midnight Oct. 6 and 7 and from mid-

night to noon Oct. 8 and 9, head to Rally Point Field, across from the Forsyth area, for Oktoberfest. Sample foods like bratwurst, sauerkraut, schnitzel sandwiches, pierocks, currywurst and German potato salad.

German beers will be available, as well as Jagermeister and the alcoholic apple beverage, Apfelforn. I even hear



Col. Clark

some of the beers are tapped from a wooden keg.

Musical entertainment will play each night from 7 to 10 p.m. and will range from an alternative rock/country artist to a rapper and a blues band. Our very own Gunpowder and Lead, the 1st Infantry Division country band, also will perform.

In addition to the food, beer and music, we will have Toby's Carnival there to provide rides and attractions for the whole Family. Tickets and wristbands will be available for purchase.

We will have at least one free ride, though, as the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard will provide mule wagon rides to attendees.

For those who will be enjoying some of the adult beverages at the festival, I remind you to please have a plan – don't drink and drive. We certainly want you to enjoy all the festival has to offer, but have a buddy designated as a driver if you do not live walking distance to Rally Point Field.

Now, if I haven't told you enough about Oktoberfest,

feel free to call the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation for more information at 785-239-8990.

I sometimes hear people say, "There's nothing to do at Fort Riley." And I want to let you know – there is! With Oktoberfest and the many events we have planned for Halloween, Thanksgiving and the winter holiday season, there is something to do nearly every upcoming week, and I hope you take advantage of these great opportunities.

Keep reading the 1st Inf. Div. Post newspaper to keep

up-to-date on upcoming activities. You also can become a fan of the Fort Riley Facebook page at www.facebook.com/fortriley or its Twitter page at www.twitter.com/fortriley. Our DFMWR website is a great resource at www.rileymwr.com. And if you live on post, tune to Channel 2 on Allegiance Cable for Riley TV programming.

If you would like to comment on this article or suggest a topic for the Community Corner, email rile.post.newspaper@conus.army.mil.



Sgt. Scott Lamberson | 4TH IBCT
Col Joseph Wawro and Command Sgt. Maj. Wylie Hutchinson, commander and senior enlisted adviser, 4th IBCT, far left and far right, pose with awardees from the STB, 4th IBCT during the Order of the Dragon ceremony Sept. 8. The Order of the Dragon ceremony is a quarterly event recognizing volunteers for the "Dragon" Brigade.

'Order of the Dragon' recognizes volunteers at on-post ceremony

By Sgt. Scott Lamberson
4TH IBCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

As a banquet room at Riley's Conference Center began to fill, one thing seemed apparent – many service members and civilians associated with the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, had given their time by volunteering to not only the brigade, but many other events and charities throughout the surrounding communities.

Volunteers in and associated with the "Dragon" Brigade were honored Sept. 8 during the quarterly Order of the Dragon Ceremony. The ceremony honors and awards volunteers, who have gone the extra mile and donated their time and resources to events and charities.

"Our mission would be unsuccessful without the strength of our Families. That success depends on each of you. Each and every one of the awardees here tonight is a spark that helps build the Dragons fire here at the 4th IBCT. Words cannot express my thanks," said Col Joseph Wawro, commander, 4th IBCT.

The ceremony kicked off after the attendees were seated with their respective battalions – introducing one another and talking about recent events. Wawro started with a speech thanking all the volunteers present and giving some history of the Order of the Dragon.

Following Wawro's speech, Chap. (Capt.) Valeria Van Dress, 4th IBCT, gave the invocation, leading into the meal. Attendees filed through a buffet line, table by table, sharing a Family-style meal with each other. As dinner continued, the room filled with the sounds of silverware clinking, glasses chiming and the sound of conversation.

Following the meal, Wawro and Command Sgt. Maj. Wylie Hutchinson, senior enlisted adviser, 4th IBCT, took center stage. As the awardees names were called, they filed forward one at a time, battalion-by-battalion. Once the awardees were up front, Wawro and Hutchinson showed their appreciation and the appreciation of the brigade with awards, Dragon Brigade pendants and thanks.

In all, 28 volunteers from every battalion within the brigade were recognized. Each battalion's awardees posed with Wawro and Hutchinson for a group photo, then made their way to the rear of the room, where they signed the Order of the Dragon Book, officially inducting themselves into the group.

"It makes me very proud. It definitely feels good to be recognized and acknowledged for anything that we do as spouses. Sometimes your Soldier's so big that you are kind of in their shadow," said Amanda Nagle, an award recipient, who is the spouse of a Dragon Brigade Soldier. "I'm just proud to be a part of the Dagon Brigade."

Once the award portion of the ceremony concluded, the room filled with applause as all the awardees were honored as a whole by all the tables full of participants and supporters. As three door prizes were handed out, Wawro concluded the ceremony with a few words.

"I would like to thank all the volunteers for their selfless dedication to the Families and Soldiers of the 4th IBCT," Hutchinson said. "Your efforts directly affect the success of the brigade and the U.S. Army."



Melony Gabbart | POST
From left to right, George Page, Fort Riley Commissary deputy store director, Defense Commissary Agency; Bevin Landrum, OSC president; Greg Lumb, Morris Hill Elementary School principal; Katie Wisdom, ESC president; and Laine Wolfe, human resources manager, Army and Air Force Exchange Service pose for a picture in front of Morris Hill Elementary School with donations to the school from several on-post organizations. ESC, OSC and HASFR partnered through DFMWR to raise funds for school supplies and sports equipment for Fort Riley schools.

Organizations partner together to raise funds for local schools

By Melony Gabbart
1ST INF. DIV. POST

The Enlisted Spouses Club, Officers and Civilians Spouses Club and the Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley recently partnered to raise funds for equipment for Fort Riley schools.

"(The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation) really helped us out," said Katie Wisdom, ESC presi-

dent. "We sold booth space at Riley's Round-up for businesses to come in. All said and done, we netted \$1,200. The goal was to raise the money by the beginning of the school year, and we did it."

After the money was raised, group members called each school to learn what items were needed.

"The needs were different at each school, anywhere from outdoor equipment to class-

room items," Wisdom said. Some needed items included jump ropes, basketballs, kick balls, copy paper, journal notebooks and protractors.

The items were purchased Sept. 16 and then donated to the schools.

For more information on the ESC, OSC or HASFR, visit their pages on Facebook by searching for each organization's name.

HOUSE FILL AD

HOUSE FILL AD