

Women's History Month

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TITLE: Contract Subject Matter Expert (SME),
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HOW LONG AT PEO EIS: Since 2007

AWARDS / EDUCATION / OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS TO NOTE: DAWIA
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1. WHAT DO YOU DO AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO THE SOLDIER?

As the Contracting SME for PdM AcqBusiness, I am responsible for strategic contract planning, development, execution and management. Because nearly all capabilities delivered are acquired through contract vehicles, ensuring contracts are executed within required cost, schedule and performance objectives provides Soldiers what they need to fulfill their missions.

2. WHAT LED YOU TO A CAREER WITH THE ARMY?

My father served during the Korean War and I have been directly associated with the Army since I was 18 years old. I was married to a 30 year career Army pilot and both of my children were born OCONUS. Needless to say, I have experienced the impact to an Army family when a Soldier is seriously injured or gives the ultimate sacrifice. I know no better way to serve the Soldier than through a career with the Army. As they say, you don't pick your family, you're born into it. Army Strong!

3. WHO WOULD YOU CONSIDER TO BE YOUR MENTOR AND WHY?

I have three role models:

1) Prudence Crandall, an abolitionist and educator, defied the odds in the early 1800's by opening one of the first academies for African-American girls in my home town of Canterbury, Connecticut.

2) Princess Diana, a dotting mother and champion for the homeless, AIDS, leprosy, children's cancer, etc. She had compassion for all humans no matter what their station in life.

3) Last but not least, "Auntie Janet," my aunt and dear friend. She was a career educator in a time when few in the family went to college. She traveled the world before getting married and as a young person, she took me everywhere with her and exposed me to new discoveries, cultures, music, history, arts, sports, etc. She taught me how to be an independent woman.

4. MOTTO OR FAVORITE QUOTE?

"A strong woman understands that the gifts such as logic, decisiveness and strength are just as feminine as intuition and emotional connections. She values and uses all of her gifts."
—Nancy Rathburn

5. ADVICE TO THE NEXT GENERATION OF WOMEN?

In your professional development, have the confidence to take risks and learn to express your value. Be an expert at resourcing; if you don't know the answer to something, be honest and say so, but caveat that you will find out.