



The 183rd welcomes General Hughes



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**Unit Training Assembly Schedule
and pay dates**



Duty Performed Pays out (approx.)

JUL 11-12	JUL 22
AUG 1-2	AUG 12
SEP 12-13	SEP 23

PLEASE NOTE: Duty hours for each UTA/SUTA will be 0800-1200 and 1300-1700 unless otherwise scheduled in advance. Mark your calendar! For more pay information, see the DFAS website at <http://www.dfas.mil/index.htm>. Pay information is under the Money Matters heading.

Attention!

**The deadline for the
AUGUST issue of the
Falcon's View SATURDAY,
JULY 11, at 1700.**



On Base Emergency

**CALL 911 FOR ALL YOUR
ON-BASE EMERGENCY NEEDS.**

Important Contacts

**Commercial (217) 757-1XXX
on base use 3-digit Ext.**

- Main Gate..... 205
- Base Commander..... 219
- Base Operations..... 202
- 217th EIS Commander..... 700
- Pass and Registration 481
- Recruiting..... 285
- Public Affairs 267
- Customer Service 308
- Military Pay 225
- Clinic..... 221
- Safety 237
- Chaplain 367
- Wing IG770

**Toll Free Number
1-800-392-1797**

Leadership seminar thanks

*by Senior Master Sgt. Brenda Korte
Human Resource Advisor*

The HRA theme for the month of June was Force Development. We were encouraged to push ourselves in order to create an environment where each Airman is given the full opportunity to grow, learn, progress and develop as they strive to unleash their full potential in the pursuit of greatness.



In order to help that “push”, the HRA office and the NCOAGA brought two speakers to the unit over July drill. Each speaker gave a leadership presentation, five times over the weekend. Chief Donald Felch presented to the SNCOs and Officers and TSgt Robin Mason addressed Airman Basic through TSgts.

On behalf of the NCOAGA and myself, I would like to say thank you to those that attended a seminar and offered support for the presentations. Several months ago, I wrote about the flywheel concept and the idea of continuously pushing ourselves to become better. June's flywheel challenge for Force Development was to ask our self:



What am I doing as a leader, team member, Airman, friend, and person to continuously improve in each of these areas? Remember, in order to do something that you have never done before, you must become someone that you have never been before!

Thanks for pushing the flywheel!

Note: Leadership Seminars Slides

Slides from each of the leadership presentations have been placed on the Wing CoP, under WHQ- Wing Headquarters, HRA – Human Resource Advisor folder.

Awards and Ceremonies



Brig. Gen. John Hughes (left), Assistant Adjutant General - Air, presented Lt. Col. Joseph Masler (right), 183rd Medical Group, with the Edward Jones Award during a presentation held at the base on April 4. (Photo taken by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr)



Chief Master Sgt. James Pearson (left), 217th Engineering Squadron, presents Chief Master Sgt. David Wille (right), 217th Engineering Squadron, a flag at his retirement ceremony held on base on April 4. (Photo taken by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr)



Master Sgt. Charles O'Malley (right), 183rd Medical Group, and Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Hergenrother (left), 183rd Command Chief Master Sgt., pose for a photo at O'Malley's graduation from the First Sergeant Academy on May 21. (Photo submitted by Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Hergenrother)



Lt. Col. Jeffrey Laible, Base Chaplain Office, participated in the Memorial Day service held at the American Legion in Lincoln on May 25. (Mike Fak/Lincoln Daily News)

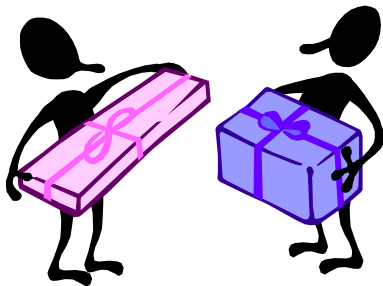


Master Sgt. Anton Smits (left), 217th Engineering Squadron, is presented with his Certificate of Retirement by Lt. Col. James Loux (right), 217th Engineering Squadron Commander, at his retirement ceremony held on base on April 4. (Photo taken by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr)

God and recession

by Lt. Col. Robert Barry
183rd AOC Chaplain

Even though there are some signs that our recession is beginning to trail off and that a weak economic recovery is beginning, almost everyone in the U.S. remains at least cautious if not anxious and concerned. Those who have lost their jobs, been foreclosed, or are facing the collapse of their businesses are living in dread and fear. For most middle class Americans, the recession has meant that they had to tighten their belts and do without some of the niceties of life for a while. But for the genuinely poor, this has been a disaster. For those who were poor before this recession began more than a year ago, this downturn has been catastrophic.



Virtually everyone today is saving today in order to protect themselves from future misfortune. But we should move beyond only trying to protect ourselves and save

not just for ourselves, but for those who could be in financial trouble in the near future. We need to put a little away to help others who may be in trouble in the future. To do this is to truly "my brother's keeper". The idea is that we not only keep an eye out for those who are close to us, but also for those we may meet in the future who may be facing financial difficulties so



that we give them what aid and assistance we think we can afford.

Our current economic difficulties remind us that we need to be watchful for those who have facing into deep economic insecurity. If for no other reason, we all know

that financial and economic difficulties are one of the primary factors that leads to people attempting suicide. In these times that are not easy and are getting harder for some, we should not only keep an eye out for ourselves and our financial well being, but for others as well, especially those who have become impoverished in recent months. If and when we find friends in financial trouble, we can't merely stand by and wish them well, for we need to give a helping hand. Doing this in some instances could be a life-saving form of assistance, for many people do not handle financial difficulties well. Many will panic, or give up hope of recovering from their losses, and to give help to one in this situation is the kind of charity God does not forget.

This recession is certainly a time to be careful and cautious, but it is also a time to be thoughtful and generous to those are suffering deeply from it. For while economies move in cycles, charity shouldn't!

✠ ✠ **CHAPLAINS' INFORMATION** ✠ ✠

Roman Catholic Chaplains:

Lt. Col. Robert Barry
3700 103rd Street
Chicago, IL 60655
phone: 773-296-3857
email: RLBarry@worldnet.att.net
or robert.barry@ilspri.ang.af.mil

Lt. Col. Jeff Laible
316 S. Logan Street
Lincoln, IL 62656
phone: 217-732-4019
email: Frlaible@
holyfamilylincoln.com

Base Chapel Office:

Bldg. P-48, Room 302
Phone 217-757-1367, DSN 892-8367
Fax (217)757-1509

Religious Services
Protestant Service:
Saturday 1500hrs Chapel
Catholic Mass:
Saturday 1600hrs Chapel



Thoughts on the present and the future

by Colonel Michael Meyer
183rd Fighter Wing Commander

THE POWER OF SUGGESTION

Why do certain things or events happen at the 183rd? There are many reasons. Some of the most common reasons are that they are directed by AFI, or by law, or by Higher Headquarters whether it is the National Guard Bureau, USAF, Air Combat Command, or Headquarters Illinois National Guard. Those are all top down reasons. But some things happen from the bottom up. A member, or even sometimes non-members, with a good idea that would benefit other members of the unit, makes the suggestion known through his or her chain of command. Here is a list of some great ideas made by members that have recently borne exceptional results. They include the running seminar in April, the nutrition seminar scheduled for July UTA, the addition of heart-healthy entrees at the Dining Hall, the periodic on-base motorcycle safety course put on by Wing Safety, the new permanent Wing Airman of the Year Award Winners' plaque in the P-48 entrance, and the various 60th Anniversary events to name just a few of them. Other ideas include the NCOAGA wreath laying ceremony and vari-



ous family support programs.

Not all suggestions, however, become reality. Though well intentioned some cannot be brought to fruition because of lack of time, lack of available resources, safety concerns, or the idea or program is prohibited by rule or regulation. Many suggestions languish, however, because not enough effort has been put into the research as to its legality, cost, and time. The more research and more complete the proposal, the more likely a suggestion has a chance of becoming reality.

So I encourage all members, family members, and retirees that if you think you have a good idea, do the research and then bring that idea or suggestion through the chain of command. Keep coming up with those great ideas and let us know about them. They are improving the unit and enhancing our experience in the Air National Guard.

**ANG EFFICIENCY AND
WORK ETHIC**

The Centralized Intermediate Repair Facility (CIRF) for the General Electric F110-GE-100 jet engine is a reality at the 183rd. The Initial Operational Capability (IOC) date may be in the future, but the CIRF is quite busy already. Brig. Gen. John Hughes, Assistant Adjutant General for Air, is extremely excited about the potential of ANG CIRFs and ours in particular. During his visit to the unit during June UTA, he visited our engine repair facilities in P-36 and P-44. As he spoke to some of the engine mechanics, he stated that CIRFs were the way of the future. As the US military and the USAF, in particular, are faced with seeking economies, it will be logical and necessary for them to move more work to the CIRFs. If you look at our installation as an example, almost all of our expenditures go towards combat capability or combat support. Though we wish we had some things like a BX, golf course, child care facility, family housing, commissary, etc.; we need none of the costs associated with those facilities covered by our budget. That is one reason why more work will flow to CIRFs. The other reason is the competency and work ethic of members of the Air National Guard, especially the members of the 183rd. As we strive to make our CIRF a "Center of Excellence," Gen. Hughes and I will strive to grow our CIRF by seeking additional components and products that we can service. All members keep up your outstanding work. This is just the beginning of great things.

Commander's Comments

July Lunch Menu

served 1100-1300

**Saturday
Short Order**
Soft/hard tacos
Mexican rice
Refried beans
Fresh fruit
Salad bar
Spice cake

**Saturday
Main Line**
Baked tuna and noodles
♥ Teriyaki chicken
Potatoes au gratin
Herbed baked beans
Glazed carrots
Fresh fruit
Salad bar
Spice cake

*Menu is subject to change
♥ Heart healthy



**Sunday
Short Order**
Philly chees steak subs
Onions and peppers
Chicken nuggets
Fries
Salad bar
Fresh fruit
Brownies

**Sunday
Main Line**
♥ Cajun baked fish
Creole pork chops
Rice pilaf
Mashed potatoes
Gravy
Mixed vegetables
Salad bar
Fresh fruit
Brownies

Promotions

Lieutenant Colonel
Tina M. Mansfield

Major
Jack A. Elston

First Lieutenant
Alvin L. Ross

Technical Sergeant
Adam R. Barton
Aaron D. Behl
Jay D. Eilerman
David J. Estep
Bradford A. Rich
Valentina M. Thoele

Staff Sergeant
Joseph L. Dewese
Joshua W. Hamm
Nicholas J. McCarthy
Stephen K. Woods

Senior Airman
Joseph A. Bandy



Six Flags

Once again, the Non-Commissioned Officer Academy Graduates Association, Chapter 75, has discounted tickets for Six Flags in St. Louis.

The Six Flags tickets are available for purchase in the Financial Management Office, building P-48. The park will be open from March 28 to Nov. 9. Please go to the Six Flags website to view park hours for these dates.

Tickets this year are as follows:

Ticket	NCO AGA price	Gate price plus tax
1 day General Admission	\$24.00	\$39.99
2 day adult	\$41.00	\$42.99
2 day child*	\$34.00	\$32.99
Season Pass**	\$46.00	\$64.99

* Children 48" and under; Children age two and under are free

** The Season Pass is only valid for residences with a zip code outside a 50-mile radius of Six Flags St. Louis. You must first validate your season ticket at Six Flags in St. Louis and get your season pass, then you may use it at any Six Flags.

For the Six Flags calendar and events, go to <http://www.sixflags.com/stLouis/events/CalendarEvents.aspx>

Air Force Admissions Liaison Officer Program

Program holds annual meeting at 183rd Fighter Wing

by Lt. Col. James Bentley
183rd Logistics Commander

In May 2009 the Illinois chapter of the Air Force Admissions Liaison Officer Program held its annual meeting at the 183rd Fighter Wing. The Admissions Liaison Officer (ALO) program is an organization of Air Force officers who recruit, interview, evaluate, and mentor candidates for the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) and applicants for Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) scholarship programs. ALOs also serve as Air Force team recruiters, directing individuals to Non-Prior Service (NPS), AF Reserve, and Air National Guard recruiters. There are currently 63 Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and retired officers serving in the Illinois ALO program which are part of the overall ALO force that serves in all 50 states and around the world. ALOs are critical to the USAFA admissions process and to AFROTC.

The job of an ALO is to create and nurture an initial interest in the Air Force, sell the Air Force well, and keep that “spark of commitment to country and service” burning in the top fifteen percent of the nation’s high school students. ALOs, as primary Air Force representatives in our communities, must know all about the Air Force Academy and ROTC programs to be effective recruiters.

Each ALO is responsible for informing local potential candidates, parents, civic leaders, high school counselors, administrators, congressional staffers, etc., about Air Force officer career opportunities. They meet with students and parents individually as well as in groups to inform them about opportunities, admissions requirements, and application procedures. They counsel and mentor candidates throughout the admissions and scholarship application processes. When



Members of the Illinois chapter of the Air Force Admissions Liaison Officer Program pose for a photo during its annual meeting held at the 183rd Fighter Wing in May 2009. (Photo submitted by Lt. Col. James Bentley)

candidates enter the Academy or AFROTC programs, they maintain contact and support with them through graduation and beyond.

ALOs represent the Air Force at college nights, science fairs, service clubs, Parents’ Club meetings, congressional events, high school awards ceremonies, and other similar public activities. Occasionally, ALOs speak on radio, TV, and before civic groups to explain the Academy and AFROTC to the public. They sponsor cadets in public speaking appearances and counseling sessions when they are home on leave from the Academy and AFROTC. They are also called upon to help with arrangements for visiting Academy representatives.

In addition, ALOs recommend educators for the Educator Orientation program. This program brings teachers and counselors to the Academy and gives them a better understanding of USAFA’s mission and the type of person who has the potential to succeed as a cadet.

ALOs are key part of both the USAFA and ROTC admissions programs and their evaluation of potential officer candidates is vital to the selection process. The officers that are currently serving as ALOs from the 183rd are Col. Stephen Baggerly, Col. Ricky Yoder, Lt. Col. James Bentley, Major Kevin Elbrecht and Capt. Steve Simon.



Independence Day - July 4th

Letter from the Air Force Chief of Staff on cyber security

article submitted by 183rd Communications Flight

Fellow Airmen, in executing our Air Force mission of fly, fight and win, our Airmen, civilians and contractors, knowingly or unknowingly, engage daily on the cyber battlefield. Computers and personal electronic devices connected to our networks can simultaneously be powerful tools and critical vulnerabilities. At times, our networks have been compromised by multiple means: Malware hidden in emails, virus-corrupted thumb drives, and media moved incorrectly between networks. We can prevent these events with due consideration and proper procedures, but in the past, we've regarded network protection and security as the "comm guy's job," and as a user inconvenience. This must no longer be the case.

Today, we forge a long overdue Air Force cultural change. Cyber operations reinforce and enable everything we do - from administrative functions to combat operations - and we must treat our computers and networks similarly to our aircraft, satellites and missiles. To this end, operations and maintenance will follow standards governed by a tight system of regulations and technical orders. Compliance with time critical software updates will gain new emphasis and commanders will be held accountable. Command and control relationships will be revised to correctly align authorities and responsibilities. MAJCOMs and subordinate commanders will no longer "own" networks, but will be responsible for their portion of the larger Air Force Global Information Grid (AF-GIG). Air Force Space Command will champion our cyber force development and operations.

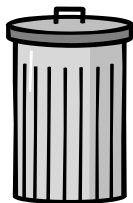
I have signed a directive memo making an unequivocal statement about the importance of compliance with network related technical orders. This guidance will improve safety and efficiency on the AF-GIG and provide commanders a clear enforcement/disciplinary mechanism. MTOs, NTOs, and CCOs issued by the AFNETOPS/CC now have the same authority as aircraft maintenance technical orders and lawful general orders. I expect this change will increase compliance with network technical orders across the AF.

As Airmen, civilians and contractors, you must understand your responsibility in this cultural change. Each time you use a networked device, you are on patrol for our Nation. You must be alert for and report suspicious emails, websites and suspicious attachments. Mission needs may require you to "sneaker-net" information, but you must follow safe and approved procedures for moving critical data. You must not upload data from personal devices for any reason. While training programs communicate information on network security, we depend on you to execute responsibly. When irresponsible acts occur, I expect commanders to enforce our standards.

This change is not easy, but compliance enables us to defend our networks - paramount in the face of increasing threats. Networks are a shared resource and a risk assumed by one is a risk exposed to all. Our Air Force must move to a system of tight network control, personal responsibility, and accountability as we execute our global mission on behalf of our Nation.

NORTON A. SCHWARTZ, General, USAF,
Chief of Staff

If you have questions about this or anything else Communications related, call the Helpdesk at 241!!!!



**Your trash could be your adversary's treasure.
Remember OPSEC!**

Auto safety repairs

by Staff Sgt. Christopher Rosser
183rd Safety Office

With everyone watching their budget more closely many of you may be inclined to tackle auto repairs and maintenance yourself. For those mechanically gifted this is a great way to save some money. But, if the repair includes a trip to the emergency room, the cost savings won't add up. To prevent injuries all do-it yourselfers should be safety conscious when doing vehicle repairs at home. Some items to consider:

1. Use the right tools for the job. Sockets, wrenches and screwdrivers should be the exact size, not "close enough."
 2. Protect your hands from solvents and gasoline by wearing protective gloves.
 3. Be prepared to clean up spills and know how to dispose of flammable rags.
 4. A fire extinguisher should be nearby and accessible. The fire extinguisher should have a "B" (liquids and grease fires) and "C" (electrical fires) rating.
 5. Wear protective equipment, especially leather work gloves and eye protection, to protect you from metal chips, cuts and scrapes.
 6. If you are putting your car up on ramps, make sure they are sturdy and follow the directions for how to set the car's emergency brake and transmission, and how to chock the other set of wheels. Don't improvise ramps.
 7. Review the precautions for working with gasoline if you are doing any work on your fuel tank, fuel lines or carburetor. Remember the fire extinguisher!
 8. Always disconnect one of the battery cables or remove power fuses for a circuit when doing electrical repair work (as when replacing a starter, installing a radio, fixing a broken switch or wiring, etc.).
 9. Watch out for the air bags! If working on the steering column or under the instrument panel or dash, always disconnect the battery and wait at least 15 minutes before proceeding with any disassembly or wiring tests. Crossing, jumping or shorting wires in the air bag circuit could cause the air bag(s) to accidentally deploy and possibly injure you. Air bag wiring is often color-coded YELLOW.
 10. NEVER crawl under an improperly supported vehicle. Never trust a jack alone to hold the vehicle up. Always use a pair of support stands positioned underneath the vehicle to keep it from falling on you. Make sure the weight ratings on the support stands is more than adequate to hold up the vehicle's weight, too.
- Most of us know when we are about to attempt something we should not. For example, if you are questioning whether you should construct an even longer breaker bar to loosen that rusty, now rounded off nut, maybe it's time to ask for professional help. Remember, the most important safety rules are using common sense and knowing your limits.

Women's Health: Group B strep. What is it all about and how does it affect me?

by Tech. Sgt. Amy Murphy
183rd Medical Group

Group B strep is a bacteria that is naturally found in your digestive system and in the birth canal of one in four expectant mothers. These women "carry" Group B strep in their system. Group B strep most usually causes infection in the blood, the fluid and lining of the brain and the lungs. It can cause babies to be miscarried, stillborn, or die after being born. Some survivors of Group B strep have permanent disabilities, such as blindness, deafness, mental retardation and cerebral palsy.

Signs and symptoms of Group B strep include:

- Vaginal burning/discharge
- Bladder infections

Testing options for Group B strep is a urine culture that specifically screens for Group B strep. Your Ob-Gyn doctor should screen you at thirty-five through thirty-seven weeks of gestation. This is done with a swab of your vagina and rectum. The test results should only take two to three days to be completed. Treatment options for Group B strep are oral antibiotics prescribed by your physician. Call your doctor if any of these apply to you:

- You have a baby with Group B strep and are currently pregnant
- Your baby was born before thirty-seven weeks
- You have a fever of 100.4 or higher during labor
- Your water broke eighteen hours or more and you have not delivered a baby yet

If your baby shows any of these signs call his/her pediatrician:

- Increased pitched cry, shrill, moaning or whimpering
- Irritable and inconsolable
- Projectile vomiting
- Feeds poorly or won't eat at all
- Increased or decreased temperature
- Difficulty breathing
- Bulgy spot on the top of his/her head
- Blank stare

Here are some ways to keep your baby safe:

- Have everyone who comes in contact with your baby wash their hands
- Breastfeeding! By doing this, you supply your baby with important antibodies necessary to fight infection
- If you are having a planned C-section, ask your doctor to start IV antibiotics four hours before delivery



Guard Chief emphasizes communication, collaboration, coordination

by Army Staff Sgt. Jim Greenhill
National Guard Bureau

WASHINGTON (5/29/09) – Communication, collaboration and coordination are the keys to navigating challenging times when it is hard to discern true north, the chief of the National Guard Bureau said Wednesday.

“The National Guard has evolved over the last eight years into a force ... that has been through the crucible of combat,” Gen. Craig McKinley told students at the National Defense University (NDU) in a distinguished speaker lecture here at Fort Lesley J. McNair.

McKinley, who himself graduated from NDU in 1995, raised rhetorical questions for an audience of American and foreign military leaders who have been receiving joint military education and many of whom will go on to rise to top positions in their nation’s armed forces.

“From the beginning of time in this nation as a republic, we’ve had to call on Citizen-Soldiers to augment our [regular] components,” said McKinley, who represents the 460,000 members of the Army and Air National Guard.

Pre-dating independence, the National Guard traces its roots

to the First Muster of 1636. The Guard has played a role in all the nation’s wars, including both world wars, Korea and Vietnam, and current conflicts. At least two-thirds of current members of the Army National Guard have been deployed once or twice, McKinley said.

“We rely on citizens who have other jobs, do other things ... have other careers,” he said.

The percentage of Guardmembers who have prior military service is declining, McKinley said. “There’s less prior service because when you transition to a National Guard ... unit, you will have the same tempo you had if you were on active duty. Maybe even worse, because you will try to establish your civilian career [too].”

Guardmembers sacrifice, McKinley said. “You can sustain a [civilian] career, but in many cases you can’t advance ... like you did during the Cold War,” he said.

“I throw out the premise that maybe this reserve component that we’ve had for centuries, that we count on to sustain an active component – we may have to come up with a new model,” McKinley said. “Those of us in the [Pentagon] are struggling to find a solution for that.”

In a time of spending constraints and changing defense paradigms, McKinley said he seeks to communicate, collaborate and coordinate with the leaders of the seven reserve components – the Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force and Coast Guard Reserve and the Army and Air National Guard.

“All of us are going through



The National Guard has evolved over the last eight years into a force that has been through the crucible of combat, Gen. Craig McKinley, the chief of the National Guard Bureau, told students at National Defense University at Fort Lesley J. McNair in Washington on May 27, 2009. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Jim Greenhill)

the very same identity crisis, because we have changed the very nature of what a Reservist or Guardsman is,” he said. “We have asked these people to be with us so much over the last eight years that, quite frankly, most people have left their ... civilian careers and are on extended active duty with the National Guard. That’s not the nature of who we were.”

During a recent visit to Afghanistan, the chief said he saw in troops’ eyes that, “People are tired; people are hurt; and they’ve been doing this now for longer than any contingency that we’ve been exposed to in our recent history.”

Guard chief, continued on page eleven

Guard chief, continued from page ten

Sometimes, Guardmembers make the ultimate sacrifice. McKinley met with 17 family members of deceased Guardmembers in Indianapolis over the Memorial Day weekend.

He said the family members told him, "He or she died doing exactly what they wanted to do. I have no ill will to our government and bear no animosity toward you as a leader" – comments that brought flowing tears from one of the senior leaders who was with the chief during his visit.

Now is a time of questions for the National Guard, McKinley said. Those include:

What is the National Guard's role? "How do we take a 17th century construct and make it work in the 21st century," McKinley wondered. "Can a militia – trained,

properly equipped, well-led, well-educated – ... can it survive in the 21st century? ... Can you have a military that relies on its mobilized reserve for sustainment of a national strategy? I think that we are in that transition period ... of saying maybe we have passed through an era where you trust on confronting an enemy up front with regular forces and then building and mobilizing the rest of the force."

What level of resources will the Guard have? There is "no more gold-plated defense in this country," McKinley noted. "The era of unconstrained spending will come to an end." Nevertheless, the National Guard must be "well-equipped – not necessarily top-line equipped – but at least equipped well-enough to fight and integrate into a force."

The National Guard is in a

unique position because of its dual role fulfilling domestic missions for the states and federal government and prosecuting the warfight overseas.

In addition to these questions, there is the issue of the very nature of service. "We look again at this all-volunteer, magnificent force that our nation relies on, and we say how long is it sustainable?" McKinley said. "How long do the 460,000 people who I have influence over and can shape say, 'We stay with you, we continue to support and serve?' It gets get back to our basic [question] of whether our nation is a spectator nation watching those of us [in uniform] ... participate on the field of play ... or are we all in this together?"

Less than 1 percent of Americans serve in uniform, McKinley noted.

News From the Field

Hello from Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan:

6 June 2009

You would be very proud of our men and women in uniform for their efforts as warriors as well as ambassadors of American generosity and love. The Manas Air Base Outreach Society (MABOS) is a voluntary organization to improve the lives of the Kyrgyz people. I've attached some information of just one example that demonstrates the type of humanitarian assistance we give the local people. I am honored to be a part of this effort and wanted you all to know about the good works your fellow citizens are doing in central Asia. Kyrgyzstan as you know is a former Soviet Republic and it is quite impoverished. We are making a difference, and in fact, 140 Kyrgyz children are alive today through the generosity of MABOS funds for heart surgeries. I send my regards to all and ask for your continued prayers for all of us serving in harm's way.

Blessings,

Jim

Master Sgt. James Iaun is currently deployed to Manas Air Base. He is the NCOIC of the Chapel at Manas and is quite involved in humanitarian efforts with the local population.

Announcements

3rd annual Jake Lessen memorial golf outing

Date: Friday, July, 17, 2009

Tee Time: 7:30 a.m.

Place: The Rail

Pre-register by July 3, 2009

- Entry fee of \$80 includes:
- 18 hole scramble with cart
 - Continental breakfast
 - Lunch
 - Three drink tickets
 - Outing t-shirt

For more information or to register, contact Kelly Bogdanic at 217-737-8770 or Lana Miller at 217-737-1631



All proceeds go directly to the Lincoln Land Community College Fire Science Scholarship Fund.

Wreath laying ceremony

The wreath laying ceremony that was scheduled to be held Sunday, June 7, was cancelled due to the weather. It has been rescheduled for Sunday, July 12, at 0830 by the static display.

Please remember if you know of any retiree that have passed away since the last ceremony held in October 2008 to contact Joe Ward, Family Readiness Manager, with the name so that he or she can be honored during the next wreath laying ceremony.

Everyone is encouraged to attend.

New baby



Staff Sgt. Rodney Halford (183LRS) and his wife Audre are the proud new parents of a baby girl.

Ashley Marie was born May 20, weighing seven pounds, three ounces, and was 21 inches tall.

Congratulations to the Halford family!

Show me the money

submitted by Master Sgt. Matt Allen, Base Recruiting Office

Attention all Traditional Guardsman and Traditional Retirees!!!

Did you know that there is a program in place that will pay you great money for assisting someone in enlisting into the Air National Guard called the Guard Recruiting Assistant Program?

A Recruiting Assistant or RA can earn \$2,000.00 for any new enlisted individuals and \$4,000.00 for any officer that you bring to the Air National Guard.

Air National Guard Recruiting Assistants are embedded in their respective communities and are uniquely positioned to identify potential Airmen/Officers in the people they already know. It's the effective way to promote strength from within.

To find out more, individuals can voluntarily apply online at www.GuardRecruitingAssistant.com or by calling 866-566-2472.

The Security Forces Squadron has fielded many requests as to the condition of our brother Carlo Santini. At the request of the family, please log-on to the Caring Bridge website (www.caringbridge.org) for information about Carlo and his family. The website will allow you to post a message to the family as well as read Carlo's blog. Please keep Carlo and his family in your hearts and prayers through these trying times. Thank you.

Welcome Aboard

New Enlistees

Airman 1st Class Aaron M. Grover	183rd Civil Engineering Squadron	April 30, 2009
Airman 1st Class Luke S. Goodey	183rd Civil Engineering Squadron	May 14, 2009
Airman 1st Class Cody J. Proctor	183rd Security Forces Squadron	May 21, 2009
Airman 1st Class Michael D. Alger	217th Engineering Squadron	May 28, 2009
Airman 1st Class Brian W. Wallbaum	183rd Civil Engineering Squadron	May 28, 2009

First Sergeants



Civil Engineering Squadron
MSgt William "Bill" Casson



Mission Support Group
MSgt Austin "Chris" Dearing



217th EIS
MSgt Andrew Grzesiak



Security Forces Squadron
MSgt Timothy Ingram



Medical Group
MSgt Charles O'Malley



Air Operations Group
MSgt Richard "Rick" Reimann



Wing HQ
SMSgt Kim Piskacek



Maintenance Squadron
MSgt Robert Stults

ILANG Family Support bass tournament

by Master Sgt. Steve Parker
Family Support Group Bass Tournament Director

High expectations awaited the 34 teams participating in the 6th Annual Air National Guard Family Support Bass Tournament held on May 17, 2009, at Lake Springfield. The anglers were greeted with cool morning temps, light winds, bright sunshine and a forecasted high in the upper 60's. WOW! That's a nice forecast. However severe storms and heavy rains with a cold front moved through the area a few days prior to the tournament hampering the fishing with heavily stained and muddy water in almost all areas of the lake.

The teams started to show up at the boat ramp at 4:45 a.m. where they are greeted by retired guard member Joe Ward, who is now the 183rd Family Readiness Manager. Joe conducted a "Live Well" inspection of all the participating boats and directed the anglers proceed on to be checked-in by Tournament Director Master Sgt. Steve Parker. Master Sgt. Parker ensured all contestants were registered and presented them with a complimentary gift bag full of fishing tackle and assorted prizes. From there the anglers went on to start prepping their boats and equipment for the day's event.

At 5:30 a.m. Master Sgt. Parker started the pre-tournament meeting in which he went over the rules, safety and take-off instructions prior to the start of the tournament. Master Sgt. Parker also thanked the sponsors and competitors for participating in this event. The teams proceeded to launch their boats and finish final preparations before for the start of the tournament.

At 6:00 a.m. the boats scattered in all directions as Joe Ward began calling out the boat take-off numbers to start the tournament. The teams would be fishing from 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and they would be fishing for up to five Largemouth bass that had to be greater than 14 inches in length. The team with the heaviest weight of up to five fish would win the tournament.

As 2:30 p.m. approached, the anglers were returning to the ramp with a lot of anticipation as to the outcome of this tournament. Everyone with fish in their boats had hopes of finishing in one of the top five positions.

Joe Digiovanna and Russ Angel of the Springfield area managed to catch enough fish to take the 1st place spot with five largemouth bass weighing in at 10.92 lbs. Joe and Russ collected \$1360.00 for the victory.

Finishing in 2nd place and once again finishing in the money was the 2008 winners Tom Acton of Chatham and George Speed of Litchfield. Tom and George's five fish limit weighed in at 10.25 lbs. and earned them \$1,020.00.

Coming in at 3rd place with a five fish limit weighing in at 9.72 lbs was the team of Herb Rush of Salisbury and Reggie Davis of Springfield. Herb and Reggie cashed in on \$510.00 for their five fish limit.

Fourth place went to tournament director Master Sgt. Steve Parker and his team partner Kevin Rose of Springfield.

This team had three fish for a total weight of 9.39 lbs. and earned them \$340.00. They also received a check from Lincolnland Bassmasters for 2nd big bass of the event for \$100.00. Their big fish weighed 3.89 lbs.

Finally, 5th place and a \$170.00 went to the team of Terri and Zack Valenti of Springfield.

The big bass honors for the day went to the team of Dave and Tom Ferguson who managed to catch a monster bass weighing in at 5.93 lbs. and earning them \$170.00 for their big fish.

After the weigh-in was over, Joe Ward began the raffle. All contestants received free raffle tickets for the prizes that were donated by some very generous sponsors. It has always been the goal of this event that the participants receive something in return for their support.

The sponsors for this event were: Tracker & Nitro Boats, The Boat Dock, Angler Assets, Producto Worms, Eagle Claw, Guido Didonato, Dicks Sporting Goods, Custom Cast Jigs, Winn Heating and Air, Bass Fan, Ranger Boats, In-Fisherman, Falcon Rods, Lincolnland Bassmasters of Culprit, Ill., Fishing.com, Yamamoto baits, 7/24 Outdoors, Rejuvenade, Larry's Fishing Page, East Side Marine, Bob Ridings Family dealerships in Taylorville, Pana, Jacksonville and Decatur, Net Bait, Kick n Bass, Rat-L-Trap, Adventure Sports Outdoors, Lake Fork Tackle, Buck Knives, Uncle Josh, Bass Assassin, Snag Proof, Triple Fish, Wal-Mart, Plano, and Poor Boys Baits Gene Larew. Additional thanks to Kelly Stufflebeam, and Brian Denk for the plaques. A debt of thanks goes out to all the sponsors for their support of this event.

The Air National Guard Family Readiness and Support Group received a donation of \$1000.00



Fisherman out on Lake Springfield participating in the 6th annual Illinois Air National Guard Family Support bass tournament on May 17. (photo submitted by Master Sgt. Steve Parker)

Unit member receives Illinois Law Enforcement Medal of Honor

by Master Sgt. Deb Schumer
183rd Base Legal Office

Master Sgt. James B. Wynn, 217th Engineering Squadron, received the Illinois Law Enforcement Medal of Honor at the Executive Mansion on May 20. Wynn, who is also an officer with the Chicago Police Department, was among the 19 Illinois law enforcement officers honored at the ceremony.

“It was a great honor and nothing more than doing my job. Other officers are putting their lives on the line everyday and I don’t think I was doing more than anyone else,” Wynn said.

The awards are held annually to honor law enforcement officers who have distinguished themselves by displaying bravery or heroism while performing their duties as a law enforcement official.

Wynn, who lives in the Chicago area, and his partner responded Aug. 5, 2008, to a shots fired call and observed the offender standing on the street. As the officers exited their vehicle, the offender began shooting at them.

According to the Illinois State Police, as he was seeking cover, Wynn was shot in the foot. The officers returned fire and chased the offender as he fled. After barricading himself in the stairway of a building, the suspect continued to fire at officers, who had arrived at the scene, for more than two hours, firing over 50 rounds.

The offender was fatally wounded after leaving his protected area and again opening fire on the officers.

Wynn said the skills he has learned from both the Air National Guard and the Chicago Police Department have

benefited each other. He said the military leadership training he has received has given him more confidence and assurance in the ability to perform as a police officer. On the other hand, the weapons handling skills he has learned as a police officer has made him more proficient handling a military rifle.

Wynn has been in the military for about 18 years and has been a member of the 217th Engineering Squadron for 12 years. Like Wynn, the majority of Illinois Guardsmen are part-time, meaning they have full-time careers outside of the military.

Even though Wynn said it is hard to balance his career and military commitment, he has found the time management skills and the duties he performed while deployed help him balance.



Master Sgt. James Wynn, 217th Engineering Squadron, poses for a photo in the Executive Mansion. Wynn received the Illinois Law Enforcement Medal of Honor at an awards ceremony held on May 20. (Photo submitted by Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Angermeier)

Retiree News

New Retirees

Master Sgt. David C. Langdon

183rd Civil Engineering Squadron

May 7, 2009

Chief Master Sgt. Jackie A. Kanady

Headquarters, ILANG

May 28, 2009

Retirees breakfast gathering

Come join the retirees for breakfast. Some are new, some are old, and some are even older than that, but it’s always an enjoyable way to start the day. The monthly retiree’s breakfast will be on Tuesday, July 7, at King Pin Lanes on the corner of Sangamon Ave. and Dirksen Parkway. They say they meet at 8 a.m., but if you’re not there by 7:30 a.m., the early birds have taken the good seats!



**183d FW/PA
Illinois Air National Guard
Capital Airport
3101 J. David Jones Parkway
Springfield, IL 62707-5001**



COMMANDER

Colonel Michael A. Meyer

183D PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr
Master Sgt. Samuel Kassis
Staff Sgt. Steven D. Martin
Staff Sgt. Shelly Stark
Senior Airman Sarah Pherigo
Senior Airman Chasity Johnson

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