

Buckeye AIRLIFTER



Nov / Dec 2007

The 179th Airlift Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, Mansfield, OH



On Sept. 2, 2007, 15 members of 179th Aerial Port Squadron deployed to Iraq for 120+ days. Even though they are far from home, they are showing where their loyalties lay.

First Sergeants (Front to back: Dan Peters, Errol Smith, Stephen Powell, John Pounds, and Robert Green) serve lunch to their Airmen Saturday of the November drill weekend.



Photo by
SSgt Rob Koehler

Where Did the Time Go?

By Chaplain (Retired) Keith P. Bohley

Twenty years seems like a long time until you come to the end of that time and wonder where it went. While I wonder how it went so quickly I do know where a lot of it went.

It went in time shared as we planned, practiced, and trained for events that might occur. It went in exercise deployments and real world deployments where I had the privilege of working beside the best in the United States Air Force.

It went working beside the men and women of our chapel team who through selfless devotion served their country and their communities. It went sharing with friends the peaks and valleys of life.

We shared the births, weddings, promotions and pure joys of life while we shared growth through pain, suffering and loss. The time went, running to meet air planes and deadlines and it went as we hurried up and waited together. It went as we said good-bye to friends and to those who retired from our midst as they moved on to other opportunities and it went as we

welcomed new members into the family of the 179th.

I came into the unit in 1948. I grew up on the beaches in Alpena and the air shows and steak fries that were part of our history. I got back to the unit in 1996 after a journey in other units in the state.

I welcomed my son into the unit in 2000 and I am keeping an eye out for a slot for my grandson and granddaughter. Life is a journey and my travels, now that I look back, have gone quickly. But I am not left to wonder where it went.

I know. It went serving our country and sharing life with really wonderful people. It is not for everyone, but with Frost I can say, "I choose the road less traveled and it has made all the difference".

The truth is you the men and women of the 179th make all the difference. Thanks for the memories and for being a part of my journey.

I know where the time went and you made it well spent.
PRO DEO ET PATRIA



On Saturday afternoon of November drill, Base Commander Col. Mark Stephens, Col. Jeff Lewis and First Sergeant MSgt Errol Smith passed on the Mission Support Group flag to Lt. Col. Michael Howard in the time honored tradition.



After passing the flag, outbound Mission Support Group Commander Col. Lewis passed on a few tips and his congratulations to Lt. Col. Howard.

Photos by TSgt Lisa Haun

Monthly Spotlight

By SSgt Jessica Cauvel

He's no chicken! However, he sure enjoys working with them. Chief Master Sergeant Michael J. Stichler, 179th Airlift Wing Equipment Maintenance Chief, has been involved with the Ohio State Fair since he was a small boy. "I grew up raising poultry," he said. He said the fair has always been something he loves to help out with whenever he is needed.



On Aug 2, 2007 in the Rhodes Center Auditorium, Stichler was inducted into the Ohio State Fair Hall of Fame. "I was inducted for over 40 years of volunteering down at the fair,"

he said. He has been showing poultry since he was 12 years old.

In addition to helping out during the Fair weeks, has helped the fair haul in cages when asked. Also, Stichler lends his time for poultry shows.

The poultry shows, Stichler explained, operate very much like a dog or horse show. The animals are judged on their size, color, and confirmation, among other things.

In November, Stichler is aiding with the "Ohio National Poultry Show." The annual show pulls in crowds of more than 12,000 people. It is the largest in the country of its kind.

When he is not busy assisting the State Fair, he can be found working out at the 179th AW. He has been employed as a federal technician for just over 35 years. He has over 36 years of total Air National Guard experience.



Streamlining for Success

By SSgt Jessica Cauvel

Think about all the unnecessary steps you take in your job each day. Do you get tired of the useless steps you must go through in a process at work? Imagine how nice it would be if you had an opportunity to voice your complaints about the vital time you are wasting. Also, imagine how refreshing it would be to see real results come from your complaints.

That is the goal of Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century (AFSO21) Program. AFSO21's vision is to initiate an environment in which various tools and techniques are used to successfully change our everyday operating style; fully integrating continuous improvement into all areas of operations. These improvements will be centered on the core missions we are responsible for conducting.

AFSO21 is designed to drive efficiencies and improvements across-the-board. Using their greatest resource, innovative Airmen, AFSO21 utilizes the best techniques to see problems and initiate actions for improvement. The program plans to develop a culture which promotes waste elimination, sharing of best practices and Airmen involvement in the relentless pursuit of excellence.

When AFSO21 determines what area would best benefit from their processes, they hold something referred to as an "event." The event is where AFSO21 analyses the problem and identifies what results they expect to see as the end result of the initiated changes. The event also identifies what impact the changes could have on daily operations.

In July 2007, an AFSO21 event was held at the 179th Airlift Wing that focused on the ISO Inspection Process. Two 179th AFSO21 experts, SMSgt Mark Robinson and TSgt Tonya Camarata, helped facilitate the event. Maintenance commanders Col. Daugherty and Lt. Col. Sipe, supervisors CMSgt Stichler and SMSgt Vasko, as well as members involved in the ISO Process, added their input for



improvement.

This group was utilizing the AFSO21 process to review our current ISO Inspection Process. The ISO Inspection Process is a comprehensive review of every system on a C-130. This inspection must be conducted annually on each aircraft. The current process is lengthy, with the majority of time spent in the Post ISO Inspection Phase. This portion of the inspection process takes an average of 27.2 days to complete. This lengthy process decreases aircraft availability and mission readiness. With today's high operations tempo, there are not enough days to waste vital time on a process that can be significantly streamlined. That is why we utilized the AFSO21 process here.

Holding this July AFSO21 event resulted in an increased efficiency rating for the process from 7.1% to 20.5%. The Post ISO Process Cycle time was cut from 27.2 days to 10 days. This time savings, a direct result from utilizing AFSO21, will result in our aircraft being available an extra 137 days annually, beginning FY08. This efficiency was created by removing 37 "Non Value Added Steps" from the Post ISO Process.

If you would like more information about how an AFSO21 event could improve your workplace efficiency visit the 179th AFSO21 Community of Practice (CoP). On this CoP, you can complete a form requesting that an event be planned for your work area. You can also email suggestions for streamlining your workplace to SMSgt Robertson or TSgt Camarata and they will initiate the AFSO21 steps to help you save vital time.

Thanksgiving: Not Just Another Holiday

By Chaplain David Shirley

As a child, in the weeks prior to Thanksgiving, I remember my elementary school teacher gathering the class around for the Thanksgiving story. She would talk about the Mayflower, the Pilgrims and the Native Americans and how they became friends and learned each others ways.

Then we would get to the good part. The food was always the highlight. She would show a picture of the Cornucopia filled with plenty and the big golden brown turkey at the center of the table.

She then spoke of the trimmings like cranberry sauce, potatoes, corn, stuffing, hot buttered rolls, gravy, cherry, apple, and pumpkin pie. This really would stir up an appetite in me and when Thanksgiving finally came I was ready for the feast.

In my youth I saw Thanksgiving as just another holiday. It was a day that we would

gather with family, eat, laugh and play. It was a day that meant most people didn't have to work and we didn't have to go to school. It was another day that we could sleep in and wait for the aroma of the Thanksgiving feast to wake us from a sweet sleep.

Over the years, my view has evolved to a deeper appreciation and understanding of this holiday. The part that typically gets lost or left out is essential to the telling of the story. Thanksgiving is not just another holiday.

The Pilgrims struggle did not end when they departed their homeland and set sail for the Americas. When they set foot on Plymouth Rock in December of 1620, they faced harsh conditions. Their first winter was devastating and at the beginning of the fall of 1621, they lost 46 of the original 102 who sailed on the Mayflower. The harvest was not good that year but produced enough food to sustain them. This provision marked their first Thanksgiving

celebration. In 1623 they faced drought conditions and prayed for rain and when the rain fell they once again came together to give thanks.

These two instances exemplify the central focus of Thanksgiving Day. Thanksgiving follows hard times. It is a time of hope, renewal, reflection and appreciation. Thanksgiving comes in the midst of struggle.

It happens when we pause to recognize the providential hand of God. It comes when we recognize that progress has been made and we are still here to render thanks to our creator for helping us come through difficult times. If your hard times seem like a long drought or a cold harsh winter be encouraged to know that the season will change.

When you see your bounty or your long awaited rain fall, take time to make your own Thanksgiving Day with those you love and give thanks.



179th AIRLIFT WING ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Children's Christmas Party will be hosted by Family Programs and Support Group on Friday, November 30, 2007 at:
Richland Carrousel Park,
75 North Main Street,
Mansfield, Ohio
from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Unlimited carousel rides, crafts, pictures with Santa, punch, cookies, and hot chocolate

So mark your calendars now and come out for a GREAT time and lots of fun

(please bring cookies to share)

Operation: Military Kids (OMK), Ohio National Guard, and Ohio 4-H present a special evening for all Military Families at the Columbus Zoo



Wildlights at the Columbus Zoo 2007!



Sunday, December 16, 5-9 PM

Event Features!

5-9 p.m.

- *FREE refreshments & food provided by City BBQ and the Cookie Lady!
- *FREE Holiday Family Photo
- *Event features located in our Warming Station at the **Education Auditorium**, just inside the front entrance of the Zoo and to the right. (Military members will be at the front gate to assist you.)

Cost:

- *Half-Price Admission
- * Children 2 & under free!
- * Children 3-11 \$3
- * Adults 12-59 \$5
- * Seniors 60 & up \$4
- Parking \$3
- *You must bring your Military ID & tell them you are with Operation: Military Kids to receive discount!!

For More Information contact:
Sue Ann Carroll, Ohio National Guard Youth Coordinator @ 877-460-2177 or
Operation: Military Kids @ 614-292-3758.
For directions to the Columbus Zoo go to
www.columbuszoo.org

Come a little early, we had over 1,400 military families attend last year!!

The Columbus Zoo is also offering the Half Price admission discount for Friday and Saturday, December 14 & 15



Photos
from the
Family
Readiness
2007
Halloween
Party



The

***Junior A Hockey Team
Members & Staff***



851 Oldman Rd. Wooster, OH
330-345-8686
On the Campus of Wooster High School
www.nobleice.com
www.woosteroilers.com

***Would like to invite any area military personnel and their families
and friends to be honored for their service to our country***

“HONOR OUR MILITARY”

Saturday, Nov. 17th

Game Time: 6:30P

&

Sunday, Nov. 18th

Game Time: 4:00P

Admission

Military Members FREE (simply present your ID)

Family & Friends \$3

Children under 8 FREE

Skating After the Game: 9:30P-11:30P/\$4 per person (includes skate rental)

Special Color Guard from the 179th Airlift Wing

Veterans and Retirees Encouraged to Attend

***We are so proud of your efforts to keep our
Nation Free!***

THANK YOU!

Mansfield Lahm Military Families Scholarship Program

Attached is the formal application for the Mansfield Lahm Military Families Scholarship(s). Please follow all instructions carefully and attach all documents that are required. It is preferred that the application form be typed or printed as neatly as possible.

This application must be completed with all documentation attached and returned to: Mansfield Lahm Military Families, C/O Major Troy Cramer, 1947 Harrington Memorial Rd., Mansfield, OH 44903-0179. It must be **POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 25, 2008**. It is important that you keep to the above mentioned deadline or your application will be returned without action.

The deadline will be observed in all instances. Applications must include all required information to be considered. Application forms may be obtained in the Lobby of Bldg. 422 and or in the orderly room of each squadron.

Scholarships will be announced through the mail and proceeds will be awarded when verification of the student's enrollment has been received by the Scholarship Chairperson. Verification can be in the form of a letter, invoice, or other proof of enrollment from the student's college / university registrar's office.

Mansfield Lahm Military Families Scholarship Program and Criteria

Mansfield Lahm Military Families will be awarding five (5) \$500 Scholarships for the 2008 - 2009 academic year. An impartial panel of judges will rank the scholarship applications.

Scholarship Requirements:

The following persons are eligible:

1. Children, grandchildren and spouses of active or retired 179th AW Air National Guardsman.
2. Unmarried dependent children of deceased 179th AW ANG members who were in good standing at the time of their death.

The following persons are ineligible:

1. Current members of the National Guard.

Academic criteria:

1. Applicants must be enrolled as either a high school senior (in good standing) or a full-time student at a college, university, trade or business school in order to receive funds.
2. Must have at least 2 semesters left for degree completion.

GRADUATE STUDENTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS.

The Mansfield Lahm Military Families Scholarship Committee will award scholarship grants as approved by the MLMF Executive Board. Grants will be sent directly to the recipient with each check made payable to the recipient school of choice. To receive the grant, verification of enrollment is necessary.

Grants will be awarded on the basis of scholarship, character, leadership and need. All applications will be accompanied by:

1. Transcript of High School Credits (and college credits if applicable).
2. Letter from applicant with facts as to his/her desire to continue his/her education, comments about their individual future goals and objectives, and comments as to the value that this financial aid will afford.
3. Three (3) letters of recommendation verifying the application and giving personal traits. (High School principal, counselor, dean, professor, minister, employer, etc.)

Upon selection of recipients a photograph suitable for publication may be requested, but no photograph should be sent with the application.

If the student is granted a scholarship and fails to complete the school term for reasons other than illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstances, the student agrees to return any scholarship money to the Mansfield Lahm Military Families.

If you should have any questions please contact Major Troy Cramer at (419) 520-6323.

Scholarship Application Mansfield Lahm Military Families

NAME: _____ DATE: _____
Last First Middle

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____ PHONE: () _____
Number Street P.O. Box or Apt. #

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

PARENT/SPONSOR _____
Rank Full name

ACTIVE OR RETIRED (A/R): _____ YEARS OF SERVICE (IF RETIRED): _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____ () _____
Home address/City/State/Zip Phone Number

Relationship to Sponsor Enlistment Expiration Date Unit/Squadron
(If active)

APPLICANT'S STATUS : (Check one) High School () Business/Trade School () College ()

School/College & Grade/Term _____

Have you received any other scholarships? (If so, please specify) _____

List Activities (School, Community, Church): _____

List offices to which you have been elected in Any Organization: _____

List Honors which you have been awarded: _____

List College/Trade/Business School you plan to attend or are currently attending: _____

What career are you planning to pursue and why? _____

If you need additional space to answer, please attach a separate sheet to this form.

I have answered the above questions to the best of my knowledge and belief.

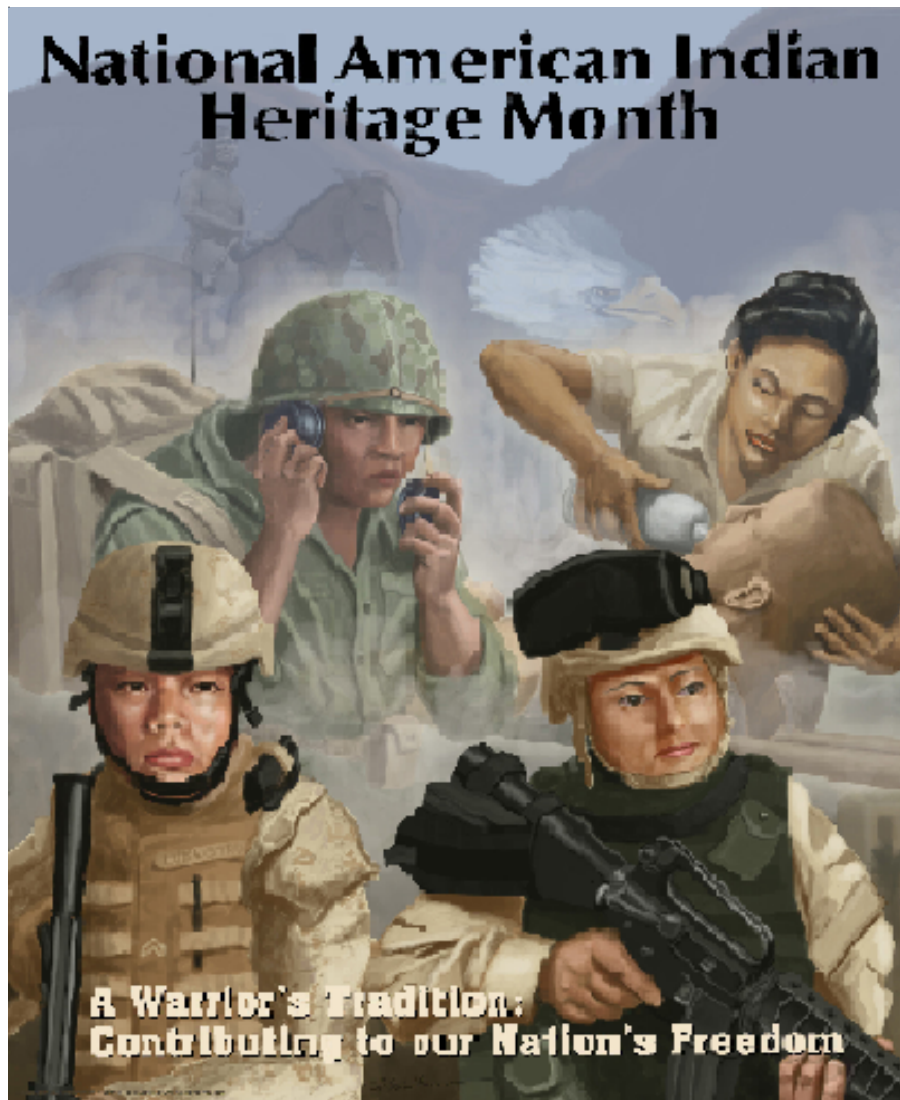
Signature of Applicant/Date

Signature of Parent or Spouse/Date

If granted a scholarship and I fail to complete the school term for reasons other than illness and injury, I agree to return any scholarship money to the Mansfield Lahm Military Families.

Signature of Applicant/Date

(This application can be reproduced for applicant purposes.)



November 1-November 30 2007

When it comes time to die, be not like those whose hearts are filled with the Fear of death, so when their time comes they weep and pray for a little more time to live their lives over again in a different way. Sing your death song, and die like a hero going home. - Chief Aupumut (1725), Mohican.

Courage, wisdom, and honor are traits that have characterized the American Indian Warrior for centuries. When referring to the American Indian as a “warrior,” it is not meant to concur with the typical Hollywood image of the American Indian Warrior. Such image has been distorted with stereotypes and exaggerated traits that have created a sensationalized and unrealistic representation of the historical and cultural American Indian Warrior. From inter tribal conflicts to military wars, American Indians have demonstrated their uncanny courage in defending their land, family, and way of life. In keeping with the 2007 American Indian Heritage Month theme, *A Warrior’s Tradition: Contributing to Our Nation’s Freedom*, this concentrates on the American Indian military involvement and their contributions in combat.

Bagram Airman uses music to bring families together

by By Capt. Michael Meridith
455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BAGRAMAIRFIELD, Afghanistan —

Thousands of miles from home, one Airman here is finding a way to bring service members a little closer to their families.

For the last few weeks, Master Sgt. Tim Chandler of Ashland, Ohio, a member of the 455th Expeditionary Communications Flight here, has been hosting an Internet-based radio show during his free time, giving Bagram Airmen a vehicle to send long-distance dedications back home to their loved ones.

"I started practicing in May while I was still back in the States and when I told the station manager [for the web-based "Taboo Radio"] I was coming over here, he suggested that I do a show for the troops. I thought it was a cool idea."

Currently, Sergeant Chandler, who goes by the handle "Guardstar" while on the air, has about 60 listeners from across the

globe, including the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia. However, he says that audience response has been so positive that plans are in the works to expand his show's capability so that it can support up to 500 listeners.

"I think it is a great idea and all of us here are behind the effort totally," said Tom Pepple, Taboo Radio station manager. "It is nice to see the response."

Sergeant Chandler attributes some of his show's popularity to its eclectic mix of country, pop, and oldies from the 1960s and 1970s, but mostly to the patriotism and compassion of his audience.

"They [the listeners] all want to adopt the troops and be their pen pals," said Guardstar. "We've also received lots of packages with blankets and clothes people have donated for the Afghans."

Singer/songwriter Staff Sgt. John DeLeon of Redlands, Calif., currently assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Aeromedical

Evacuation Flight here, said that Sergeant Chandler's efforts have opened an important communications channel between the Airmen of Bagram and the rest of the world.

"We're so remote that people don't understand that we have real lives and real feelings out here. Being able to use an artistic ability to give some people gratification is really rewarding," said DeLeon, who performs his songs on the show.

For Sergeant Chandler, the most fulfilling part of the show remains bringing Airmen and loved ones together.

"One of my first guests sent a greeting home to his wife and daughter - he has a three and a half-year-old little girl - and afterwards his wife told him that she was laughing and crying at the same time and his daughter was looking at the computer and saying 'Daddy is in there!' When you hear that, it makes you feel good," he said.



BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Master Sgt. Tim Chandler (left) of Ashland, Ohio and Staff Sgt. John DeLeon of Redlands, Calif., both currently assigned to the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing here share a joke during a live broadcast of an Internet radio show Oct. 28, 2007. Sergeant Chandler hosts the show during his free time, giving Airmen like Sergeant DeLeon a vehicle to send long-distance dedications back home to their loved ones. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Capt. Michael Meridith)

Welcome Home

On Nov. 2, more than 30 members of the 179th returned home from a 45 day deployment to Afghanistan. They were greeted by friends, family, and local media.

The following is of list of those who returned:



RANK	NAME	ORG
TSgt	Bell, Daniel J.	MX
MSgt	Blazer, Joseph P.	MX
SRA	Dibell, Blake D.	MX
MSgt	Ford, Tom	MX
MSgt	Johnson, Randall E.	MX
TSgt	McCauley, James M.	MX
TSgt	McNamara, Patrick G.	MX
SRA	Oshop, Tia M.	MX
MSgt	Pensingler, Scott E.	MX
SRA	Rogers, Mark P.	MX
TSgt	Tedford, David P.	MX
SSgt	Weaver, Jeremiah J.	MX
MSgt	Williams, Roger L.	MX
TSgt	Wolf, Kristopher J.	MX
Capt	Atkinson, David	OPS
Lt Col	Bean, Mark S.	OPS
MSgt	Bishop, Heidi	OPS
MSgt	Brill, Robert	OPS
SMSgt	Brooks, Larry	OPS
MSgt	Bunn, David	OPS
1Lt	Cook, Christopher	OPS
Lt Col	Dunlap, Robert	OPS
MSgt	Hess, David	OPS
Capt	Kornokovich, Brian	OPS
MSgt	Lawrence, Randy	OPS
SMSgt	Leitenberger, Andrea	OPS
MSgt	Raby, William	OPS
SSgt	Sloan, Matthew	OPS
Lt Col	Snyder, Wayne L.	OPS
Lt Col	Thomas, Todd	OPS
Capt	Wuebker, Kevin	OPS



Photos by TSgt Lisa Haur

A Note From The Road

Just to let you know that I am making the 179th Comm Flight a Proud name here in Afghanistan. This morning we had a Commanders Call. During this meeting, I was called up front by LtCol Moshier, who presented me with the 455th Expeditionary Mission Support Squadron Outstanding Performer of the Month award. I got a really nice certificate, and a coin from Chief Jackson as well. Then the commander of

Comm, Major Self, came up and thanked me for making his job easier, and doing extra duties, like pulling cable, terminating fiber and other stuff. I told him that's what we do back in Mansfield all the time...nothing special about it. I guess they think it is. Just wanted to let you know I am doing my best to uphold our image here. Take care.

MSgt Tim Chandler



It is time to purchase your Maintenance Group Christmas Party Tickets

Come join in the fun and honor our retirees

Saturday, 1 December at Hunsinger Park on Crall Rd

The price is \$20 per person which includes dinner, an open bar and entertainment

Social hour will start at 6pm followed by dinner at 7pm

Contact John Liederbach, Karen Zaunscherb, Jason Ault or Sharon Bellino to purchase your tickets

Corneal Laser Surgery for ANG Members

**By Lt.Col. (Dr.) Eric D. Ostrem
MDG Commander**

The latest guidelines on corneal laser refractive correction surgery for ANG non-flyer members are:

- 1) patient must notify and gain permission from their commander before surgery.
- 2) patient could be non-deployable for up to four months depending on corneal healing.
- 3) surgery and follow-up appointments are at the expense of the service member.
- 4) service member must report to Medical Group after surgery to have documented in medical record (is also a declaration on questionnaire during PHA).
- 5) service member must remain within Air Force vision standards after surgery or risk separation from service.

Note: The regulation pertaining to flight/flyers is much more specific and controlled. It involves a lengthy application/ registration/ authorization and follow-up process.

Please contact the Medical Group for any questions.

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Stories or story ideas may be submitted to the Public Relations Office for publication consideration in the Buckeye Airlifter. Information should be emailed to nicole.ashcroft@ohmans.ang.af.mil. The Buckeye Airlifter is a bi monthly publication.

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179th Web site: www.ohmans.ang.af.mil