



REACHING THE G.O.A.L.

The Newsletter for Adult Students at Montgomery College, Germantown Campus

November 1, 2009 | Volume 1, Issue 9

Special Veterans Issue

The Coalition for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans (CIAV) Provides Directory of Organizations Dedicated to Serving OIF and OEF Veterans

The Coalition for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans (CIAV) is a national non-partisan partnership of organizations committed to working on behalf of military service men and women and their families. The list below outlines some of these organizations and the services they provide. For a complete list, visit www.coalitionforveterans.org.

- Comfort for America's Uniformed Services (CAUSE) – runs recreational and entertainment programs for wounded warriors recuperating at military medical facilities. www.cause-usa.org
- Disabled American Veterans (DAV) – purpose is to build better lives for veterans and their families and survivors; provides volunteers at VA medical centers to transport veterans to medical appointments. www.dav.org
- Homes for Our Troops – provides specially adapted homes for severely injured service member. www.homesforourtroops.org
- National Military Family Association – leading non-profit committed to improving the lives of military families. www.nmfa.org
- National Veterans Foundation – provides toll free crisis management, information and referral service for veterans and their families. www.nvf.org
- National Veterans Legal Services Program – provides representation, training and policy advocacy on behalf of our nation's veterans. www.lawyerservingwarriors.org
- Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) – www.taps.org

A FEW OF OUR GERMANTOWN CAMPUS STUDENT VETERANS

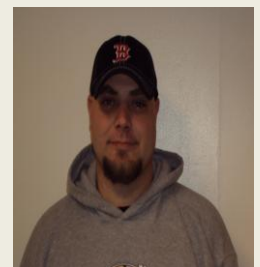


4 Years Served
Civil/Fire Protection Engineering Major

Corporal Eric Beauchamp,
U.S. Marine Corps
Operation Iraqi Freedom

5 Years Served

Criminal Justice Major



Specialist Brian Smith
U.S. Army
Operation Iraqi Freedom



4 Years Served
General Studies Major

Sergeant Brian Morgan
U.S. Marine Corps
Operation Iraqi Freedom

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FREE Acupuncture for Veterans

Every Monday in the Rockville Annex (temporary building in the park adjacent to PE bldg).

Free 20-45 minute treatment for stress and tension.

Please arrive between 4:30 and 5:00 PM

VETERAN STUDENT SPOTLIGHT ON...

CATHERINE SHELTON

Air Force Veteran, Engineering Major

Hello, Catherine! Tell us a little about yourself and your background...

I'm majoring in mechanical or aerospace engineering (I haven't decided yet) at MC, and I am an Air Force veteran. I was honorably discharged with E-4 rank, and I was an aircraft maintenance journeyman, a.k.a.: "Crew Chief". I'm 29; my hometown is Montgomery Village, although I moved here when I was 5 from Slidell, LA.



Can you tell us more about your service?

I was on Active Duty four years: November 2001- November 2005. (I was already in a delayed enlistment program before 9/11).

My permanent base was at McGuire AFB, NJ, working on the KC-10A refueling aircraft. I was deployed to the theater three times, and traveled extensively throughout the US, Europe, the Pacific Islands, Japan, the Middle East, South America, and Greenland. I was an honor graduate out of Basic Training and Tech School, and received my rank of E-4 six months prior to my scheduled promotion date.

What I loved most was the travel, and the friendships I made. I have many memories I wouldn't trade for anything...not even the "college experience" I might have missed out on. The hardest was being away from loved ones so much, and being in a disorganized unit with low morale. (I decided to get out because of poor administration within my unit, and to go back to school).

What is the biggest challenge for you as a returning veteran?

The learning style is very different from military training. Adjusting from "Failure is not an option---if this plane does not go up, other pilots will have to use their ejection seat" to "If you bomb a test that's okay, I'll drop the lowest test score at the end of the semester" can be a little tough.



On the flip side, college teaches you to think for yourself. That can be a little scary when you've been told what to do for several years. Scary but exciting.

What are your plans after MC?

I plan to transfer to a four year university (possibly University of Maryland, College Park) for a B.S. in engineering.

What advice do you have for other veterans returning to college?

Don't be so hard on yourself if you're finding going back to school is a hard adjustment. Your world view is extremely beneficial, and can only help you with the challenges that returning to school brings. The number of vets going back to school will only increase: try to find another vet who's been in your shoes.

Upcoming Events at MC

- **November 4** – Smart Sacks Volunteer Opportunity. 6:00PM; SA 186.
- **November 12** – Resume Writing Workshop for Adult Students. 6:00 – 8:00 PM; GB 156.
- **November 18** – Renaissance Scholars Information Session; 5:30 – 6:30 PM; GB 105
- **November 25 – 29** – Thanksgiving holiday, no classes. College closed on November 26-27.

VETERAN'S WEEK NOVEMBER 9 – 13th

MONDAY

Veterans Breakfast in the Office of Student Life, SA 186
(Stop by for light refreshments before class, no need to RSVP)
9:00 – 10:00AM

TUESDAY

Marine Corps Birthday
Stop by SA 159 for Birthday Cake
All Day

WEDNESDAY

Wear Yellow/Green Day
Veterans Day
11:30 – 1 PM
Veterans Luncheon
in the Dean's Office
SA 120

Guest Speaker: Mary Carolyn Voght from Our Military Kids
HT 216, 6pm

THURSDAY:

Veteran Student Roundtable
12:00 – 2:00, SA 120

FRIDAY

Faculty and Staff
1 – 2:30 PM, GB 105
Brownbag Lunch Webinar Session:
Building a Veteran-Friendly
Campus

For all of these events, please RSVP to
goal@montgomerycollege.edu

The Power of Love

By Ismail Meredith

The power of love is the all of me
The worst is living without.
The power of love humbles
harmony
The power of love hushes doubt.
The power of love is immortal,
Reflection of stars everlasting.
The power is love is a portal,
Through time all hearts we are
passing.
Fire has no burn to alter,
Water created your thirst.
For perfection we must learn to
falter,
Yet always rise back in love first.
The power of love is so even,
If alone itself does seem odd.
The power of love needs no
reason,
You can't quit your only true job.
The power of love is a vision,
Of light that brings all to view.
This is my heart's ammunition,
I'm aiming love's power at you.

ADULT STUDENT RESUME WRITING WORKSHOP FOR CAREER SWITCHERS AND RETURNING STUDENTS

NOVEMBER 12th, 6 - 8 PM,
Goldenrod Building, Room 156

Bring an electronic copy of your resume,
as you will have the opportunity to work
on resume with help of professional
resume writers. RSVP requested.

In my own words:

ISMAIL MEREDITH

Army Veteran, Student, Poet & Father of Three



My name is Ismail Joseph Meredith and I am the proud father of three beautiful children: Iesha, Melchizedek, and Nadira. They are all the joy in my heart and the source of my inspiration. My favorite hobbies are writing poetry and performing Christian rap. I am also a 26-year old veteran of

Operation Iraqi Freedom. Even though I experienced many hardships during my military service, I am endlessly grateful for the opportunities and benefits of serving my country and would do it again, gladly. Duty, honor, respect, integrity, inner strength and selfless service are just a few of the positive attributes our Army will graph into the fiber of your character. Today, an American flag or the word *patriot* means more than the letters can say or the stars and stripes can depict to me. I am studying here at MC with the goal of becoming an elementary or grade school teacher I was told by a wise old man that life itself is and should be an opportunity for learning. Learning is the first thing that all of us do upon conception. If I can offer anyone advice, it would be to never underestimate the power of your mind and the timeless strength of ideas it can imagine and bring into existence. It is my advice to you to restlessly pursue the fruition of whatever your good dream is made of. You may find help where you never expected. So with all I hope my work and presence here at Montgomery College will inspire to inspire and I wish you all well in the pursuit of happiness.



My children: Iesha, Melchizedek & Nadira



At home, working on my music

to inspire and I wish you all well in the pursuit of happiness.

- Ismail

For more information about the Germantown Options for Adult Learners (G.O.A.L.) Program, please contact Amanda McIntosh at 240-567-6976 or goal@montgomerycollege.edu