

Ed Arnold

TMCC assistant director of facilities services



Sergeant Major Edgar (Ed) F. Arnold enlisted in the Marine Corps on July 6, 1972 and completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California on October 12, 1972. In August 2002, Sergeant Major Arnold retired after 30 years of honorable service.

His personal awards include Meritorious Service Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Gold Star, Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Gold Star, and Sergeant Major Frederick B. Douglas Award.

He earned a master's degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix and earned his bachelor's degree in advance management from the University of Nevada, Reno.

Sergeant Major (Retired) Arnold is currently employed at Truckee Meadows Community College as the assistant director of facilities services. He is the Commandant of the Marine Corps League Detachment 672 "Battle Born" in Reno, Nevada; member of Disabled Veterans Association; member of the Board of Directors for the Cimarron Association; and member of the workforce development & curriculum overview committee for the Sierra Nevada Job Corps.

Sergeant Major (Retired) Arnold said he joined the Marines because, "It all boils down to being young, at age 17 I saw a Marine recruiter who said 'Do you have what it takes to be one of us?' ...thinking to myself 'oh yeah!' ...the challenge began," Arnold said.

"Plus I wanted to serve my country with all intentions of going to Viet Nam, which never happened and I thank God everyday for that as I got to see first hand what Viet Nam did to those that came back," Arnold added. "When it came time to get out in 1974, as the economy took a down turn, my mother convinced me to stay in and the rest is history. Thirty years later I retired."

The retired Sergeant Major offers this advice to veterans returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan, "They need to take it slow, use every available resource both medically and psychologically, use veteran organizations as an outlet, and most of all enjoy life as it is too short and be happy," Arnold said. "Also, take advantage of the GI Bill; use it to get an education as your military experience will only get you so far. While you are in the school environment remember you are no longer in the military and even though you do have an opinion, state it in a way so as not to be too aggressive, not to scare those around you. Most students and faculty have no idea of what you have been through in the War on Terrorism. None of them will ever see what you have seen and feel what you are

feeling. I know what you have been through, I know that you are proud of your service to this great country and as a retired Marine of 30 years I am proud of you and your fellow service members. I want to thank each of you for your service and for protecting our way of life.”



Andrea Simone-Call
TMCC Fitness Coordinator

Simone-Call grew up in Cody, Wyoming and from a young age always had an interest in the military and wanting to serve her country. She joined the Coast Guard the summer before her senior year in high school.

After boot camp she was stationed in Alexandria, Virginia in the Coast Guards Honor Guard. Simone-Call was a platoon member in full and simple honors ceremonies at the White House, Pentagon, and national monuments. She was the first female in the Coast Guard Honor Guard to hold the position of body bearer.

Her second assignment was as a communications watchstander at a Marine Safety Office, in Baltimore, Maryland; from there she went on to Marine Science Technician and was stationed at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC. She finished her enlistment at as a Marine Science Technician Third Class in April 1993.

While on active duties she earned several medals and ribbons including: the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Commandants Letter of Achievement Ribbon, the Coast Guard Bicentennial Ribbon, the Coast Guard Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal and the Coast Guard Marksman Pistol Ribbon.

After leaving the military, Simone-Call used the GI Bill to get a college education. She earned both masters and bachelors of sciences degrees in physical education from Pittsburg State University. In 2004, she joined TMCC as the Fitness Center Coordinator and currently serves as the program manager of the massage therapy, personal trainer and physical education programs in the Workforce Development and Continuing Education Division at TMCC.

Simone-Call's message to other veterans is: "the work ethic and personal pride that you receive from the military gives you an edge in life. Veterans entering college have these vitals tools to help them succeed in their studies and should use them to be leaders. The return to civilian life can have challenges; the military provides so many benefits that are not often provided in civilian life such as housing, food, clothing allowances and medical care, prescriptions, dental care and eye care. When entering back into civilian life, veterans need to be ready to handle these costs on their own. There are many benefits that are provided to our country's veterans and I urge them to look into those benefits and utilize them."



Christopher Winslow

TMCC Executive Director of Information Technology Operations

Winslow grew up in Las Vegas, Nevada, and attended the University of Nevada, Reno. Winslow comes from a long line of military service, his grandfather served in the Army and his father had a career in the Air Force.

Although initially he wanted nothing to do with the military, Winslow ended up joining the UNR Army ROTC program, “I didn’t want to look back years later and wonder ‘what if’,” Winslow said. He received a regular Army commission through the UNR ROTC program as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S Army Signal Corps in 1981. During his nine years of service in the Army, he was stationed in Germany, Georgia, Maryland, Kansas and Utah. Winslow held several positions including: communications/electronics operations officer for infantry battalion, platoon leader for signal battalion, S4/logistics officer for signal battalion, company commander for signal battalion (two separate commands) and S1/personnel officer for signal battalion.

“The main reason I left the service was to eliminate the constant uprooting of my family,” Winslow added. His family returned home to Reno in 1998. Winslow is an active member of a local church, who occasionally mentors or provides advice to returning veterans; he currently corresponds with two soldiers on active duty in Iraq.

“The main advice I would give to a returning veteran is to recognize that your military training has prepared you to handle any issue and makes you well suited to handle the challenges involved in obtaining a college degree. Although the environment may be different and may even appear hostile, keep your eyes on the prize, the objective of completing your degree. A community college is the best place to start since our primary mission is to help students succeed!” Winslow added.



Jeffrey Metcalf

Admissions and Records

Computer Systems Technician

Jeffrey Metcalf grew up in Seneca, South Carolina. After graduating from West-Oak High School, he joined the Navy following in his older brother's footsteps. He was stationed with Attack Squadron 115 (VA-115) based out of the NAF Atsugi, Japan. He was involved in Operation Desert Shield, Desert Storm on the USS Midway, and Desert Watch on the USS Independence.

While stationed with VA-115, Metcalf was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, Southwest Asia Medal (three times), Kuwait Liberation Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (two times), Meritorious Unit Commendation, and the National Defense Service Medal.

In 2001, seven years after leaving the Navy, Metcalf began attending TMCC. After graduating from TMCC he took a job with admissions and records as an IT technician. He enjoys working with students and assisting them in succeeding at TMCC. Metcalf's advice to students, "don't wait as long as I did to get in to college, and take advantage of all resources that are there to help you succeed in college."



Roberta Bickford – administrative assistant for the vice president of student services

Military Rank: HMC (Chief Hospital Corpsman)

Raised in Santa Rosa, California, Roberta Bickford decided that after high school graduation, and attending a semester at the local junior college, to explore career paths offered by the military. Bickford joined because of her interest in the emergency medicine field, travel, and tuition assistance for college.

Bickford enlisted in the United States Navy June 1974, serving on active duty through February 1981. After completing basic training in Orlando, Florida, she reported for training to Hospital Corps “A” school in Great Lakes, Illinois. Later she was stationed at Indian Head Naval Ordnance Station, Maryland and Barber’s Point Naval Air Station, and Hawaii as a general duty Hospital Corpsman specializing in emergency/triage medicine. At her last active duty command she served as an anatomy and physiology instructor for three years at the Naval School of Health Sciences in San Diego, California.

She left active duty for three years to start a family and continue her college education receiving an associate of arts degree from Southwestern College in Chula Vista, California. She moved to Denver, Colorado where she joined the active reserve from January 1984 – March 1996. Her duties included serving as an instructor of military and medical topics and CPR and basic life support instructor. Bickford served as the command chief of the medical/dental unit responsible for liaison between the enlisted and officer ranks, professional development of enlisted members, and acting as the senior enlisted member of the unit. Her unit was recalled to active duty for Operation Desert Storm, February 1991 divided between the hospital ships and the Naval Hospital, Camp Pendleton, California, responsible for patient care of wounded service members.

Bickford officially retired from the USN-R in July 2002 at the rank of Chief Hospital Corpsman. During her service she earned several awards including: the Navy Achievement Medal, Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, Good Conduct, National Defense Service Medal (2 awards)

Advise to veterans:

My grandfather, father, uncle, husband, brothers-in-law, and son-in-law have served proudly in WWI, WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, and Iraq as soldiers, sailors, and marines. By virtue of this legacy of service I acknowledge that certain concepts are absolute; honor, sacrifice, and camaraderie. Because of your military service you possess the skills necessary to be successful. Your challenge will be to incorporate that skill set to a different environment. Through leadership and mentoring, others will benefit by your example. The ability to lead is as valuable and crucial as any skill required for a successful career. I wish you fair winds and following seas!



Chris Nero, corporal
Truckee Meadows Community College Police Department

Nero grew up in Cheektowaga, New York, attending Cleveland Hill High School. After graduating from high school he attended the United States Marine Corps Boot Camp at Parris Island, South Carolina. Nero said he joined the Marines because, "I grew up in a military family, and I always wanted to be a Marine."

He served eight years in the Marine Corp. The first four years were with the 1st Marines at Camp Pendleton, California, the second four years were with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, VMAQ-2, VMAQ-3, and VMAQ-4 at Cherry Point, North Carolina.

While in the Marines he was stationed in several countries including: Japan, the Philippines, China, Guam, Korea, and Bahrain. During Nero's second tour, he served in Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

For his service he earned the following medals and awards: Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (3 awards) Kuwaiti Liberation Medal, Good Conduct Medal (2 awards) Navy Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal a Meritorious Mast, South West Asia Service Medal and a Letter of Appreciation.

After leaving the Marines, Nero began his career as a police officer, serving in the Reno Police Department and currently for the TMCC Police Department. He's continued his education and in 2006 earned an associate degree in criminal justice from TMCC.

Nero is currently a member of the Marine Corps League, Detachment 672, "Battle Born" in Reno. His advice to any veterans returning to civilian life, "know that your training has given you the foundation to handle life's issues. Make sure to take advantage of all of the resources available to you and continue educating yourself, to reach your goals. TMCC is a great place to start."



Anthony Williams

Associate Dean of Student Support Services, Truckee Meadows Community College

Raised in Livingston, Montana, Anthony Williams followed in the footsteps of his uncles and grandfathers by choosing to serve his country in the United States Air Force. As an airman, Williams completed his basic training, M-60 training, and law enforcement training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, and Airbase Ground Defense Training at Fort Dix, New

Jersey, before being stationed at Malmstrom, Air Force Base in Great Falls, Montana as a law enforcement specialist.

Unable to complete a full enlistment, Williams received an honorable discharge in 1989. Since serving, he has completed a bachelor of arts degree from Carroll College 1994 (Helena, Montana) and a master of education degree in student personnel administration in higher education from Western Washington University 1997 (Bellingham, WA).

Always dedicated to supporting the interests and needs of veterans driven to a higher learning, Williams has served veterans as a certifying official for students seeking to access their military benefits to attend college and as an administrative advocate for such programs as TMCC's Veterans Upward Bound Program.

When asked about advice to Veterans, Williams contributes all of his academic and administrative successes to what he learned while serving in the Air Force: "Regardless of what branch of service, we all learned and embraced a higher standard of discipline, dedication, integrity and honor. These are the ingredients to achieving success in higher education. Be assertive, professional and committed to the time it will take to complete your task and you too will find much success in higher education. Never stop learning!"



Hugh Fraser
Professor of English

Hugh Fraser was a first Lieutenant in the U.S. Army AG Corps, serving in the Vietnam conflict. He was an ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate, and a courier officer in the European Theater stationed in France and Germany. Held five Top Secret Clearances and an Official U.S. Passport.

Fraser is a TMCC Professor of English and the former department chair of the English department, a position he held for eight years. He also served as acting dean and director of the arts and humanities division. Fraser earned Part-Time Teacher of the Year honors in 1997. His interests include novel writing, www.frasernovels.com.

His advice for veterans returning to school is to stay focused and before you know it, you will have graduated. Take one semester at a time.



John Yarnevich
TMCC Professor, History

I was born in Kansas City, Kansas in 1949. After high school graduation in 1967 I was facing the military draft like so many other 18 year olds then. My parents talked me out of the Army and Marine Corp so I tried getting into the Navy before my Army draft date but they could not meet that deadline. The Air Force could. After basic training I went to Security Police, aka Forces, school. I then guarded Minutemen II missile sites in central Missouri for a year when I volunteered for Vietnam in late 1968. I arrived in South Vietnam in November 1968 and immediately volunteered for duty guarding an Air Force radar site just south of the DMZ, overlooking enemy North Vietnam. The radar we were defending was responsible for guiding in air combat support missions in the area. Thus, we were a constant target for NVA/Viet Cong artillery, rockets, mortars and snipers.

In August 1969 I was wounded by mortar shell fragments during a sniper attack on our position. My wounds were enough for medical evacuation from the war zone to a military hospital in Japan. After recovery I was sent to a nuclear missile base in southern Arizona to guard Titan IIs. While stationed in Tucson I came to a moral conclusion - I could no longer support the American war effort in Vietnam with my military service. I had seen too much death and destruction in what I then saw as a futile, misguided war. So I turned in my weapons, told the NCOIC my reasons and was immediately arrested and charged with mutiny. I spent three months in the brig and eventually was released from active duty with an honorable discharge in May 1971. I received a Purple Heart medal for my Vietnam wounds.

Currently I am in my twenty-sixth year of teaching, with 18 of those years at TMCC. Among the many history classes I instruct is my favorite "The History of the Vietnam War."

My advice for returning veterans coming to college is as follows:

You are probably going to feel like a "stranger in a strange land," especially for combat veterans. That's okay for now. It's a very common experience for a number of reasons. You are older than the average student, generally you have a more mature work ethic and you've been in a combat zone. You have seen things that most of your peers have not. You'll probably be alienated from what your peers find important. Seek out other veterans whether in class, at the TMCC Veterans Upward Bound or the VA's Vet Center. Only they understand and can help you re-adjust to civilian life. In time, with support and some difficult psychological work you will be able to function normally again.



Jay Jorgenson
Advisor
Disability Resource Center

I grew up in Illinois and attended a community college there. After earning my associate of arts degree I went on to a university where I attended for two years. Lacking in direction and goals and failing many classes, I was placed on academic suspension and forced to leave the university. I had just 10 credits left to earn the bachelor's degree! I had no idea what to do and I was ashamed of myself for my failure. My father had been in the Army Reserves, and so I joined the U.S. Army (active duty) thinking that the discipline would do me good, and that the GI Bill money would help me eventually to complete that bachelor's degree.

I was sent to Germany as a private first class and was given a high responsibility inventory job after a Lt. colonel saw the number of college credits I had racked up. The job was providing supplies and keeping inventory for five different military "education centers" scattered across north-central West Germany. This was during the Cold War, and I frequently had to travel along the border between West Germany and East Germany to deliver supplies. Soviet tanks and personnel were just across the border, but fortunately the conditions never deteriorated into anything like the Middle East today. The education centers were there to deliver classes to soldiers from institutions like University of Maryland, Central Texas College and Boston University. I took advantage of those classes and eventually earned my bachelor's degree in English from University of Maryland.

While working with the counselors and other education personnel at those bases, I realized that I wanted a master's degree so that I too could work in higher education. After my three-year active duty commitment was over, I used the GI Bill to pay for my master's in rehabilitation counseling and I've worked in higher education ever since. The opportunities and experience I gained while serving our nation were phenomenal. I have always been proud of my association with the US Army.

I am a contributor and member of the United Service Organizations. "For over 67 years, the USO has served as the primary bridge between the American people and America's Armed Forces, delivering a unique combination of morale building, counseling, and recreational services to our troops and their families all over the world." <https://www.uso.org/donate/custom.aspx?id=1401&p=434>

They always say that the first year is the roughest in any new environment. Keep telling yourself that it will get better, and don't give up. Use the resources available. Reno has highly rated veterans' resources and Veterans Upward Bound is nationally acclaimed.



Scott Alquist is a program manager for the TMCC Workforce Development and Continuing Education division. He runs the safety center, motorcycle rider's program and non-credit wildland fire program.

Scott served in the Army Security Agency as an electronic warfare operator and analyst. He trained at Ft. Devens, Mass., and served in the DMZ of Korea. He was honorably discharged in April 1976.

Scott was born in Louisville, Ky., and joined the Army to do his part during the Vietnam War after his father and grandfather both served. He is a member of the

VFW.

For veterans returning to civilian life, Scott says remember that serving in the military, while somewhat similar, it is also different. Rely on your experience as it builds tomorrow's leaders, but remember that in the real world, advancement comes from making the right choices, not due to longevity. Take advantage of any and all benefits and educational opportunities that are available.