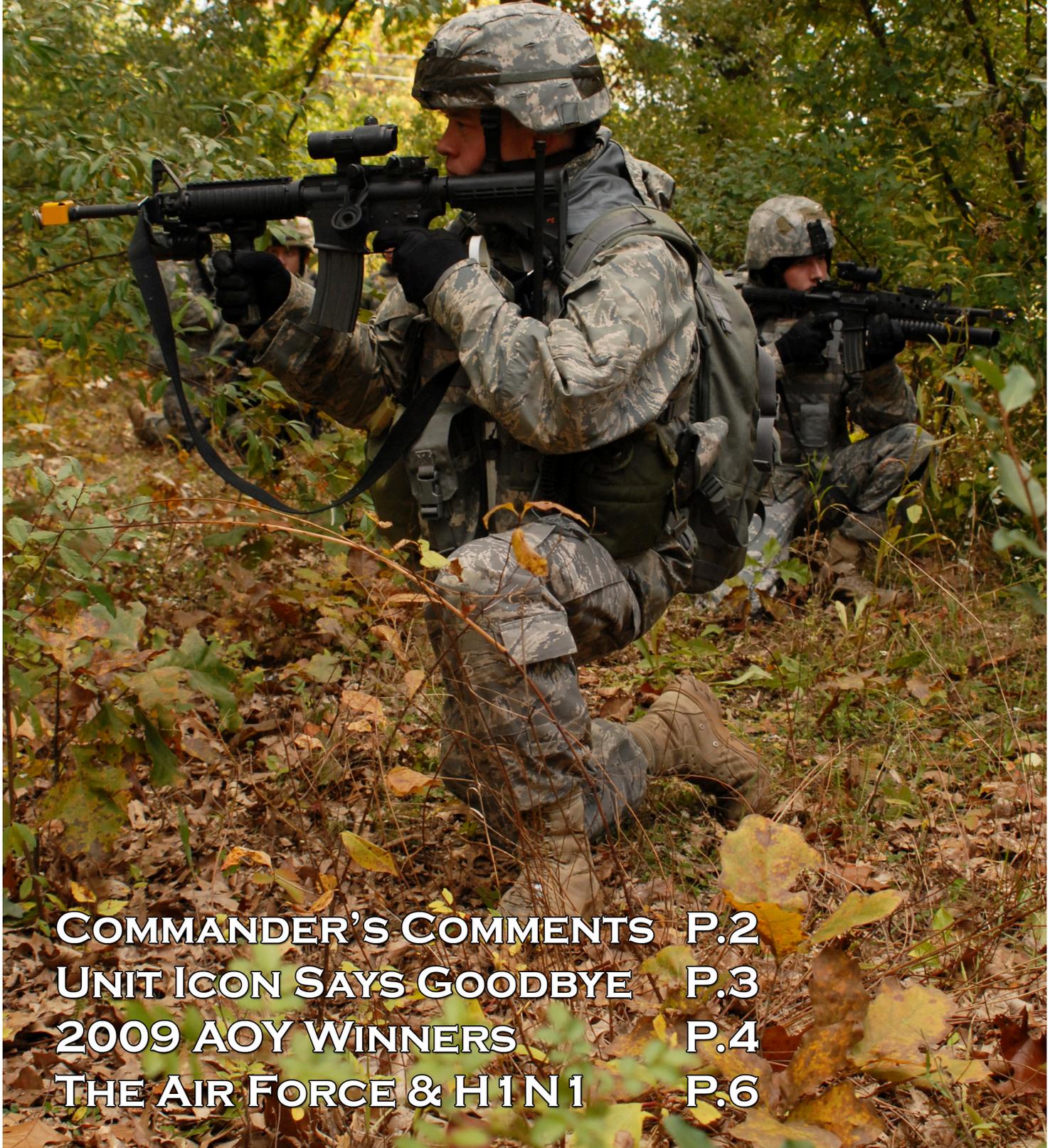


180TH FIGHTER WING, OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD, TOLEDO, OH

THE STINGER

VOLUME 48, ISSUE 10, DECEMBER 2009



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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

CONCURRENT AND PROPORTIONAL RECAPITALIZATION OF THE ANG

**By Col. Mark E. Bartman,
180th Fighter Wing Commander**

Throughout the history of the ANG as a strategic reserve, we have routinely received "new" equipment only after the active duty Air Force no longer had a use for it. Since the first Desert Storm in 1991, the Air Force has been more willing to provide equipment that is on a comparable basis with the equipment used on active duty. As we, the ANG, have moved more and more to an operational reserve, our requirements to be outfitted with the same equipment has become more and more critical.

I'm sure that most of you know that the ANG is a major player in the ability of today's Air Force to prosecute the Global War on Terror whether through Global Reach or projection of Global Power. For those who may not be aware of the ANG's current contribution, the ANG provides 30% of the fighter/attack force, 30% of the airlift, 40% of the air refueling capability, 15% of the rescue force and 9% of the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance capability.

Because the ANG is now more of an operational reserve than a strategic reserve, and we have equipment that is some of the oldest in the AF inventory, it is critically important that the active duty AF understand that we must be upgraded sooner, rather than later. Consequently the terms "concurrent" and "proportional" have become the new bumper sticker for the ANG in the halls of the Pentagon. To keep it as simple as I can, concurrent means that any new equipment (i.e. aircraft like the F-35 or KC-X) will be fielded to



**Col. Mark E. Bartman
180th Fighter Wing Commander**

the ANG at the same time as it is delivered to the active duty Air Force. Proportional simply means that any equipment will be delivered to the ANG in the same proportion as our current AD/ANG mix (i.e. 30% fighter force, then 30% of F-35's will go to ANG). Of course, the Combat Air Forces is not the only issue. The ANG must also insist the active duty recognizes the same recapitalization of our Military Airlift and Refueling fleet, ISR capabilities, Communication equipment, etc.

The recent announcements of the initial bases to be considered for the F-35 is a perfect example of how successful the ANG has been in the last few months convincing the Air Force leadership that concurrent and proportional recapitalization is important and must be followed for the future of our Active, and Reserve Air Forces to survive. Out of the eleven bases

announced for basing consideration of the F-35, five of the bases were ANG locations. My personal opinion is that we here in Toledo are well positioned for the future and will continue to work hard to bring the F-35 to the 180th FW at some point.

Ok, so we've been successful so far, but what does that mean for the future of the ANG? Some of the realizations that we must face are the following: F-35 production will most likely not allow every current ANG F-16/A-10/F-15 unit to convert to the F-35, some of these units will need to pursue other missions over the next 10-15 years; missions must match the community strengths (i.e. can the mission be recruited and sustained within the local area); all ANG bases must recognize and embrace their role of domestic response in every FEMA region; and finally that missions will drive manpower realignments throughout the country. Your senior leadership at all levels is actively engaged to solve some of these challenging issues.

To provide additional details, I recently recorded a video for all 180th members that deals with the recent F-35 basing announcements. I encourage you all to review the video, ask questions of your leadership and stay involved and engaged through those councils and organizations that can make a difference in tomorrow's ANG.

Finally, I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday season, and a very prosperous New Year. And one more thing: Let's get an Outstanding on our ORI next summer and help out those decision makers at the Pentagon realize which Wing really is the best!

NO TEXTING WHILE DRIVING!

By now, most of you are aware that Executive Order 13513 was issued October 1, 2009 which exclusively prohibits text messaging while driving by federal employees. Specifically, the Executive Order (E.O.) reads in part: Sec. 2. Text Messaging While Driving by Federal Employees. Federal employees shall not engage in text messaging (a) when driving GOV, or when driving POV while on official Government business, or (b) when using electronic equipment supplied by the Government while driving.

UNIT ICON SAYS GOODBYE

By Lt. Col. Tom Gee
Public Affairs Officer

“Bix has been a unit “ICON” during his time at the 180th Fighter Wing, has done his absolute best and lived up to the Core Values”, said Colonel Mark Bartman, 180th Fighter Wing Commander, during a special tribute to honor Lt Col. Ken Bixler during a special retirement ceremony held on November 7 at the 180th’s Addison Baker Building. The entire Force Support Squadron, who Bixler was a member of as the personnel director, held a military formation to honor the 35 years of service he gave as a military member. The unit’s Command Staff, other military guests and Bixler’s family and friends also attended the ceremony.

Bixler entered the United States Air Force in 1974 through the delayed enlistment program. His first assignment, as a personnel specialist, was at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, where he served in the Consolidated Base Personnel Office or better known then as the CBPO, with the 375th Air Base Group. In 1976, with his stylish Ford Pinto and a few donated furniture items,

swept Jayne Flory, his high school sweetheart off her feet and married her that same year. In 1978, he was reassigned to the Mobility Air Command Headquarters and started his first tour at the 180th “Tactical Fighter Group” in 1979 where he served in several positions including Customer Service Technician, Personnel Systems Manager and Personnel Superintendent up to 1991.

Bixler was commissioned in 1991 as a Budget Officer and quickly headed north for a three year tour with the Selfridge Air National Guard Base. He returned to Toledo in 1994 as the Director of Personnel, was selected as the Fighter Wing Comptroller in 1998 and answered the call of the Wing’s leadership in 2008 to return to his final position as the Director of Personnel.

During the tribute, Bixler was presented with several military honors including the United States Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Second Oak Leaf Cluster, for his outstanding accomplishments from February 2008 through December 2009. During this time, Bixler contributed to the unit’s Air Sovereignty Alert Mission, managed the deployment and redeployment of AEF and ECS deployments, coordinated the Air National Guard’s first ever Hometown Heroes salute and facilitated the merger of the Mission Support Flight and Services Flight into the Force Support Squadron.

Bixler, who will officially retire on December 31, 2009, also received a letter from President Barack Obama and was presented with the highly coveted Minuteman Trophy from his cousin and unit Command Chief Mike Haas. Jayne Bixler was also recognized for her contributions by Chief Master Sgt. Therese Sadowski, who presided over the tribute, with a Certificate of Recognition and flowers.

“Jayne, you have earned the gratitude not only of our Wing, but our squadron as well, for your devoted work with the



Lt Col. Ken Bixler, shown above during the infancy of his career, was honored during a special retirement ceremony held on November 7 at the 180th’s Addison Baker Building for his 35 years of military service.

Family Readiness Program.” said Sadowski. “Your unfailing support and understanding helped to make possible your husband’s lasting contributions to our nation.”

Bixler spoke about the time he served, the outstanding support provided by his wife Jayne and for the pleasure he took in watching unit members grow. “It was a tremendous honor to serve this country and it was wonderful to watch so many unit personnel grow over the years,” said Bixler.

“Lt Colonel Bixler, the men and women of the 180th Fighter Wing are proud to have served with you and you will always be a valuable member of the 180th Fighter Wing, the Ohio Air National Guard and the United States Air Force,” said Sadowski and she closed the ceremony. “We wish you and your family every success in your future endeavors.”

Congratulations and the very best to our unit icons, Ken and Jayne Bixler, and their well deserved retirement.

PROMOTIONS

Technical Sergeant

Kevin P. Chirnside

Staff Sergeant

Cody G. Bauman
Robert C. Douglass
Aaron Nagucki
Jeffery J. Snyder
Corey J. Whitacre
Steven N. Wright

Senior Airman

Megan K. Arnold
Nathan D. Connolly
Lance W. Corbin
Adam B. Dutton
Hasanpreet K. Gill
Sara E. Hinds
Kodie R. Paxton
Travis L. Sumner
Brittany R. Zenz

180TH AIRMAN OF YEAR WINNERS SELECTED

by Col. Thomas Gee
Public Affairs Officer

The 180th Fighter Wing selected its 2009 Airman of the Year winners over the November Unit Training Assembly. Senior Airman Lindy Runion, was selected as Airman of the Year, Staff Sgt. Chastity Morgan earned NCO of Year Honors, Master Sgt. Sean Lolo captured Senior NCO of Year and Master Sgt. John Gibson won First Sergeant of the Year. All winners will now move on and complete with the AOY winners from the other Ohio units for the State of Ohio AOY competition.



**Airman of the Year
Senior Airman Lindy Runion**

Senior Airman Lindy Runion, a Readiness and Emergency Management Craftsman in the Civil Engineering Squadron joined the unit shortly after her Mohawk High School graduation in 2006. The Basic Military Training Honor Graduate is an active member of the Civil Engineering Squadron. Her duties include Personnel Survival Skills Training, operating the Nuclear, Biological and Radiation Cell and mentoring new Readiness Personnel. Runion is active in the community and participates in several activities including the Sylvania

Community Orchestra, The University of Toledo Symphony and tutoring students with their language art skills and passing the State of Ohio graduation test at the YMCA. Runion is presently enrolled at The University of Toledo majoring in English Education and is also serving a Temporary Technician position in Emergency Management assisting the Wing for the upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection.



**NCO of the Year
Staff Sgt. Chastity Morgan**

Staff Sgt. Chastity Morgan, a Knowledge Operator in the Maintenance Group is the fifth member of the Morgan family to serve at the 180th Fighter Wing. Morgan is an active unit member with the Enlisted Field Advisory Council where she helped coordinate numerous base fundraisers and events. She also served as the EFAC Point of Contact during the 2009 Family Day event where she helped the council raise funds to continue to support members of the Ohio National Guard. Morgan has earned a Bachelors of Arts and Science degree from Bowling Green State University where she graduated Cum Laude in the Interpersonal Communications/Public Relations program and also holds a Community College of the Air Force degree in

Information Management. Morgan is pursuing a Master's Degree in Communications/Public Relations and works full-time as a Maintenance Squadron Command Support Staff member.



**SNCO of the Year
Master Sgt. Sean Lolo**

Master Sgt. Sean Lolo is a Quality Assurance Inspector assigned to the Maintenance Quality Assurance/Air Sovereignty Alert section and has been with the unit since 1999. His attention to detail and aircraft experience have lead to outstanding ratings from the 1st Air Force Alert Forces Operational Assessment team and NORAD AEF teams inspecting the 180th ASA mission during their initial stand up. He has since used his vast aircraft experience to assist the CT side in preparing for the upcoming ORI while continuing to ensure the 180th ASA mission is maintained at the highest levels possible. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Professional Aeronautics from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and also holds a Community College of Air Force degree in Aircraft Maintenance Technol-



**First Shirt of the Year
Master Sgt. John Gibson**

ogy. Lolo is pursuing his Masters Degree through Embry Riddle and works full-time at the unit.

Master Sgt. John Gibson is the First Sergeant for both the 180th Fighter Wing section and Operations Group and has been with the unit since 1981. Gibson graduated from the First Sergeant Academy at Maxwell Air Force Base in 2007 where he received the honor of Top Graduate as the “number one graduate who demonstrates exemplary professional qualities.” Gibson has earned several military and state awards including the Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon, Ohio Commendation Medal, Ohio Faithful Service Ribbon and Ohio Award of Merit. Gibson works full-time for the unit and resides in Delta, Ohio.

Full Biographies of our unit AOY winners can be viewed on the 180th’s Internet site. Congratulations to our 2009 AOY winners and good luck at the state competition.

CHRISTMAS SAFETY TIPS

Christmas is a great time of year, but there are many ways to change that festive season of cheer into a season of danger and tears. The following are some things Stingers should look for when making those Christmas preparations this season:

Trees

- Purchase a fresh tree. A fresh tree is green. Needles will be hard to pull from branches when bent between your fingers. Fresh needles don’t break if bounced on the ground, and a minimum number of needles should fall off.
- Keep your tree fresh, cut off about two inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better absorption of water, keep stored outside the house till you’re ready to decorate.
- When placing your tree, make sure it is kept away from sources of heat, like fireplaces or heat vents, and out of the way of traffic.
- Check out your lights before placing them on the tree. Look for worn or frayed wires and broken bulbs. Don’t overload extension cords.
- Take care when using candles. Keep them away from flammable decorations. Place them where they cannot be knocked over or reached by children or animals. Don’t leave lit candles in an unattended room.
- Make sure your smoke detectors are working properly.
- When purchasing decorations look for flame retardant material.
- Check extension cords for damage for cords may short.
- If using an artificial tree purchase flame retardant.
- Watch for pets playing with decorations, lights, and cords.

Toys

There are many different kinds of toys to choose from, but keep in mind that some toys can be hazardous to a child. Here are a couple of tips to keep in mind when shopping for the little ones.

- Select toys to suit the age, abilities, skills, and interest level of the intended child. Toys too advanced may pose safety hazards to younger children.
- For infants, toddlers, and all children who still mouth objects, avoid toys with small parts, which could pose a fatal choking hazard.
- Look for sturdy construction, such as tightly secured eyes, noses, and other potential small parts.
- For all children under age 8, avoid toys that have sharp edges and points.
- Do not purchase electric toys with heating elements for children under age 8.
- Be a label reader. Look for labels that give age recommendations and use that information as a guide.
- Check instructions for clarity. They should be clear to you, and when appropriate, to the child.
- Immediately discard plastic wrappings on toys, which can cause suffocation, before they become deadly playthings.
- To avoid risk of serious eye or ear injury, avoid toys that shoot small objects into the air, or make loud or shrill noises. Parents can hold the noise-making toy next to their ear to determine whether it will be too loud for a child’s ears.
- Never buy hobby kits, such as chemistry sets for any child younger than 12 years old. Provide proper supervision for children 12 to 15 years of age.
- Tips of arrows or darts should be blunt, made of soft rubber or flexible plastic and securely fastened to the shaft.

AIR FORCE INFORMATION ON THE H1N1 VIRUS

The following information was obtained for the Air Force website at <http://www.af.mil/h1n1/index.asp>.

The H1N1 virus

The novel H1N1 influenza virus, continues to be milder than typical flu. Although also called “pandemic influenza”, this term comes from its worldwide nature; in June of 2009, the World Health Organization declared the H1N1 virus to be a worldwide pandemic. Pandemic status is not necessarily related to the severity of a disease to an individual or a population. In the case of the current H1N1 situation, a pandemic means the disease that has become very widely spread and that many people worldwide have been diagnosed or ill with H1N1. One reason H1N1 has been so widespread is that it is a new strain of the influenza virus, so the world’s population in general does not yet have sufficient immunity to fight off an infection.

The Department of Defense and Department of Health and Human Services have purchased sufficient vaccine to cover the projected demand of military and dependents who want to be protected against the novel H1N1 vaccine.

As H1N1 vaccine becomes available, the Air Force will offer H1N1 vaccinations to Airmen and other beneficiaries. Certain higher-risk populations will be targeted for priority H1N1 immunizations according to CDC recommendations. These key populations include:

- Pregnant women
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- Persons between the ages of 6 months and 24 years old
- People 25 through 64 years of age who are at higher risk for novel H1N1 because of chronic health disorders or compromised immune system

Dependents of Guard and Reserve who are not eligible to receive their care at the local MTF will receive their vaccination from their local civilian medical provider or local civilian Public Health Department. Local health departments can be located at <http://www.naccho.org/about/lhd/>, or for Ohio residents visit <https://h1n1vaccine.odh.ohio.gov/> to view Local Health Department scheduled H1N1 vaccination clinics in your county.

Prevention

Take the same standard precautions used to prevent the spread of a cold. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. If a tissue isn’t available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve (not into your hands). Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way. Stay home if you get sick. Officials at the Centers for Disease Control recommend that you stay home from work or school for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone, that is, after your temperature is less than 100 degrees Fahrenheit or 37.8 degrees Celsius without the use of fever-reducing medicine, and thus limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

Symptoms

According to the CDC symptoms of the 2009 H1N1 flu virus include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea. People may be infected with the flu, including 2009 H1N1 and have respiratory symptoms without a fever. Severe illnesses and deaths have occurred as a result of illness associated with this virus. For more information please visit the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>.

GIVING THANKS

We have so much to be thankful for: freedom, security and the ability to pursue our dreams. Taking the time to express our thanks is good for us and for those around us. Last year, during the Thanksgiving season, I read a copy of Dr. Robert Emmons’ book, “Thanks!: How the New Science of Gratitude Can Make You Happier.” It was a fresh reminder of how good it is to cultivate thankfulness. My body responds with improved chemistry, physical and emotional health. Is that on the top of your fitness plan? It’s a great place to start – and a stimulus to many other benefits. My thankfulness also lifts my family and friends. Unexpressed, it’s unfinished, like wrapping a present and not giving it away. Let’s share the gift with those around us. We have much to be thankful for!

Chaplain Captain Peter Drury

ESGR TIME TO REWARD THE BOSS FOR GREAT SUPPORT

**By Capt. Gary Bentley
Wing Executive Officer**

If you are a traditional Guardsman, and your employer has supported your commitment to the Guard above and beyond what is required by law, please consider nominating them for the Freedom Award.

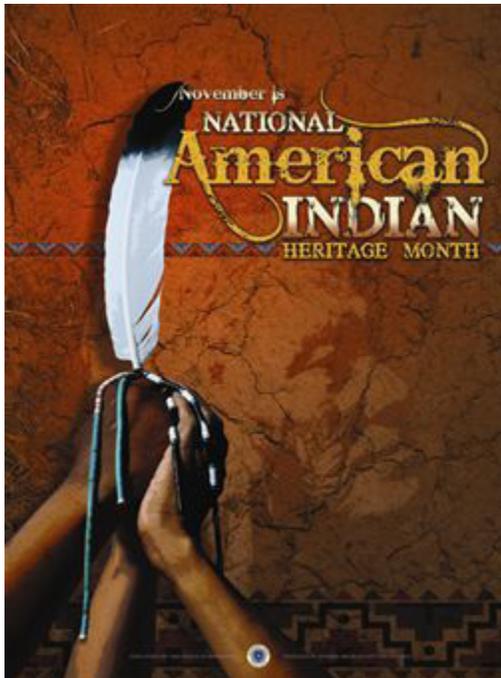
Guard members now can nominate outstanding employers for the 2010 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award given annually by Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. The nomination season opened this week and closes Jan. 18, 2010. Nominations can be made at www.FreedomAward.mil

In the past, the number of nominations has been in the thousands. The award honors employers who show outstanding support for employees who also serve in the reserve component. Previous recipients have ranged from large corporations to small businesses to towns and cities. Some of them have provided full salary to a deployed employee, assistance to the family during the absence of a loved one or any other efforts that go beyond the norm.

The 2010 recipients will be announced in the spring and honored at the 15th annual award ceremony on Sept. 23, 2010, in Washington, D.C.

The Freedom Award was started in 1996 under the auspices of ESGR to recognize the exceptional support from employers. ESGR is a Defense Department agency established in 1972 to gain and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve members. The agency helps increase awareness of the law and is involved in conflict resolution through mediation.

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVERSITY POSTER OF THE MONTH



National Native American Month also known as National American Indian Heritage Month honors the myriad contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

During November, we remember the legacy of the initial Americans and celebrate their vibrant cultural diversity and heritage. Since the Revolutionary War, American Indians and Alaska Natives played a vital role in our country's freedom and history. The theme for National American Indian Heritage Month, as established by the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute is "Understanding Native American Heritage, Now and Then."

FISCAL YEAR 2010 PME IN-RESIDENCE COURSE CLASS DATES

Below are dates for enlisted PME in-residence courses. For more information please contact the Force Development Office, Senior Master Sgt. Dennis Koeninger at ext. 4182 or Tech. Sgt. Casey Cole at ext. 4344 for more information regarding PME In-Residence Course opportunities.

IN-RESIDENCE PME COURSES	LOCATION	AVAILABLE CLASS DATES
Airman Leadership School (ALS)	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN	Jan. 11 - Feb. 11
Airman Leadership School (ALS)	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN	Mar. 1 - Apr. 1
Airman Leadership School (ALS)	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN	Apr. 26 - May 20
Airman Leadership School (ALS)	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN	May 31 - Jul. 1
Airman Leadership School (ALS)	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN	Jul. 12 - Aug. 12
Non Commission Officer Academy (NCOA)	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN	Jan. 5 - Feb. 11
Non Commission Officer Academy (NCOA)	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN	Mar. 1 - Apr. 7
Non Commission Officer Academy (NCOA)	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN	Apr. 26 - Jun. 2
Non Commission Officer Academy (NCOA)	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN	Jul. 6- Aug. 12
Non Commission Officer Academy (NCOA)	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN	Sep. 7- Oct. 14

ANNUAL CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY

Thu, Dec 3 from 5:30-9:00

Supper will be provided by Flower Hospital employees and Northwest Ohio Military Friends. Supper will be an Italian dish, salad and hotdogs for the kids. Plus lots of desserts!! Supper will be served from 5:30-7:30. Santa is expected to arrive between 6:30 and 7 p.m.

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT SOCIAL MEDIA

Pentagon officials are addressing security vulnerabilities regarding social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook. Officials are reviewing policies in attempt to balance the pros of social networking - such as its value for Recruiting, Public Affairs and communication between Airmen and their families - against the potential security risks they create, which include violations of operations security, network vulnerability and bandwidth drain. "We have to be mindful that we don't do things that will impede our ability to do our core missions," Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said.

"Whether I'm communicating over the Internet or I'm talking to somebody at a local establishment socially," he said, "I should be mindful of [operations security] and what I say, and whether or not it's going to compromise any aspect of a military operation," he added.

UNIFORM AUTHORIZATIONS

The 98th Air Force virtual uniform board authorized wear of the sage green fleece as an outer garment with the Airman Battle Uniform. The sage green fleece can only be worn over the ABU coat/top. Wear of the sage green fleece as an outer garment without name tape, service designator, and rank is authorized until October 1, 2010. Phase-out date for the black fleece is October 1, 2010.

Also approved for wear is the new 50% acrylic/50% wool pullover, v-neck sweater. The 50/50 pullover sweater is lighter weight with a flat knit and more relaxed fit than the 100% wool version. Phase-out date for the 100% wool pullover sweater is October 1, 2010.

Questions about these uniform authorizations should be addressed through your chain of command or by calling the Air Force Personnel Center at: 1-800-525-0102 or DSN: 665-5000.

Stinger <http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/>

180TH MEMBER RECEIVES HONORS AT BMT

by Senior Airman Jodi Leininger, Public Affairs



Photo by Senior Airman Jodi Leininger
Airman 1st Class Sam Schrock, jet engine mechanic, receives a coin from Col. Mark E. Bartman, 180th FW Commander at the pavillion November 8, 2009.

Airman 1st Class Sam Schrock, jet engine mechanic, received a handshake and a coin from 180th FW Commander Col. Mark E. Bartman at the pavillion here, November 8, 2009, to honor his Thunderbolt award for top physical training performer during his basic military training this fall.

"Anyone can do this if they work hard, stay focused and really push themselves," said Schrock. The Airman said he felt that at the beginning of his basic military training, he was not yet in top shape. However, after months of hard work and listening to his military training instructor, he was able to rise to the distinction of top of his class in the physical sense.

"This day was awesome," said Schrock of getting the coin from the commander. "It makes all that hard work worth it."

The traditional guardsman has been with the unit since March of 2009. Schrock currently works as a mechanic for a car dealership in Medina, Ohio and is planning on going to school in the fall at Kent State University.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE AIR FORCE

One of the most notable United States Air Force education programs, the Community College of the Air Force, is a federally chartered degree-granting institution that exclusively services enlisted personnel. A student is awarded the associate in applied science degree after successfully completing a degree program designed for an Air Force specialty. Since issuing its first degree in 1977, the college has awarded over 300,000 associate in applied science degrees.

The degree programs are designed to provide students with knowledge, skills and theoretical background for enhanced performance as technicians and noncommissioned officers. The associate in applied science degree is offered in the following broad career areas:

- Aircraft & Missile Maintenance
- Allied Health
- Electronics & Telecommunications
- Logistics & Resources
- Public & Support Services

When an individual is assigned to an Air Force career field, active duty, ANG and AFRC, enlisted members are admitted to the college and registered in the degree program designed for their AFSC. This status does not change until the CCAF receives formal academic notice or receives an official transcript showing completion of civilian college course work or national tests applicable to their degree program from an accredited institution. Credits can be applied for examinations offered by DANTES, CLEP, College Board, Excelsior College and the Defense Language Proficiency test. Once a civilian college course or national test is recorded, the student is identified as a participant.

The degree consists of a minimum of 64 semester hours. Degree plan requirements are distributed as follows:

Semester Hours

- Technical Education – 24
- Leadership, Management & Military Studies – 6
- Physical Education – 4
- General Education – 15*
 - Oral Communication – 3
 - Written Communication – 3
 - Mathematics – 3
 - Social Science – 3
 - Humanities – 3
- Program Elective – 15*

Total of 64 hours

*Note: Leadership, management and military studies; physical education; general education; and program elective requirements are standard for all programs. Exceptions may be required to satisfy certification or other programmatic recognition. A student must hold the journeyman (5) level in the appropriate AFSC at time of program completion.

The CCAF associate degree program is an educational opportunity that all enlisted members are automatically provided and your local Force Development office can assist you in successfully completing the program. We can provide instruction on how to self-monitor your progress and view your transcript. We can help get credits transferred to the local college or university you are attending. We can help get credit applied to the program from your college or university. The office also offers many courses through DANTES and CLEP for credit at no cost to you.

The CCAF degree is one more thing your military experience provides that separates you from the general population. It enhances mission readiness. It can assist in the pursuit of a bachelor's degree and support the career transition of all Air Force enlisted members.

The Force Development office is committed to helping you understand the program and its requirements; assisting in transcript updates; providing courses and advice toward the completion of the degree; and nominating you for graduation when all requirements are met. Please contact Senior Master Sgt. Dennis Koening, 419-868-4182; Master Sgt. Andy Stephey, 419-868-4175 or Tech. Sgt. Casey Cole, 419-868-4344 with questions about the program and how we can help you complete the program and receive the degree.

LET'S SEE WHAT'S BUZZIN'...



Photo by Senior Airman Jodi Leininger

Maj. Nicholas Zetocha's, ASA's Director of Operations, three boys at the Whitehouse Butterfly Farm's Corn Maze, Oct. 7.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Amber Williams

Senior Airman Kristopher Harmon conducts a tour for the 180th Fighter Wing's Boss Lift, Oct. 29. Various employers nominated by 180th members observed an air refueling on a KC-135 from the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Rickenbacker, OH.

Follow the 180th Figher Wing on Facebook and Twitter!

You can now follow the 180th FW on Facebook and Twitter. Add the 180th fan page on facebook by searching 180th Fighter Wing. To follow on Twitter search for 180thFW.

STINGER

Vol. 48, Issue No. 10, Dec. 2009

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DEADLINE

Deadline for the next Stinger is the Saturday of the UTA @ 3 p.m. Hand deliver articles to the Public Affairs Office in Building the Sonnenberg complex or e-mail:

180.stinger@ohtole.ang.af.mil.

For more information call ext. 4014 during the UTA.

ABOUT THE STINGER

The Stinger, a funded Air Force newspaper, is an authorized publication for the personnel of the 180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, 2660 S. Eber Road, Swanton, Ohio 43558. Contents of The Stinger are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, the National Guard Bureau or the Adjutant General of Ohio. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 180th Public Affairs Office.

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To the family of...