

Member Update February 2021

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## News + information from:

Greater Kansas City Chapter of People to People International

gkcptp.org



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## Details for Sunday Zoom: Poland Circle of Knowledge

Sunday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88517312732?pwd=R2pLdEM2YVFubmk1SjlBWmFUSXduZz09>

Meeting ID: 885 1731 2732

Passcode: 286329

## "Circle of Knowledge" Events Offer International

## Learning Opportunities

Please join GKCPTP as we seek to make a difference, through personal involvement, in the lives of people from different parts of the world by learning from cultural presentations representing countries throughout the world. We have two more talks, via Zoom, that will highlight the countries of Poland and Lebanon.

Please invite your neighbors and friends to learn about our unique relationship with the foreign officers, some of which will be represented in these talks. These presentations are similar to those given on post before COVID-19 (called "Know Your World"), without the need to leave your home.

Note: Zoom links will be sent out just ahead of the events.



**Presenting Country: Poland**

**Captain Katazyna Lachowicz**

**Sunday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m.**



**Presenting Country: Lebanon**

**Colonel Joseph Attallah**

**Sunday, March 14 at 1:00 p.m.**

## Renew/Acquire Card in February for Base Access

**Important:** *If you plan to sponsor an officer in the incoming class, please apply for your LAC card now. Applying now will help both the Fort and GKCTP manage the flow of applications prior to the influx of international and U.S. military officers (and families) that must be processed this spring.*

February is the month **that most** LAC cards expire, and must be renewed in order to retain access to the Fort. Local Access Cards (LACs) are your way onto Fort Leavenworth for events and officer visits (should your officer live on post). They provide both the Fort and our members a measure of security, albeit with a degree of inconvenience in the initial application and retrieval of the card(s) in person. We appreciate that our sponsors understand the need for security at U.S. military bases.

### Order of the "LAC Process"

Please note the order, or sequence of events occurring when applying for and receiving your local area access card (LAC).

1. Fill out [LAC application form](#) (you complete the "applicant" part only). **NOTE: This is a new version of the form. Please do not use a previous version. IMSD requires the form be completed electronically (do not handwrite).** Remember to not sign or date the form, stop after the Criminal History section.
2. Send the completed LAC forms to Pat Burnett ([dburnett5@gmail.com](mailto:dburnett5@gmail.com)) or Sharon Valášek ([svalasek01@gmail.com](mailto:svalasek01@gmail.com)) by email or U.S. mail.
3. Pat or Sharon will acknowledge receipt and will email the completed LAC to IMSD.
4. Pat or Sharon will contact sponsor(s) when we have been notified by IMSD that the application is ready. Do not call the Visitor Control Center (VCC) before you receive notification from Pat or Sharon that your application is ready for pick up. Calling the VCC before being notified by Pat or Sharon can cause confusion (VCC may say they don't have the application when, in fact, it is with someone else (e.g., IMSD) integral to the process. When VCC says they don't have it, it causes sponsors to believe their application hasn't been submitted).

5. Once notified by Pat or Sharon that the LAC is ready for pick up, call the VCC. (Before sponsors drive to Fort Leavenworth have them call the VCC at 913-684-3600 to make sure the system that issues the pass is working. If sponsors have any problems while there, **call Sean Madsen's mobile phone at 714-809-4633.**)  
**NOTE: The VCC is open Monday – Friday, 7:00 – 4:00. There are no weekend hours at this time.**
6. Pick up pass within 30 days of approval date. (Approved applications are valid for and must be picked up within 30 days, otherwise the process starts over -- requiring a new app to be submitted). A rule introduced in 2018 from the VCC states that sponsors are allowed to apply only 3 times, so please don't let your approval expire.

Note: If you're not accustomed to using a fillable PDF form, you might find this link helpful: ["How to Fill Out an Attached PDF & Email Back."](#)

## **A Message from David Bornn, Jr.**

Dear sponsors,

All events for the FSP Sponsor events have been cancelled for this AY21 class of 45 Students. We do apologize for this and ask that sponsors do what they can with their IMS to build those relationships and also provide some touch points with the IMS as they drive towards graduation and return to their countries.

We are planning on re-initiating a plan for the AY22 Class with all the regular events at this time. As mentioned, COVID Dependent, we are planning for a regular (semi-normal) Sponsor and FSP Program for AY22, and hoping that we can keep some of those events on track.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

**David M. Bornn Jr.**

International Field Studies Program Director  
US Army Combined Arms Center

100 Stimson Ave, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027-2301

[david.m.bornn.civ@mail.mil](mailto:david.m.bornn.civ@mail.mil)

w: 913-684-7323

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## A Message from Sharon Valášek

Dear current and prior year sponsors,

*Please let me explain some things about the current and next sponsor year.*

### **Class of 2021 Sponsor Experience**

Many of your fellow sponsors who are sponsoring this year have had to make adjustments in order to build and maintain a relationship with their officer. One example I learned of recently is a sponsor who dropped off a meal to their officer who lives on post. What a nice gesture!

Others are staying connected by Zoom, Facetime, email, phone and text messages. The point is that necessity has caused sponsors to be creative and make adjustments in their approach and manner interacting with their officers, realizing that it is possible to still be a great sponsor, even during a pandemic.

All of us can learn something from your experience sponsoring during a pandemic. Would you be willing to share some brief thoughts about it at our annual meeting on April 18? If you'd consider doing so, please contact me at [svalasek01@gmail.com](mailto:svalasek01@gmail.com) or 816-213-5847.

### **Upcoming Class of 2022**

I've received preliminary information from David Bornn at IMSD about the upcoming CGSC class of 2022, scheduled to arrive late June 2021. IMSD expects approximately 120 officers from 94 countries in the upcoming class. [View this PDF](#) to see the map of invited countries.

Of course, that 120 number may fluctuate as it has with past classes and possibly to a

greater degree given we are still dealing with the pandemic. However, we need to be prepared to sponsor 120 officers.

You'll soon be hearing from a member of the military committee (see below for committee members) to gather information about your interest in sponsoring, your country and family preferences and if you might be willing to sponsor a second officer, should that be needed. Additionally, please consider sharing a name or two of someone who you think would be a good sponsor.

As many of you did, my husband Gary and I sat out this past year due to the small class size. Personally, we are looking forward to joining the ranks of sponsorship again. We've missed the sponsor experience this past year! I hope you are also eager to begin sponsoring again.

**Military Committee Members:**

- Joan Barrett
- Tom Black
- Pat Burnett
- Maggi Choplin
- Alan & Pamela Felton
- Karen Haber
- Jane Kohl
- Randy Pace
- Sharon Valášek

Thank you,  
Sharon Valášek

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## **Annual Meeting April 18 - Save the Date!**

GKCPTP's Annual Meeting - Virtually

Sunday, April 18

2:00 p.m. Central Time

We will provide a Zoom link as we get closer to the date of the event.