Tuesday, May 20, 2014
3:00pm – 4:00pm
Partnership III Building, Room 233
Postal address: 3039 Technology Parkway, Orlando, FL 32826

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Sam Rhodes is Ft. Benning's Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE) Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness (CSF2) Program Manager. CSF2 is a key component of the Army's Ready and Resilient Campaign and the Squad Overmatch Study, which Mr. Rhodes supports. Squad Overmatch is an Army Study that is developing an instructional training program that leverages CSF2, advanced situational awareness, and high fidelity combat simulators (Training Aids) to implement stress exposure training for the Army Squad. After a brief introduction to the Squad Overmatch Study, Sam will speak about his new book "Breaking the Chains of Stigma Associated with Post Traumatic Stress".

The UCF Modeling and Simulation (M&S) Graduate Program is administered through the UCF College of Graduate Studies in partnership with the UCF Institute for Simulation and Training. The “M&S Seminar Series” is designed to foster an exchange of ideas and cultivate possibilities for collaboration. For more information please contact modsim@ucf.edu.

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BREAKING THE CHAINS OF STIGMA ASSOCIATED WITH POST TRAUMATIC STRESS

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Samuel M. Rhodes SR. was born in Ringgold, Georgia and entered the United States Army on April 27, 1980. He has served in numerous enlisted leadership positions to include Squad Leader, Section Leader, Platoon Sergeant for an Infantry Platoon as well as an Armor Platoon, First Sergeant of an Infantry Company as well an Armor Company, Squadron Operations SGM, Brigade Operations SGM, Regimental Operations SGM, Squadron CSM, 2nd/11th ACR located at Fort Irwin, California and CSM, 192D Infantry Brigade at Fort Benning, GA. He served in Operation Iraqi Freedom 1, 2 with 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment as the Regimental Operations Sergeant major and 2nd Squadron 11th Armor Cavalry Regiment as the Command Sergeant major for 2nd Squadron with a total of 44 months Combat experience during his career.

He graduated from Trident University, Cypress, CA with a Master's Degree in Business Administration. He also has a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration from TUI, and a Associates Degree in General Studies from Central Texas College. He is author of "Changing the Military Culture of Silence" Recognized across the Army as the first Senior Leader to openly state he was suffering from Post Traumatic Stress. He travels and speaks across the country. In 2008 he founded the Wounded Warrior Horsemanship Program which he converted into Warrior Outreach Inc. (a Georgia Non- Profit Organization) in 2012. He is currently supporting the community as President of the Fort Benning Sergeants Major Association. He is also on the House of Heroes Board of Directors, Invictious Foundation Board of Directors, and President of Trident University Alumni Chapter for Columbus, GA.

He is married to the former Catherine Carney from Lebanon, Ohio. They have seven children, ten grandchildren, and one great grandson.