



FALCON'S VIEW

183rd Fighter Wing

Illinois Air National Guard, Springfield, Ill.

January 2012, Vol. XII, No. 1

Holiday Cheer



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Unit Training Assembly Schedule and pay dates



Duty Performed	Pays out (approx.)
JAN 7-8	JAN 18
FEB 11-12	FEB 22
MAR 3-4	MAR 14

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.

"Like" us on Facebook

The 183rd Fighter Wing is now on Facebook!

We will use this page to bring you news-worthy topics related to the 183rd as well as disseminate other information that may be relevant to drill, weather, etc. When you search for our page look for the photo below as the profile picture. This is the official page established here by the unit. If you find the page that has the wing crest as the profile picture, you have found a 183rd page that has been launched by Wikipedia, and is not the official page. Please direct your questions or comments to the Public Affairs office by email:



183fw.pa@ang.af.mil

Attention!

The deadline for the February issue of the Falcon's View is, 1200 hrs. January 7!



January Lunch Menu

**Menu subject to change*

Saturday: Homemade meatloaf, brown gravy, parsley potatoes, green-bean casserole, broccoli Normandy, New York style cherry cheese cake, tossed salad, white/chocolate milk, tea, cherry drink, ice-cream cones, cottage cheese, fresh fruit



Sunday: Lasagna, garlic toast, steamed broccoli, sweet corn, steamed cauliflower, strawberry shortcake, tossed salad, white/chocolate milk, tea, cherry drink, ice-cream cones, cottage cheese, fresh fruit

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

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Charging into the new year

by Colonel Michael A. Meyer
Commander, 183rd Fighter Wing

It is now January 2012. It is the beginning of a new calendar year and the beginning of the second quarter of FY12. The BRAC legislation of 2005 that had such a significant effect on this unit ended on Sep. 30, 2011. Its effects, on this unit and us personally, will continue for many more years and perhaps decades. There is no doubt that many past and present 183rd members would have preferred that the unit continue to be a flying unit, especially one flying fighters. If you asked me in 2005 if I would have wanted things to continue as they had for years, I would have said yes. But in retrospect I would have missed out on many, many outstanding experiences. I would have missed some great personal growth and unit achievements. It has not been easy. As my late mother would counsel me, anything worthwhile requires hard work and sacrifice. Members of the unit and our friends in the community have worked so hard for this unit to make a successful transition. We have achieved something of great importance and value. We have stayed true to our ultimate mission that is to serve and support the people of this

country and this state. As 2012 begins, we have now developed a more predictable and sustainable battle rhythm or operational tempo for both our new and legacy missions. Our end strength is making gains every month, both full-time and Traditional. Retraining our force is making great



strides. Our readiness is greatly improved. Our facilities are significantly better with more improved and functional facilities created each year. Contrary to what some may think, we are well positioned for the future, especially in light of talk and rumors of dramatic ANG aircraft cuts in FY13. ANG flying units that thought they were secure may now be in perilous positions because of the recent issues with our economy and the diminished

need for Reserves as the result of the end of the conflict in Iraq. I believe if we continue to focus on making the 183rd a Center of Excellence, we, as a unit and as individuals, will find success and satisfaction. With your help, I believe that the 183rd can have a very successful year in 2012. Our goals for next year are (1) to have no loss of life, major personal injury, or Class A accidents; (2) to strengthen the resiliency of all of our members, and to be a good “wingman” by looking out for each other and helping each other; (3) to reach 100% manning; (4) to successfully assist the State and Federal government in support of the combined G-8/NATO meetings; (5) to successfully accomplish our role as lead unit of JTF-South; (6) to continue to break ground on new facilities and make improvements to existing ones; and (7) to ensure that our members are properly led, properly trained, and properly equipped. With your help we will succeed.

In the last six and a half years, we have experienced a lot of change, some bad and some good. In the end these changes have helped us become a new and better unit. One I believe that is better suited to serve this country for years and years to come.

So I thank you for all your hard work, dedication, and sacrifice and wish you and your families a safe and Happy New Year!

The Spirit of the Holidays



On December 20, 2011, the 183rd Airman and Family Readiness Office was honored with a donation from Springfield Firefighters Union Local 37 at Station House #1 here in Springfield. They held their annual 12 Days of Christmas charity event where nominations were taken for local charities and names were drawn to select who would receive this year's donations. Our Wing was lucky enough to have been entered and randomly to receive a check for \$1,000. Springfield Firefighter Richard Riemann presented the check to; Colonel Michael Meyer, Commander 183rd Fighter Wing, Mr. Joe Ward, 183rd FW Airman and Family Readiness Program Manager, Staff

Sgt. Megan Cunningham, 183rd Airman and Family Readiness Assistant, and Ms. Meg Haycraft, Director of Psychological Health. Colonel Meyer thanked the firefighters for their support and reminded them of the Wing's involvement in the local community.

We in the Airman and Family Readiness Office would like to thank Firefighter (and Air Operations Group 1st Sergeant) Richard Reimann for putting our unit's name in the hat. And finally, a special thank you to Local 37 for their generosity.



First Sgt. Announcement

The 183rd is seeking a current Master Sgt., or promotable Tech. Sgt., that is interested in becoming a First Sergeant. This is a great role for those who like to be involved with people - from Airmen to commanders. This position provides leadership opportunities and an arena to make a positive difference in the unit. We are looking for an individual to fill the Medical Group First Sergeant role that will be vacant in July. The selection board will meet in March. Eligible applicants will then be presented to the new Medical Group Commander for selection. Interested members should contact Chief Jordan at ext. 578, or talk to any First Sergeant to learn more about requirements of the position.



We Need Your Help

Attention all Falcon's View Readers! It is a New Year and time for resolutions. The Public Affairs staff has a resolution as well, to redesign and rename the Falcon's View. We want your input! Please send your suggestions for renaming the Falcon's View to the Public Affairs email address at: 183fw.pa@ang.af.mil, by March 30. Along with your suggestion please provide a brief description of your submission and it's significance to the unit. If you like the Falcon's View named as it is, let us know that too! If you have ideas of other things you would like to see as a part of the redesign please forward those thoughts as well.

There are some great minds here at the 183rd, so let's get those ideas submitted. We will attempt to incorporate as many good ideas as possible into the new design.



Congratulations the 183rd's best! 2011 Airmen of the Year

Senior Non-commissioned Officers

Master Sgt. Natalie D. Durbin	183rd MDG
Master Sgt. Deni M. Withrow	183rd AOG
Master Sgt. Jason R. Pals	183rd AOS
Senior Master Sgt. Edward M. Ferguson	183rd AIS
Master Sgt. Travis W. Cave	183rd MXS
Master Sgt. Wade S. Valente	183rd SFS
Master Sgt. Jennifer I. Aurora	183rd FSS
Master Sgt. Scott H. Reynolds	217th EIS

Master Sgt. Travis W. Cave consults his master training plan in preparation for new personnel coming into the jet engine Centralized Repair Facility.



Non-commissioned Officers

Tech. Sgt. Amy K. Murphy	183rd MDG
Tech. Sgt. Carrie L. Redpath	183rd AOG
Tech. Sgt. Clara M. Orrill	183rd AOS
Tech. Jonathan Sutherland	183rd AIS
Staff Sgt. Matthew D. Yore	183rd ACOMS
Staff Sgt. Robert L. Johnson III	183rd SFS
Tech. Sgt. Nathaniel R. Bostic	183rd CF
Tech. Sgt. Todd D. Stapleton	183rd FSS
Tech. Sgt. Adam R. Barton	217th EIS



Staff Sgt. Robert L. Johnson III inspects the undercarriage of a vehicle for suspicious objects or appearance prior to it being allowed onto the installation.

Master Sgt. Austin C. Dearing as First Sergeant, acts as principal advisor to the commander on all issues related to the enlisted force.



Airman

Senior Airman Ashley M. Burtle	183rd MDG
Airman 1st Class Adam B. Wilde	183rd AOG
Senior Airman Ashley H. Adams	183rd AOS
Senior Airman Dezire G. Renfro	183rd ASUS
Senior Airman Evan J. Stevens	183rd SFS
Senior Airman Amanda K. Rhodes	183rd FSS
Senior Airman Patrick Moreth	217th EIS



Master Sgt. James R. Bryan performs maintenance on his honor guard uniform, keeping it in top notch condition and ready for honor guard missions at any time.

First Sergeant

Master Sgt. Charles F. O'Malley	183rd MDG
Master Sgt. Austin C. Dearing	183rd MSG
Master Sgt. Brian W. Wyatt	183rd SFS

Honor Guard

Master Sgt. James R. Bryan	183rd FSS
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Senior Airman Evan J. Stevens provides watch security during a dismounted patrol outside the wire during a recent deployment.



Going the Distance

by Staff Sgt. Andria Sapp
183rd FW Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Dana Baisden, a water fuels system maintenance journeyman, from Auburn, Ill., completed her first half-marathon Sept. 17, in 2:39:55. What makes her story so special? Just one short year ago she failed her physical fitness (PT) test because she was unable to complete the run portion in the allotted time, that is what.

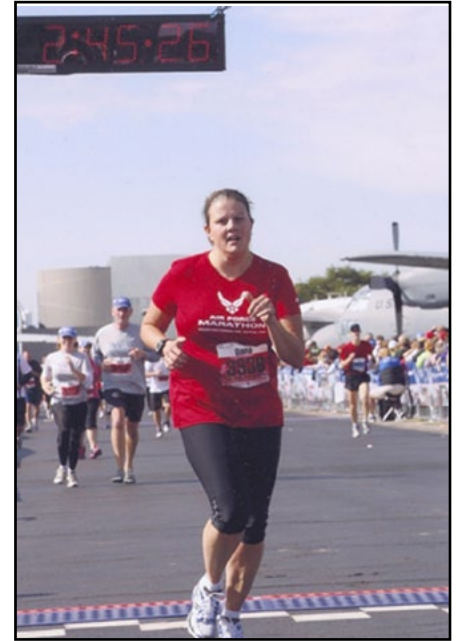
It was her first PT test as a guardsman, after serving four years active duty in Alaska, and it was the first year the new Air Force standards were in place. After not completing the run portion successfully, she received a pep talk from her supervisor, Senior Master Sgt. Mark Kessler. She decided at that time she was not only going to pass the PT test, but she was going to guarantee she would by training for a half-marathon. Not knowing

where to look for half-marathons, she used the Air Force portal to search for races and stumbled upon the yearly Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. Once she signed up for it, she knew she was completely committed to finishing it. This was in January of 2011.

As a single mom of a 3-year-old son, finding the time to train was difficult. In the spring of 2011, she decided to join Abe's Army, a local running group here in Springfield. She trained with runners in her same fitness level, learned running techniques and received inspiration from them. The training program led up to her competing in Abe's Amble, a local 10K put on every year in August during the State Fair. Once she completed the 10K, she felt she was ready for the September half-marathon race. However, the week prior to the race she found herself doubting her ability to complete the 13.1 mile distance race. At that point she had only

run up to 10 miles at one time.

At the starting line of the race, Sept. 17, she still was not quite sure of being complete it. Once she saw the finish line, she knew she was going to finish the race.



“As I approached the final half-mile of the race, I was not sure where I was going to find the energy to finish before my 2:40:00 goal. I knew I had to though.” Baisden says. When asked how it felt to cross the finish line, she shyly said, “Pretty good.” The smile on her face led me to believe that was quite the understatement. She went on to talk about her favorite part of the race being the people lined up along the sides of the road during the race as she finished. “They would look at your name bib and cheer you on by name.”

The rumor is that you will definitely see Staff Sgt. Baisden at next year's Air Force Marathon. She plans to be there to beat this year's time by completing the race in less than 2 hours 30 minutes. She challenges us all to set goals and strive to obtain them--maybe by crossing the finish line with her next year?



Tell your story

by *Technical Sgt. Mitchell Walker*
183rd Security Forces Squadron

During the week of Oct. 31-Nov. 2 2011, several members of the Illinois Air National Guard converged on the Opryland Hotel and Resort in Nashville, Tenn., for the 2011 Enlisted Leadership Symposium. The Symposium was held in front of roughly 1,000 Air National Guard men and women from the 54 states and territories. The event included several motivational speakers who spoke on different qualities and ways leaders can motivate their Airmen and each other.

Furthermore, the symposium offered leadership development training, sessions on current operations, and the future state of the National Guard enlisted corps. These training sessions offered Airmen a unique opportunity to converse with one another and talk firsthand about issues affecting their Airmen. One of the key items discussed was being flexible and adaptable to change.

The current state of the National Guard was discussed in detail, and we were reminded of the need to remain resilient in this time of increased change as the government looks for ways to cut back spending.

The overall theme of the event was "Guardians of Freedom, Tell Your Story". Command Chief Master Sgt. Christopher E. Muncy reminded us why it is important to tell our story and why the American public needs to know who we are and what we do.

One of those stories came from the 183rd's own Senior Airman Evan Stevens. Airman Stevens is assigned to the 183rd Security Forces Squadron and recently returned from a deployment to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. Airman Stevens was asked by Chief Muncy to participate in the enlisted panel to tell his story.

His story began while on a routine foot patrol outside the wire May 8, 2011. He tells the story of the friendly banter between him and fellow members about who was

stronger and who should get to eat first upon completing the mission. Then just a distance outside the base perimeter their patrol would take a drastic turn when Staff Sgt. Russell Logan, from the 164th Security Forces Squadron in Memphis, Tenn., stepped on a land mine. Airman Stevens was directly behind Logan when the blast occurred, but not fully aware of what had happened. Immediately following the blast, he and his team started scanning their sectors looking for enemy activity. When the dust settled they realized a member of their team was critically wounded.

Airman Stevens was the first to Logan's side and immediately started administering combat life saver treatment. Airman Stevens applied a tourniquet and bandages to Sgt. Logan's injuries. Senior Airman Yanick Koenig, 143rd

Security Forces Squadron, Quonset State Airport, North Kingstown, Rhode Island., joined Airman Stevens in aiding the wounded Airman. Once the bleeding was controlled, they began extraction of the wounded Airman, assisted by Staff Sgt. Chris Mazrim, also a member of our very own 183rd Security Forces Squadron.

Staff Sgt. Logan was subsequently transported to the base hospital where he underwent several days of treatment. Staff Sgt. Logan lost his left leg below the knee, but is able to tell his story today because of a few brave Airmen that vowed to never leave an Airman behind.

Both Staff Sgt. Logan and Senior Airman Stevens credit the training they received prior to deploying with their ability to get the job done in a time of increased stress.

I took away many things from this experience including an increased pride in my service. It was truly amazing to get a perspective of what tasks our great citizen soldiers perform on a regular basis. And let us not forget that we are citizen soldiers and for many of us this is not our first calling. However, we are always there to answer the call and perform at the highest level possible.

I encourage everyone to attend the next Enlisted Leadership Symposium. I would also encourage you to tell your story, as you never know who you might inspire.



Staff Sergeant Chris Mazrim (left) and Senior Airman Evan Stevens (right) at the Enlisted Leadership Symposium.

(Courtesy Photo)

183RD FIGHTER WING HOLIDAY PARTY 2012

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

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

Announcements

Promotions

Captain

Stacey A. Rieger

Chief Master Sergeant

Steven E. Stewart

Senior Master Sergeant

Misty L. Duncan

Master Sergeant

Toney L. Ford

Bret D. Releford

Kinney L. Schroll

Mitchell A. Walker

Technical Sergeant

Roger M. Graves II

Joseph L. Kavanagh

Michael D. Morrow

Zackery M. Patterson

Joshua D. Seed

Alex Q. Taylor

Staff Sergeant

Jessica C. Meadows

Christina A. Morrison

Senior Airman

Benjamin D. Shuster

Welcome Aboard

Staff Sgt. Jason L. Hazelwood

183rd ASUS

Airmen Dalton D. Plumer

183rd AMOS

New Arrivals

Master Sgt. Aaron Marshall and wife, Lara announce the birth of their son, Gavin Jacob Nov. 22. He weighed 9 lbs 5 oz.

Capt. Tara DeJanovich and husband Mike, announce the birth of their son, Benjamin Isaac, Nov. 21. He weighed 6 lbs, 9oz.



Retirees

Lt. Col. Brent D. Arnold

217th EIS

Nov. 9, 2011

Tech. Sgt. Keith Devore

183rd CES

Nov. 30, 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, Jan. 3rd. 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: Staff Sgt. Chelsea Harris

What: Services Journeyman, 183rd FSS

When: Enlisted in the 183rd, Oct. 2003

Why: Upon graduating from high school I did not want to go directly to college. I had always known that I was going to join the Guard. Growing up, Master Sgt. B.G. Wright was a family friend and a mentor/role model of mine.

Civilian Employment: Banquet server at the Governor's Mansion here in Springfield.

Civilian/Military Correlation: Both my civilian and military jobs are both obviously in the food service industry. Having my civilian experience allowed me to be comfortable while deployed and being tasked to do the Distinguished Visitor (DV) catering.

Recent/Favorite Deployment: I have been deployed numerous times, but six times for lengthy periods of time. My three tours to Qatar were where I did the DV catering. The one time I went to Spain I worked in the fitness center. My favorite deployment was to Kyrgyzstan where we were tasked with an outreach program. We would go off base to the children's cancer care center and to the orphanages to spend the day playing with the children.

Additional Comment/Suggestions: I love my job. Everyone in our services squadron gets along well, works hard, and enjoys our time with one another. Most people do not know everything Services does, but it encompasses food, lodging, fitness, and more.

183rd Air Operations Group Airmen participate in PANAMAX Exercise

*by Senior Master Sgt. Richard J. Reimann
183rd Air Operations Group First Sgt.*

This past August, members of the 183rd Air Operations Group (AOG) boarded a C-130 and departed for Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., to participate in Air Force Southern Command's PANAMAX 11 exercise. This is an annual multinational exercise sponsored by U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) and focused on the defense of the Panama Canal, which is crucial to the unrestricted flow of global maritime commerce. They joined members of the Air Communications Squadron (ACOMS) who were already on site preparing the operations floor for the exercise.

Security Forces personnel from 17 countries, including more than 3,500 Department of Defense personnel and partner nation officers, and more than 150 Airmen, came together for the summer exercise.

The exercise brought together sea, air and land forces in a joint and combined operation which focused on defending the Panama Canal from attacks by an organized terrorist group, as well as responding to natural disasters and pandemic outbreaks in various locations. Airmen participating in the exercise ensured the coordination of more than 140 simulated daily sorties with 68 Air Force aircraft ranging from fighters, intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance, tankers, as well as rescue helicopters.

Participants focused on a variety of request responses from the Government of Panama to protect and guarantee safe passage of traffic through the Panama Canal, ensure its neutrality, and respect national sovereignty.

"The defense of the Panama Canal is critical both strategically and economically," said Brig. Gen. Jon Norman, 12th Air Force (Air Forces Southern) vice commander. "Several hundred million tons of cargo passes through the canal every year and its security is of vital interest to the global economy. PANAMAX

affords us the opportunity to test each other, our processes and our communication with our sister services and partner nations in an effort to ensure the safety and security of one of the world's most economically critical assets."

The 612th Combined Air and Space Operations Center Compound and Testing and Training Center served as the around-the-clock operational Command and Control node for associated operations. The 12th Air Force hosted the Battle Commanders Battle Staff and cNAF. The extensive technical capabilities and communication structure allowed for seamless coordination, data tracking, and information dissemination required for leaders to make critical tactical-level decisions in minimal time.

"Participation in higher headquarters exercises enables the AOG to become familiar with our aligned theater, the staff processes and products, as well as build relationships with our aligned cNAF and combatant command (COCOM) staffs" commented Col. Rick Yoder, commander of the 183rd Air Operations Group. "This familiarity and the relationships we build during exercises are what make Air Reserve Components (ARC) AOGs a critical requirement whenever our aligned cNAFs are engaged in a contingency. Our Total Force partners at our aligned cNAF staffs cannot perform the mission for the COCOM without their aligned ARC AOG. The training that we accomplish both at home station and at our aligned cNAF has global impact."

"From a space perspective, PANAMAX 11 was an excellent venue to demonstrate the strengths and weaknesses of existing space capabilities within a coalition environment," said Lt. Col. Dan Jones, AF-SOUTH Director of Space Forces.

"For the first time, Headquarters USSOUTHCOM, its components, and our coalition partners, were given the opportunity to determine which space capabilities are relevant to the defense of the Panama Canal, assess how well we collectively integrate space capabilities across the components and identify areas for future improvement. By implementing the lessons we observed during this exercise, HQ USSOUTHCOM components and our partner nations will be better

Cont. Page 9

183rd Air Operations Group News, cont.

Cont. from Page 8

postured to integrate relevant space capabilities within our multinational planning and execution environment.”

“Working with sister services and partner nations is a critical part of the PANAMAX operation”, said Gen. Norman, Combined Forces Air Component Commander (CFACC) for the exercise. “The CFACC commands and controls all air component assets in a given area of responsibility regardless of their service or country of origin. This provides a centralized command and control venture that ensures forces are being utilized together for a common mission goal or objective.”

“One of the most valuable objectives in the exercise is to increase our communication. Not only between the services and our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines, but also our partner nations and their armed forces,” Gen. Norman said. “Because we train like we fight, the continuity and feedback between all of our forces is enhanced by the exercise. And, should the need arise, all of our forces will be able to work together to secure the area.”

Representatives from the following nations and

organizations joined PANAMAX 2011: Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States, United Nations and NATO.

PANAMAX began in 2003 with three countries: Panama, Chile and the United States. Exercise participation has greatly expanded every year since. In 2004, nine nations took part; in 2005, 15 nations were involved; in 2006, 18 nations participated; in 2007, 19 nations took part and last year 20 nations were part of PANAMAX 2010. This is the second year that the 183rd AOG participated in this exercise.

The following U.S. military units participated in PANAMAX 2011: staff elements from U.S Southern Command, U.S. Army South, U.S. Air Forces South, U.S. Marine Forces South, Special Operations Command South, USS Thach (FFG 43), U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Bear (WMEC-901), Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 2 (MDSU 2), Explosive Ordnance Disposal Operational Support Unit (EODOSU) 10 Detachment OCD, Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron 4 (MSRON 4), Riverine Group 1 (RIVGRU 1), U.S. 2nd Fleet, and U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command / U.S. 4th Fleet.



Members of the 183rd Air Operations Group pose at the Operations building at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., during the PANAMAX exercise, Aug. 2011. (Courtesy Photo)

2011 Commander's Golf Outing raises money for veterans organization

*Submitted by Master Sgt. Bernie Riddle
183rd Maintenance Squadron*

The 2011 Commander's Cup Golf Outing took place Oct. 21 at the Piper Glen Golf Club. Forty-eight golfers braved the mid 40 degree temperatures to participate in the outing to help raise money for the Circle of Change Organization.

The Circle of Change Organization is a veterans program that seeks to enhance the lives of veterans suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injuries by teaming them up with dogs that have been rescued from a life of trauma and impoundment. The veterans guide the dogs through a rehabilitation and training program. As a result of this partnership, Circle of Change positively impacts the lives of both people and dogs. The Circle of Change program is located in Rockton Ill., just north of Rockford.

This year's golf outing raised \$1100 for the Circle of Change Organization thanks to all of the golfers, David Impastato (owner of the Piper Glen Golf Club), and the following sponsors: Zara's Collision Center, Showme's, Track Shack, Osaka Japanese Restaurant, Pasta House, Sparkling Clean Car Wash, Fulgenzi's, Gabatoni's, Dublin Pub and Golf Discount

Mark your calendars for Aug. 10, 2012, for next year's Commander's Cup Golf Outing to come out and help us raise money for this worthwhile organization.

Google Tour Builder And OPSEC

*Submitted by Maj. Robert Dutra,
OPSEC Program Manager*

Google announced Nov. 8, 2011, that it intends to promote a website encouraging veterans and active duty service members to use a new Google social media tool "Tour Builder". Google Tour Builder allows veteran and active duty service members to tell their stories via text data and/or by uploading pictures about their individual military experiences, including the locations where they were trained, stationed, and deployed utilizing Google Earth technology.

Although this is an opportunity for our Airmen and the Air Force to tell the Air Force story, personnel need to be cognizant of operations security (OPSEC) concerns with regard to social media. Specifically, the Air Force does not want it's deployed personnel providing information regarding operations or locations when posting information via text data or photos. This is especially important for OCONUS locations where such information could place Air Force missions and personnel at risk.

Current Air Force policy holds individuals accountable for information they place on public websites, and commanders and directors remain responsible for providing guidance to their organizations.



*Master Sgt. Bernie Riddle, thanks Executive Director, Louis Matjasko, and Program Director, Karen Matjasko, after the 2011 Commander's Cup.
(Courtesy Photo)*

Children's Holiday Party



2012 Rules of the Road

by Lt. Col. Chaplain Jeffrey Laible
183rd FW Chaplain

Having deployed to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, located a few miles from Ramstien Air Base in Germany, working with the wounded warriors who arrive from Bagram and Balad daily, driving throughout the Kaiserslautern Military Community (KMC) is a requirement and not an option. Whether it is visiting wounded warriors who are receiving specialized medical care at a civilian hospital or making a trip to Frankfurt International airport to meet a wounded warrior's family member(s) arriving from the United States, driving in and around a foreign country requires some basic knowledge of the rules of the road.

Taking (and passing) the German driver examination course is no small undertaking! The mantra for anyone who hopes to pass the German Rules of the Road exam is defined by two words: over-study! Think you can pass the test by briefly "looking over" the 100 page "Rules Of The Road" book? Think again! A few years ago, nearly 65% of all those who took this exam (military and dependents) failed the test the first time they took the exam. Not a pleasant experience, especially if you want to have the freedom to drive while stationed in Germany.

As we move into the New Year of 2012, we might use this month of January to review some basic "rules of the road". But for the



sake of this article, I will limit myself to covering a few basic points for navigating our spiritual lives (and leave the driving "rules of the road" recommendations to our Safety Office).

Rule one: exercise gratitude. Just like the discipline we need in order to keep ourselves physically fit – yes, the Physical Training test is much more difficult than it use to be and I have to practice, practice, practice if I want to pass my PT test – I suggest that we daily practice the exercise of gratitude. Life is a gift, and life goes by quickly. Being grateful for your family, friends, mentors, having a job – living in the USA – take a few minutes everyday and express, in some way, gratitude.

Rule two: listen. Take the iPod ear buds out and listen. Listen to your spouse, your kids, your grandkids, and your co-workers. Then create some space in your life to listen to the silence of an early morning or late evening. When we

Roman Catholic Chaplains

Lt. Col. Bob Barry

phone: 773-296-3857

email: RLBarry@att.net

or robert.barry@ang.af.mil

Lt. Col. Jeff Laible

phone: 217-732-4019

email: Frlaible@hotmail.com

Protestant Chaplain

1st Lt. Jon Bormann

phone: 217-361-8833

email: jonbormann@gmail.com

Religious Services

Protestant Service:

Saturday 1500 hrs Chapel

Catholic Mass:

Saturday 1600 hrs Chapel

Base Chapel Office:

Bldg. P-48, Room 302

Phone 217-757-1367

DSN 892-8367

Fax (217)757-1509

create silence in our life, we can easily "hear" our God (or Higher Power) speak to our hearts. Create some silence in your life.

Rule three: There are many opportunities each day for simple but important acts and words of kindness, compassion and encouragement.

So know we have some very basic "rules of the road" as we begin this New Year of 2012. Exercise gratitude, listen and take an opportunity each day for an act or word of kindness, compassion or encouragement.

Carbon Monoxide, a silent killer

by Master Sgt. Michael D Niepert
183rd FW Safety

The Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) recommends that consumers purchase and install carbon monoxide detectors that meet the new Underwriters Laboratories requirements. If you live in Illinois, you are required by law to have carbon monoxide detectors.

The CPSC recommends a detector on each floor of a residence. At a minimum, a single detector should be placed on each sleeping floor with an additional detector in the area of any major gas burning appliances such as a furnace or water heater. Since carbon monoxide (CO) heavier than air, it tends to settle lower to the floor. It is recommended to put your CO detector at head level while you are lying in bed and at approximately the same level in other areas of the house where CO producing appliances are found.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless, toxic gas produced as a by-product of combustion. Any fuel burning appliance, vehicle, tool or other device has the potential to produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide gas. The CPSC reports that approximately 200 people per year are killed by accidental CO poisoning with an additional 5000 people injured. (A more recent review claims CO as the leading cause of more than 15,000 accidental poisoning deaths in the United States each year and another 10,000 injuries according to the Carbon Monoxide Medical Association).

With these types of sobering statistics, you may be asking yourself what you can do to prevent CO poisoning, what the symptoms are, and who is at risk.

First and foremost, the first line of defense is to install and periodically test your CO testers. You can purchase CO detectors at just about any home improvement store in the price range of anywhere between \$20 to \$100. Also you can have your home heating system inspected at least once a year by a certified heating /air conditioning service contractor.

Carbon Monoxide poisoning comes from other

sources such as: any gas powered appliances; charcoal grills; wood burning furnaces; fireplaces; lawn and garden equipment; and automobiles.

What are the symptoms of CO poisoning?

- Slight headache or dizziness
- Nausea
- Drowsiness or euphoric feeling
- Confusion or irritability
- Unconsciousness

If your detector goes off and you have any of these symptoms, ask family members if they are experiencing the same. If they are not, you may just have to shut down all gas burning appliances in your home, ventilate your home, and reset your detector. If you have other family members having the same symptoms you should evacuate the premises and call 911. Do not go back into your home until you have the source of the CO located and fixed by a certified technician. Use a phone at another location to call for help.

Who are the people who are at special risk of CO poisoning? Everyone is at risk for CO poisoning, however, unborn babies, infants, children, senior citizens, and people with heart or lung problems may be more vulnerable to CO poisoning.

Remember to keep your family and yourself safe. Install and test your CO detectors. A good way to remember is to test them when you test your smoke alarms in you home.

Until next time, take care and be safe.



What is the Communication Focal Point (CFP)?

*Submitted by Master Sgt. Scott Ryan
183rd FW Communications Flight*

As many of you may already know, the 183rd Communications Flight operates a network help desk. However, what you might not know is the communications squadron eliminated their help desk function and transitioned into a Communications Focal Point (CFP). So, you might find yourself asking the question, "What is a CFP?"

The function of a CFP is to consolidate all help and service desks found in a typical communications squadron, including maintenance and job control, telephone administration, the traditional network help desk and the personal wireless communications systems help desk. This allows for a more centralized process of gathering important data to identify issues and more efficiently execute scheduled and unscheduled maintenance actions along with authorized service interruptions.

The CFP functions in direct support of the unit's operational mission, including support of voice and data network systems; i.e., routers, switches, servers, key systems and desktop systems, radio systems, video and all other communications equipment and systems while maintaining performance indicator visibility in one central location.

With the constant state of flux to meet today's mission requirements, the CFP, by collecting data from multiple internal sources, will allow the Communications Flight to more clearly establish priorities so limited resources are used when and where they are needed and used more efficiently as well. Basically,

doing more with less.

Now that we have established what the CFP is, what does this mean to you? Well, first, it means you now contact your designated Client System Administrator (CSA) and they will up channel your request to the 183rd Fighter Wing CFP at 757-1241. This is the primary CFP number, which is the same as it was for calling the network help desk. A seamless transition for our customers, right? That is our goal - the transition to the CFP should have been transparent to our customers.

However, instead of just reaching the network help desk - you are now tapping into all of our communication resources where you will receive a job number and it will be tracked to completion all via the CFP. The CFP function monitors the production effort to meet mission requirements by coordinating with work centers so you do not have to.

Another integral part of the CFP is the squadron/flight CSA's. CSA's act as a liaison for CFP and end users. CSA's are trained by the communications flight to perform basic troubleshooting steps. If CSA's are unable to resolve end users issue, a trouble ticket is put into a work order management systems (WOMS) by your squadron/flight CSA. CFP receives these trouble tickets and applies the proper corrective action to ensure end user satisfaction. Following these required steps assures proper handling by the CFP and CSA's and eliminates delays in CFP operations.

Sometimes, it may seem like change is the only constant in the Air Force; however, technological adaptation and evolution are the key to the U.S. military's preeminence of information and communication dominance. We at the 183rd Fighter Wing CFP are working to make changes in our processes to create a one stop shop for all your communication needs.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 6, 2011

CONTACT: Beth Sherman
703-696-1171, ext. 539
ESGR-PA@osd.mil

DoD CALLS ON GUARD AND RESERVE MEMBERS TO NOMINATE SUPPORTIVE EMPLOYERS FOR 2012 FREEDOM AWARD *238 Air National Guard members submit nominations at the halfway mark*

ARLINGTON, Va. – Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), a Department of Defense agency, encourages Guard and Reserve members to nominate their supportive employers for the 2012 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award as only five weeks remain until the deadline. The Freedom Award is the DoD's highest award for civilian employers supporting Guard and Reserve members. As our nation faces ongoing national security demands, it is critically important to recognize employers that go above and beyond in their support of Guard and Reserve members and promote their support as a model for others to follow.

More than 1,700 service members have submitted nominations since November 1; 238 of those nominations came from members of the Air National Guard. Service members who have yet to nominate their employers are urged to do so now. Nominations may be submitted by service members, or a family member acting on their behalf, at www.FreedomAward.mil through January 16, 2012.

"At a time when news of our economic situation is often told in grim terms and negative numbers, the untold stories highlighting thousands of employers showing extraordinary support to their Guard and Reserve employees and their families are really important," said James Rebholz, ESGR National Chair. "Employers' steadfast commitment deserves our recognition and heartfelt gratitude. We are looking to our individual Guard and Reserve members to nominate their employers who are most deserving of the Department's highest honor -- the Secretary of Defense Freedom Award."

The 2012 recipients will be announced in early summer and honored in Washington, DC during a special ceremony next fall. All employers – large, small and public – are eligible for nomination. Recipients for the 2011 Freedom Award included diverse employers such as an automotive industry leader, national financial services company, two sheriff's departments, an Arizona town, and a church.

About Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and the Freedom Award:

The Freedom Award was instituted in 1996 under the auspices of ESGR to recognize exceptional support from the employer community. In the years since, 160 employers have been honored with the award. ESGR was established in 1972 to develop and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service. ESGR advocates relevant initiatives, recognizes outstanding support, increases awareness of applicable laws, and resolves conflict between service members and employers. Paramount to ESGR's mission is encouraging employment of Guardsmen and Reservists who bring integrity, global perspective and proven leadership to the civilian workforce.

For questions or interviews regarding the Freedom Award, please visit www.FreedomAward.mil or contact Beth Sherman, ESGR Public Affairs, at 703-696-1171, ext. 539 or by email at ESGR-PA@osd.mil.

Vacancies

The following is a list of enlisted vacancies as of Dec. 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.

CES			AMOS		
E-5	3E4X1	Water/Fuel System Maint	E-6	1C0X2	Aviation Res Mg
E-5	3E1X1	Heat/Vnt/AC/Rfg			
EIS			MXS		
E-5	3D1X7	Cable and Antenna Sys	E-6	3D0X1	Knowledge Ops Mgt
			E-5	2A6X1	Aerospace Prop

The following is a list of officer vacancies as of Dec. 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.

183 FW			O-4	011F4Y	Fighter Pilot
O-4	052R3	Chaplain	O-4	011B4Y	Bomber Pilot
O-5	011F3Y	Fighter Pilot	O-5	51J4	Judge Advocate
			O-5	013B4B	Air Battle Manager
			O-4	011F4B	Fighter Pilot
MDG			AOG		
O-5	048A3	Aero Med Specialist	O-5	016G4	AF Ops Staff Officer
O-5	042E3	Optometrist	O-5	011F4Y	Fighter Pilot
ASUS			HQ		
O-4	052R3	Chaplain	ILANG		
O-4	043H4	Public Health	O-6	017D4B	Cyberspace Operations
O-4	043E4A	Bioenvironmental Eng	CES		
O-4	021A4	Aircraft Maintenance	O-4	032E3G	Civil Engineer
O-5	048R4	Flight Surgeon			
O-4	012M4Y	Mobility CSO			
O-4	012M4S	Mobility CSO			
O-4	016G4	AF Ops Staff Officer			
O-4	032E4	Civil Engineer			
O-4	041A4	Health Services Admin			
AMOS					
O-4	046F4	Flight Nurse			
O-4	021A4	Aircraft Maintenance			
O-4	012M3T	Mobility CSO			
AOS					
O-4	013S4	Space and Missile			
O-4	013M4	Airfield Operations			
O-4	013B4B	Air Battle Manager			
O-4	012F4W	Fighter CSO			
O-4	012B4Y	Bomber CSO			



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

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

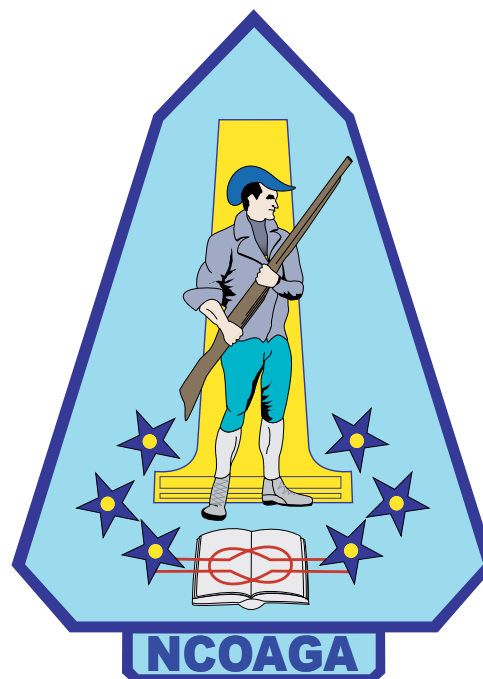
Consists of:

- Fulfills the NCO Academy requirement
- 12-13 weeks of training at the 183rd 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 183rd 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:

Jan. 12 – Base Clothing Drive

CHECK US ON FACEBOOK:

Roll over the NCOAGA logo above for a direct link to the Chapter 75 NCOAGA page, or visit the link below:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/183d-Fighter-Wing/169822466424056#!/groups/168792956526167/>

Family Readiness

HELP WANTED

The 183rd 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: 183rd 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 183rd, or have information that a current or past member of the 183rd 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.