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Airlifter



MARCH 2009

THE 179TH AIRLIFT WING, OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD, MANSFIELD OH.



STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Serbian Armed
Forces



179th Airlift
Wing

VISITORS FROM SERBIA PG. 6



Chiefs Corner



Valuable words of advice...

By Chief Master Sgt. Thomas A. Gremling
164th AS Chief Flight Engineer

Here are a couple things to think about during your career in the military. As I think back over my time in the unit, one of the most memorable things that happened to me as a young Senior Airman, was a 10-minute chat I had with a senior member. I don't think we had a mentoring program here at the 179th, so this was just some good advice from someone who had been around a lot longer than me. The advice was:

- (1) Always have your Professional Military Education (PME) completed for your next available promotion...in residence if possible.
- (2) Knock out your skill level CDCs as early and quickly as you can
- (3) Be prompt and professional while doing your job

At the time, I did not think much about the importance of the advice that Chief Master Sgt. Harold "Wally" Walters had given me, but as I progressed thru my career here at the Wing, those words have come back many times.

Had I not received his advice, I cannot say for sure that I would have enjoyed the same success in which I now find myself. What is certain, when I made decisions to attend Leadership School and the NCO Academy, and when struggling to get through that next skill-level CDC, those words were always there for me. I owe a lot of thanks to Wally for sharing that advice with me. Unfortunately, for all of us,

C h i e f
W a l t e r s
was taken as the result of an automobile accident. He was a mentor to many even before the term was popular. The moral of the story: It does not al-

ways need to be a preplanned or mandatory career counseling session to pass on good advice to junior members. The important thing is that the message is passed, and that the member feels the message is genuinely meant to help them succeed. I believe Wally was a Master Sgt. at the time he gave me the words of wisdom, so it doesn't take a "Chief" to pass along some good advice.



MARCH PROMOTIONS

NEW SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

JOHN C. DUNE – AMXS
THOMAS A. GROSHONG – CF
GARY L. MYERS – MXG

NEW MASTER SERGEANTS

AMY L. ABSHIRE – MSF

NEW TECHNICAL SERGEANTS

JASON D. BENSON – 200 RH
KELLY L. DAWSON – SVF
JASON D. KEHRES – 200 RH
JASON ORELLANO – 200 RH
ROBERT L. ROGERS – AMXS

NEW STAFF SERGEANTS

CHRISTOPHER D. NEDELKOS – LRS
FRANK W. ZAUNSCHERB – MOF

NEW SENIOR AIRMEN

LACEY S. BUNTIN – MDG
ANDREA N. LIEDERBACH – MXG
JARRED P. ZEIGLER – 200 RH DET 1
ADAM J. WYRICK – 200 RH



Reflection from the Chaplain Section



Doing Change

By Chaplain, Maj. David W. Shirley
179th Chaplains Office

During the January drill I presented information to you on an approach I call: "The Izing Approach to Managing Chaos." The suffix ize means to make harmonious. The Izing approach is intended to help you regain or capture balance or harmony in your life. It is to bring about change in overwhelming circumstances. The Izing phases are: Recognize, Stabilize, Organize, Compartmentalize, Prioritize, Strategize, Mobilize, Energize, Optimize, Analyze/Realize, and Standardize. The purpose of every step you take is to bring you to a place of peace. The key to seeing results is not based on what is in the plan but it has to do with the desire for CHANGE. Often change is an idea or something we mentally accept, but in many cases we do not take action to see what we think needs to happen takes place. We can not just think or talk about change,

we have to do change. In order for true change to take place at any point in your life there has to be at least four components present.

1. Insight happens in some profound way. In other words, there is a breakthrough, the light comes on or you discover something you hadn't known.
2. You acquire new information. The new information provides the opportunity for insight and the information that follows the new revelation is the bridge to the third stage.
3. There is a deliberate effort to change. Change is not passive. There is a decision made to take action on purpose because you believe in the change and know it is necessary.
4. Finally, time is needed.

Change is not easy but given the proper insight, information, effort and time, it can and, in most cases, does happen. There are many programs, self-help resources and counselors available to help us CHANGE and we can be grateful for that. However, when we get right down to it, there will be no movement at all unless we cooperate. When people talk about embracing change, it truly means not to delay or deny your breakthrough but give it a change to make you new. Whatever you do never lose hope there is always the possibility for something wonderful happening in your life. The possibility can become reality when you partner with the fresh insights and new information you receive and make a deliberate effort to work toward CHANGE. May God richly bless you and keep you and yours is my prayer...

MARCH BASKETBALL SCHEDULE 07 Mar 09 at Ontario H. S.

1600

Court 1- SVf/AW vs MXS

1700

Court 1- LRS/APS 1 vs AMXS/COMM

1800

Court 1 – TBD

1600

Court 2- CE/Fire vs LRS/APS 2

1700

Court 2- SFS vs MDS

1800

Court 2 – TBD

Singles Retreat



Are you a single person who likes to have fun? Would you be willing to say goodbye to the winter blues for a FREE weekend to join other singles? Then come join us for a FREE retreat for you!

•When: March 13-15

•Includes: Lodging, singles workshops, fellowship, snacks and dinner (Sat)

•Location: Great Wolf Lodge (Mason)

To register please contact the 178th Chaplain Office at 937 525-2520 or 327-2214. Hurry space is limited and it will be on a first come first serve basis!

Disclaimer: Please do not intend on becoming single to attend this event. If so please see our marriage retreats or stop by the Chaplains Office.



Have you heard about LINKS? It stands for “Lasting Intimacy through Nurturing, Knowledge & Skills”.

It is a program about keeping your marriage alive and fresh.

Chaplain Dave Shirley will be teaching two of these classes this year; so you know it will not only be a learning experience, but it will be FUN. AND, it’s all FREE!!!! You just can’t beat that combination.

So take a look at your calendars and choose a date.

March 14-15 will be right in our own back yard at Mohican State Park April 18-19 will be in Toledo in the Maumee Bay area

Keep a lookout for more information on how to sign up.

Serbian allies visit 179th

By 1st Lt. Nicole L. Ashcroft
179th Chief of Public Affairs

As part of the State Partnership Program, members of the Serbian Air Force and Army visited the 179th Airlift Wing on Tuesday, February 24, 2008. This was their first stop together before breaking into two groups to visit their Air and Army counterparts throughout the state the remainder of the week.

The guests were Brigadier General Jovica Draganic, Chief of Staff for Air Force and Air Defense Command, Brigadier General Djokica Petrovic, 1st Army Brigade Commander, Lt. Col. Milan Majkic, Deputy Commander for Batanjica AFB, and Maj. Stanko Peric, Logistics Support Section for 1st Army Brigade.

The overall purpose of their visit to the 179th Airlift Wing was to help them observe and understand the vital mission the 179th Airlift Wing has in the Air National Guard and the United States Air Force. Col. Mark L. Stephens, 179AW Base Commander, began their visit with a briefing about the unit, its mission, training and people. The remainder of the day was filled with tours of 179th buildings, equipment and aircraft; during which time, the Serbian visitors were able to have all of their questions answered by various base experts.

“It was great to share a day with our Serbian allies and show them just a little bit about why we are all so proud to be part of the Ohio National Guard,” said Stephens.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Joe D. Harwood

Ohio Women Veterans Conference

Saturday, April 4, 2009
Aladdin Shrine Center
3850 Stelzer Road
Columbus, OH 43219

Doors open at 8:00 a.m.
 Conference begins at 10:00 a.m.

Please call 614-752-8941
to register

Hurry seats are limited.

Informational tables will be available from the Veterans Benefits Administration, VA Medical Centers, County and State agencies to answer any questions.



Guest speaker **Vernice Armour**, former combat pilot and now a motivational speaker

Vernice brings us her unique insight and her life strategy "Acknowledge the obstacles... Don't give them power!"

Vernice was featured on Oprah Winfrey, CNN, NPR and others.

www.dvs.ohio.gov

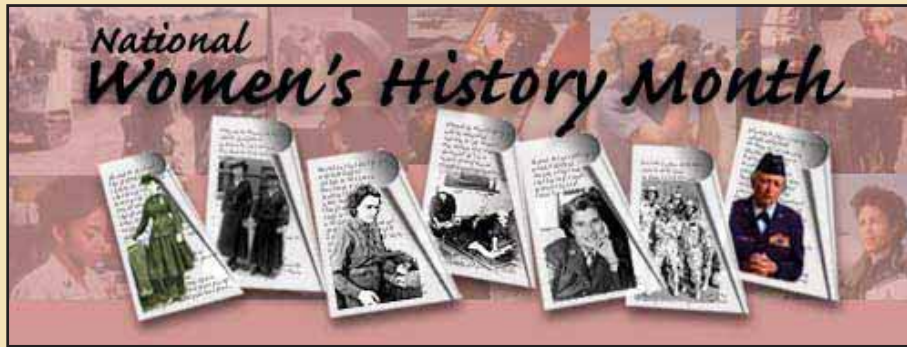
1-877-OHIOVET
1-877-644-6838

It's a great time to see old friends and make new ones.

Welcome to the 179th family!



NAME: Sophia Addison Vidourek
BIRTHDAY: February 13, 2009
WEIGHT: 7lbs 4oz
LENGTH: 19 ¾ inches
GRANDPARENTS: Bob & Dee Jones
PARENTS: Kate & Charlie Vidourek



Most Americans know very little about women's military history because most documentation covers men's roles in combat. Researching information on women's roles in combat involves piecing together accounts from letters, stories, myths, and legends, instead of examining history books. There are many written records of male soldiers' non-combat roles, such as potato peeler, boot polisher, or medical specialist, but women who performed these same duties were called "nurses," not soldiers.

They endured poor living and working conditions, worked under fire, were captured and even killed during war. Their contributions have been downplayed and overlooked because they served selflessly and did not demand recognition.

Women have served the U.S. military in many capacities since the beginning of our nation, but were not given permanent military status in the armed forces until 1948. Before that time, they served during wartime as volunteers or civilian contractors. When wars ended, women were promptly discharged with little recognition or compensation. Until the early 1990's, women were prohibited from engaging in combat, although they often found themselves exposed to it.

It was never the case that women did not want to serve their country, but they had to overcome numerous barriers in order to be "allowed" to do so and be recognized. It is noteworthy that a significant portion of the American population remained an untapped resource and was discouraged or prevented from performing a difficult but necessary service because of attitudes and traditions, not because they were incapable or unwilling. Our national attitudes and traditions should not discourage anyone from contributing to the best of their abilities without interference.

***From the beginning of time, nothing
was accomplished without
Women...and nothing has been
ignored more than their
accomplishments.***

B.A. Wilson

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 Ms. Debra Robinson, 2503 Alta West Road, Mansfield, OH 44903-8232. It must be **POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 24, 2009**. 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 2009 - 2010 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 Bill Kohler at (419) 529-6353 or Troy Cramer at (419) 544-1297.

Scholarship Application Mansfield Lahm Military Families

NAME: _____ DATE: _____
Last First Middle

HOME ADDRESS: _____

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

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.)

Free SAT & ACT Test Prep Software is Donated to U.S. Military Service Members and Their Families.

News Release, Atlanta, GA, December 4, 2008 *Through a special donation program sponsored by the Department of Defense and the National Football League, eKnowledge Corporation is offering free SAT and ACT test preparation software worth \$200 for service members and their families.*

— eKnowledge, a leading provider of interactive learning products has extended its offer to provide free SAT & ACT test preparation software to America's military service members, veterans and their families worldwide. With the holiday season approaching, all of us here at eKnowledge want our men and women in uniform to know that we support them. Charlie Beall, Chairman and CEO of eKnowledge recently announced that eKnowledge will extend this significant donation effort for a fourth consecutive year.

To date, eKnowledge has donated over 100,000 free SAT/ACT programs worth \$20 million to our military members and their families. *This gift represents one of the largest private donations to our military service families in U.S. history.* eKnowledge has recently established a team of dedicated individuals to ensure the continued success of the military donation project. Lori L. Caputo has been appointed Vice President/Military Donation Programs, and will be responsible for leading this unprecedented effort in support of our military service families. "I am excited to join the eKnowledge family, and have assembled a talented group of colleagues committed to making this significant donation effort a success. We owe our sincere appreciation and support to America's military families," commented Ms. Caputo. "We have received more than 30,000 thank you letters from military service members and dependants who have ordered the free SAT/ACT test prep programs. It is heartwarming to read these letters, and confirms the decision by eKnowledge to continue to fund this donation program."

For additional information, contact Lori Caputo at 770-992-0900, LoriCaputo@eKnowledge.com, or visit our website: www.eknowledge.com/military.

eKnowledge™ is a leading provider of interactive learning products and services. From the beginning, we have been guided by an overarching objective...**to change the way the world thinks about learning.** We were pioneers in the field of advanced eLearning technology and the first to convert interactive classroom instruction to multi-media solutions including on-line streaming, CD and DVD ROM.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS !!!

Do not forget to set your clocks an hour FORWARD when you go to sleep Saturday night.

Airman Spotlight

By Airman 1st Class Dustin Edgell
179th Public Affairs Knowledge Manager

Senior Airman Monty Qualls



Senior Airman Monty Qualls is a member at the 179th Airlift Wing within the Communications Squadron. He had been prior active duty and has spent over three years in the military. Master Sgt. Jim D. Jones and Master Sgt. Kevin I. Locke convinced him to joining the 179th from active duty. His buddies wanted him to join the unit because they stressed that 179th is the best unit around. Qualls is a traditional guardsman who has held a full time job with the Ohio Department of Public Safety for the past seven years. He manages repairs, installation, maintenance of public safety and vehicles.

In his free time Qualls enjoys restoring his old 64' Chevy Impala and spending time with his family. He also enjoys a cold drink while watching the OSU Buckeyes. Qualls hobbies include swimming in his pool or upgrading his house. A funny story Qualls doesn't often share is that while stationed at another base, he was the first person to have an accident in the OSHP Command Vehicle, which only had 114 miles on it...which ended up being a costly repair. An interesting fact that most people wouldn't know about him is that he was named "Technician of the Quarter" at McClellan AFB in Sacramento, CA.

Senior Airman Nicholas R. Neenan



Senior Airman Nicholas R. Neenan has been a member of the 179th Airlift Wing Communications Squadron for nearly four months. He decided to join the Ohio Air National Guard because of the excellent retirement and college benefits as well as take pride in serving our country. Neenan chose the 179th Airlift Wing as his home station because of its proximity to his home.

Prior to joining the Air National Guard, Neenan had spent several years serving in the Active Duty Air Force, stationed in Charleston, SC. Neenan is currently attending the Lorain County Community College for Electrical Engineering. He has put his course work on hold until he returns from his technical training in Kessler, MS. When not working, Neenan enjoys fishing, riding mountain bikes, motorcycles, and spending time with his family and friends. During his time as an aircrew member on active duty, he traveled all over the world; to places including Mexico City, where he had the pleasure of hanging out with Flavor Flav (Famous Rap Artist).

Check out one of the BEST healthcare insurance plans available!

Monthly Premiums Decrease for TRICARE Reserve Select

Effective Jan. 1, 2009, TRICARE will reduce the rates for TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS). Monthly premiums for TRS individual coverage will drop 44% from \$81.00 to \$47.51, and TRS family coverage will drop 29% from \$253.00 to \$180.17.

The 2009 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), section 704, required TRICARE to analyze Reserve Select costs from 2006 and 2007, and set new rates for 2009.

“Now that TRS has been in place for several years, we were able to calculate premiums for 2009 from actual cost data obtained in earlier years,” said Army Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, deputy director of TRICARE Management Activity. “It is important to provide high quality and affordable healthcare coverage for our National Guard and Reserve families.”

Established in 2005, TRS is a premium-based health plan for National Guard and Reserve personnel available for purchase by members of the Selected Reserve who are not eligible for or enrolled in Federal Employee Health Benefit plans.

TRS provides a health plan option to members of the Selected Reserve and their families when they are not on active duty status. The TRS plan delivers coverage similar to TRICARE Standard and Extra to eligible members who purchase the coverage and pay monthly premiums. TRS also features continuously open enrollment.

“It’s an excellent health care option we are proud to offer,” Granger said.

For more information about TRS visit the TRICARE Web site at <http://www.tricare.mil>.

About TRICARE Management Activity and the Military Health System TRICARE Management Activity, the Defense Department activity that administers the health care plan for the uniformed services, retirees and their families, serves more than 9.2 million eligible beneficiaries worldwide in the Military Health System (MHS). The mission of the MHS is to enhance Department of Defense and national security by providing health support for the full range of military operations. The MHS provides quality medical care through a network of providers, military treatment facilities, medical clinics and dental clinics worldwide. For more about the MHS go to www.health.mil.



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

APRIL 09 DEADLINE: Saturday 1 Mar 09

Commander.....Col. Mark Stephens
 Chief of Public Affairs.....1st. Lt. Nicole Ashcroft
 Multimedia Manager.....Tech. Sgt. Lisa Haun
 Public Affairs Journalist.....Staff Sgt. Jessica Cauvel
 Public Affairs Photographer.....Staff Sgt. Rob Koehler
 Public Affairs Photographer.....Airman 1st Class Joe Harwood

Public Affairs Broadcaster.....Master Sgt. Rob Pasheilich
 Public Affairs Broadcaster.....Tech. Sgt. Bob Jones
 Public Affairs Broadcaster.....Tech. Sgt. Joe Stepp
 Public Affairs KM.....Airman 1st Class Dustin Edgell
 Family Readiness Manager.....Ms. Faline Rowland
 Reporters.....Unit Public Affairs Representatives