



# AMSG Gazette

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION November 2022 | Issue 11

## A WORD FROM OUR CEO

Hello Chrissie,

With Veterans Day still on our minds, we're focusing this month's AMSGazette on our Veterans and Military-connected community by outlining Veteran-focused resources, featuring **The Headstrong Project**, and sharing a story of how one of our own transitioned from Military to civilian life and became an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) advocate.

As promised in last month's edition, we're also sharing the highlights of AMSG's very first Leadership Retreat, hosted this past September in New York City. We kicked off the retreat by honoring our fallen heroes and victims at the 9/11 Memorial Museum, we strategized AMSG's future at **JPMorgan Chase's** Headquarters, and we bonded during the **Armed Services Arts Partnership's (ASAP)** "Combat to Comedy" performance at NYC's legendary Caroline's on Broadway comedy club.

This month, I'll be back in New York City beginning my second CEOcircle cohort with **Bunker Labs**, a non-profit organization that provides resources to support Veteran CEOs. On opening night, participants will be attending a mock Mess Night where I will read a few words to honor our fallen, missing, and captured Military heroes.

Further, as Thanksgiving and the seasonal holidays draw close, we asked our employees and Veteran employees what they're most grateful for. We're happy to share some of the most touching responses and hope this brings some light and mindful reflection to your day. And as I embark on my second year as AMSG's President & CEO, I'm surely reminded of all I'm grateful for:

*"I'm grateful for my family - my amazing wife who teaches me every day what it means to be a person of moral courage, and to stand up for those who need standing up for in her work at the US Holocaust Museum. I'm grateful for my two daughters, ages 20 and 23, who have taught me the truest meaning of compassion and for accepting others for what they are. I'm grateful for the amazing people at AMSG. For the things AMSGers do each day in support of our customers' various Missions, and for the people they are in their personal lives too. Whether they are spending time with family, on a quiet weekend after a long week, or serving in their communities, AMSG has awesome people. For these things I'm grateful."*

We hope you enjoy this month's issue. We thank you for taking the time to read up on AMSG and be part of our Community, and as always, we welcome your input. Feel free to email us at [amsqmarketing@amsqcorp.net](mailto:amsqmarketing@amsqcorp.net) with ideas, news, or even just to say hello; and share our newsletter with colleagues you think might want to learn about what is

happening at AMMSG and in the government contracting industry right now.

To end, I ask you, *“What are you most grateful for?”*



Warm Regards,  
**Jim O'Farrell**  
President and CEO  
**jofarrell@ammsgcorp.net**  
571-283-1871

P.S. Be sure to tune into upcoming AMMSGazette editions. For months, we've been working behind the scenes on a huge secret project. Within the next few months, we'll be featuring and revealing several surprises starting the 2023 New Year off strong. I cannot wait to share these exciting updates with you...so stay tuned!

## AMMSG NEWS

### AMMSG Hosts its First Leadership Retreat Marking the Start of a New Era for the Company



In September 2022, AMMSG's newest President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Jim O'Farrell, hosted AMMSG's first-ever leadership retreat in New York City. Members of AMMSG's leadership team from Alabama, Virginia, Texas, and North Carolina arrived in New York City to connect, brainstorm AMMSG's future, and celebrate one of AMMSG's non-profit donor recipients, the Armed Services Arts Partnership (ASAP).

Click below to read about the whole trip.

READ THE ARTICLE

### Gratitude Stories

The holiday season can make us feel a mixed bag of emotions: from joy and love, to anxiety and even loneliness. Therefore, ahead of the season, we asked our AMMSG team to recount what we're most grateful for. From family and military service, to our Nation and freedoms, here's what our AMMSG team had to say. Click to read through these heartfelt moments of gratitude to think back on this holiday season.

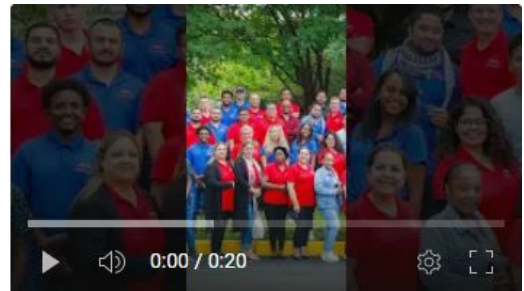
# AMSG Gratitude



A collection of what our team members are grateful for

## AMSG Gathers

Speaking of gratitude, thanks to loosening COVID restrictions, we've been gathering to share laughs and moments of joy with one another! From a group trip to Tecovas, a handmade cowboy boots store in Virginia, to smaller team outings around the States, our time with one another has strengthened our relationships and made our days just a little brighter. Take a look at our gatherings over the past few months [here](#).



## VETERAN EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



### Conversation with Army Veteran Jasmin Hester on Joining the Military and Becoming an ASD Advocate

*Introduction by: Juania Owens, Investment Analyst Team Lead*

*Written by: Jasmin Hester, Proposal Manager (pictured)*



United States Army Veteran and AMSG Proposal Manager, Pricing Assistant, and Technical Editor Jasmin Hester is intimately familiar with overcoming the odds and charting a new course when life doesn't go as planned.

At 20-years-old, Hester joined the Army as a means to secure a new future that would provide her with better opportunities. Her service led her overseas where she was deployed to Iraq for 15 months during the Iraq War troop surge. Just a few months into her deployment, she and her Unit experienced a horrific tragedy when they lost several members of their Platoon to an IED. Somehow, she managed to push through, becoming a rock and a sounding board for the members around her. At that point she also became the lone Medic in her Platoon for a short period of time and later worked with the Kirkuk Iraqi Policewomen during their cadet training.

Four years later, honorably discharged, she began transitioning back into civilian life, another hurdle to overcome, as her tenure in the Army and serving overseas had fundamentally changed her and her outlook on life. Hester's life would take yet another unexpected turn when she gave birth to her daughter, Symphony, who was subsequently diagnosed as Level 2 Autistic. Her daughter's developmental disability and late-stage diagnosis propelled Hester to become an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) advocate.

In this intimate and heart wrenching interview, Hester recalls her deepest thoughts on joining the Army and her experience serving overseas. She passionately shares her years-long fight for her daughter's diagnosis to be recognized and acknowledged, the advice she'd give to parents who are searching for answers, and what ASD advocacy looks like and why it's important. Click below to read her story and interview below.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

## VETERANS NEWS

### Veterans Resource Group

*Written by: Sandra Magura, Quality Manager*



On Monday, November 7th AMSG kicked off the Veteran Mentorship Program which is part of our Veteran Resource Group.

Veteran mentoring programs create peer support among Veterans in the civilian workplace. They form a voluntary one-on-one relationship between a junior Veteran employee and a senior mentor. They assist the Veteran employee with his or her personal and professional growth in an organization focusing on helping the Veteran employee adjust to the civilian workplace culture and reach his or her full potential within the organization. Such a

program is voluntary, bringing Veterans together in a trusted and comfortable environment.

For potential mentees, this is a great opportunity to connect with a mentor who can offer insight, advice, opportunity – and help navigate the next stage(s) of a career. By being mentored by a fellow Veteran who has experienced the same transition uncertainties, mentees won't feel alone...mentees will feel understood. It has been said that employees with a mentor transition from military service to the corporate environment more successfully and with less stress and uncertainty and are 5x more likely to get promoted.

For potential mentors, this is a great opportunity to give back, become a better leader, and refine skills and networks. In sharing expertise and experiences, mentors are leaving a legacy and guiding another's Veteran's career path while gaining an opportunity to review and reenergize personal career goals.

We are excited to see the mentorships and outcomes which evolve from this initiative.

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## Non-Profit Spotlight: Headstrong

*Written by: Sandra Magura, Quality Manager*



Headstrong is a national-facing mental health treatment practice of choice for our nation's military, Veterans, and their associated family members. Operating as a nonprofit, they offer stigma-free, evidence-based, trauma-focused treatment. On average, Headstrong treats 1,400 clients per month through 275 clinicians in 13 states including Washington, D.C.

AMSG was treated to a presentation by Headstrong on November 8th. Read more below!

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

### Veteran Resource: VET TIX

*Do you like going to Football games?  
Concerts? Comedy shows? The Ballet?  
SIGN UP FOR VET TIX TODAY!*



Veteran Ticket Foundation is a national non-profit, non-governmental 501c(3) tax-exempt organization. All contributions made to the organization are deductible under section 170 of the IRS code. But most importantly, we are a dedicated group of business people who are also –Veterans and family members of Veterans.

Veteran Tickets Foundation teams up with major sports teams, leagues, promoters, organizations, venues and ticket holders to provide free tickets to the more than 21 million military and Veterans. Currently serving military, honorably discharged Veterans from all branches of service, and family of those Killed In Action are eligible. VetTixer's accounts are active once we verify service status. Tickets are either distributed directly to military bases or claimed through our website.

My husband Josh and I signed up a few years ago. We have had the pleasure of

enjoying many free events. We have brought our two kids to Nitro Circus, Cirque du Soleil, basketball games, and concerts for free. We have also been to numerous comedy and Broadway shows.

The process is easy, a DD214 and you are IN! I get a few emails a week (or day) with new tickets being offered. Some you have to bid on using your coins (some of which you are given and others you earn) and others are on a first come first serve basis. The most you will pay is a \$14.97 surcharge for all the tickets (not each). This pays for administrative fees.

**[Sign up today and start enjoying live entertainment for FREE](#)**

## OUR CONDOLENCES



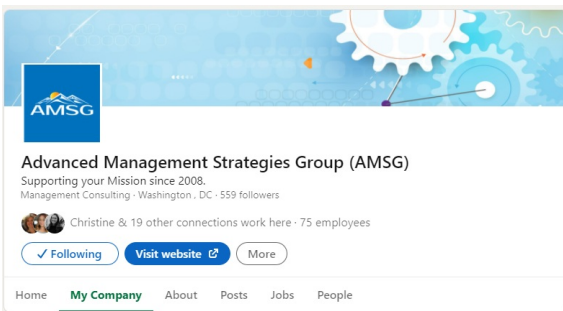
It is with a heavy heart that we share the unexpected passing of AMSG Team Member, Mr. Marvin P. Crenshaw on October 8, 2022.

Marvin provided support to our DHA customer as an Acquisition Team Lead and had been an AMSG member since 2019.

"He was a compassionate, thoughtful, and hard-working leader who will be missed greatly", says Angela Lee, Senior Director of Operations, Account Management & Employee Engagement. Please keep Mr. Crenshaw's family and our DHA friends in your thoughts and prayers.

## Are you on LinkedIn?

Want to know what AMSG is up to on a Weekly basis? Connect with us!



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AMSG has joined Facebook:  
Please like our page!

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## CREDITS

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