

Kingsley Hosts Luke F-16s

Another DACT Success

By Maj. Alaric "Klepto" Michaelis, Luke DACT Project Officer

January 7 through February 25, 2009 Kingsley Field's skies were filled with the sound of more than just the standard roar of the F-15 Eagle. F-16s from the 308th Fighter Squadron flew along the side of Kingsley's Eagles.

The "Emerald Knights" from Luke Air Force Base, AZ. deployed six F-16s and 76 personnel to Kingsley Field. The primary purpose of the 308th FS deployment was to provide adversary support for the 114 FS basic course students through dissimilar air combat tactics training (DACT).

This exercise provided an opportunity for both student and instructor pilots to train against a diverse range of capable combat aircraft. DACT provides a means to train against a wide range of different fighter aircraft with different capabilities and tactics, enhancing the student's flying skills.

The "Land of No Slack" and the "Emerald Knights" share a similar mission. While Kingsley strives to train the best F-15 fighter pilots in the world, the 308th's mission is to train the best F-16 fighter pilot. This DACT training gave both F-15 and F-16 students a chance to enhance the already outstanding training they were receiving.

In the time the F-16s were here they supplied 66 sorties for training. With the help of those sorties Kingsley Field was able to graduate six students during that time. Additionally, the sorties generated by the deployment saved the (See DACT Page 2)



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Kingsley Airman Shines Again

Edwards Named IP of the Year

By Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Shirar, 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

It is no secret. The men and women of Team Kingsley are continually recognized for their excellence in all fields across the Air Force and Air National Guard. And yet again it was announced that another fine Kingsley Airman has been recognized as the top performer in their career field.

Maj. Jeff "Thug" Edwards, 114th Fighter Squadron Chief of Weapons, was selected as the 19th Air Force Air to Air Instructor Pilot of the Year. This was no surprise to the men and women who work with him.

"Major Edwards embodies all the characteristics of this award – talent, dedication, and an unwavering drive for tactical excellence. The (See EDWARDS Page 4)



U.S. Air Force Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Shirar

Major Jeff "Thug" Edwards sits in the cockpit of an F-15 Eagle during a routine training mission at Kingsley Field, Ore.

EDITORIAL



Oregon Guardsmen Partake in History

Group assists with presidential inauguration

By Sgt. Eric Rutherford, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs Office

SALEM, Ore. – A group of Oregon Guardsmen took part in the 56th Presidential Inauguration in Washington D.C. Jan. 20.

Four citizen-soldiers and two citizen-airmen made up the team, which was sent to the Capitol to document Guard members supporting local authorities and augment D.C. Guard members public affairs during the inauguration of President Barack Obama.

The six-day mission wrapped up Jan. 22, when the team returned to Oregon.

The mission gave the Oregon Guard members a chance to witness the inauguration of the first African-American President, in addition to the chance to document the event. The team wrote stories, took photos and shot video, which was seen by more than 80 million people worldwide.

Nearly 10,000 Guard members from 31 U.S. states and territories assisted during the inauguration.

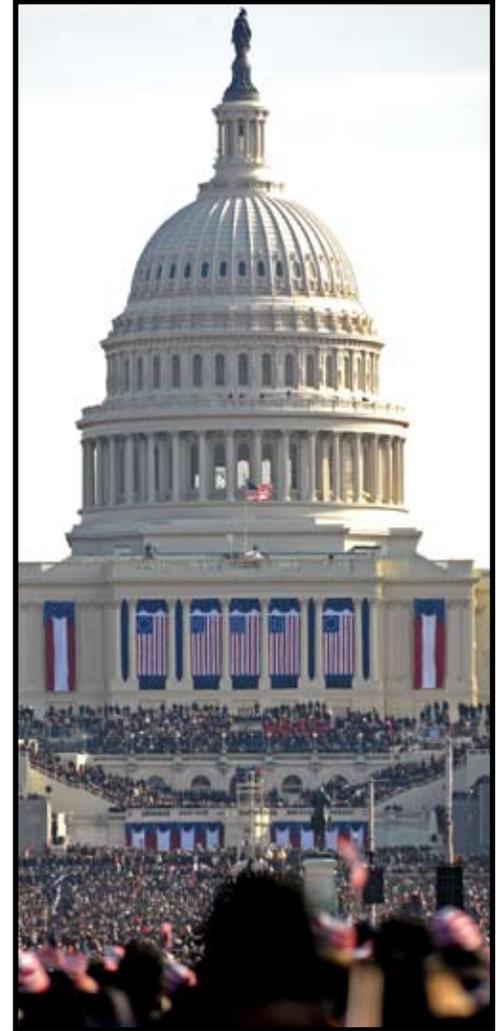
“This was an historic opportunity

to show the capabilities of the National Guard,” said Air Force Capt. Mike Odle, a 173rd Fighter Wing public affairs officer. “The Guard has been part of presidential inaugurations from the beginning, and it was a privilege to be a part of history at the 56th Presidential Inauguration,” Odle said.

“Oregon stepped up to keep the public informed on the integral role the National Guard played in the inauguration,” Odle said.

The team hit the ground running, collaborating with national media representatives and assisting the D.C. public affairs team. They also gave media briefings to the 10,000 servicemembers during in-processing, radio interviews with Oregon media outlets such as Oregon Public Broadcasting Radio, and completed media queries in the days leading up to and on the day of the inauguration.

“The Guard stood proud in D.C. during the inauguration,” Odle said. “The showing of support and thanks (See **ORANG** Page 13)



More than one million people crowd the Capitol Mall in Washington D.C. on Jan. 20, as they wait for the swearing in ceremony of the 44th President of the United States. Photo by Sgt. Eric Rutherford, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs Office.

(**DACT**, continued from page 1)

Wing from flying four months of Sunday afternoons during the monthly drill weekends.

The “Emerald Knights” were very happy with their stay here. Lt. Colonel Jeffrey Schroeder, 308th FS Commander called the deployment “a total success”

“I am extremely pleased with all aspects of this deployment. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all agencies that assisted in making this training deployment possible,” said Schroeder.

Not only was the 308th impressed by our facilities, personnel, flying airspace and tanker support, they were also very impressed by our community. Many of them

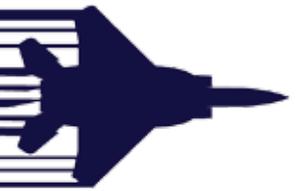
took advantage of the great things Klamath County has to offer to include skiing and Crater Lake.

Lt. Col. Wes French, 114th Fighter Squadron Commander said, “We hope this will be the start of continuing opportunity to fly with Luke in the future.”



U.S. Air Force Photo by: John Dibbs

Commander's Corner



Operation SENTRY DISPLACEMENT **MUST READ!!!**

By Maj. Gregory Johnson, 173rd Operations Support Officer

In approximately two months many of us will be deploying in support of Operation SENTRY DISPLACEMENT to Boise, Idaho. This will be an exciting opportunity to showcase the mission of the 173rd Fighter Wing while deployed, make some friends with fellow National Guard members from the 124th Weapons Group, share expertise, and truly enjoy the amenities that Boise has to offer.

Due to the state awards ceremony, I will not be giving the informational deployment briefing during the March Unit Training Assembly as planned; the briefing is now scheduled for Sunday of the April UTA. I realize that some of you will be Advanced Echelon (ADVON) by then and still have questions that need answering to prepare yourselves and your families for this deployment. In addition to the April briefing, I'll be sending out a deployment guide by March 13, 2009 that will include a lot of practical information: contact numbers, hospital info, local area information, and a pre-deployment checklist with both in- and out-processing instructions. In the interim, there are many concerns that currently need addressing in order to prepare.

First, the generalities. We're deploying all of our jets and around 225 people the last week of April. ADVON will be leaving earlier and when you leave depends on what is scheduled for your group—speak with your group point of contacts or your group commander if you're unsure of your specific timeline. The last week, Apr. 27 through May 3, we will be running split operations both here and at Gowen Field; the first rotation should be at Boise ready for our mission no later than May 4. Ac-

countability is paramount; ensure you check out with your Unit Deployment Manager when you leave Kingsley and check in with your UDM and supervisor when you arrive at Boise, *every rotation*. Follow your checklist. We are planning operations through Nov. 30 but are expecting to be done sooner.

Orders for Drill Status Guardsmen or those on Military Personnel Appropriation days will be accomplished via Air Force Reserve Orders Writing System, and Technicians and Active Guard Reservess via Defense Travel System. AGRs will deploy in Title 32 status. Members will continue to be subject to the Oregon Code of Military Justice (OCMJ). AGRs are always subject to the OCMJ and Technicians are subject to it whenever there is any connection between the misconduct in question and military service.

Everyone will be authorized a Privately Owned Vehicle trip to Boise and back per set of orders. Only round trip mileage is authorized, not in and around. If you won't have an automobile available to utilize, inform your group POC. There will be limited transportation available for those unable to drive. During weekends you will be allowed a liberal leave area (i.e., to return to Klamath Falls), but are highly encouraged to make any and all arrangements to stay *for the duration* of your scheduled rotation. If you drive home for the weekend you will not be reimbursed for the travel, but you won't be charged leave as long as you report for duty on time. I want to dissuade you from this however, as the driving distance at the speed limit is approximately seven hours and much of the way is hazarded by open range. Driving at night is highly discouraged due to high-speed car and low-speed cattle.

Several people have mentioned the 400-mile travel limit. Supervisors cannot demand that any Kingsley member make the trip in one day. The actual mileage is somewhere between 415 to 425 miles, which permits two days of travel. Any member may make the travel in one day on their own volition—if you want to, do it; no one will compel you either way. My advice is that if you're prying your eyes open with toothpicks to stay awake, pull over and get some rest. It's not that important. If you decide to take two days, the way the pay works if this were to happen, you'll actually end up with about \$7 less (See SENTRY Page 10)



CONTRAILS

By Maj. Gen. Dan O'Hollaren

As your outgoing commander, I wanted to take this opportunity to share a few parting thoughts with you. First, it has been a true honor to serve as the commander of the Oregon Air National Guard. I am fortunate to follow a legacy of greatness: names like Dodson, Timm, Doolittle, Austin and Sams recall those early leaders who established the ORANG as a nationally recognized organization. They were all superb aviators, citizen-airmen and patriots.

The last two and half years has seen significant, positive changes for the ORANG. The successful Base Re-alignment and Closure challenge, together with the confidence the ANG showed in us through the Total Force Initiative, is now yielding fruit. The 173rd FW has grown to 21 Primary Assigned Aircraft F-15s, reflecting the growth in current and future student growth. The 142nd FW has grown to 18 PAA, cementing their role as a premier Air Sovereignty unit. Both Fighter Wings continue to demonstrate their prowess with professionalism and airmanship. Within the Command Operations Group, the 116th Air

Never settle for the status quo and lead the change that will be necessary to succeed as we enter the next decade.

(EDWARDS, continued from page 1) Combat Air Force is extremely fortunate to have this natural leader and superb tactician train future Eagle Drivers,” said Col. James Miller, 173rd Fighter Wing Commander.

This award is designed to recognize the finest instructor pilots in Air Education Training Command. There are multiple categories; Edwards was recognized in the Air to Air category, a first in Kingsley history.

“I’m very grateful to receive this award. All of the instructor pilots here at Kingsley Field are outstanding, and I’ve learned a lot from them,” said Edwards.

Edwards is a skilled instructor
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pilot who has over 2000 hours in the F-15. He was commissioned in 1995 from the Air Force Academy. After flying F-15’s in Alaska and Tyndall, Edwards joined Team Kingsley in May 2004.

“Thug’s flying and instructor expertise in the art of Air to Air Combat made him the ‘shoe in’ for this very prestigious award,” said Lt. Col. Wes French, 114th Fighter Squadron Commander.

Edwards’ accomplishments are numerous. He was named the 08 173rd FW IP of the year. He received an Exceptionally Qualified (EQ) rating on his Instructor Pilot Mission Check ride, a very rare achievement.

Ccontrol Squadron grew by over 30 positions, at the same time absorbing many Airmen available from the closure of the 272nd Combat Control Squadron. The 125th Special Tactics Squadron and 123d Weather Flight strengthened their ranks while able to expand into new facilities. We are continuing to work behind the scenes to secure full recognition for the 125th by both Air Force Special Operations Command and Special Operations Command Finally, who could forget the tremendous recognition at the national level by ORANG airmen from the 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron as well as the 125th - ANG & Air Force Outstanding Airmen of the Year! Together, these airmen exemplify all that is great about our team.

Concurrent with this growth, we have executed our state as well as federal missions with marvelous results. Saving lives during coastal storms by providing emergency generator power to medical facilities and rescuing (See CONTRAILS Page 11)



He has been critiqued as the best IP by numerous students. Edwards was also selected as Chairman of the Air National Guard (ANG) Weapons System Council, a group that steers the tactics and modernization of the F-15 in the ANG. This is a small selection of the many accomplishments of this outstanding pilot.

“Maj Edwards’ recognition as the best Air To Air Instructor Pilot in AETC adds to the long list of distinguished accomplishments that Kingsley Field personnel have won; it’s real testament to the quality of the whole Kingsley team,” added French.

CHAPLAIN'S CHATTER

By Capt. Kraig Kroeker., 173rd Fighter Wing Chaplain

As a secondary education teacher, I often have the opportunity to hear many interesting comments and am able to entertain many interesting questions from my students. Some go like this: Why do people get married if they are just going to divorce? Sometimes I just feel grumpy, how come? Why was I born? Why do I fight with my parents when I do not want to? Why do I disobey my parents so much? Why are people so judgmental? What happens to people when they die? What is my purpose?

No surprise that as we grow older those same questions keep coming

around. We witness the pain and suffering in our own relationships and wonder what happened? We feel depression and wonder why we lack joy and fulfillment in our lives. We wonder why we always seem to be in conflict with someone and feel powerless to change the situation. We often will subjugate authorities we have around us with no plausible explanation. We too wonder why we are here.

If we step back for just a second, we will see that most of our difficulties come when we act like a young high school aged student: We focus so much on ourselves that we lose

sight of everyone and everything around us. If you remember when you were in high school almost every sentence started with the word "I" and your world revolved around you. However, as I survey my own past, the worst times were not when I was surrounded by people, but when I felt utterly alone because I forgot to look around and see who was already ready and willing to support me in my worst of times.

Many of you have seen Chaplains Chatter in the Weekly WINGS. It is not an accident that I end on



the wisdom for the week. One of my favorites is this: "For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisers make victory sure." If you are going through difficult times, stop and take a look around you. There are so many people at this base that are looking for the opportunity to give you advice to help you on your journey of life. They may be fellow airmen, supervisors, family services, and of course, the chaplains office. Give us the opportunity to serve you and please let us know how we can serve you better.

By the way, just as a side note, does anyone know the source of the American idiom, "Opening a can of worms?" If you know the history of this phrase, please email me at kraig.kroeker@orklam.ang.af.mil. Yes, this was another one of those questions from those students of mine. Thank you!

"For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisers make victory sure."

Service Hours:

Need to reach the chaplain? He is on base each Thursday from 0700-1100 and here on UTA weekends. Drop by his office or call to make an appointment. For a list of other services, please see the base website.

Contact information:

Office: 541-885-6239, Cell: 541-281-5789

UTA Services this weekend:

Catholic Service: Medical Conference Room, Sunday's at 0730

Protestant Service: Medical Training Room, Sunday's at 0730

Upcoming events:

The Basin Wide Men's Conference comes to Klamath on March 13-14. This conference is to help men of the Klamath Basin make an impact on their families, workplace, and the community they live in. A limited number of tickets (cost \$25) have been generously donated to Kingsley Field for military members and family members to attend on a first come/first served basis. They are available in the chaplain's and commander's offices. Take advantage of this great opportunity.

173rd Medical Group Excels Again

By Master Sgt. Jerry Bynum, 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

It is expected to see one of Team Kingsley's members receive a national award, but the 173rd Fighter Wing Medical Group has proved once again that they are a unit of excellence. Six members were recently recognized for their excellence by receiving multiple awards.

Excellence starts with leadership. Col. Robert Gentry led the way by winning the prestigious ANG Outstanding Medical Corps Officer Award. This award recognizes outstanding leadership and job performance. Gentry's selection is no surprise; his sound leadership and management techniques led to an "Outstanding" rating during the Medical Group's 2008 Health Service Inspection. The HSI team chief recognized Gentry as a "skilled leader and intuitive commander."

Good leadership has a way of rubbing off on those around them. Lt. Col. Eric Swanson received the ANG Medical Service Corps Officer of the Year. His outstanding performance and leadership here at Kingsley and his accomplishments during a recent deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom to the 447th Expedi-

tionary Medical Group, Sather Air Base, Iraq led to his recognition.

Additionally, Lt. Col. Edwin Tuhy, Jr. was selected as the ANG Optometry Officer of the Year, the second time he has been presented with this award, and Lt. Col. Richard Long, Jr. received the ANG Outstanding Public Health Officer of the Year. Both of these officers excelled in their respective career fields and set an example of excellence which contributes to the total success of the 173rd FW.

Master Sgt. Jarod Taylor was selected for the James D. Weaver Award. This award recognizes outstanding senior health technicians. It was named after Weaver who entered the U.S. Army Medical Corps in 1946 and served a long career in the military, both active duty and Reserve. He was a highly respected and decorated air surgeon who volunteered extensively in the local community.

"In my mind [the Weaver Award] is arguably the highest individual award the Air National Guard medical service can bestow," said Gentry.

Staff Sgt. Amy Heath was recognized as the ANG Outstanding



Medical Service Airman of the Year for the second year in a row. She is a dedicated technician both at Kingsley and wherever she is needed. She selflessly volunteered to deploy on four days notice to fill a critical manning shortfall at Baghdad International Airport, Baghdad, Iraq during Air Expeditionary Force 1/2. Her efforts resulted in life-saving medical care for over 500 American, Coalition and Iraqi Special Forces patients.

These Airmen embody excellence found at Kingsley Field, and because of this they have been nationally recognized.

Selfless dedication, like that of the medical group, continues to build Team Kingsley as a strong, dependable, and successful team who successfully accomplish the mission every day.

FINANCE & TRAVEL



Here is the latest information and news from the Finance and Travel Office.

Effective immediately there are new travel mileage rates per mile.

POA: \$0.55

Motorcycles: \$0.52

Airplanes: \$1.24

Government Travel Cards holders can now register on line to look at state-

ments. Follow the link below to set up this option.

<https://home.cards.citidirect.com/CommercialCard/Cards.html>.

Effective 1 February 2009, all Financial pay documents will have ALL appropriate signatures on them when submitted to finance for pay. "Member not

available" for member signature is no longer acceptable. If required signatures are not on pay documents, then pay will be delayed and pay documents will be returned.

If you have any questions regarding any of this information please contact Staff Sgt. Rebecca Moore at x5-6309.





The Military OneSource Partnership

A Comprehensive Overview

Mmilitary families are not excused from the financial challenges facing Americans today. In fact, with multiple deployments and base relocations the burdens can seem larger. The Military One Source Program provides these families access to the help they need at no cost to the participant.

- Military One Source is a national partnership between member agencies of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling and Ceredian. Information about MOS is available at www.militaryonesource.com
- Ceredian is an information services company specializing in human resources and is headquartered in Bloomington, Minnesota (www.ceridian.com)
- Ceredian has a subcontract with the Department of Defense that serves more than 3 million military members and their families. These numbers

are evenly divided between active duty and reserve and National Guard units. Today's all volunteer military has a greater percentage of educated, married, female and is more diverse. Military Service has touched most American families' nearly 26 million Americans living today have served in the military-24 million of these veterans are men, 12 million over the age of 60.

- The purpose of the partnership is to promote and pay for credit and housing counseling services for military personnel. (Coast Guard operates under a separate program.) . Reserve and National Guard members are eligible regardless of activation status.
- Fees are paid for counseling by Military One Source on a per session basis with a provided Case Number. Services are provided at no cost to the participant.
- Eligible service personnel call a

special toll-free line 1-866-694-6322 to get connected to the counseling office closest to their location. They will receive a case number from Ceredian that they will provide to the counseling office when making an appointment.

- CCCS of Southern Oregon is a partner in this program and services are available at their offices in Klamath Falls, Medford and Yreka. General information about the agency is available at www.cccsso.org.
- Services include free general financial counseling, credit report review and bankruptcy counseling.

• Appointments can be made to be in seen in the Klamath area once a case number is obtained by calling 541-883-8118.



New ATM at Kingsley Field

By Master Sgt. Jerry Bynum, 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Have you ever gone to Trapper's Inn during the unit training assembly for lunch and realized that you don't have any cash on hand? As of February 25 that problem has now been remedied. Southern Oregon Federal Credit Union has installed a 24 hour automated teller machine in the main entrance lobby of Trapper's Inn.

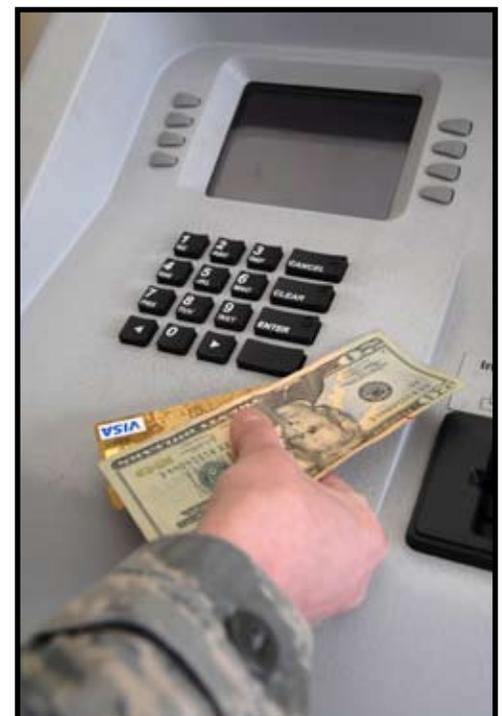
"SOFCU already provides credit union services to its members at Kingsley Field, but this ATM will greatly help out everyone with their cash needs," says Suzan Callicoatt, SOFCU Vice president of Finance.

Trapper's Inn main entrance lobby will be open 24 hours a day

for ATM use. There are no fees for credit union CO-OP Financial Service card holders. The fee for other card users is \$1.50 per ATM cash withdrawal.

"Not only will this ATM help out base members but also the public during Kingsley Field special events such as Sentry Eagle exercises, open houses, and air shows," said Callicoatt.

If you need additional information about the ATM or other SOFCU services you can go to www.socfu.com or call 1-877-266-2601. SOFCU also has a satellite office located by the Base Exchange.



March Focus: Legacy

As John Maxwell, author of numerous books on leadership, said, "It's been said that there are two kinds of people in life: those who make things happen and those who wonder what happened. Leaders have the ability to make things happen. People who don't know how to make things happen for themselves won't know how to make things happen for others." He went on, "What you do with the future means the difference between leaving track record and leaving a legacy." Legacies aren't just wishful thinking. They're the result of determined doing. The legacy you leave is the life you lead. You just never know whose life you might touch. What you do know is that you can make a difference. You can leave this world better than you found it.

A legacy comes from the idea that everyone, regardless of rank or position, can make a difference. Legacies encompass the past, present and future, and force us to consider where we have been, where we are now and where we're going. A quest to leave a lasting legacy is a journey from success to significance.

By asking ourselves how we want to be remembered, we plant the seeds for living our lives as if we matter. By living each day as if we matter, we offer up our own unique legacy. By offering up our own unique legacy, we make the world we inhabit a better place than we found it. When we choose to lead every day, we choose aspirations of long-term significance over short-term measures of success. It takes courage to lead. It takes courage to make a life. Courage, like leadership, is a choice.

Above All, our legacy is defined in how we defend America. We do this by dominating air, space, and cyberspace. It is part of our warrior ethos -focused culture, conviction, character, ethic, mind set, spirit, and soul we foster in all Airmen. It's the pride in

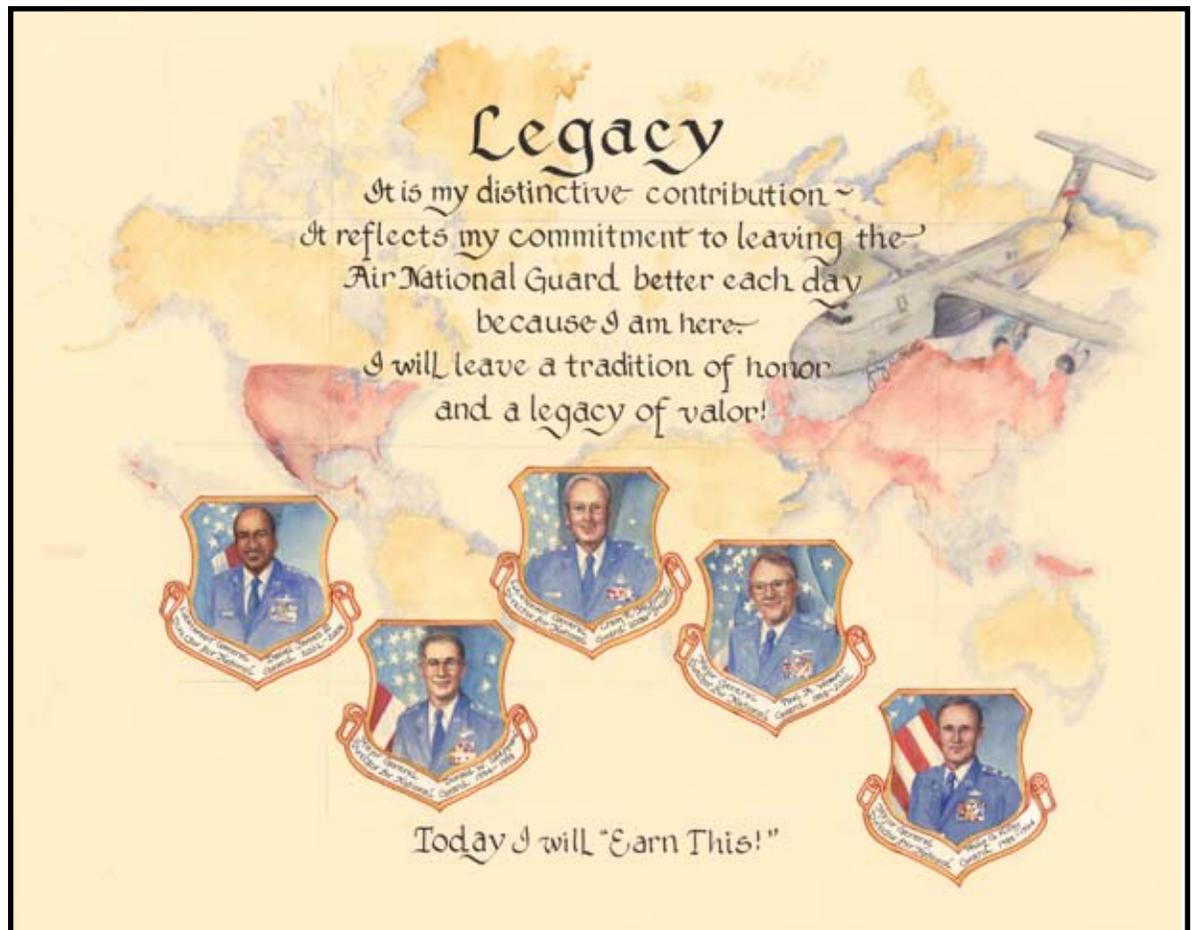
Flywheel Challenge:

Ask yourself: "What did I do today to push on the flywheel?"

- * My legacy... I stand on the shoulders of those who have come before me – Each day, do I remind myself to be worthy of the sacrifice and to – "Earn This!" ?
- * Am I selfless in my devotion to our Country and the mission of the Air National Guard?
- * How will you leave a tradition of honor and a legacy of valor?
- * What have you done today to "Earn This"?

our heritage, the recognition that our Nation depends on us to dominate air, space and cyberspace, and our willing acceptance of the burden of those immense responsibilities.

It is our distinctive contribution that reflects my commitment to leaving the Air National Guard better each day because I am here! I will "Earn This"



April Focus: You Don't Have to Be One to Stand With

As leaders in the Air National Guard, we are privileged to be strategically situated at the crossroads of change and hope for our Airmen.

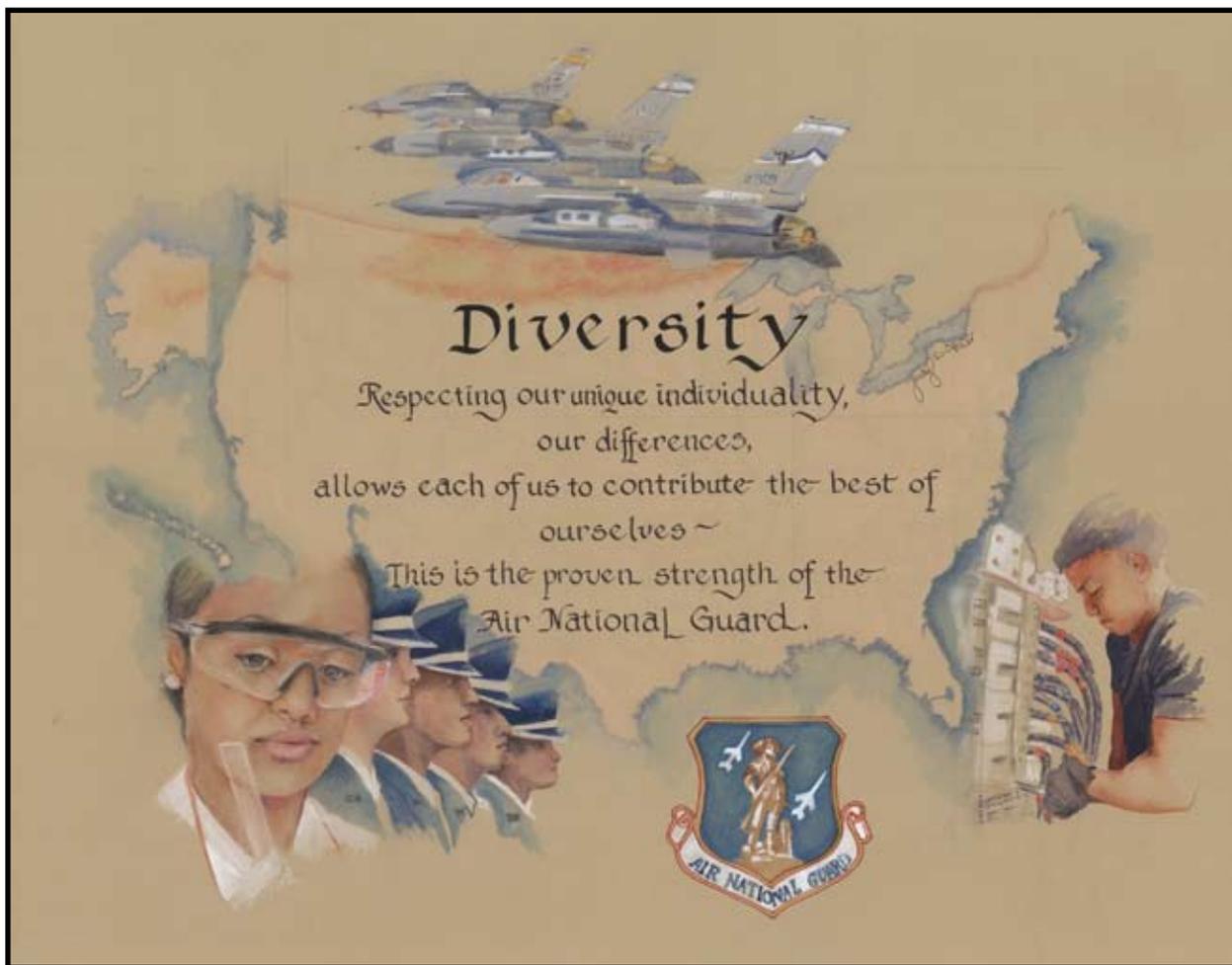
We are fortunate to be involved in an ANG that is fundamentally about betterment: betterment of oneself as well as others. We have a chance to be involved with our Airmen when they are undergoing the process of change in their journey of self-discovery.

We are given the gift of exerting some influence on the future of our Air National Guard. We are given a chance at leadership. As an Air National Guard we should all feel the crushing burden of our moral responsibility to lead by example and focus on developing Airmen competencies and creating a productive culture, which we define as one that respects individuals and their differences, fosters teamwork, promotes flexibility and supports a balance between personal and professional lives.

Diversity and the Air National Guard encompass a wide range of behaviors expected of every Airman, at every level, including treating all with dignity and respect, integrating ideas and collaborating with others, exhibiting behaviors that reflect a high degree of integrity and ethics, and building effective working relationships.

We all have a part in the efforts to maximize a diverse ANG that demonstrates the moral courage to realize that you don't have to be 'one of to stand with'.

Remember the courageous words of Helen Keller, "I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do."



Flywheel Challenge:

Ask yourself: "What did I do today to push on the flywheel?"

- * As a leader, are you reliable? Do you support your Airman in moments that matter and are there for them when it counts??
- * How well do you understand the needs of your Airmen and the degree to which you earn their trust and respect to stand by and with them?

You Don't Have to be One of to Stand With: As an Airman, I don't have to look like you, think, be or speak like you ... to stand with and advocate for you! As Airmen, We are Better Together Than We Are Alone!

(SENTRY, continued from page 3) overall. Unless you've applied to be an Omnibus Bill recipient, then all bets are off.

We are working on securing weekend airlift, primarily for student training, as their simulator and academic training will still be accomplished at Kingsley. If there is space available, we'll try to open those seats; however everyone will still be expected to be on duty during their rotation at the correct location. DSGs will drill at whatever location they happen to be at unless their group POC has worked out an alternate plan; our UTAs align with Boise's for the duration. Temporary Duty (TDY) Technicians will get credit for their UTA, but since they are receiving per diem there will be no UTA meals.

Accommodations are the same for everyone, whether AGR or Technician. They are also mandatory and contracted; you'll receive re-imbusement for per diem but not for lodging. Bids are scheduled to close March 6, and apartment selection will be the 7th and 8th. Pets are not included in the contract, but if you need, you can negotiate with the property manager to see if you can mutually agree on some sort of contract. We are also currently exploring the idea of a fitness center contract either at Gold's Gym or the YMCA.

Anyone wishing to schedule Professional Military Education or Career Development Course testing, or to receive education counseling while deployed must work that through the training office back here. Do not go directly to the Gowen Field training office.

Keep in mind a few things. First, you represent Kingsley Field, the ORANG, and the military. Respect your neighbors, the 124th WG, as yourselves—we're their guests. Leave their wing better than you

found it. Leave their people better than when you met them. Leave their city inspired by the Guardsmen they have protecting it.

Second, in 16 years in the military I have never worked with professionals who have greater technical expertise than you. Most of us have exported our talents before; this is yet one more opportunity to show those outside of our community how proud we are to serve. We already have and will be overcoming tremendous challenges to make our day-to-day mission happen in another state. Do your job as only you know how; pass your

Leave their wing better than you found it. Leave their people better than when you met them. Leave their city inspired at the Guardsmen they have protecting it.

expertise on, and learn from theirs. Help them out whenever you can.

Third, stay positive. You are probably going to be away from your family for a couple of months. You will run into a different set of rules by Gowen Field leadership, and a different way of doing things by their personnel. There will definitely be a learning curve as we navigate all of the start-up speed bumps. When these things inevitably happen, you have the ability to grumble and complain, or to use all that expertise to fix the problems and make the impasse manageable, to grease the gridlock. The 22-year-old in the sand box can't do that, you can. Make things better for everyone. And in the rare occurrence the problem can't be solved, remember your bros in Iraq and Afghanistan, and your recent trips to Poland, Bulgaria, Florida, Comox and Australia. That should put it all into perspective.

Finally, enjoy Boise. Get out and

see the town. By mid-June, they are going to be seeing a real stimulus package. Our site survey team, comprised of approximately 15 members, spent over \$8,000 in two days at places like the Apple Store and Cabelas (no advertising intentional), not to mention the 173 local restaurants. It's a great area with lots to do and you're going to have a fantastic time when work is done, either at the local university or out camping, hiking, skiing, etc.

When back at Kingsley catch up on the paperwork, as our Operational Readiness Inspection will be less than a year after our return. And if you're done with that, catch up with family.

Specific details on what you need to accomplish should be forthcoming within a couple of weeks. If you have any questions, pass them through your OSD group POCs. If there are several similarly-themed questions I'll start a Frequently Asked Questions list and post it to the wing website. Group POCs are Lt. Col. Waite for Mission Support Group, Maj. Deutscher for Operations, Capt. Lambert for Maintenance Group, Capt. Thelin for Financial Management, and Senior Master Sgt. Taylor for Medical Group.

Every effort by every one of you has been essential in allowing our young F-15 pilots to strap into the Eagle in their role of Air Superiority. Every one of you is mission essential, and it has taken absolutely every one of us to make our mission happen. I look forward to continuing to work with you in Boise and returning safely home in six months. Thank you for your commitment.



Oregon National Guard Museum Tells the "Air" Story

By Master Sgt. Dale Breit, Joint Forces Head Quarters Labor Relations Specialist

The Oregon National Guard Museum at Camp Withycombe, in Clackamas is about to have a new look. The five small buildings that make up the museum have been bursting with artifacts from historic American military events. Curator, Tracy Thoennes, has taken on a project to relocate the museum to the Clackamas armory and its surrounding grounds following its closure by Base Realignment and Closure. The new facility will be much larger, and better suited to handle a rotation of displays that will tell the significant stories of both Army and Air Force historical events, specifically focusing on Oregon.

The museum has plans to put additional aircraft on display, along with various remarkable Air Force weaponry, including a Genie missile and an F-4 Cannon POD. The new facility will have a superb array of thousands of Air Force and Army related museum artifacts. There will also be a viewable weapons vault containing small arms from all eras; this will include guns of our allies and enemies alike.

"The Air Guard story will be told here, and we are currently planning the exhibits to showcase its history," said Tracy Thoennes.

Tracy Thoennes has an impres-



2007 Photo, courtesy of the Oregon National Guard Museum

The Oregon National Guard Museum at Camp Withycombe was visited by current service men and women, veterans, and the public. Their educational exhibits were very popular over the years.

sive 20 year history of bringing artifacts to life. One of her significant contributions was as the curator for the Confederate Air Force museum in Midland, Texas for eight years. Also, in an enormous undertaking, she helped to open the Howard Hughes "Spruce Goose" exhibit at Oregon's Evergreen Museum.

The Oregon National Guard Museum temporarily closed on November 16, 2008. When the move is complete, there will be a grand re-opening of the new facility. Once the

necessary funds are raised, the old armory building will undergo a complete restoration in order to become the new museum. Upon completion, the impressive collection of weapons, uniforms, and vehicles will become a story book for visitors to learn the Ore. Military heritage. The exhibits will be designed educate and inspire visitors. It will show the significant contribution that the Oregon Air National Guard has given to the freedom of our nation and the world around.

(CONTRAILS, continued from page 4)

stranded residents with our Special Operations capability reflect positively on each of us who wear the uniform. At the federal level, we defend the entire Pacific Northwest with precision and power, graduate the best trained F-15 pilots on the planet and support the warfighter locally and abroad with deployable units across the full spectrum of the ORANG capabilities. Each of you pulling together makes this incredible engine operate smoothly and with a constant purpose.

But no organization can continue to excel – and in some cases even to exist – without continuous improvement. Believe me when I say that airplanes, missions and

dollars will be shrinking over the next decade. Although we have performed magnificently for over 60 years, there is no entitlement. The Air National Guard units that are successful in securing future missions will need to demonstrate the ability to recruit future Airmen, retain their best people and to constantly be improving both their efficiency as well as effectiveness. I challenge each of you to embrace this notion, never settle for the status quo and lead the change that will be necessary to succeed as we enter the next decade. I have every confidence you will succeed – the ORANG legacy of greatness is behind you. Be safe and Keep 'em flying!



Oregon Chief's Advisory Council 2009 Scholarship



Looking for money to pay for school? Need help paying for college? You're in luck! The Oregon Air National Guards Chief's Advisory Council will again be sponsoring a scholarship opportunity this year.

Over the last several years, our organization has contributed funds to promote educational opportunities for individuals associated with the Oregon Air National Guard. The Chief's put in \$500 and Enlisted Association of the National Guard of Oregon contributes \$500 to provide a cash award of \$1000 to be used for undergraduate educational or technical training tuition and books for the selected applicant. EANGOR will provide an additional \$500 scholarship to the next highest runner up that is a member of EANGOR or their spouse or parent is a member of EANGOR.

Eligibility Criteria requires affiliation with the Oregon

Air National Guard either as a member or dependent, a GPA of 2.0 or higher, completion of the questionnaire and an educational goals summary essay. The application deadline is 31 May 2009.

Applications can be mailed to:
216 Gentile Street, Suite 36, Bldg 211
Kingsley Field, OR 97603
ATTN CMSgt Les Tyree

or emailed to Chief Les Tyree at
leslie.tyree.1@orklam.ang.af.mil.

For information or applications you can contact any Oregon Air National Guard Chief or visit http://www.orklam.ang.af.mil/orang_home_2.html.



CHIEFS' ADVISORY COUNCIL 2009 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

\$1000.00

Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with the Oregon Air National Guard as either a member or dependent and have a GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Scholarship Use: Cash award will be used for tuition and books towards an undergraduate/technical program

Selection Criteria: Applicants must fill out a questionnaire and submit a summary of their educational goals.

Application Deadline is 31 May 2009

Mail applications to the following address:

CAC Scholarship Opportunity
216 Gentile Street, Suite 36
Klamath Falls, OR 97603

or Email applications to:
leslie.tyree.1@orklam.ang.af.mil

For more information contact any Oregon Air National Guard Chief



CHIEFS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

(ORANG, continued from page 2) from the crowds was overwhelming. It was good to be in uniform.”

“The people seemed to love that we were there,” said Spc. Matthew Mikolas, a broadcast journalist for the



Photo by Sgt. Eric A. Rutherford

Oregon Air National Guardsman, Capt. Mike Odle, helps Nathan, 11, who was separated from his class on the National Mall while attending the 56th Presidential Inauguration in Washington D.C., Jan. 20. Odle is a drill-status public affairs officer with the 173rd Fighter Wing in Klamath Falls, Ore.

115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment in Salem. “There were people coming up to us, giving us hugs and cheering us.”

Early on the morning of the inauguration, the team boarded a metro train crowded with people making their way to the event. They made their way to the Capitol Mall shoulder to shoulder with thousands of supporters, stopping along the way to pose for pictures, or receive hugs and handshakes. They also interviewed other states’ Guard members they encountered on the way to the National Mall.

Once on the Capitol Mall, the team made their way through nearly 2 million people, locating other Guard members at checkpoints and security areas in order to document the support the men and women in uniform were providing to local authorities.

After President Obama concluded his speech, the team made their way to a predetermined rally point, all the while being saluted, high-

fived and thanked by the departing crowds. Amidst the jubilation, a lost young boy who approached Capt. Odle changed the tone of the moment. With tears in his eyes, the child told the captain that he was lost and couldn’t find his school group. He passed Odle a note that read: ‘This is Nathan. If found, please return to RFK Stadium.’

The team was unable to find his teacher, so they took the sixth-grader from Warren Ohio to a Red Cross tent, which had become a collection point for people who became lost at the event. Odle carried Nathan on his back through the crowd as the rest of the team helped to push their way through the masses of people filling the exit routes of the Mall. Nathan was eventually reconnected with his schoolmates.

“What a tremendous honor to be able to put on this uniform and do this work for the American people,” Spc. Mikolas said. “I’m truly lucky and extremely honored.”

Are You Expecting????

By Tech. Sgt. Rene Lunsford, 173rd Fighter Wing Public Health

If you are expecting a new member of the family the 173rd Medical Group would like to offer you a heart felt congratulations. We would also like to remind you that it is imperative that you notify the clinic and your supervisor of your pregnancy as soon as you are aware. Supervisors, it is your responsibility to make sure your team members report to the clinic as soon as they notify you that they are pregnant. It is imperative with respect to the health of your unborn child and Wing Fetal Protection Program that you be placed on a pregnancy profile as soon as possible.

During the first trimester of a pregnancy the fetus is most susceptible to harmful effects of radiological, chemical and physical exposure. Occupational hazards that affect the

developing fetus include the following hazards associated with industrial work places: 1. Exposure to hazardous substances via inhalation, absorption and ingestion. 2. Exposure to hot or cold temperature extremes (Thermal Stress). 3. Exposure to ionizing and non-ionizing radiation (Radioactive materials, Radar, and X-Rays). 4. Exposure to hazardous levels of noise and vibration associated with aircraft operations and pneumatic tools.

If you are reporting to the clinic to be placed on a pregnancy profile you will need a copy of a positive pregnancy test or an ultrasound showing the fetus. You will then see the public health personnel to answer questions about your work place, family history, and you will receive some general

fetal health/protection counseling. After this is complete you will see the profile officer to be placed on a profile. This process will generally take no longer than a half an hour.

If you are expecting please come and see us at the clinic to be placed on a profile. During the week you can see us at any time during normal duty hours, between 0730 and 1600. On Unit Training Assemblies please visit us at the scheduled clinic hours (generally 0800 to 1130). If you have any questions regarding pregnancy profiles or pregnancy in general please consult public health at the 173rd MDG x5-6607.



Announcements



OPERATION PURPLE® FAMILY RETREATS

FOR RETURNING SERVICE MEMBERS
AND THEIR FAMILIES



March 20-23 • Headlands Institute in Sausalito, CA
March 27-30 • Olympic Park Institute in Port Angeles, WA

Operation Purple Family Retreats focus on reconnecting families with each other after long deployments. Set in a National Park using nature's classroom, families will have opportunities to strengthen and renew relationships, explore their natural surroundings, and participate in fun family-focused activities.

These free retreats are available to service members and their families who have returned from deployment within the last twelve months. Upon arrival to retreat site selected families will receive a \$200 stipend to cover cost of travel.

The National Military Family Association's *Operation Purple* Family Retreats are sponsored by the Sierra Club and the Sierra Club Foundation with support from FOCUS and Outer Edge Performance. For more information and to register visit www.operationpurple.com.



A program of the National Military Family Association

Announcements



09 Teen Leadership Summits

Announcing the 2009 Air Force Reserve/Air National Guard Teen Leadership Summits. Please disseminate the information to all Air National Guard members. The Teen Leadership Summits are only for Air Guard and Air Force Reserve youth. The camp is 100% funded and the youth will fly into Atlanta or Jacksonville (depending on the summit location) from the closest major airport to where they live.

The application deadline is Apr. 6-application and criteria are located at the following website: <http://www.georgia4h.org/AFRANGTeenSummit/> We appreciate your support in promoting this outstanding opportunity to our teens. Marketing materials to include postcards and posters will follow in the mail by the end of January.

Below you will find more detailed information about each summit:

July 13-17, 2009 - Wah-sega 4-H Center, Dahlonega, GA (site of the 2008 Summit) 186 MSF/FS; marianne.breland@msjack.ang.

Attendees will be flown into Atlanta-Hartsfield International Airport. This Summit will focus on developing an

awareness of programs and services available to AF Reserve and Air National Guard dependents. Activities include high/low ropes course, rock climbing, white water rafting, environmental education and leadership classes.

July 27-31, 2009 - Jekyll Island 4-H Center, Jekyll Island, GA

Attendees will be flown into Jacksonville International Airport. This Summit will build upon information gained at the first Summit so attendees should come with a basic understanding of programs and services available to them as dependents of AFR/ANG. Speak Out for Military Kids training will be provided as well as programs focused on ocean/marsh life and the local history. Activities will include sea kayaking/canoeing, dolphin tours, biking, a day at Cumberland Island National Seashore, leadership activities and more.

The AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summits are open to all 15-18 year old dependent teens of current Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard members.

<http://www.georgia4h.org/AFRANGTeenSummit/>

Free Friday Night Movies!!!

Join us every Friday, 7:00pm at the Kingsley theater for free movies

Volunteers are needed to keep this program going. Please contact the Public Affairs office at x5-6677 if you would like to volunteer or learn more about the Friday Night Movies.

Movies subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Craylene's Family Haircare

Haircuts for Men, Women and Children
Basic Haircut \$9.00 - Style Cut \$13.00

Open Mon. through Fri. 9-3
Closed Down Mondays

Located in the Barber Shop next to the BX

If you have any questions please call 885-6370.

Spouses Day

Please join the 173rd Fighter Wing
Sat UTA - April 18, 2009

Potential Agenda:

Red cross Wills	Local providers
Deployments	Lunch at Trappers
Sentry Displacement	Bus for a base tour
State Active Duty/ MSCA	SGLI
Family Support Tri-West	Possible AAEFES case lot sale and so much more!

12 MYTHS ABOUT YOUR DoD/VA BENEFITS

For Guard and Reserve members

(Revised 11 08)

1. **After I return from OIF/OEF, I need to have my dental work (as part of my VA benefit) completed before the end of the 180 day period.**

False. Fact: The 180 day period refers to enrolling in the VA and making the dental appointment within 180 days of the REFRAD date, but you are NOT required to have all of your dental work completed before 180 days!

2. **If I receive disability compensation from the VA, I will be discharged from the National Guard.**

False. Fact: You can be a traditional National Guard member and receive VA disability compensation. However, you cannot receive VA compensation for the same time period that you receive military pay. For typical 'traditional' Guard members, this means 63 days of military pay (48 UTAs and 15 AT). Any Active Duty Operational Support Guard program (aka ADSW), RMA, etc. counts as military pay as well. If you are AGR or mobilized, you will be receiving military pay 24/7, and must stop VA compensation immediately, or you will become indebted to the Federal Government.

3. **I am receiving 40% disability compensation from the VA and have heard that I will be discharged if I am receiving more than 30%.**

False. Fact: Although there is something in the enlistment contract about 30%, that does not apply to you because you are not enlisting! The percentage of disability compensation from the VA does not affect your membership in the National Guard. However, you must pass the physical examination for the NG – “fitness for duty exam or ability to perform your duty” – this is what will determine if you are retainable. And always record accurate information on the Annual Medical Certification. There is a block that asks if you are receiving disability compensation from Social Security, VA, Workers Comp, etc. These are government documents and to give an untrue answer is deemed as committing fraud and then neither DoD (Department of Defense) or VA is going to be chomping at the bit to take care of you.

4. **VA does Retirement Physicals.**

False. Fact: They do not. Guard members often confuse the Compensation and Pension Exam as being a retirement physical. However, if there is a VA/DoD Sharing Agreement, the VA Medical Centers may be requested by DoD medical facilities to assist with these service retirement physicals, but these instances are rare. **Note:** Under the Benefits Delivery at Discharge Program, DoD will accept the VA's physical as their retirement physical. If the Service Member has already done a VA Compensation and Pension exam, they can get a copy of it and use it as their retirement physical.

5. **If I am injured in a car accident, my TSGLI benefits will reduce the amount of my SGLI in the event of my death at a later time.**

False. Fact: Payment of TSGLI has no impact on the amount of SGLI payable. For example, if a Service Member is insured for \$400,000 of SGLI coverage and receives a TSGLI payment of \$50,000 for a traumatic injury, that member is still insured for the full \$400,000 of SGLI coverage, which will be paid upon the Service Member's death.

6. **As a National Guard member, I heard that my SGLI coverage is only good while I'm at drill.**

False. Fact: If you are a National Guard member and have been assigned to a unit in which you are scheduled to perform at least 12 periods of inactive duty that is creditable for retirement purposes, full-time SGLI coverage is in effect 365 days of the year. You are also covered for 120 days following separation or release from duty.

7. I cannot go to the VA Hospital for a service-connected problem because I have private health insurance.

False. Fact: You may enroll with the Department of Veteran Affairs for healthcare benefits regardless of your private health insurance plan. You may, depending upon the circumstances, have to make a co-payment for treatment for non-service connected conditions. Your private insurance may be billed for non-service conditions as well.

8. If I am a Service Member returning from theater and do not have a job, I am not eligible for Unemployment Compensation.

False. Fact: Although the Unemployment Compensation benefit varies among states, you may be eligible in your state for unemployment insurance. Usually the states provide these temporary wage replacement benefits to qualified individuals who are out of work through no fault of their own. Check it out! Also check out your state benefits which may include employment benefits and job placement assistance, too.

9. I need to pay enrollment fees to take advantage of the new Post-9/11 GI Bill.

False. Fact: There are no enrollment fees to receive benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

10. If I file for my VA compensation then I have automatically enrolled in the VA Healthcare System.

False. Fact: The process to apply for VA compensation is separate from the process to enroll in the healthcare system. To enroll you must complete a 10-10EZ and submit it in person, online or via the mail to your nearest VA hospital. It must be signed before you submit it. It is also wise to have a copy of your DD214 to verify your active duty status and theater of deployment for combat vet eligibility for enhanced healthcare and other benefits.

Additionally, if you submitted your military medical records with your disability claim, it is not available to the hospital. For VA healthcare enrollment, it is also necessary to bring copies of any of your medical records so that they can be scanned into the VA's VISTA electronic record system.

11. Service Members and their families are not eligible for Pre-activation Benefits (Early Eligibility) TRICARE.

False. Fact: Guard and family members are eligible once the SM receives mobilization alert orders, is within 90 days of deployment and all are currently enrolled in DEERs. Special note: if you think there is a possibility that you may be found not fit for duty, you should keep your civilian health insurance until you are found fit for duty.

Remember that when you return from this deployment, you are eligible for 6 months of TRICARE TAMP for your and your family healthcare needs (enrollment is not automatic – see your Transition Assistance Advisor or TRICARE representative for details). VA healthcare covers only Veterans for 5 years from the REFRAD date.

12. I am enrolled in the TRICARE healthcare program and am automatically covered for dental care.

False. Fact: Enrollment in TRICARE does not cover your dental care. The TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) is offered by the Department of Defense (DoD) and you must purchase this benefit from United Concordia, which administers the program. (www.tricaredentalprogram.com)

Contact your Transition Assistance Advisor (TAA) for more information on your benefits and entitlements. To find the TAA in your state, go to www.taapmo.com/TAAProgram.htm.

Your Transition Assistance Advisor is:

**John D. Labash
Program Manager
NGB Transition Assistance Advisors
Skyline Utd Inc SDVOSB
703-373-2320
John.Labash@Skyline-Utd.com**



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