



Chapel staff reaches customer service milestone

by Tech. Sgt. Tammie Moore
376th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

11/3/2011 - TRANSIT CENTER AT MANAS, Kyrgyzstan -- The 376th Air Expeditionary Wing Chapel Ministry Center staff reached a milestone Oct. 27 when they assisted their 50,000 customer this year.

"It is pretty exciting for us," said Master Sgt. James Iaun, 376th AEW superintendent of chapel operations. "We didn't have a big celebration about that one person; instead we celebrated that as a team we were able to provide that strategic priority of warrior care to so many people. It was a celebration of the lives impacted and of the spiritual care we're able to provide through the personal contact we have with so many people."

Master Sgt. Elizabeth Bookhoop is proud to be a part of the 376th AEW chapel's milestone.

"I am tremendously thankful and honored to be able to serve all these brave men and women who come through here," said Bookhoop, 376th AEW Chapel Ministry Center NCO in charge.

The chapel staff has a volunteer force who helped them reach their customer service milestone.

"We are very thankful for all our volunteers," said Bookhoop, deployed from the Georgia Air National Guard's 165th Airlift Wing. "They truly have been invaluable when they greet the troops or stock shelves for us."

Iaun attributes the staff's ability to help so many customers to the summer expansion of the Chapel



Master Sgt. James Iaun hands out calling cards to Marines passing through the Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyzstan, on their way to Afghanistan Nov. 2. The 376th Air Expeditionary Wing Chapel Ministry Center staff reached a milestone Oct. 27 when they assisted their 50,000 customer this year. The Marines are deployed from Camp Pendleton, Calif. Iaun is deployed here as the 376th AEW superintendent of chapel operations from the Illinois Air National Guard's 183d Fighter Wing. He is a native of Springfield, Ill. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Tammie Moore)

Ministry Center. The new facility, which opened in June expanded the staff's physical capability to handle the flow of their guests.

Additionally, the chapel staff receives support from the USO, stateside churches, veterans groups and the Transit Center customs staff though the donation of hygiene items and other supplies.

"It is a big commitment in terms of time and logistics to make sure these resources are available," said Iaun, deployed from the Illinois Air National Guard's 183d Fighter Wing.

The Chapel Ministry Center staff anticipates helping

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Important Information

Unit Training Assembly Schedule and pay dates



<u>Duty Performed</u>	<u>Pays out (approx.)</u>
DEC 3-4	DEC 14
JAN 7-8	JAN 18
FEB 11-12	FEB 22

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.

December Lunch Menu

**Menu subject to change*

Saturday: ***HOLIDAY MEAL***

Baked ham, roast turkey, prime rib, parsley buttered potatoes, mashed potatoes, dressing, gravy, sweet potatoes, corn, green beans, glazed carrots, cheese soup, cherry pie, shrimp cocktail



Sunday:

Italian beef, grilled ham and turkey sandwiches, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, carrots, peas, peanut butter cookies

NOTE: *No short order menu will be available Saturday or Sunday.*

Attention!



The deadline for the January issue of the Falcon's View is, 1200 hrs. Dec. 4!

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
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Toll Free Number

1-800-392-1797

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Looking forward

by Lt. Col. James Bentley
183d Force Support Squadron
Commander

In today's economic and political environment it is easy to see only doom and gloom around the corner. President Obama had to sign a Continuing Resolution just to keep the federal government running until the middle of November due to the gridlock in Congress, the ongoing Occupy Wall Street demonstrations, the spreading of the European debt crisis, the dismal performance of the stock market, the high unemployment rate of nine percent, and the Federal Reserve just stated that economic activity and labor market conditions will probably only improve at a sluggish pace over the next two years. The latest bit of bad news is the possibility that the military budget may be reduced by a large amount.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz stated Nov. 1, that the on-going U.S. financial crisis has sparked a need for change in how the Department of Defense operates. He stated that "With less money in the Air Force budget, the service will continue to review all areas including force structure, operations and investment, and personnel for further savings. We would rather be a smaller, capable Air Force than one that is larger and not ready. That's the strategy we're going to follow." And if Congress' 12 member Deficit Super Committee does not meet its Nov. 23 deadline to engineer a \$1.5 trillion in deficit reduction over the next decade, then across the board spending cuts to domestic and defense programs would automatically kick in starting in fiscal year 2013. The Pentagon claims that the cumula-



tive impact of such cuts would be \$1 trillion through 2021, starting with the fiscal 2013 budget. The Congressional Budget Office estimated that the automatic cuts would lower defense budgets by about \$882 billion total through 2021, or a 16 percent decrease against current projections.

What we can probably expect is that the Air National Guard will take some type of hit which will undoubtedly cause a change in how we do business. What comfort as Guardsmen can we take in all this? It is probably easy to lose perspective while we are trying to maintain our jobs and keep our families stable while at the same time coping with the ever growing training workloads, inspections, TDY's and overseas deployments. But do not lose hope! We have a critical mission ahead and it is a Guard mission.

Lt. Gen. Harry Wyatt, Director of the Air National Guard, recently stated, "the The Air Guard provides to the United States Air Force 34 percent of the combat capability on 7 percent of the budget," and, "I've told my Airmen that the Air National Guard is positioned exactly where it needs to be at this critical time to provide the most combat capability for the least amount of money." He went on to say the Air Guard operates 66 of our 89 wings off of civilian airfields for about the same amount of money as it costs to run one large Air Force base and the Air Guard

is present in the majority of the Air Force missions with a fraction of the cost (43 percent of the air-refueling mission, 33 percent of the fighter mission, 30 percent of the cargo and transport mission, 20 percent of the remotely piloted aircraft mission and 20 percent of the distributive common ground station mission). We as Guardsmen have clearly proven that once deployed we are indistinguishable from our active duty counterparts.

To help prepare for any potential changes that may occur, Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy, Command Chief Master Sgt. of the Air National Guard, stated last month that Guard members need to be technically, physically and mentally ready Airmen who are committed to developing themselves. He said with such Airmen he is confident that the Guard will successfully handle any change and continue to be a relevant, timely and dependable force that has been 375 years in the making.

What specifically can we do at the Wing level? We need to continually step up our game to be the best Wing that we can be – keep training, complying with inspections, deploying and displaying a high morale. If we continue to do these things, stay focused on our mission and be the best Airmen we can be, we will successfully handle any change that may occur. Also, we need to get involved by supporting our professional military organizations. These organizations speak directly to our elected officials and bring our concerns to Congress – which helps to shape our future.

Remember the Airman who best conveys our national resolve at the local level is a hometown Guardsman. Your ability to respond is what guarantees the future security of our nation and the reputation of the Guard.

Announcements

Promotions



Lieutenant Colonel
Melanie J. McDonald

Master Sergeant
Richard A. Davis Jr.
Jay D. Eilerman

Staff Sergeant
Adam L. Fowler

Welcome Aboard

Lt. Col. Jeffrey J. Greenberg	183ACOS
Capt. Robert A. Jobe	183d CES
2nd Lt. Dereck M. Howerton	183d AIS
2nd Lt. Eric J. Marks	183d CES
2nd Lt. Stephen T. Summers	217th EIS
Master Sgt. Gersom F. Teran	183d ASUS
Staff Sgt. Samuel M. Colburn	183d LRF
Senior Airman Shawn G. Merrow	183d AMOS

Retirees

Col. Gary L. Brinner	HQ ILANG	Oct. 31, 2011
Tech. Sgt. Mark A. Calhoun	183d MXS	Oct. 31, 2011
Tech. Sgt. David L. Deiss	183d MXS	Nov. 3, 2011

Retiree News

Breakfast Gathering: Retirees gather on the first Tuesday of each month to share breakfast and talk about the good ole days. Join them at King Pin Lanes, on the corner of Sangamon Ave. and Dirksen Parkway, Tuesday, Dec. 6th. They say they meet at 8 a.m. but if you're not there by 7:30, the early birds have taken the good seats!

In the Spotlight



Who: Master Sgt. Danika Wilson

What: Medical Laboratory Technician – NCOIC of Lab Services

When: June 1996

Why: Joined for the educational benefits and experience. Stayed because of the people- both those I work with and the benefit of having some great mentors.

Civilian Employment: Occupational Therapist; currently at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, IL; provide evaluation and treatment services related to activities of daily living. “Basically I evaluate whether people can live safely and independently in their own homes...and how I can help them achieve this.”

Civilian/Military Correlation: It is helpful to have gained laboratory knowledge through the military that can contribute to getting to know my patient’s specific medical issues.

Recent/Favorite Deployment: Annual training at Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii. It was great to experience how the Army laboratory is different (and the same) as an Air Force laboratory.

Here to help

An interview with Meg Haycraft

by 2nd Lt. Stephen Unverzagt

183d FW Public Affairs



You may have seen her around base since she joined us in July of this year, but may not know who she is or what she does. I am speaking of Meg Haycraft, the Wing Director of Psychological Health. She acknowledges this title rather begrudgingly and would rather be known by a different moniker. Give her a call and she will let you know that title.

She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker

who is very committed to improving the overall resilience, wellbeing and readiness of unit members. Meg would really like to help, lift the stigma surrounding persons who seek help and finds that much easier to accomplish being embedded in our unit. She considers herself part of the safety net that surrounds our returning warriors and wants to support unit members and not let them fall through the cracks. In her work she enjoys giving people the resources and tools to help move forward in their healing and improving the enjoyment we can get out of life.

Resistance to change is one obstacle that she has overcome and to educate unit members on how important the work she performs is to unit health. Even though she has never been in the service she has worked with numerous branches and finds that our unit has been very receptive to her assistance. She operates under similar confidentiality guidelines as the medical squadron and if you have questions about this issue, she is more than happy to answer those questions. She has already had a great response from the unit and she stated “it only took two drills” until the first unit member asked to speak with her on an issue. She was very pleased with the quick response.

Meg would like unit members to know that she is only a phone call away and operates on a true 24/7 basis. If you or a unit member you know ever needs anything, and she means anything, she is only a phone call away!

Stomach cancer--What is it all about?

by Tech. Sgt. Amy Murphy

183d Medical Group

The American Cancer Society estimates that there are 21,520 cases of stomach cancer that have been diagnosed this year alone: 13,120 were men and 8,400 cases were women.

About 10,340 people will die from this type of cancer each year. This disease affects mostly older people around the age of 70. It is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the world today.

Here are some signs and symptoms:

- Poor appetite
- Weight loss
- Belly pain
- Heartburn, indigestion
- Nausea
- Vomiting, with/without blood
- Swelling or fluid build up in the abdomen

Risk factors for developing stomach cancer are:

- Helicobacteria pylori infection (a type of bacteria)
- Stomach lymphoma

- Gender (More common in men than women)
- Age (Dramatic increase after the age of 50)
- Ethnicity (More common among Hispanics and Africans)
- Geography (More common in Japan, China, Southern and Eastern Europe and South and Central America)
- Obesity
- Previous stomach surgery
- Tobacco use
- Type A blood
- Family history of stomach cancer
- Epstein-Barr virus
- Certain jobs (workers in the coal, metal and rubber areas)

Diagnosing stomach cancer is done through various methods. First the doctor will start with a medical history and exam. Next an upper endoscope might be performed. The doctor will sedate you and then place a tube down your throat that has a camera on the end of it. This will help he/she visualize all your inner organs involved. He/she might take a piece of tissue to biopsy it and see if its cancerous. He/she might perform x-rays, ultra sounds, CT scans, or a PET scan of the area to rule out any abnormalities. Lab tests might be ordered as well, looking for signs of anemia.

Unit News cont.

Cont. from front page

more than 60,000 people this year.

“Our principle strategic priority here is providing warrior care,” said Iaun, a native of Springfield, Ill. “We understand these warriors, whether they are Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines or Department of Defense contractors, are all making some tremendous sacrifices to perform their service and their duty, so we are here to care for them. We do that initially by having available things to care for their physical needs as they are traveling.”

The Chapel Ministry Center staff’s primary customers are transient service members passing through the Transit Center on their way into or out of Afghanistan.

“The Chapel Ministry Center Staff brings ‘a cup of cold water’ to those in need,” said Bookhoop, a native of Stilson, Ga. “Sometimes they just need a smile and a hello. We are here to meet whatever their need.”

Many customers come in simply looking for travel-sized hygiene items to hold them over until they depart.

“Often flights are delayed or pushed back and a lot of times their gear is stowed, so they are missing a razor, shaving cream and a tooth brush,” Iaun said.

Other customers are looking for more support, so the staff is always ready to provide everything from a listening ear to spiritual wisdom or even a quiet place to sit and relax.

“We just want to create a comfortable relaxing, stress-free environment to ease that transition into and

out of combat for our warriors,” Iaun said. “Really our goal is to have a way to make contact with them, to converse with them, to provide encouragement and gauge their spiritual fitness. If there are concerns, if there are problems, if there is a crisis in their life, then we are here to meet that spiritual need as well.”

The Transit Center chapel staff are willing to do whatever they can to assist those passing through their doors.

“A lot of people who come here in crisis have incredibly big mountains in front of them and they also have a lot of pebbles in their shoes,” Iaun said. “So when someone comes here because there is an emergency situation at home and they did not bring any clothing they can travel in we have our warrior closet. We will meet people at 3 a.m. to help them get home to deal with their issues. The mountain ahead of them might be their big problem but the pebble in their shoe prevents them from even getting there. We can’t fix the big mountains, but if we take the pebbles out of their shoe we can better help them to deal with the big mountains.”

Despite the long hours, Iaun has found working on the Chapel Ministry Center staff very gratifying. “People come in discouraged or troubled and then to see them leave uplifted, strengthened and encouraged that is really the most rewarding part of my job,” he said.

Air Force Uniform Updates

Important updates to Air Force Instruction, 36-2903

Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel

Personal Cell Phones

While walking in uniform:

Previous: 98th Uniform Board message dated 12 June 2009 allowed use of personal cell phones while walking in uniform.

Current: AFI 36-2903 dated 18 July 2011 superseded this message. Now it is not allowed.

Exception: Use of a personal cell phone for official notifications is allowed.

Backpacks

With blues and physical training uniforms:

Solid color black ONLY

With ABUs:

- Solid color black
- ABU-patterned
- Olive drab
- AF sage green

Carry in left hand only, wear on left shoulder or both shoulders, NEVER worn on right shoulder only.

“Dress and personal appearance standards that are not listed as authorized in the publication are unauthorized.”

-AFI 36-2903, Page 1, last sentence

Unit News



The Springfield Jr. Blues hosted Military Appreciation Night, Nov. 11, at the Nelson Center. This is an annual event that area military members have participated in for many years.

The Airmen from the 183d Fighter Wing joined members of the IL Army National Guard in displaying a 50 ft. United States flag on the ice during the singing of our national anthem prior to the start of the game. 183d Fighter Wing, and Honor Guard member, MSgt Debra Schmitz performed the national anthem.

Also in attendance were members of the Illinois Patriot Guard, to honor fallen Soldier Sgt. Andrew Tobin, and his family members who were in attendance.

Each branch of the service was paid tribute by the playing of their respective service song while members of that service stood to be recognized.

(National Guard photos by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr)

Air Force BDU officially history

by Tech. Sgt. Leisa Grant
National Guard Bureau Public Affairs

10/31/2011 - ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) -- There are two things you should not see Nov. 1 -- Halloween costumes and the Air Force Battle Dress Uniform.

In 2006, the Airman Battle Uniform became authorized for wear and a date was set for final phase-out of the woodland camouflage-patterned BDU's.

Previously announced to be effective Oct. 1 of 2011, a more recent Air Force Instruction 36-2903, "Dress and Appearance of Air Force Personnel" pushed the date back to Nov. 1. This applies to all Air Force components.

Other items will simultaneously enter retirement with the BDU's effective Nov. 1 including the desert camouflage uniform, black T-shirt, black combat boots and tan boots with the ABU outside theater of operations.

The almost 30 year-old duty uniform, originally designed for wear throughout Europe and the Cold War, was worn by all branches of the service until 2005. Starting Nov. 1 only the Navy will be authorized to wear the BDU until its set phase-out date.

Aside from its appearances, one of the major differences between the ABU and BDU is the maintenance. The new uniform requires very little care, needing only to be washed and hung for drying.

Furthermore, the boots, now a sage green, full-grain leather boot with rubber heel and toe reinforcements, do not require polishing.

Not all Airmen embraced the changes immediately.

"The (BDU's) featured solid, good-looking creases that looked great with well-shined boots," said Master Sgt. Sam Macaluso, a member of the Nevada Air National Guard 152nd Airlift Wing.

But, even for those who like the creases and the spit-shined boot look, the appeal of less maintenance grew on them.

"We'd often spend our entire guard duty at night getting the perfect shine on those boots," Macaluso said. "It's nice to have boots you do not need to shine and a uniform you do not need to press constantly."

With less time spent on up keeping their uniforms, Airmen are afforded more time to focus on other aspects of

their military lives.

"A big benefit is the ABU gives Airmen at schools more time to study," Macaluso said. "Discipline and standards are important, but I believe Airmen have a lot more than their uniforms to focus on these days."

(Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter of the Nevada Air National Guard contributed to this article.)

Additional campaign phase identified for Afghanistan Campaign Medal

11/2/2011 - WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Defense Department officials announced Nov. 1 an additional campaign phase has been approved for the Afghanistan Campaign Medal. Accordingly, an additional campaign star corresponding to the campaign phase is now authorized for wear on the ACM.

ACM campaign stars recognize a service member's participation in DOD-designated military campaigns in the ACM area of eligibility.

Service members who have qualified for the ACM may display a bronze campaign star on their medal for each designated campaign phase they participated in. The stars are worn on the suspension and campaign ribbon of the campaign medal.

The additional ACM campaign phase and associated dates are:

* Transition I July 1, 2011 through a date to be determined.

The four previously approved ACM campaign phases are:

- Liberation of Afghanistan - Sept. 11, 2001 to Nov. 30, 2001
 - Consolidation I - Dec. 1, 2001 to Sept. 30, 2006
 - Consolidation II - Oct. 1, 2006 to Nov. 30, 2009
 - Consolidation III - Dec. 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011
- Service members should contact their respective military departments for specific implementation guidance.

(Courtesy of U.S. Department of Defense Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense Public Affairs)

Stuxnet: The BOLT-117 of Cyber Warfare

by Master Sgt. Phillip Clemens
183d Communications Flight

In 1967, the United States Air Force commissioned the Texas Instruments BOLT-117 laser guided bomb for use on F-4 Phantom II's. The Weapons Systems Officer used a hand held laser designator to light up the target and the bomb used moveable rear fins for guidance down the beam. In 1968, the bomb completed combat trials with half of the bombs hitting their targets, compared to five percent of standard free-falling bombs. Today, the Paveway III continues the laser-guided fight, a Paveway IV is in the works, and the Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) is in another league altogether.

In June of 2010, computer operators in Iranian nuclear facilities discovered the Stuxnet worm had attacked the Microsoft Windows computers being used in programmable logic controllers (PLC), which were the brains of their centrifuge systems used for uranium enrichment. Computer viruses, worms, and general chaotic malware have become very familiar to most of us, especially after the past few years of fake anti-virus programs killing the systems of our friends and relatives

on a regular basis. But what set Stuxnet apart from all other malware was the fact that it targeted specific systems made by Siemens and it operated like something most of us would have only previously seen in a high tech movie. Where all other malware up to this point had added up to the equivalent of simple Mark 82 general purpose bombs, Stuxnet stepped in as the modern cyber version of the BOLT-117.

As previously stated, Stuxnet targeted Siemens PLC controllers, which happened to be what Iran used for their enrichment centrifug-



es. The real kicker was that Stuxnet first recorded the control screen outputs of normal operations. Then it played back those recorded outputs while it actually increased the centrifuge speeds to levels which ended up causing permanent damage to the systems, while the output screens continued to show life as normal. Problems were not discovered until the damage was done, thanks to the record and playback feature, known in the cyber world as a “man in the middle” attack.

As in all cyber attacks, the source of the attack became the subject of much speculation, and still, no nation or group has stepped up to claim responsibility.

The June 2010 Stuxnet attack is still being studied and written about, but it is also important to note that it still exists, and has evolved, much like the way the Paveway series followed the BOLT-117. In September of this year, the Duqu malware was discovered. Duqu is an evolution of Stuxnet which is currently capturing digital certificates and keystrokes, likely to be used in future malware attacks.

The 183d is fortunate to have four cyber organizations on base: the 183d Communications Flight, 217th Engineering Installation Squadron, 183d ACOMS, and the 183d ASUS A6 element. All are involved in securing our networks against attacks from hacker networks and enemy states. In addition, some members of these wing elements have the opportunity to receive training in, and potentially participate in, offensive cyber operations against the bad guys. The 183d Communications Flight is on the Air National Guard Bureau's list of units to stand-up a Cyber Defense Squadron.

The era of cyber warfare has begun and now is the fourth domain in warfare. It looks like it will eclipse fiction and be constantly evolving.

The Holiday Season

by Lt. Col. Chaplain Robert Barry
183d AOG Chaplain

As we enter into our holiday season, it might be good to recall a few things about this season. In recent years, the character of this season has changed in many ways just as our society has changed. Fifty years ago, when Protestant and Catholic Christians dominated American society and culture, the season was dominated by Christian images and themes. They made this a season which was one of hope and joy, and these Christians emphasized the values of gift giving, charity and generosity to the poor, unfortunate, downtrodden, alien and oppressed. Above all else, the holiday season for them was one of generosity, reunion with one's family and loved ones, and the prayer of the season was a prayer for peace in the world. And in the cold darkness of the end of one year and beginning of a new one, Christmas was to be a time of color, song and peace.

But in the past half-century our society and culture has changed and diversified dramatically; the older images can no longer fully express what our contemporary culture now seeks in the holiday season. Many different peoples and faiths celebrate many different events and occasions at this time of the year; they do so in different ways, and they emphasize different values. Today, in our liberal, diverse and multicultural society, all are committed to tolerate and not



impede the expression of religious beliefs and practices of others, and they must do the same to us. The practice of our personal religious faith is to be in such a way that other beliefs are not harmed, denigrated, ridiculed or demeaned at a minimum. This means that our holiday season today will be filled with many more expressions of religious belief and faith and many different types of values.

Virtually all of the world's major religions have had their doctrines and practices shaped, directed and conditioned by the cultures in which they were immersed throughout their history. This holds true of American religions today. All religions have been compelled in various circumstances to accept and integrate practices or beliefs that were alien to them at one time. They have also seen many of their beliefs and practices endorsed and accepted by other churches. Because of this the holiday season should be an occasion for all to renew their commitments to the great values and beliefs that give us strength, energy and vitality. This is to be a time for

believers and non-believers alike to renew their commitments to fostering peace and harmony, and to aid and assist the downtrodden and impoverished. The holiday season is to be a time for all to be a blessing to others by their conduct, generosity, care, strength and love.

The holiday season has changed significantly and will continue to do so in the future. In this season, let us all do our part to make this a rich, refreshing and beautiful time of peace and kindness.

Roman Catholic Chaplains

Lt. Col. Bob Barry

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email: RLBarry@att.net

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Lt. Col. Jeff Laible

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Religious Services

Protestant Service:

Saturday 1500 hrs Chapel

Catholic Mass:

Saturday 1600 hrs Chapel

Base Chapel Office:

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Phone 217-757-1367

DSN 892-8367

Fax (217)757-1509

Christmas Safety Tips

by Senior Master Sgt. Brian Willoughby, 183d FW Safety

Nothing like the smell of a fresh cut Fraser Fir or Norway Spruce to get you in the Christmas mood. Or maybe it is the smell of a recently manufactured, pre-lit, polyvinyl chloride Christmas tree that does it for you? Have you ever considered an artificial tree? They are much safer and cleaner. But if you are like me and like the look and smell of a real Christmas tree, here are some safety tips:

- A real tree should not lose green needles when you tap it on the ground
- Cut one inch off the trunk to help absorb water
- Leave the tree outside until ready to decorate
- The stand should hold at least one gallon of water
- A six-foot tree will use one gallon of water every two days
- Mix a commercial preservative with the water
- Check the water level every day
- Secure the tree with wire to keep it from tipping
- Keep the tree away from floor heaters, fireplaces, or other heat sources
- Use only UL-listed lights, and no more than three strands linked together
- Use miniature lights, which have cool-burning bulbs
- Turn off the Christmas lights when you sleep, or if you leave your home
- Never use candles, even on arti-

- ficial trees
- Clean the tree stand to improve the tree's water intake
- Dispose of the tree properly
- NEVER BURN A REAL TREE IN THE FIREPLACE

Home Safety:

- Install a smoke detector or new batteries in the ones you have and test them
- Use only outdoor lights outside of your home
- Examine light strings before using them, and discard worn ones
- Fasten the bulbs securely and point the sockets down to avoid moisture build up
- Connect no more than three strands together
- Never use indoor extension cords outside
- Avoid overloading wall outlets and extension cords
- Keep outdoor electrical connectors above ground and out of puddles and snow
- Unplug lights before replacing a bulb. Check the original package to

- verify the proper wattage and voltage of the bulb
- When connecting light strands, wrap a plastic bag around the connections and tie the end with Teflon tape
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree, use colored spotlights
- Make sure trees hung with Christmas lights are not touching power lines
- When using candles, place them a safe distance from combustibles
- Place candles in sturdy containers. Remember hot wax burns kids, adults, and pets
- Extinguish candles when you leave or before going to bed
- If you have a fireplace, dispose of the ashes into a metal container until cool
 - Install at least one carbon monoxide detector in your home
 - Have an operable fire extinguisher readily available

Think safety and you will not have a National Lampoon's Griswold Christmas. The Safety Office hopes everyone has an enjoyable and SAFE holiday season.



Holiday Security Tips



*Submitted by
183d Security
Forces Squadron*

During the holidays, the potential for thefts and robberies increase. More people are out and about, and they are carrying more gifts and money than during other times of the year. While there is no need to be afraid, you should keep in mind the following holiday safety reminders:

- Stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you. If you see people “hanging around” parking garages, parking lots, or the outside of stores, avoid the area. Notify the police or security department.
- Carry a cell phone with you. If someone makes you suspicious or uncomfortable, notify security or call the police.
- Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse under your arm with the strap across your body. Keep a wallet in an inside jacket pocket, not a back trouser pocket.
- Do not keep a wallet, credit cards or cash in a backpack. If you are in a crowd, consider carrying the backpack in front of you.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay for purchases with a check or credit card whenever possible.
- To discourage purse snatchers, do not overburden yourself with packages. Have your purchases delivered whenever practical.
- Teach your children to go to a store clerk or security guard and ask for help if they should become separated in a store or shopping mall. They should

never go into a parking lot alone.

- Shop before dark if possible. Coordinate shopping trips with a friend if you plan to be out late. Never park your car in an unlit area, no matter how convenient it is.
- Park near street lights if possible and have your keys in hand when you return to your car. Always check the interior of your car before you unlock the door to get in.
- Lock your car doors and windows even if you are only gone for a few minutes.
- Keep packages and other valuables out of public view, preferably locked in the trunk.
- Protect your credit card numbers and other personal information. Carefully dispose of receipts that have a credit card number on them. Never provide credit card information in response to unsolicited calls or emails.
- Do not announce your new high-dollar purchases after the holidays. Break down the boxes of TVs, stereos, computers, etc. and turn them inside out before putting them in the trash.
- If you are traveling for the holidays, make your home look “lived in”. Have a friend or neighbor collect your mail and newspapers or have your service suspended while you are away. Use timers to turn lights off and on.
Report suspicious to your local law enforcement agency, or dial 911.

Sources:

<http://www.musc.edu/publicsafety/Holidaycrimeprevention.shtml>

http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/Police/citizens/reference/crime_prevention/PoliceCitizensReferenceCrime_preventionHoliday.aspx

Vacancies

The following is a list of enlisted vacancies as of Oct. 15. Members applying for these positions must currently hold the AFSC for the position being applied for. If interested in applying for these positions, please contact Master Sgt. Matt Allen at 217-757-1292 / DSN:892-8292, or, Tech. Sgt. Sarah Hayward 217-757-1184 / DSN:892-8184.

<p>CES E-5 3E4X1 Water/Fuel System Maint</p>	<p>AMOS E-6 2T2X1 Air Trans</p>
<p>EIS E-5 3D1X3 RF Transmission System E-5 3D1X6 Airfield Systems E-5 3D1X7 Cable and Antenna Sys</p>	<p>MXS E-6 3D0X1 Knowledge Ops Mgt</p>

The following is a list of officer vacancies as of Oct. 15. Contact Senior Master Sgt. Diana Braun at 217-757-1566 or DSN: 892-8566 if interested in applying for these positions.

Prior service members are encouraged to explore these exciting new opportunities.

<p>183 FW O-4 052R3 Chaplain O-5 011F3Y Fighter Pilot</p>	<p>O-4 012B4Y Bomber CSO O-4 011F4Y Fighter Pilot O-4 011B4Y Bomber Pilot O-5 51J4 Judge Advocate O-5 013B4B Air Battle Manager O-4 011F4B Fighter Pilot</p>
<p>MDG O-5 048A3 Aero Med Specialist O-5 044M3 Internist O-5 042E3 Optometrist</p>	<p>AOG O-5 016G4 AF Ops Staff Officer O-5 011F4Y Fighter Pilot</p>
<p>ASUS O-4 052R3 Chaplain O-4 043H4 Public Health O-4 043E4A Bioenvironmental Eng O-4 021A4 Aircraft Maintenance O-5 048R4 Flight Surgeon O-4 012M4Y Mobility CSO O-4 012M4S Mobility CSO O-4 016G4 AF Ops Staff Officer O-5 016G4 AF Ops Staff Officer O-4 041A4 Health Services Admin</p>	<p>HQ ILANG O-6 017D4B Cyberspace Operations</p>
<p>AMOS O-4 046F4 Flight Nurse O-4 021A4 Aircraft Maintenance O-4 012M3T Mobility CSO O-4 012M Mobility CSO</p>	
<p>AOS O-4 013S4 Space and Missile O-4 013M4 Airfield Operations O-4 013B4B Air Battle Manager O-4 012F4W Fighter CSO</p>	

Non-Commissioned Officer Academy Graduate Association Satellite NCOA at 183d

The Non-Commissioned Officer Academy Graduate Association (NCOAGA) will be hosting a very first satellite NCOA PME here at the 183d in March 2012!

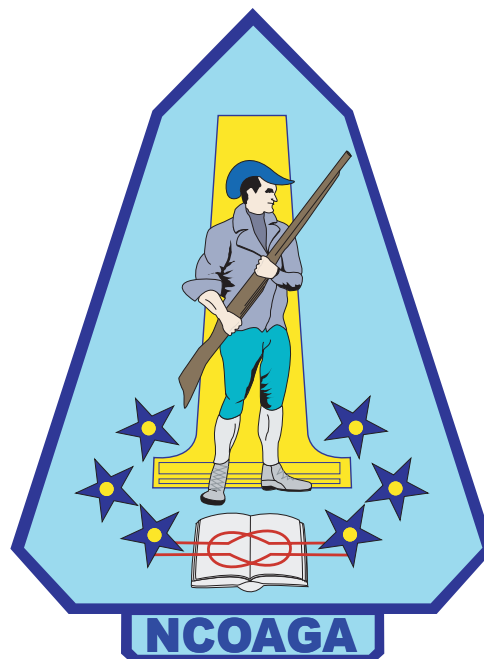
Consists of:

- Fulfills the NCO Academy requirement
- 12-13 weeks of training at the 183d for two nights a week
- Two fast-pace weeks at McGhee Tyson, Tenn.
- Counts as in-residence PME
- Eight-twelve Airmen per class
- Consists of three block tests
- On site, trained facilitators at each class
- Anyone eligible for NCO Academy is eligible to attend the course

Advantages of this course:

- Learn leadership today and apply it tomorrow
- Two-level networking: work with other airmen from the 183d and other airmen from active duty, other Guard bases, and other branches of service while at McGhee Tyson
- Not missing six weeks from home
- More accessible to members

More information will follow as time gets closer. If you have any questions, feel free to contact:
Master Sgt. Ed Ferguson, ext. 448
Master Sgt. Stacy Ferguson, ext. 471
Master Sgt. Jen Weitekamp, ext. 373
Or any member of the NCOAGA!



FYI:

During the month of January, we will be collecting winter clothing to donate to the local community. As you clean out your closets this fall and winter, please keep this clothing drive in mind. WE will place boxes in each building starting in January for you to drop your items off.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Oct. 2 – Wreath Laying Ceremony
Oct. 2 – Run to Remember
Jan. 12 – Base Clothing Drive

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Sept. 21 – P-48 Auditorium
Oct. 26 – P-48 Auditorium
Nov. 6 – P-48 Dining Facility with Panera breakfast

CHECK US OUT:

Facebook: Chapter 75 NCOAGA



183d Family Support Group Presents

2011 Children's Christmas Party



When? Sunday December 4th, 2011

Where? The Aerospace Dining Facility

What Time? 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Please come and join in the fun and festivities!!

A visit from Santa is scheduled!!!

Family Readiness

=HELP WANTED

The 183d Family Readiness and Support Group needs your help. We are trying to recruit members, both new and old. I would like to have your input. From previous members, what worked and what didn't. From new members, what do you have to bring to the group and what you would you like to see incorporated into the group? So, let's band together, combine our ideas, and build a Family Support Group that we all will want to participate in. Please see me, Joe Ward, Family Readiness Coordinator for Volunteer Sign-up Forms.

Volunteer Sign-up Form

Unit:	E-mail Address:
_____	_____
Name:	Specialty:
_____	_____
Address:	Phone Number:
_____	_____
City:	State & Zip Code
_____	_____

Please return to: 183d Family Readiness Group, 3101 J. David Jones Parkway, Springfield, IL. 62707-5001
Phone: 217.757.1569 email: joe.ward.1@ang.af.mil

If you have a member of your family that is a past or current member of the 183d, or have information that a current or past member of the 183d has passed away recently, please contact Mr. Joe Ward, Family Program Coordinator. We want to ensure that no one is forgotten for the annual Wreath Laying Ceremony commemorating all past and current members that have lost their lives each year. The Family Support Group is still sending sympathy cards to all deceased members' families as well, but once again, we need the information. You can contact Joe by e-mail at joe.ward.1@ang.mil or by calling 217-757-1569.

- 1. AUTHORITY:** U.S. Code: Title 10, Subtitle E, Part I, Chapter 1007, Section 10204, and other subsets of Title 10.
- 2. PURPOSE:** To collect the information necessary to process the action indicated by the form you are completing
- 3. ROUTINE USES:** This information will not be disclosed outside the Department of Defense.
- 4. DISCLOSURE:** Voluntary. However, failure to provide the information requested will result in the form not being processed, and may result in a denial of the intended action.

183D FIGHTER WING HOLIDAY PARTY 2012

SECRET RECIPES
RECEPTION CENTER
3086 Normandy Rd.
Springfield, IL 62703

Come for dinner or appetizers, stay for the fun !

DINNER: 6:00-7:00 P.M. Catered by Secret Recipes \$20/person

Includes salad, entree, drinks (beer, wine, and soda), and gratuity

PARTY AND APPETIZERS ARE INCLUDED WITH DINNER

Purchase tickets prior to December 28, 2011

APPETIZERS: 7-11 P.M.

\$10/person

Includes complimentary beer, wine and soda

Tickets sold up to the date of the party and at the door

Whether you come for dinner or just a
light snack, stick around for the party!

~ Music provided by DJ JUSTIN FORD

~ Cash Bar available for mixed drinks

~ Tickets available outside the
Aerospace Dining Facility during
December UTA lunch hours or
contact the Finance Office (x225)

J A N U A R Y 7 , 2 0 1 2