Greetings, as the summer winds down and fall draws near, many are in the midst of moving, busy with back-to-school activities, or preparing for the cold months ahead. Military Review understands the challenges of finding spare time for activities such as reading, but we guarantee this edition is worth the read. Whether you peruse it online, read the journal found in your mailbox, or flip through a copy from one of the offices or stands across post, it is sure to pique your interest.

Despite work force and budget reductions, our Army is still focused on training and education at all levels. This is very evident in the submissions we received supporting our theme for this issue, soldier and noncommissioned officer development and leadership. We sent out requests across the Army for articles focused on the soldiers and NCOs, the backbone of the best Army in the world, and we were not disappointed.

In this edition, you will read Command Sgt. Maj. Dennis Eger’s insights on the NCO’s role in mission command and why it is important that NCOs at all levels understand and support this doctrinal concept. You will also find an article on how NCO self-paced learning can cut costs and enhance the quality of NCO educational experiences. In another, two fitness experts provide some recommendations on ways to improve physical training programs to better prepare soldiers for combat and reduce the number of injuries across the force.

One of the highlights of this issue is the announcement of the winners of the Gen. William E. DePuy writing competition. Thank you to all the brave authors who submitted their essays and to our judges; the competition was pretty stiff this year. Congratulations to the winners! You will find the announcement on page 43.

Military Review appreciates the tremendous support of our readers and authors. Although we receive many articles on a daily basis, we still encourage soldiers, NCOs, officers, and civilians—across the Army and all services—simply to write. The heightened operating tempo of the past 13 years took a toll on almost every facet of our military to include professional writing. Finding time to provide commentary on experiences and lessons learned was sometimes impossible.

With the drawdown of troop deployments and a return to a more stable and predictable operating tempo, now is an ideal time for leaders to reflect upon their experiences and revive their enthusiasm for writing for professional publications like Military Review to ensure we maintain a historic perspective and pass along our best practices.

As a courtesy to all our perspective authors, we now try to place article submissions in other Army, Department of Defense, or Center of Excellence publications if we cannot support them in ours due to space limitations or content. We also provide recommendations for manuscript revisions (if needed) before forwarding them to other publications to increase their potential for publication. In this way, we hope to encourage all those potential authors out there who might need assistance, and rekindle the love of writing in all our readers.

Military Review continues to move forward. Find us at http://usacac.army.mil/cac2/militaryreview/index.asp, or on Facebook and Twitter — follow the evolution!
Themes for Future Editions

2014

November-December  Budget Constraints and Maintaining Readiness

2015

January-February  Training Management: Lost Art or Wave of the Future?

March-April  The Army and the Congress: Who Really Should Have Responsibility and Authority for Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault?

May-June  Ready and Resilient Campaign: Challenges, Issues, Programs / Officer Broadening

July-August  Inform and Influence Activities

September-October  Technology vs. Personal Leadership

Spc. Jeremy Goforth, a competitor in the 302nd Maneuver Enhancement Brigade’s Best Warrior Competition, fights through the pain as he sprints toward the finish line of the event’s 10-kilometer ruck march, 2 April 2014. (U.S. Army Photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Koster, 362nd MPAD)