

2011 Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony 0024

Fort Knox's annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony took place at 5:30 p.m. today at the Post Gazebo. Before the tree was lit, family members of fallen Soldiers placed ornaments on the tree in recognition of their loved ones. Holiday music was provided by the Fort Knox high school and middle school choral groups and the 113th Army Band. Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived by horse-drawn carriage and closed out the ceremony with a special visit to Fort Knox families. About 650 free Christmas trees were offered to all active duty servicemembers and their families in attendance immediately following the ceremony, courtesy of the "Trees for Troops" program, sponsored by FedEx and the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation. As a part of this program Garrison solicited various groups to develop Christmas Cards to be displayed on 4x8 sheets of plywood on the field. Below is a picture of LTG Benjamin Freakley, Commander USAAC and Fort Knox: Mrs. Jerry Howard, Treasurer Fort Knox Chapter, AUSA; and CSM Israel Talamantez, CSM USAAC and Fort Knox as the chapter is being presented the award for 1st place in "Category 2 Civilian Agencies on and off Post". The card cost the chapter \$201 to produce and it is our intention to use it for many years.

