



# U.S. ARMY'S 250<sup>TH</sup> *Birthday Celebration*

PRESENTED BY THE  
ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

13–15 June 2025

Philadelphia, PA | Independence Mall



**AUSA**

GREATER PHILADELPHIA –  
PENN & FRANKLIN CHAPTER



# SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

## *June 13, 2025*

### ★ 1400-1445

**Event:** Washington Chapel, VF Visit  
**Location:** Washington Chapel,  
2000 Valley Forge Park Road, KOP  
**Speaker(s):** COL (Rev.) Karen Meeker

### ★ 1500-1545

**Event:** Medal of Honor Grove Tour & Wreath Laying Ceremony  
**Location:** Founding Forward,  
1601 Valley Forge Rd Valley Forge, PA 19482  
**Speaker(s):** BG (Ret.) Jack Haley  
(Vice President Membership and Meetings of AUSA)

### ★ 1600-1800

**Event:** Key Leader Reception  
**Location:** The Galleria at Founding Forward  
1601 Valley Forge Rd, Valley Forge, PA 19482  
**Speaker(s):** GEN (Ret.) Robert Brown (President/CEO of AUSA)  
SMA (Ret.) Dan Dailey (AUSA VP of NCO and Soldier Programs)  
Mike Yoh (President, Munitions & Government, Day and Zimmerman)  
John Meko (Executive Director of Founding Forward)





# SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

*June 14, 2025*

## ★ 1130-1205

**Event:** “Stripes & Stars” Opening Ceremony (Flag Raising & Army Recognition Ceremony, FASTRAX Skydive)

**Location:** Visitor’s Center, Independence Mall

**Speaker(s):** Mayor Chelle Parker (Mayor of Philadelphia)  
Councilman Mark Squilla (Councilman, 1st District of Philadelphia)  
MG John Pippy (Adjutant General of Pennsylvania)  
Amnesty Kochanowski (Superintendent , NPS)  
Patricia Coyne (Director of Philadelphia Flag Day Association)  
G. Washington & Besty Ross

## ★ 1320-1330

**Event:** Military-Civilian Parade

**Location:** From Arch Street to Independence Mall Visitor’s Center Stage

**Parade Cmdr:** BG Daniel Hershkowitz (Deputy Commanding General, 99th Readiness Division)

## ★ 1330-1900

**Event:** (1300) Army Birthday Ceremony  
(1415) SOCOM Para-Commando Parachute Demonstration  
(1530) Enlistment Ceremony  
(1730) Army Band Performance

**Location:** Independence Mall, Visitor’s Center Stage

**Speaker(s):** GEN James Mings (Vice Chief of Staff of the Army)  
LTG Johnny Davis (Commanding General of USAREC)  
Honorable Kenneth Wong (Civilian Aide to the Sec. of the Army)  
MG Kris Belanger (Commanding General, 99th Readiness Division)  
MG John Pippy (Adjutant General of Pennsylvania)  
SSG (Ret.) Nate Boyer (Founder of Mission Six Zero)

## ★ 1915-2100

**Event:** VIP Reception at First City Troop (invitation only event)

**Location:** First City Troop, 23rd Street Armory, Philadelphia, PA

**Speaker(s):** Kenneth Wong (Civilian Aide to the Sec. of the Army)  
BG (Ret.) John McGuinness (President, Munitions & Govt, Day & Zimmerman)  
Dennis Boylan (Honorary Captain, First City Troop)  
Ms. Annette Kirk (Incoming President of Gold Star Mothers)



# SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

## *June 15, 2025*

### ★ 0730-0830

**Event:** Church Service

**Location:** Christ Church, Philadelphia, PA

**Speaker(s):** Hon. Patrick J. Murphy  
(former Under Secretary of the U.S. Army)  
Rev. COL Karen Meeker

### ★ 0915-1000

**Event:** George Washington Commissioning Reenactment

**Location:** Independence Hall (North Side)

**Speaker(s):** MG (Ret.) Wesley E. Craig Jr.  
Ranger David Powers (National Park Service)  
G. Washington & Members of the  
2nd Continental Congress

### ★ 1000-1100

**Event:** GEN. Washington "Troops the Line" of Soldiers  
Procession to Washington Square  
Wreath Laying Ceremony  
Final Parade

**Location:** Chestnut Street, next to vic. Independence Hall  
to Washington Square. Tomb of the Unknown

**Speaker(s):** LTG Mary Izaguirre (US Army Surgeon General)  
Mr. David Christian (Vietnam Veteran,  
Author of "Victor Six")  
Mr. Mark Squilla (City Councilman)



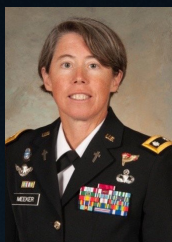


# GUEST SPEAKER

## *Biographies*

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

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### **CHAPLAIN (COLONEL) KAREN MEEKER**

#### *Chaplain, U.S. Army*

Chaplain Karen Meeker grew up in Huntington Mills, PA. She enlisted in the Army in 1986 followed by receiving a ROTC scholarship at Bucknell University, earning her commission after graduation. Meeker received her Master's in Divinity from Harvard Divinity School in 1994 and entered Active Duty as an Army Chaplain in 1997. COL Meeker has served in numerous assignments around the world with her most recent deployment as the Chaplain for CENTCOM Forward Jordan. Chaplain Meeker is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church. Her current posting is in the office of The Surgeon General. Chaplain Meeker is also director of the Harriett Tubman Network.

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### **BRIGADIER GENERAL (Ret.)**

#### **JOHN "JACK" HALEY**

#### *Vice President, Membership and Meetings of AUSA*

Brigadier General John Haley served in tactical, operational, and strategic assignments worldwide to include three overseas assignments in Germany and three combat tours in Iraq. He was privileged to command America's sons and daughters at numerous levels to include Company, Battalion, Brigade, Regiment and Corps during his 30-year career.

His strategic assignments included tours at Army Human Resource Command, the White House, the Pentagon and Army Materiel Command. As a General Officer, he served as the 38th Chief of Ordnance and as the Commanding General of the 593d Expeditionary Sustainment Command. Following retirement, he was the CEO and President of Miltope Corporation.

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### **GENERAL (Ret.) ROBERT B. BROWN**

#### *President and Chief Executive Officer of AUSA*

General Robert Brown has led at every level, from platoon through Army Service Component Command with two combat deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Serving as Commanding General of U.S. Army Pacific, GEN Brown led the Army's largest service component command. GEN Brown retired after more than 38 years of service before becoming the President of AUSA.

GEN Brown holds a Bachelor of Science from the United States Military Academy, a Master of Education from the University of Virginia, and a Master of Science in National Security and Strategic Studies (Distinguished Graduate) from National Defense University.



# GUEST SPEAKER

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### **SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE ARMY (Ret.) DANIEL A. DAILEY**

#### ***Vice President, NCO and Soldier Programs of AUSA***

Sergeant Major of the Army (ret.) Daniel A. Dailey, enlisted in the Army in 1989 as an 11B (Infantryman). SMA Dailey held every enlisted leadership position in the Mechanized Infantry. SMA Dailey was sworn in as the 15th Sergeant Major of the Army on Jan. 30, 2015, and relinquished the position on Aug. 9, 2019.

SMA Dailey had four tours in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, Desert Storm and Desert Shield. He earned the Bronze Star with Valor for his leadership during the 4th Infantry Division's two-month Battle for Sadr City in 2008.

SMA Dailey holds a Bachelor of Science (Summa Cum Laude) from Excelsior College.

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### **MS. ANNETTE KIRK**

#### ***Incoming President of Gold Star Mothers***

Annette Kirk is a dedicated Gold Star Mother and incoming National President of the American Gold Star Mothers organization. Her son, U.S. Army PFC Paul Cuzzupe, a combat medic, was killed in action by an IED in Afghanistan on August 8, 2010, at the age of 23. A veteran herself, Ms. Kirk served seven years in the Army and later channeled her grief into service by joining the Gold Star Mothers. She has held leadership roles supporting bereaved families and advocating for military service recognition. Her experience brings authenticity and resilience to her advocacy, honoring her son's legacy through service and remembrance.

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### **MR. MIKE YOH**

#### ***President, Munitions & Government, Day and Zimmerman***

Mike Yoh is Executive Vice President of Day & Zimmermann's Munitions and Government business, where he has held leadership roles across engineering, operations, business development, and contract management since 1985. He serves on several boards, including the Munitions Industrial Base Task Force and Duke University's Pratt School of Engineering Board of Visitors. A strong advocate for youth and community engagement, he is also active with the Boy Scouts of America and the Anglican Foundation of Philadelphia. Mr. Yoh holds a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from Duke University.



# GUEST SPEAKER

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### MR. JOHN MEKO

#### *Executive Director of Founding Forward*

John Meko is President of Founding Forward, a national nonprofit dedicated to promoting civic education and engagement. Previously, he served as Executive Director of The Union League Legacy Foundation, where he significantly expanded programs, exhibits, and fundraising. A frequent speaker on civics and Civil War history, Meko is a recognized leader in Philadelphia's cultural community and holds a BS and MBA from La Salle University.

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### THE HONORABLE CHERELLE L. PARKER

#### *Mayor of Philadelphia*

Mayor Parker earned her bachelor's degree from Lincoln University where she was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., then earning her master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania. After receiving her undergraduate degree, she taught public school as a high school English teacher and ESL teacher working with immigrant children and adults. While serving at the State Capitol, Mayor Parker was elected to the State House and went on to serve for 10 years representing Northwest Philadelphia. She returned to City Council as an elected Member in 2015, representing 9th District in Northwest and Northeast Philadelphia. In 2020, she was elected by her colleagues as Council's Majority Leader.

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### THE HONORABLE MARK SQUILLA

#### *Councilman, 1st District of Philadelphia*

Councilman Squilla represents the First District of Philadelphia and was elected in 2011. He was born in Whitman, Philadelphia, and graduated from St. John Neumann High School in 1980 and La Salle University in 1985 with a bachelor's degree in computer science. He has been active in various legislative efforts, including sponsoring "Bring Your Own Bag" legislation to ban plastic bags and clean up the streets, and increasing the minimum wage for city employees and contractors to \$15 an hour. He also led the effort to reintroduce AMP (Alternative Misdemeanor Program) Court to address serious issues while allowing for diversion and holding people accountable.









# G 250 YEARS

## *At Defend*





# GUEST SPEAKER

## *Biographies*

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

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### **MAJOR GENERAL JOHN R. PIPPY**

#### *Adjutant General of Pennsylvania*

General John R. Pippy was sworn in as the 55th Adjutant General of Pennsylvania and head of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) on February 28, 2025. MG Pippy graduated from the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY, in 1992 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Engineering. He served in a variety of command and staff positions within the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, which included two deployments to the Middle East. He deployed as the engineer director and headquarters battalion commander of Special Operations Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve from September 2016 to July 2017, and in 2003 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as the commander of the 332nd EN CO (Kittanning, PA). MG Pippy also served in the Pennsylvania General Assembly for 16 years, retiring in 2012 from the Senate after serving nine years as a State Senator and seven years in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

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### **GENERAL JAMES J. MINGUS**

#### *Vice Chief of Staff of the Army*

GEN Mingus enlisted into the Iowa Army National Guard in 1981. He was commissioned in the Field Artillery Branch in 1985 from Winona State University and later branched Infantry after he entered active duty in 1987. His career highlights include commanding at every echelon from company to brigade and working in key staff positions in Army, Special Operations Forces, and joint units. He deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom 12 times from 2001 to 2012. In July 2023, Mingus was nominated for promotion to general and assignment as Vice Chief of Staff of the United States Army. He has been serving as the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army since 2024.

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### **MAJOR GENERAL KRIS A. BELANGER**

#### *Commanding General, 99th Readiness Division*

MG Belanger commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Adjutant General Corps from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1991. During her 32 years of commissioned service, Belanger has held a variety of command and staff positions. Command assignments include the 85th United States Army Reserve Training Support Command in Arlington Heights, Chicago, Illinois; the 4th Personnel Services Brigade in Decatur, Georgia; the 11th Battalion, 108th Regiment (OES) in Concord, North Carolina; and the 482nd Adjutant General Company in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. MG Belanger assumed duties as Commanding General, 99th Readiness Division on Aug. 11, 2023, after most recently serving as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) at the Pentagon.



# GUEST SPEAKER

## *Biographies*

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### THE HONORABLE KENNETH WONG

*Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army –  
Pennsylvania East*

Mr. Wong was born and raised in Philadelphia about an hour outside of Chinatown. Eventually, Mr. Wong became the principal owner at NavPac, the president of CIG Asia Ltd, the co-founder of Covenant Group of China, and the commissioner of the President's Advisory Commission for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. He holds important leadership positions within numerous institutions and organizations throughout the country, including the Hong Kong Business Association and Ascend, an organization that is dedicated to developing Asian leaders within corporate America.

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### FIRST LIEUTENANT ALMA COOPER

*2024 Miss USA*

1LT Alma Cooper studied mathematical science at the United States Military Academy and graduated in 2023. Following her graduation, Cooper was accepted as a Knight-Hennessy Scholar at Stanford University, studying for a Master of Science degree in statistics on the data science track. She was also part of the cheerleading program at Stanford. Prior to becoming Miss USA, Cooper planned to serve as a second lieutenant in the Military Intelligence Corps of the United States Army after completing her degree at Stanford. She won the title of Miss USA on August 4, 2024.

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### STAFF SERGEANT (Ret.) NATE BOYER

*Founder and Vice President of Mission Six Zero*

After joining the U.S. Army in 2005, Boyer earned the coveted Green Beret in December, 2006. He was stationed in Okinawa throughout most of 2007 with 1st Special Forces Group. In April of 2008, Nate was deployed with ODA 0324 10th Special Forces Group to Iraq and served his tour of duty until January of 2009. He then served two tours in Afghanistan with Special Operations Joint Task Force-Afghanistan and ODA 3116 3rd Special Forces Group. After retiring from the Army he played for the Texas Longhorns in 39 career games. In 2012, Boyer received the Disney Spirit Award at the ESPN College Football Awards, which is given to the most inspirational figure in college football. In 2013 the National Football Foundation awarded him with the coveted Legacy Award. In 2012, he became the first-ever recipient of the Armed Forces Merit Award presented by the Football Writers Association of America (FWAA). After college he played for the Seattle Seahawks and now volunteers for several Veteran Service Organizations and several nonprofits.



# GUEST SPEAKER

## *Biographies*

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### **LIEUTENANT GENERAL (Ret.) JOHNNY K. DAVIS**

#### ***Commanding General, U.S. Army Recruiting Command***

LTG Davis was commissioned from New Mexico Military Institute in 1989 through the ROTC Early Commissioning Program and earned his Bachelor of Science from Cardinal Stritch University. He served in multiple positions such as a Company Commander, aide-de-camp, a battalion and brigade operations officer and brigade executive officer. LTG Davis returned to Fort Campbell to command 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment and deployed to Afghanistan – Operation Enduring Freedom. Following command, Davis deployed to Iraq for Operation New Dawn and after deployment he served as aide to the Army Vice Chief of Staff. Davis then served as the commanding general of U.S. Army Joint Modernization Command at Fort Bliss, Texas. Afterward, he served as chief of staff, U.S. Army Futures Command in Austin, Texas. In 2021, Davis served as commanding general, U.S. Army Cadet Command. He then assumed command of U.S. Army Recruiting Command in 2022. LTG Davis was promoted to Lieutenant General in January 2025, serving as the first commanding general of the elevated U.S. Army Recruiting Command, responsible for all Army officer and enlisted talent acquisition and Army marketing.



### **BRIGADIER GENERAL (Ret.) JOHN MCGUINNESS**

#### ***Day and Zimmerman Corporate Committee***

General McGuinness has earned a Bachelor's of Science degree from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and Masters of Science degrees from the Air Force Institute of Technology in Operations Research and the U.S. Army War College in National Security Strategy. He is also a graduate of the Program of Management Development, Harvard Business School. McGuinness completed a distinguished 31-year career in the Army culminating as the Commanding General of Picatinny Arsenal and the U.S. Army's Program Executive Officer for Ammunition, being designated as the DoD Single Manager of Conventional Ammunition. Other General Officer assignments include Deputy Commanding General NATO Training Command, leading a 1900-person organization from 32 different countries. After returning from Afghanistan, McGuinness was the Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army RDECOM and Commanding General Natick Soldier Systems Center.



# GUEST SPEAKER

## *Biographies*

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### **HONORARY CAPT. DENNIS J. BOYLAN**

*Former Commander of the First Troop  
Philadelphia City Cavalry*

Honorary Capt. Dennis Boylan is a longtime member and former commander of the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry, the oldest continuously mounted military unit in the U.S. Army. Serving as commander from 1983 to 1988, he has played a key role in preserving the troop's historic legacy. Boylan remains active in ceremonial and educational efforts, reflecting his deep commitment to honoring the unit's rich traditions and contributions to American history.

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### **THE HONORABLE (CPT Ret.) PATRICK J. MURPHY**

*Former United States Under Secretary of the Army*

Mr. Patrick J. Murphy was appointed as the 32nd Under Secretary of the Army and Chief Management Officer (CMO) by President Obama on Jan. 4, 2016. Mr. Murphy assumed duties as the Acting Secretary of the Army three days after being sworn-in and remained in the position until May 18, 2016. Mr. Murphy, a third generation veteran, was commissioned as a second lieutenant and later served in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps as a criminal prosecutor and as an assistant professor in the Department of Law at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY. Following 9/11, he served two overseas deployments: Tuzla, Bosnia in 2002 and Baghdad, Iraq in 2003-04. From 2007-2011, Mr. Murphy served as the first Iraq War Veteran elected to the U.S. Congress, representing the Eighth Congressional District of Pennsylvania. From 2011-2015, Mr. Murphy was a television anchor and contributor to NBC Universal and executive producer for MSNBC's "Taking the Hill."

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### **MAJOR GENERAL (Ret.) WESLEY E. CRAIG JR.**

Major General (R) Craig graduated from Temple University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps program as a distinguished military graduate in June 1968. He was in the Army Transportation Corps and spent the next two years on active duty. He joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in 1971, branch transferred to Armor and served for 20 years in the 1st Squadron, 104th Armored Cavalry, culminating the last four years as the squadron commander. Major General (R) Craig transferred to the Headquarters of the 56th Infantry Brigade (M) in 1992, where he served four years as executive officer and four years as commander. Following his command, Major General (R) Craig was transferred to the Headquarters of the 28th Infantry Division in 2000, wherein he served three years as Deputy Commander, followed by three years as Commanding General in a full-time status. He was selected by Governor Tom Corbett to serve as the 51st Adjutant General of Pennsylvania from February 2011 to January 2015.

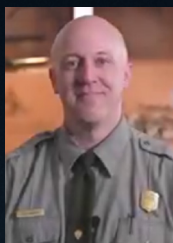


# GUEST SPEAKER

## *Biographies*

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### MR. DAVID POWERS

#### *National Park Service Ranger*

David Powers is a National Park Service (NPS) Ranger with the Independence National Historical Park. He hosts the NPS "On Location" and "At Home with a National Park Service Ranger" video series, presenting in-depth narratives on topics such as the Staten Island Peace Conference of 1776 and the iconic "Join or Die" political cartoon. Through these digital programs, he brings early American history to life—delivering engaging, research-based storytelling that connects viewers to our nation's foundational moments.

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### MR. DAVID CHRISTIAN

#### *Vietnam Veteran, Author of "Victor Six"*

David A. Christian is a highly decorated Vietnam War veteran and author of *Victor Six: The Saga of America's Youngest, Most Decorated Officer in Vietnam*. Born in 1948, he enlisted in the U.S. Army at 17 and was later commissioned as one of the youngest officers of the 20th century. While serving as a lieutenant, Christian commanded a long-range reconnaissance platoon known as "Victor Six," earning the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars, and seven Purple Hearts. His memoir recounts intense combat, recovery from severe injuries, and the challenges faced by veterans returning home. Following his service, he became a passionate advocate for veterans and launched the Victor Six wellness program to support veteran health and resilience.

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### LIEUTENANT GENERAL MARY K. IZAGUIRRE

#### *Commanding General, U.S. Army Surgeon General*

Lieutenant General Mary K. Izaguirre is The 46th Surgeon General of the United States Army and Commanding General, United States Army Medical Command. Prior to her appointment as The Surgeon General and Commanding General, she served as the Commanding General, U.S. Army Medical Readiness Command, East. LTG Izaguirre received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Houghton College in 1991 and was commissioned through the Health Professions scholarship program. She received her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine in 1995 from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and completed residency training in Family Medicine in 1998, and Faculty Development Fellowship in 2002. LTG Izaguirre is board certified in Family Medicine and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians.



# THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG

## *The Army Song*

### **Intro:**

March along, sing our song, with the Army of the free  
Count the brave, count the true, who have fought to victory  
We're the Army and proud of our name  
We're the Army and proudly proclaim

### **Verse:**

First to fight for the right,  
And to build the Nation's might,  
And the Army Goes Rolling Along  
Proud of all we have done,  
Fighting till the battle's won,  
And the Army Goes Rolling Along.

### **Refrain:**

Then it's Hi! Hi! Hey!  
The Army's on its way.  
Count off the cadence loud and strong  
For where e'er we go,  
You will always know  
That the Army Goes Rolling Along.

Valley Forge, Custer's ranks,  
San Juan Hill and Patton's tanks,  
And the Army went rolling along  
Minute men, from the start,  
Always fighting from the heart,  
And the Army keeps rolling along.

(refrain)

Men in rags, men who froze,  
Still that Army met its foes,  
And the Army went rolling along.  
Faith in God, then we're right,  
And we'll fight with all our might,  
As the Army keeps rolling along.

(refrain)





## THE PENN & FRANKLIN CHAPTER AND AUSA 1<sup>ST</sup> REGION PROUDLY THANK ALL THE SPONSORS

*Thank You!*

### PRIME



### PATRIOT

