

CHMANDER'S 2 2 2XCELLENCE

Bulldogs,

Over the past several years, the 148th has raised the bar to where one would believe our achievements cannot be topped. Extraordinary performances have now officially become the wing standard. Your performance has

earned the 148th recognition as one of the best flying units in the United States Air Force. This reputation is heroic and one to be proud of. The Bulldogs are now at the top of the list, because we can get the mission done with the highest level of success the first time and every time.

Just in the past year, the wing was recognized as the top unit for safety programs and culture, top air defense unit and also among the best General Purpose performers in the Air Force. With a long history in the air defense business, you impressed the "air to mud" old heads when the 148th hit the desert and immediately performed combat missions with 100% mission effectiveness during the Air Expeditionary Force deployment. This continued with our Phase 2 ORI where we have been recognized for our culture of excellence. Many outsiders were skeptical during our first chemical environment

inspection, but your performance once again has left our critics wondering how we adapted so quickly.

Our positive reputation "run" officially began in October 2005 immediately following the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) announcement that took the Duluth based 148th off the

base closure list. Throughout unit history, positive publicity was not always present even though the 148th continuously excelled. With that being said, it is now clear that our future depends on an active and aggressive pursuit to maintain this positive reputation and recognition.

The 148th "Proud Tradition" continues to be cultivated by current, past and retired members. Our families have played

an extremely important support role for the recognition that has secured our immediate future. We enjoy strong support from civic and political leaders which has been ensuring the 148th remains a prosperous economic leader in the community. Support for the 148th continues to grow as our excellent reputation attracts attention.

Maintaining performances at the highest level is a proven and effective strategy for keeping the future of the 148th bright. Even though it is challenging we cannot rest on past performance and achievements. Senior leadership looks to the best units to lead the way and set the standard. When missions require the best performance, the 148th must be ready. We must continue to prove we are the best.



Col. John H. Spencer, Jr.

Please, know how proud everyone is of your current accomplishments! Also, realize that we will continue to ask for your support to stay well ahead of the rest. We have invested a lot into securing a future; we must now protect and keep those investments at the highest level. With this strategy we can remain positioned to ensure a long and prosperous future for the 148th, its members, and the local community.

148th Fighter Wing

NEW LOOK TO THE 148FW WEBSITE, SAME GREAT BULLDOG NEWS

This August the 148fw.ang.af.mil website got a new look. It has been remigrated to emulate the look and feel of the Air Force and Air National Guard public websites. One of the first things you will notice when navigating to the website is its cool blue color scheme. Beyond that, it has been upgraded to allow for more information to be presented to the viewer.

Some of the features of the 148th Fighter Wing's website include news stories, photos, unit information, and exciting links to other local and national sites.

Come check it out! www.148fw.ang.af.mil



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Year 2009 Unit Training Assembly (UTA) and other training schedules for the 148th Fighter Wing and all subordinate units:

_UTA	_SUTA	MANDATORY AFT
21-22 Mar	07-08 Mar	
18-19 Apr	04-05 Apr	
16-17 May	None May	14-15 May
13-14 Jun	None Jun	
18-19 Jul	None Jul	15-17 Jul
22-23 Aug	None Aug	17-21 Aug
12-13 Sep	None Sep	e e
03-04 Oct	24-25 Oct	
21-22 Nov	7-8 Nov	
05-06 Dec		

ON THE COVER...

Staff Sgt. Donald Acton, 148th Fighter Wing Public Affairs, calls in his findings from a post attack reconnaissance assessment while participating in an Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) August 21st, 2009. The Inspector General rated the wing as "Excellent" during the Phase II ORI this August. U.S. Air Force photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Ralph J. Kapustka, Photo Illustration by Tech. Sgt. Julie M. Tomaska.

HONOR AIRMEN RECIEVE LONG AWAITED INCENTIVE FLIGHTS



Part of the 148th Fighter Wing's Raytheon celebration week included incentive flights in an F-16D (two seat) model this July, 2009. Three Honor Airmen from the past years had their turn in the back seat of a Fighting Falcon. [Left] Maj. Curt Grayson and Senior Airman Donald Brown, [Center] Master Sgt. Mark Wasserbauer and Lt. Col. Troy Zierden, [Right] Lt. Col. Guy Schaumburg and Senior Master Sgt. Todd Zinmer. Photos by: 148th Public Affairs

MARK JOHNSON PROMOTED TO BRIGADER GENERAL

BY SPC. MILES EAKINS

Former 148th Fighter Wing commander, Mark Johnson was promoted from colonel to brigadier general in a ceremony at the Minnesota State Capitol yesterday afternoon. Approximately 70 people were in attendance including Maj. Gen. Larry W. Shellito, Adjutant General of the Minnesota National Guard; Brig. Gen. Timothy J. Cossalter, Assistant Adjutant General-Air of the Minnesota National Guard; and retired Maj. Gen. Harry A. Sieben, Jr. Shellito made some remarks on Johnson's behalf saying that the promotion to general was a special achievement given to few.

Maj. Gen. Shellito went on to say, "This is a well deserved promotion and I just want you all to know he will do well, because he always has." After being formally pinned, presented his general officer's flag, and being administered his oath of appointment, Johnson took the podium to make his remarks, thanking his family, friends and those participating in the ceremony. Johnson spoke about achieving his dreams, family,

and serving his state and country. "I plan to serve the State of Minnesota, and the United States of America and to keep Minnesota and the Minnesota National Guard on the forefront as one of the premier organizations in the United States," said Johnson.

Johnson attributed his military success to everyone he has worked with in the military and to his family who helped him achieve his dreams. His mother, Corrine Johnson said, "(I feel) proud and humble all at the same time, it's quite an honor that he has worked hard for and he deserves it. It's just a big day in all of our lives." Johnson serves as the Chief of Staff-Air for Joint Force Headquarters, Minnesota National Guard as well as the A3 Assistant to the Director, Air National Guard. Johnson, a Minnesota native, was commissioned from the United States Air Force Academy in 1974, and has over 5,000 flying hours including pilot, instructor pilot, flight examiner and student pilot flight time in seven different aircraft.



[Left] Col. Johnson was promoted to Brig. Gen. in the Capitol rotunda Sept 9. Brig. Gen. Cossalter administers the Oath of Appointment. Photo by: Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Ewer [Center] Lt. Col. Timothy Martenson, Brig. Gen. Johnson, Senior Master Sgt. Lynn Brophy and 2nd. Lt. Jodi Kiminski join Brig. Gen. Johnson following his promotion ceremony. Martenson, Brophy and Kiminski were invited to participate in the promotion ceremony. Photo by: Staff Sgt. Lynette R. Hoke [Right] Brig. Gen. Johnson listens to members of his family sing "Lord, guard and guide the men who fly." Photo by: Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Ewer

HOW WE TOUCH THE LIVES AROUND US

BY MASTER SGT. JASON W. ROLFE

Each member of the 148th Fighter Wing has been a part of the ceremonies held to recognize our fellow wingmen. Emotions have run high as a friend, family member, or colleague has stepped on that stage. Wing members stand proud, ready to answer our nation's call because they know what it takes to serve and have chosen to serve.

But, too often we never really realize how we touch the lives of others in our community; the young, the old, the veterans, and those who are just proud that you are serving for them.

Victoria Johnson is one of those individuals. She is 16 years old, a 10th grader at Hermantown High School. Victoria is a part of Girl Scout Troop 4119 and has been active in Girl Scouts for over 10 years. The following is an excerpt from a speech she chose to give to a couple hundred adult business and civic leaders from our community.

"While it was an amazing experience to be able to work with all of these organizations, the work that I have done with the 148th Fighter Wing has changed my life. I have made thousands of yellow ribbons to show support for the 148th, I have served refreshments, and passed out American flags. Our troop has been invited to two deployment ceremonies.

Words can barely express what it is like to see 450 members of the 148th Fighter Wing lined up in uniform and called into active duty. These are my neighbors, parents of school friends, parents of Girl Scouts in my service unit, and people I worship with.

After the deployment ceremony my troop was invited to come on stage and help fold this gigantic American Flag. It was an incredibly emotional experience. To touch this huge American flag, to stand side by side with all these uniformed service people, and to hear them talk about how they are ready and proud to go and serve our country. Standing there made me realize how truly proud I am to be an American."



Victoria Johnson - Girl Scout Troop 4119

Let us never forget that this is why we serve.

PROMOTIONS

PARASK, CHACE, MDG, TSGT LIVINGSTON, NICOLE, MDG, TSGT MIDDLETON, KYLE, AMXS, SSGT FEEHAN, NOAH, AMXS, SSGT KERN, RYAN, CES, SSGT SISLO, SCOTT, SFS, SSGT SCHANILEC, RUSSEL, MXS, SRA VERHEL, ELISE, AMXS, SRA

MENZ, DEREK, AMXS, SRA

AUGUST IDSON SARAH

DAVIDSON, SARAH, SVF, AMN
NYEN, BENJAMIN, SFS, SRA
GALL, THOMAS, MXS, SRA
DRISCOLL, JOSEPH, SVF, SRA
CARLSON, ANNA, SVF, SRA
HEWITT, PAUL, HQ, SRA
CHRISTOPHERSON, BRANDON, AMXS, SSGT
ORMAN, CHRISTOPHER, CES, TSGT
SANDA, LUKE, CES, TSGT

SEPTEMBER
KENYON, JOHN, STU FLT, AMN
REHBEIN, BRIAN, MXS, SRA
SETTERGREN, THOMAS, CES, SRA
PETERSON, JACOB, AMXS, SRA
TULLGREN, ADAM, SVF, SRA
BERGIN, LINDSEY, MOF, SRA
JOHNSON, ERIC, SFS, SSGT
FULLER, TIMOTHY, MXS, SSGT
HARE, JOEL, OSF, TSGT
KIMINSKI, CHAD, OSF, TSGT
CONRADI, MICHAEL, CES, SSGT

CONGRATULATIONS!

AFA OUTSTANDING AIR NATIONAL GUARD FLYING UNIT AWARD



The 148th Fighter Wing's 2009 Outstanding Airmen or the Year attended the Air Force Association's Air and Space Conference Awards Ceremony in National Harbor, Maryland in September. The 148th earned the 2009 Air Force Association Outstanding Air National Guard Flying Unit Award for a second time since 2006. [Left to Right] Staff Sgt. Don Brown, Master Sgt. Mark Graves, Tech. Sgt. Jarel Tanski, Col. Frank Stokes, Chief Master Sgt. Michael Layman, Master Sgt. David Blazevic, Maj. Audra Flanagan, Master Sgt. Larry Beaulier

RETIREES MINUTES

BY BARB HERRINGTON, SECRETARY

The Annual 148th Retirees Association June Breakfast was held in the Great Lakes Dining Hall on Jun. 18, 2009. Fellowship, registration and coffee started at 8:00 a.m., followed by breakfast at 9:00 a.m. President Al Eastman called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation were given.

The group discussed changes to Tri-Care, to include rates changes. Copies of a letter to send to your Congressman about the subject were available. Club cards and Bulldog BX items were available during the meeting and the breakfast.

During the meeting, the following information updates were given:

- Lt. Col. Mark Vavra gave a mission briefing.
- Dave Udd gave a report on the Club. The Annual Picnic at Fish Lake will be on July 25, 2009; The "Buy a Brick" promotion of the new Club Building will be taking place and October Fest will be held on the base on Sept. 12, 2009.
- Rich Damacus gave a short briefing on the St. Louis County VA office to make us aware that they are there to help.

The following motions were made and seconded:

- To have the June Breakfast again next year.
- There will be a Fall Dinner in October (subject to change).
- We will now have only three meetings a year. They will be the June Breakfast, September, and the Christmas dinner in December.
- The retirees will be donating money to plant a tree at Driftwood Estates for Family Services.

Election of Officers for 2009-2010:

- President Al Eastman
- Vice President Tom Sinnott
- Secretary Barb Herrington
- Treasurer Larry Burda
- Club Reps Dave Udd & Bob Bloom

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Many thanks to the cooks for an outstanding breakfast, Lt. Col. Mark Vavra for his interesting briefing and to Col. Frank Stokes and Maj. Aurda Flanagan for the continued support.

LAST IN THE CLASS

By 2nd Lt. Jodi L. Kiminski

Finally, it's good to be last. 2nd Lt. Joseph Solberg of the 148th Fighter Wing was officially the last officer to be commissioned at the I.G. Brown Training and Education Center (TEC), McGee-Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tenn. Solberg became the 14,630th 2nd Lt. to graduate from the Academy of Military Science (AMS). He, along with two other members of the 148th, Second Lt. Scott Tanski and 2nd Lt. William Carr, graduated

June 26, 2009. All three officers have strong family ties to the 148th Fighter Wing, to include all three of their fathers who were or are members of the unit. After 38 years at McGhee-Tyson, AMS will move to Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., to form a partnership with the Air Force's Officer Training School (OTS).





[Left] Master Sgt. James Carr, 2nd Lt. William Carr, Lt. Col (ret.) Bernie Tanski, 2nd Lt. Scott Tanski and Tech. Sgt. Jason Tanski. [Right] 2nd Lt. Joseph Solberg recieves his...

NEW 148TH FIGHTER WING FAMILY RESEARCH STUDY TO BEGIN

By Jennifer Kuhlman, Family Programs

A new research project entitled "The effects of deployment on child behavior and family adaptability", is set to begin in October 2009. This study will be done by myself and unit member Technical Sgt. Julie Tomaska to look at the effects of deployments on child behavior patterns, as well as a family's ability to adapt when a service member deploys. Family members of deploying Civil Engineer and Security Forces personnel (with children) will be approached to participate in this study. Parents will be asked to fill out a questionnaire that rates child behaviors, family cohesion and family adaptability three times; during the pre-deployment period, mid-deployment cycle and post-deployment. Participants anonymity will be maintained at all times throughout this study.

The projected outcome of this study will be to identify changes in child behavior and family function during and immediately following the deployment cycle. We hope to use this information to better understand what the impact of continual deployment can be on both children and the family system. Also, by identifying what underlying issues are present, we can better serve our unit members and families within the 148th Fighter Wing as well as in the surrounding communities. If you have any questions, or are interested in participating, please contact:

 $\label{lem:maska_model} \textit{Julie M. Tomaska, BSW, MSPH - julie.tomaska@mnangassessment.com} \\ \textit{Jennifer Kuhlman, M.Ed. - Jennifer.kuhlman@mndulu.ang.af.mil} \\$

Left, Senior Airman Jennifer Archambault, 148th Services Flight, prepares biscuits for a retirees breakfast June 18th, 2009. (photo by Tech. Sgt. Brett R. Ewald)

Year of th



Above, family members welcome home U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Noah Feehan, 148th Fighter Wing, in Duluth, Minn. January 20, 2009. Approximately 60 Air National Guardsmen returned home from their recent Air Expeditionary Force deployment to Joint Base Balad, Iraq. (U.S. Air Force photo by TSgt Jason W. Rolfe



Below, Master Sgt Bryan Druar, 148th Communications Squadron, radios in while awaiting the next John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon team to pass by the remote Pike Lake trail crossing in Northern Minn. near Grand Marais on January 27th, 2009. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master. Sgt. Jason W. Rolfe)





Above, 148th Fighter Wing Honor Guard followed by members of the wir Duluth, Minn. Nov. 21, 2008. The Christmas City of the North Parade dat kick off the holiday season in the Northland and has been held every year.

e Bulldog



Right, Lieutenant Jed Frederick, 148th Medical Group, demonstrates ABC's January 11th, 2009. (photo by Staff. Sgt. Donald Acton)



Above, Major Tyler Rule, 148th Fighter Wing Security Forces Squadron Commander, accepts the Minnesota State Flag from U.S. Congressman James Oberstar Sept. 12th, 2009 at a deployment ceremony in Duluth, Minn. The ceremony recognized Security Forces and Civil Engineering airmen deploying to areas in Southwest Asia in the upcoming months. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Brett R. Ewald)

Right, U.S. Air Force General Craig R. McKinley-Chief, National Guard Bureau, speaks to members of the 148th Fighter Wing during a celebration for receiving the Raytheon Trophy July 31, 2009 in Duluth, Minn. The Raytheon Trophy was awarded to the 179th Fighter Squadron of the 148th Fighter Wing as the most outstanding air defense unit in the U.S. Air Force, marking only the fourth time an Air National Guard unit received this award since its inception in 1953. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Brett R. Ewald)



Below, 148th Medical Squadron personnel attend to simulated wounded during an Operational Readiness Exercise (ORE). The 148th Fighter Wing conducted an ORE on the 17th and 18th of July in preparation for an Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) in August 2009. (U.S. Air Force photograph by SMSgt Ralph J. Kapustka)



ng leads the 50th Annual Christmas City of the North Parade in es back to 1958, when KBJR (then WDSM) started the event as a way to rr since. (U.S. Air Force photo by TSgt Jason W. Rolfe)



179TH FIGHTER SQUADRON PROVES AIR SUPERIORITY

By 2nd Lt. Jodi L. Kiminski

The 179th Fighter Squadron's "Bulldogs" proved they are the best in air superiority in the Air Force when officials announced the winner of the 2008 Raytheon Trophy.

Started in 1953 by Hughes Aircraft Company, the trophy is given annually to the top air-superiority or air-defense squadron in the Air Force. The honor marks only the fourth time an Air National Guard unit received the award and only the second F-16 unit.

"It's awesome for the Bulldogs to get recognition for the hard work they did in 2008," said Lt. Col. Eric Chandler, 179th Fighter Squadron Commander. "All our people make it look easy, but it isn't. They deserve this kind of award."

Units are graded on air defense and air superiority mission performance, operational mission performance, organizational readiness inspection results, training exercise participation, unit achievements and awards, individual achievements and awards and unit incentive programs.

"This award is especially important to our wing, because it validates the intense effort we have put forth over the last several years: the many times we have answered calls... packed up and deployed on short notice; and accomplished the mission in a professional, efficient manner," said Col.

Frank Stokes, 148th Fighter Wing Commander. "We have done all this without complaining, and in a manner that often left the operation in better shape than when we came. The Bulldogs should feel good that our efforts were not lost on our nation's leadership."

The 179th Fighter Squadron is attached to the 148th Fighter Wing; a Minnesota based Air National Guard Wing. During fiscal year 2008, the unit received an "Excellent" Operational Readiness Inspection rating and "Mission Ready"

Evaluation rating. Throughout the year, the unit deployed numerous times in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and NOBLE EAGLE. After the Air Force grounded its F-15C Eagle fleet in November 2007, the 148th quickly deployed six F-16s with Operations and Maintenance personnel to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, to be on air sovereignty alert for nearly three months. A week after returning from Hickam, the unit deployed to Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, to perform alert for another five weeks. While at Elmendorf, the 148th was the first F-16 unit to intercept a Russian "Bear" bomber off the coast of Alaska. The unit finished the year with a deployment to Joint Base Balad, Iraq for a third time since 2005.

In addition to the deployments, the 148th performed year-round 24/7 Alert from the Duluth base, adding additional Alert support in Minneapolis during the Republican National Convention where they executed two active scrambles, three air patrols and prosecuted five temporary flight restriction violations. Overall, the unit flew 2,050 sorties for a total of 3,351 hours with zero flying mishaps.

"Air superiority is only one of our tasked missions," said Col. Howard Hayes, 148th Operations Commander. "We are a general purpose Air Defense unit, we drop bombs. We are honored to be selected from a group of air-to-air units...it shows we have very talented and dedicated people."

Hayes credits the unit's success to the teamwork throughout the wing.

"This whole unit is able to move and function very quickly," said Hayes. "We were able to plan, pack, deploy and achieve on time status in a fraction of the time normally allotted. We played a large role Operation NOBLE EAGLE, while at the same time preparing to deploy to offer close air support in Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. We couldn't do that without the entire Wing. To be highlighted like this is an intense honor for everyone."

The unit received the award from Raytheon during an award celebration July 31, 2009.



DENTAL BITES

BY LT. COL. JOHN T. ZUPANCIC

"Well Doc, the cap wasn't a twist off, and I didn't have a bottle opener on me." And so begins another sad tale of how one of my patients injured his teeth. While many injuries like this example are preventable, accidents do occur. I will try to describe some of the more common dental injuries and what you as a patient need to do when they occur.

A loose tooth caused by a blow to the tooth is very common. If the tooth remained in its proper position, it will likely tighten back up on its own in a few days to a week. The tooth should still be examined by your dentist to check for any root breaks or nerve damage. If the tooth has been pushed out of its natural position or you are unable to bite together properly, see your dentist as soon as possible to properly reposition the tooth.

Chipped or fractured teeth can also occur after an impact to a tooth. These injuries often include injuries to the lips, tongue or gums. Pain is the issue here. If you are having no pain, simply keep the tooth clean and see your dentist at your convenience. However, if you are experiencing pain or notice bleeding from

the tooth, contact your dentist immediately. Try to collect any of the tooth chips to help your dentist determine if any chips have become imbedded in your tissues.

A tooth that has been completely knocked out is one of the most serious and time critical injuries. If a tooth can be reimplanted within 30 minutes, there is a very good chance of saving the tooth. First find the tooth, if it is visibly dirty, rinse it off gently with water (do not scrub) and attempt to replace the tooth in its socket. If successful, bite on a piece of gauze to stabilize the tooth and contact your dentist. If you are unable to replace the tooth yourself, place the tooth in a container of milk and get to your dentist immediately. Remember the magic number is 30 minutes.

Finally, please wear a mouthguard when participating in sports—both sanctioned and pickup games. It is estimated that mouthguards prevent 200,000 injuries in college and high school sports alone.

Until next time, remember, you don't have to floss all your teeth everyday, just the ones you want to keep.

NGAUS DISTINGUISHED FLYING UNIT AWARD



The 148th was selected for a 2009 National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) Distinguished Flying Unit Plaque, given to five outstanding Air National Guard units. The award was given at the 131st NGAUS General Conference held in Nashville, Tenn. Sept. 11-13, 2009. Accepting the award for the 148th Fighter Wing were Col. Paul Cummings (second from left) and Maj. Curt Grayson (center). Presenting the award were Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III, Air National Guard director (left); Major General Cynthia N. Kirkland (ret.) former Adjutant General for the State of Nevada (second from right); and Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy, Command Chief Air National Guard (right). Photo by 2nd Lt. Jodi L. Kiminski.

ORI PHASE II SUPERIOR PERFORMERS

TEAMS

Aircrew Flight Equipment Team Avionics Flightline Team Civil Engineer MOS Selection Team Finance Team Intelligence Team Load Standardization Crew Team LRS Combat Supply Activity Team LRS POL Check Point Team LRS Traffic Management Team LRS Unit Control Center Team Maintenance Accountability Team Maintenance Unit Control Center Team Medical Control Center Team Mission Planning Cell Team Operations Unit Control Center Team **PERSCO Team**

Weather Team INDIVIDUALS

Maj Scott A. Wagner
Capt Scott S. Cheslak
Capt Michael W. Ketola
Capt Chad R. Vorderbruggen
1Lt Ryan A. Durand
SMSgt Bryan T. Black
MSgt Jennifer C. Brown
MSgt William J. Hawley

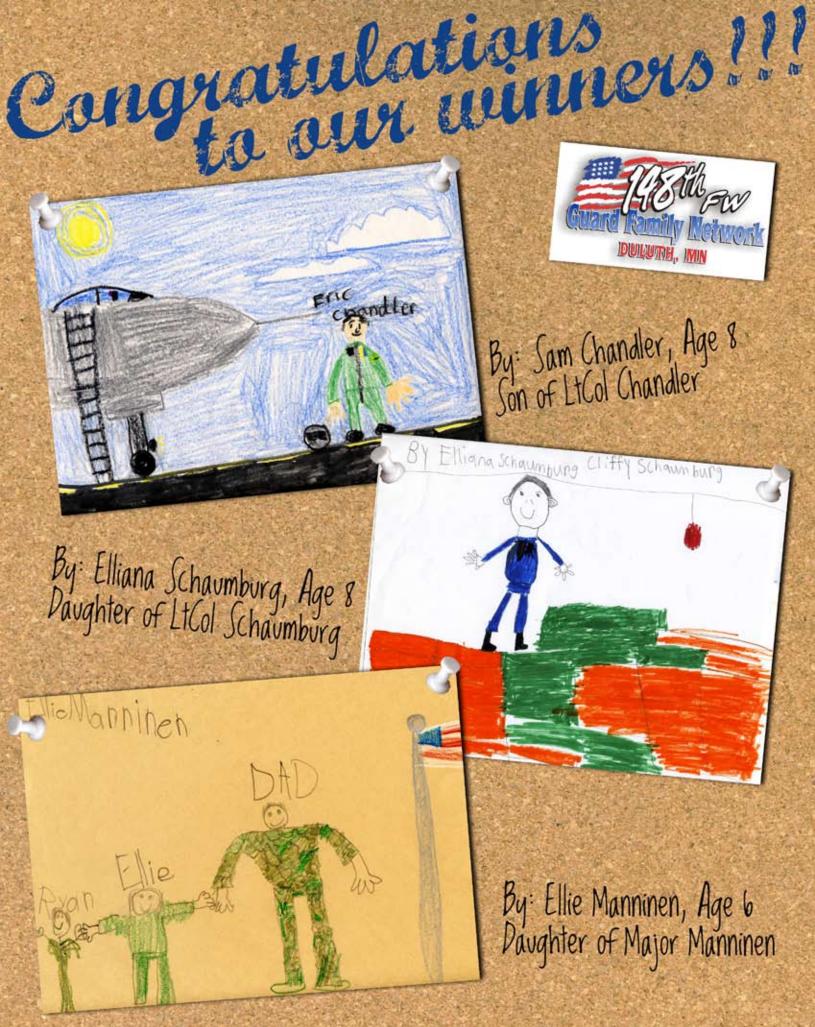
MSgt Tana L. Johnson MSgt Jennifer L. Long MSgt Barry M. Reinartz MSgt Christopher L. Roach TSgt Shawn P. Bolf



Senior Airman Jennifer M. Kuklenski, 148th Operations, received a coin from the Inspector General, Brigadier General Mark A. Barrett during July's Operational Readiness Inspection. Photo By: Senior Master Sgt. Todd Zinmer

TSgt Joshua M. Fish TSgt Jon P. Fisk TSgt Andrew B. Hayes TSgt Richard R. Kaufman

TSgt Donold V. Lathrop TSgt John W. McEwen TSgt Chace T. Parask TSgt Paul F. Pelosi TSgt Nicholas M. Peterson TSgt Emeri N. Rohweder TSgt Lance J. Schander TSgt Zachary L. Scouton TSgt Melanie A. Sloan TSgt Christopher D. Swanson SSgt Cyrus R. Beckwith SSgt Kent C. Brown SSgt Patrick G. Hakes SSgt Joel F. Hare SSgt Hunter C. Hary SSgt Nicholas A. Kiminski SSgt Gary J. Kmecik SSgt Vance C. Okstad SSgt Nicholas J. Polzin SrA Mark J. Eberle SrA Melissa L. Eklund SrA Dessarae N. Erickson SrA Jennifer M. Kuklenski A1C Nathaniel J. Fritz A1C Kayla M. Goorhouse A1C Jordan P. Richards A1C Amber S. Weis



KIOS, thanks for your wonderful drawings! Each of you will be receiving a gift certificate from the Guard Family Network!

BULLDOG ENLISTED COUNCIL

BY TECH. SGT. ADAM E. WABROWETZ

Just under a year ago, the course of how the 148th Fighter Wing empowered our enlisted members through junior and senior enlisted councils took a new direction. Why the change? How were the councils off course? Meeting attendance and participation was low with minimal direction and purpose, there was a lacking of "Professional Development" and most importantly there was a communication gap between the Junior Enlisted Council and the experienced Senior Non-Commissioned Officer's of the Midlevel Ranks Council. Chief Master Sgt. Jodi Stauber noticed the need for a change to encourage the effectiveness of the enlisted councils.

An All Ranks Council concept was adapted and CMSgt. Stauber began seeking mentorship opportunities at all levels of our enlisted force to include, the Student Flight, Junior Enlisted, Senior Enlisted and Retirees. Through recognizing the ideas and experiences from members of diverse backgrounds and of all ranks in the entire enlisted force, it is possible to provide you with a more productive and successful military career.

In April 2009, a board was selected to provide an equal representation of all ranks and sections throughout the Wing. Our first official board meeting was held March 2009, where we nominated and elected our Board Officers who include Senior Master Sgt. Dan Lysher - Meeting Facilitator, Staff Sgt. Nicole Dahlen – Funds Manager, Airman 1st Class Kayla Goorhouse - Vice President and Technical Sgt. Adam Wabrowetz - President. Through this diversity we have become an action council striving to accomplish, among other things, the following projects over the next few months: Rookie Ranks, The Military Ball 2010, An Interview Class, It's Your Career Day, Fitness Challenge, Professional Development and Communication Barriers between Generations.

Accomplishing these goals and objectives takes involvement from every Enlisted Member. The board members challenge you to help us accomplish our goal to "Build Better Airmen." Join in this flight towards Excellence. Our next Council Meeting will be Sunday, October 4, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Great Lakes Inn and the Sunday of every UTA thereafter. BEC represents you! Come and be heard! See you there!

CHIEF'S CORNER - CAREER BOOST FROM OAY

BY CHIEF MASTER SGT. STEPHANIE Y. FEHRINGER OAY. What does it stand for? Outstanding Airman of the Year (OAY) is a program to recognize those around us for their leadership skills, dedication to their job, self-improvement (including military and civilian education), community involvement, and personal achievement.

The process of applying for OAY is much like applying for a job. Your organization submits an OAY package about you that includes a military biography, similar to a civilian resume, along with your fitness scores and a letter of recommendation from your supervisor. At the appointed day and time you appear before a board wearing your Class A Blues to answer questions, much like a job interview.

OK. So you are an outstanding airman, and you understand that it is an honor to be chosen for Airman of the Year. However, we are all human, and most of us do not to want update our biographies, much less go through the interview process. The question then becomes, "What's in it for me?"

Here are five reasons to get involved in the OAY process:

- 1. Gain interview skills. If you are in a market for a job or will be soon, what better way to prepare?
- 2. Interested in a Commission someday? OAY is definitely an award to include on your application.
- 3. Exceptional Performance Promotion. You may have the opportunity to be promoted to Senior Master Sgt. and Chief Master Sgt. within the last three years of your enlistment. The OAY award is a great addition to your biography, and the process of selection is similar so you'll have practice!
- 4. Impress prospective civilian employers by adding this award to your resume.
- 5. Public recognition that sets you apart in your military career. It doesn't hurt to have others acknowledge what your supervisor and co-workers already know.

So if your supervisor approaches you and states that you would be an outstanding OAY candidate, accept the compliment and go for it. It might just be the boost that your career needs.

SERVICE CLUD NEWS

BY MASTER SGT. MARK J. WASSERBAUER

The Services Club has gotten the word that we will be moving to a new building (Bldg 240, the current TMO or old Motor Pool as some of you know it) later this year. This is great news but with this great news comes lots of work to remodel this building to our needs. Much of this will come from self-help.

The Services Club has put together a New Building Committee which will be responsible for planning the project to remodel our new building. Master Sgt. Dale Rindahl is the committee Chair and is looking for anyone who is interested in volunteering help and resources for this major overhaul.

We are also looking for any constructive suggestions and/or ideas for the new Club. We have put together a questionnaire form and would greatly like your input. Our goal for the new Club is to take your suggestions and design it with your input (as much as possible).

Please see your Board of Governor (BOG) representative to get this questionnaire form, fill it out, and send back to Master Sgt. Mark Wasserbauer. All questionnaires will be assessed and tallied.



By Col. Penny J. Dieryck

Here I am just off the pitcher's mound at Wade Stadium on Friday, Sept.11, 2009. It's 6:00 p.m., and I am participating in a Patriot's Day event sponsored by the American Red Cross to commemorate the Armed Forces, law enforcement and firefighters who work so hard to protect American citizens. The ceremony is taking place eight years after the disastrous attacks on our nation, wherein the terrorists destroyed the World Trade Towers, attacked the Pentagon, and a potential strike on the White House. The ceremony was a time of reflection and storytelling on how heroes have affected others' lives, and some of the participants were heroes. Airman 1st Class Anna Carlson performed a resounding national anthem followed with a flyover by Col. Howard Hayes and Maj. Chris Freeman through the guidance of timing by Lt. Col. Mary Jukich. The effect of the jets on the crowd was awesome!

Can you remember eight years ago where you were on 9-11? I was working in Logistics and had run down to Grandmaison Studios to take my photo for the Leadership Duluth Program. I arrived back at building 231 and Chief Master Sgt. Robyn Randall (retired) came in to say an aircraft had flown into the World Trade Center. It was surreal. I truly thought it was a movie. Boy, was I wrong! Looking back since that fateful day, the lives of the men and women of the 148th Fighter Wing have been completely changed. We have answered our nation's call and deployed aircraft, people, equipment and resources to locations across the globe in order to fight the war on terror and support our Army and Marine Corps brethren on the ground or protect assets within our country by flying combat air patrols over major cities and infrastructure facilities. These factors have provided us with the ability to react whenever we are called for state and national missions and to continue to shine as a Wing.

This ability to forge ahead now comes into play for the partial mobilization of an estimated six month tour of approximately 90 Security Forces Squadron (SFS) and Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) personnel. They will leave for Southwest Asia and Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan respectively in the coming months. The training they have undertaken and their ability to always go the extra mile will be huge factors as they commit themselves to the mission placed before them. We honored their families during a departure ceremony held at the base on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009. We also want to thank their employers for giving to the military for this call to duty. We thank both these entities who will be supporting the deployers from the home front.

Another 148th supporter who I had the honor to visit with at the 9-11 ceremony is Congressman James Oberstar. It was a delight and a treat to sit by him and listen to his words thanking all those individuals who have stepped up to the plate (remember we were on the infield at Wade Stadium) and answered our nation's call. He talked about doing what was right and pitching in where and when it is needed. He has hit home runs for the 148th Fighter Wing by obtaining funding for our new Wing Storage Facility, the new Fuel Cell, and the new Fuel Farm. His support to the Duluth Airport is reflected in runway work and now a new passenger terminal which is under construction. All these factors have given the 148th Fighter Wing a breath of life for the long haul. He came to thank the deploying SFS and CES members and their families at our Departure Ceremony held in September. What a privilege to be able to thank him in person and for him to honor those who will be serving their country in Southwest Asia and Afghanistan!

I want to end my column with another political process I had the opportunity to witness on Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009. A few of the 148th members, along with personnel from the 133rd Airlift Wing and the Joint Force Headquarters, watched the pinning of Col. Mark R. Johnson to Brigadier General in the State of Minnesota Capitol Rotunda. Maj. Gen. Larry W. Shellito, the Adjutant General for the State of Minnesota, and Brig. Gen. Harry A. Sieben, liaison to the Secretary for the Army, placed the stars on Johnson's shoulders. It was great to see him flash those stars and be rewarded for all the hard work he has put into the Wing. I know there were times when we all thought he had signed the Wing up for one too many tasks; however, we were wrong. The Wing members followed his lead and diligently pulled it in the right direction. Johnson's leadership and direction set the stage for our Raytheon Trophy, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, numerous other national awards, and hopefully, soon the announcement of newer aircraft.



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