



# News Release

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## Edgewood's Oktoberfest Blood Drive Attracts Record Number of Donors

**Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.** – The U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC), Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (MRICD) and Public Health Command (PHC) recently sponsored an Oktoberfest-themed Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) Blood Drive at the headquarters building of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Chemical Battalion.

One hundred and five donors gathered at the 'Oktoberfest grounds' of Edgewood to give blood in support of our warfighters and their families. Their donations resulted in 65 good units, or approximately 65 pints of blood, which can save nearly 200 lives.

Each blood unit can be broken down into multiple components that include red blood cells, plasma, platelets, and cryoprecipitate. Due to their versatility, blood products are used for patients of all ages, from cancer and surgical patients to those with battlefield injuries.

With the ASBP supplying blood products for 1.3 million service members and their families across the nation and around the globe every year, blood must be available for routine military medical treatment facility operations as well as contingency operations.

In an effort to make as many blood units as possible available to service members and their families, ECBC, MRICD and PHC aim to schedule at least four ASBP blood drives throughout the year and attract a wide range of workforce members across Edgewood.

"The efforts of Edgewood Arsenal have always been greatly appreciated and your support of the ASBP will go a long way toward replenishing blood supplies, and ultimately saving lives in theater and across the military community," said ASBP Operations Officer Catheryn Adens. "In addition, we very much appreciate your efforts during this crucial time, when many warriors are deferred from donating due to service overseas."

ECBC Technical Director Joseph Wienand, ASBP Regional Coordinator CDR Richard A. Graham and Adens recognized 19 regular donors from the area that have given one or more than one gallon of blood since February 2008. In addition to their certificates of appreciation, they received a coin from the technical director as well as a stein, a long-sleeve t-shirt, a velvet-cased pen and a blood drop pin from the ASBP.

Gallon and gallon plus donors included Ernest Braue, Martina Burger, Christopher Byers, Stephen Carrig, Hector De La Paz, John Defrank, Joani Eng, Darrell Evans, Ronald Evans, Stephen Harvey, Jeffrey Hinte, Wesley Holmes, Kent Keenan, James Knopp, Theodore Moran, Richard O'Connor, Tonya Short, Wayne Trulli, and Michelle Wood.

Graham, who is transferring to another ASBP Center, commended all donors as well as CPL Rousayne from MRICD, PFC Bacon from the PHC, and Mary Doak, ECBC's community and educational outreach program manager, for their efforts towards this record-breaking blood drive.

"Thank you for your dedication, vitality, and creativity to make this drive the most successful," he stated. "Thanks to all for obtaining the site and allowing individuals time to donate."

"But most importantly, we all work as a team to support the needs of the troops and their families," he continued. "Congratulations on your success today, and I will miss you all when I PCS."

Participating donors represented Edgewood Area organizations, including the Air Force Chemical Biological Branch, Army Contracting Center, Chemical Materials Agency, Communications-Electronics Command, Department of Homeland Security, ECBC, Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical Biological Defense, MRICD, PHC, 1<sup>st</sup> Army Medical Laboratory, 20<sup>th</sup> Support Command, and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Chemical Battalion.

Please mark your calendars for the next blood drive that is scheduled for 26 January 2012 and join Edgewood in warming up for the Super Bowl.

For more information about ECBC, visit <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/>.

*ECBC is the Army's principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering and field operations. ECBC has achieved major technological advances for the warfighter and for our national defense, with a long and distinguished history of providing the Armed Forces with quality systems and outstanding customer service. ECBC is a U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command laboratory located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. For more information about the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, please visit our website at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil> or call (410) 436-7118.*