



# AIRCRAFTSMAN

CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT

SPRING 2025




America's Aviation Depot  
We Keep the Army Flying!  
[www.CCAD.Army.mil](http://www.CCAD.Army.mil)



*COVER PHOTO:*

Michael Abrego was the 2024 recipient of the AAAA Donald F. Luce Depot Maintenance Artisan of the Year award.

 **U.S. ARMY**

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## **CCAD Command Team**

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**Commander**

**SGM Angelo Rickert**  
**Depot Sergeant Major**

**Mr. Rod Benson**  
**Deputy and Chief Operations Of-**  
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# FROM THE COMMAND SUITE...



*The C-Suite during a virtual 'ADDRESS TO THE WORKFORCE'.*

## **Rod Benson: Deputy to the Commander**

"It's our responsibility to keep spreading the word about the fantastic work you guys are doing. But let me tell you, you make our work easier because we hear from people and commanders in the field. We can tell from the additional work we receive that people trust CCAD, which helps build a solid reputation. Continue doing that. We will continue to defend it, keep our heads down, and make sure that, once more, we don't give anyone a reason to remove whatever we have earned."

## **COL Kevin Consedine: CCAD Commander**

"I want to express my gratitude to everyone for their patience and for continuing to do the fundamental responsibilities of our profession with excellence every day. I am aware that working in dynamic, ambiguous, and uncertain situations is difficult. That is not a simple task. However, service is often difficult, particularly when serving this country. That, in my opinion, sets us apart from the rest of the US population as a team and an organization. I keep doing this job because I want to work with people like you. Thank you for that."

## **SGM Angelo Rickert: Sergeant Major**

"I am always available to you. Please work with Chad in the command suite or send me an email. I'll find time. This place has been fantastic, and I'm excited for the upcoming years."





# AAAA 19TH LUTHER G. JONES ARMY AVIATION DEPOT FORUM HELD IN CORPUS CHRISTI

BY KATHLEEN 'KAT' PETTAWAY-CLARKE

**T**he Army Aviation Association of America convened the 19th Luther G. Jones Army Aviation Depot Forum at the American Bank Center February 11-12, 2025.

Two-day event centered on Army Aviation Maintenance and sustainment, including insights into government capabilities, the Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD), and the benefits for global industry clients and partnerships. The subject for this year was CCAD-Enabling Aviation in Contact.

The forum is dedicated in honor of Col. Luther Griffin Jones Jr., a former commander of CCAD and mayor of Corpus Christi, who served in the U.S. Army during World War II from 1939 to 1945 and the Vietnam War from 1958 to 1973.

This event served as a platform to connect with Warfighters, enterprise, and industry, facilitating the exchange of feedback and an understanding of the requirements of Combat Aviation



(TOP LEFT) AMCOM COMMANDING GENERAL, MAJ. GEN LORI ROBINSON SPEAKS ON THE DEPOT'S CRITICAL ROLE IN ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING AND BLUE LIGHT SCANNING.

(TOP RIGHT) CCAD COMMANDER, COL KEVIN CONSEDINE RESPONDS TO PANELIST DISCUSSING DEPOT CAPABILITIES.

**Brigades to achieve victory in the surge.** Furthermore, it was an opportunity for the depot to share innovations in the organic industrial base related to the manufacturing, maintenance, and resetting of Army equipment. To include the modernization of facilities, processes, and sustaining of a skilled workforce.

Retired Maj. Gen. Walt Davis, AAAA Executive Director, emceed the event. Army Chaplain (Capt.) Dennis Ohiku, CCAD Chaplain, provided the invocation.

In his introductory remarks, CCAD Commander Col. Kevin J. Consedine introduced the newly updated "I Am CCAD" command video, which showcased CCAD's modernization initiatives in enhanced diagnostics, 3D printing, robotic advancements, and the exploration of novel calibration methods.

"We are embracing transformation to meet the challenges of a complex world, and our evolution is taking flight," said Consedine. He also, affirmed the organizations' continuing commitment to readiness in supporting the warfighter, while highlighting the depots' specific connection to the Army's plan. "While the character of war is changing, the nature of CCAD will continue to support warfighters by building combat-ready innovations."

Consedine emphasized the importance of symbiotic linkages between the organic industrial base and the commercial sector, as well as the necessity for collaboration to achieve sustainability. CCAD will seek appropriate support partnership agreements and public-private partnerships.

The Hon. Michael Cloud, U.S. Representative for the Texas 27th Congressional District, conveyed video greetings highlighting the significance of the military in South Texas and their endeavors to get support from the highest echelons of government. Cloud stated, "I want to take a moment to recognize the incredible artisans





The forum started with the Pledge of Allegiance

at CCAD. Each of you play an essential role in keeping our military strong and our nation is safer because of your work for over 60 years, CCAD has answered the nation's call, ensuring that when our soldiers need aircraft, they're ready for the fight,"

Maj. Gen. Lori Robinson, commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command and the Army's Air Worthiness Authority, delivered the keynote presentation. She spoke about supply management, process transformation, data analytics, advanced techniques, and robotics, "We seek methods to utilize data effectively for sound decision-making. We are employing a machine learning model to analyze the documentation on aircraft to determine the frequency of the reset process or an overhaul." A machine learning model is a computer program that has been trained on a data set to identify patterns and make predictions about new data by learning from the patterns found in the training data. Robinson also recognized the artisans for their contributions.

Michael Abrego was the 2025 recipient of the AAAA Donald F. Luce Depot Maintenance Artisan of the Year award. Abrego was instrumental in reducing the process

cycle time to less than five days resulting in an increase of 150 stabilators, a process documented while attaining his yellow belt certificate. In addition, he is authoring a tech sheet for the center stabilators, will be used as a training guide and a more in-depth manual for other mechanics. His advice to those who are just starting out in a career is "Be authentic and don't change who you are for anyone. Maintain a high standard, never compromise or forget your purpose."

He emphasized the importance of networking as a key factor when looking into any ca-



reer field. "Don't tell yourself you cannot accomplish a task or goal. Apply yourself to the fullest and never be afraid to stand out and out work everyone!"

Tom Ray, deputy director of Supply Chain Management, delivered an Army Materiel Command update. He spoke about the organic industrial base modernization which currently has high visibility and continuous transformation. "CCAD is the benefactor of several great projects looking at the future for being able to sustain and maintain America's Army Aviation," said Ray. "We must transform the way we think, the way we do just about everything, to become agile enough to react, be more proactive, so we can react faster

There were several panel discussions in which the recurring themes were supply management and data repositories. The Industry Support panel topic centered around asserting that collaborative investment is essential for future preparedness. Specifically, identifying alternative materials due to a scarcity of raw materials.

The Combat Capability Development Command, Aviation spoke of continuous transformation in air worthiness and commended the 40-year their relationship with CCAD.

During the Supply Chain Management panel, the collected consensus was to maintain clean data and uphold data integrity and the responsible application of artificial intelligence. to enhance risk mitigation and prioritize sustainability.

Another panel discussion addressed Army policy, Army regulation, and the Five Pillars of Readiness—personnel, equipment, training, sustainment, and leadership—pertaining to transformation overhaul.

The concluding panel discussion centered on the need for additional parts to sustain the enduring fleet, alongside the aspiration for open-source software to combine data from sources such as the logistics modernization program.



CCADers from various directorates manned the CCAD booth talking with attendees



# ABREGO AWARDED DONALD F. LUCE AWARD AT LUTHER G. JONES ARMY AVIATION FORUM

By Della Adame



Abrego, AAAA Donald F. Luce Depot Maintenance Artisan is applauded

Corpus Christi Army Depot artisan Michael N. Abrego was awarded the AAAA Donald F. Luce Depot Maintenance Artisan of the Year for 2024. This national award is presented to people who have made an outstanding individual contribution to Army aviation in depot maintenance during the award period commencing July 1 to June 30, 2024. Mr. Abrego, a ten-year Veteran of the U.S. Army, joined the depot in 2022 as a WG-5 Army Civilian employee.

Working with the integrated parts-support vendor (IPV) program as a material expeditor he quickly learned the trade of sheet metal mechanics in the Directorate of Manufacturing, Planning & Production (DMPP) and was promoted within six months. As a WG-8 employee he has worked on various assets for the UH-60 Black Hawk and the AH-64 Apache. Both his supervisor and work leader appointed him as the 'on-the-job trainer' for the center stabilators program which included 60 stabilators. Abrego supported a Lean Six Sigma (LSS) process improvement effort in parallel with a black belt mentor and a green belt candidate on a green belt



Mr. and Mrs. Michael Abrego accept AAAA Donald F. Luce Depot Maintenance Artisan of the Year award



Abrego, AAAA Donald F. Luce Depot Maintenance Artisan of the Year delivers a heartfelt speech.

project. He was instrumental in reducing the process cycle time from 14.9 days to 4.7 days.

As a result, the CCAD Programs Office, bolstered by customer confidence, has increased the 2025 program to 150 stabilators.

Mr. Abrego received his LSS yellow belt certificate for his input, expertise and knowledge to increase the program's efficiency. He is currently working on a tech sheet for the center stabilators which will include a complete step-by-step breakdown of the disassembly, repair and reassembly processes. This tech sheet will be used as a training guide and more in-depth manual for other mechanics.

*"I owe my success as an Army Civilian to God first and foremost, as well as my wife and children for being my motivation and always pushing me," shared Abrego.*

His advice to those who are just starting out

in a career is "Be authentic and don't change who you are for anyone. Maintain a high standard, never compromise or forget your purpose."

He emphasized the importance of networking as a key factor when looking into any career field. "Don't tell yourself you cannot accomplish a task or goal. Apply yourself to the fullest and never be afraid to stand out and out work everyone!"

Abrego has set goals for his future with plans to expand his skillset, gain a leadership position, achieve his Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certificate and contribute to any projects that could better America's Aviation Depot's mission to ensure readiness and support the Warfighter.

Mr. Abrego's lives an unrelenting perseverance and steadfast devotion to mission accomplishment and always strives to be better than yesterday. It is this commitment that identifies him as the Donald F. Luce Depot Maintenance Artisan of the Year.





# SCENES FROM THE ARTISAN BREAKFAST





# AROUND THE DEPOT



Above: Due the outcome of the Army/Navy football, the Depot made good on friendly agreement by raising the Navy flag at CCAD headquarters for 24 hours.

**W**e are the most formidable military and most deadly combat force the world has ever seen because of our solidarity and common goal with other Army organizations and our sister services.



2nd Combat Aviation Brigade engage in valuable training at the depot.



1st Battalion, 23D MarineRegmentThis training event addressed aircraft cold load procedures in addition to H60 familiarization.



## AROUND THE DEPOT CONT...



**P**eople make an organization extraordinary!





# ESPRIT DE CORPS



Environmental Division



SCAN the QR codes to follow, like and share the CCAD social media pages!

**Facebook & Instagram:** @CorpusChristiArmyDepot  
**X:** @CCADPAO **LinkedIn:** The Corpus Christi Army Depot

Use these hashtags to find CCAD on social media platforms:  
#AmericasAviationDepot #WeAreCCAD #CCArmyDepot #WeKeepTheArmyFlying  
#CCADSalute #CCADstagram #CCADSocialMedia #CCADSalute



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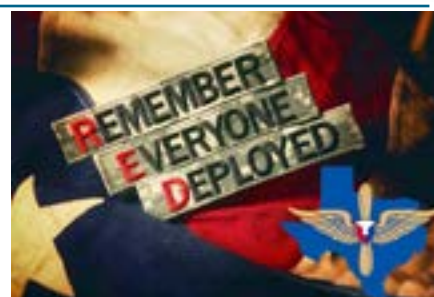
Please include the following:

*Who:* Names, positions

*What:* What's happening in the photo

*Where:* Where is location of the event

*Why:* Why is the event significant.



It's a tradition for CCADers to wear  
RED shirts on Fridays to  
Remember Everyone Deployed.  
We are proud to show solidarity and support for  
all military personnel regardless of rank. Whether  
military personnel are stateside or stationed  
abroad, we salute all our Warriors.  
#TillTheyAllComeHome #REDFriday  
#RememberEveryoneDeployed

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