

ANAD, 73 years and still going strong

from Staff Reports, PAO

In 1941, construction began on a plot of land that would become Anniston Army Depot.

Storage igloos, magazines, warehouses and several administration buildings were built.

By 1942, the workforce at the Anniston Ordnance Depot, as it was called at the time, totaled 4,339.

Nearly a decade later, in the 1950s, AOD began to overhaul and repair combat vehicles.

In 1962, the installation was renamed Anniston Army Depot and the maintenance and storage of chemical munitions began.

The chemical mission was eventually delegated to the An-

niston Chemical Activity, which ended the chemical storage mission in September 2011 when the final chemical munitions were demilitarized.

The depot's ammunition storage and maintenance missions were given to the Anniston Munitions Center in 1998.

Today, as the depot approaches its 73rd birthday on Oct. 14, more than 4,100 employees work on the installation.

The depot's primary missions include overhaul and repair combat vehicles and weapons systems such as the M1 Abrams tank, Stryker, M88, Paladin, towed howitzers and small arms among others.



Photos by Jennifer Bacchus

Iris Clark has enjoyed past Employee Appreciation Days, particularly the one in 2012. "There were more activities, more food and more people participated. It seemed like the whole depot family was there."



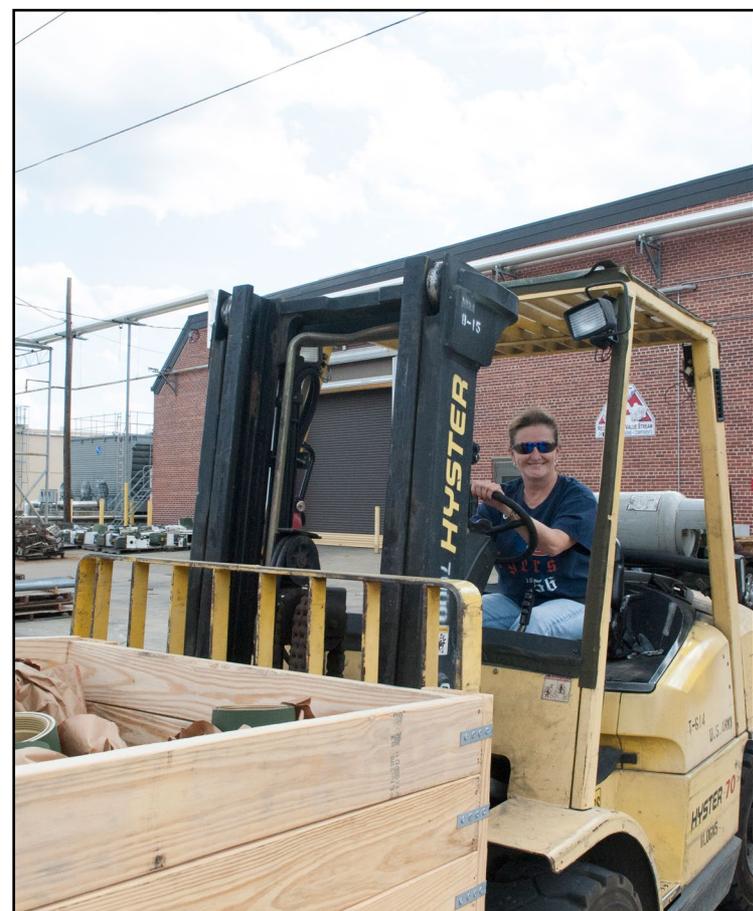
Tara Alman, a depot employee for 12 years, enjoys coming to work each day because of her coworkers. "They keep me laughing," said Alman.



John Larkins is approximately two months from retirement. His most precious memory of the installation regards a group of people who don't normally work together, but collaborated to accomplish a goal. During the summer of 2010, just before the Logistics Management Program went live, several employees from various cost centers performed a physical inventory of two buildings. "We used an ad hoc team of volunteers, most of whom didn't normally do inventory. We all worked together in July to get the work done and get a baseline inventory for LMP," said Larkins. "We got to be better friends and accomplished an important mission."



Jerre Ledbetter has been an employee of Anniston Army Depot for seven years. He said his coworkers comprise some of the best memories he has of the installation. "There are a lot of good people here," he said. "Good people and good humor make the day better."



Many of Annie Austin's coworkers have become good friends during her years on the depot. "You can make some good friends here; that's for sure!"



Employees wish the depot a happy birthday on The Morning Show

Tune in to The Morning Show live at 7:05 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15, to hear depot employees wish the installation a happy 73rd birthday.



Marilyn Futrell's fondest depot memories involve time working for the Directorate of Community and Family Activities. "I enjoy helping other people and because they have so many different programs under their umbrella, it was something different every day."



Keith Roberts, a depot employee for 31 years, said his coworkers have often been as close as family to him. He recalls the camaraderie among employees in the first shops he worked in and how they would often spend time together away from work. "We were just closer back then," he said. "We were all buddies."



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