

VIKING FLYER



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934th Airlift Wing
(Air Force Reserve Command)
Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP Air Reserve Station, Minn.



President asks Americans to help homeland

Mentor a child. Serve your community. Be a volunteer. President George W. Bush wants all Americans to do their part to protect the American homeland.

"Stand up to evil with acts of goodness and kindness," the president said Jan. 30 at a town hall meeting in Winston-Salem, N.C. "Not only will our country be better, but we'll show the world that universal values must be respected and must be adhered to. As a result, the world will be more peaceful."

Bush echoed a call to action he'd made the night before in his State of the Union address. Like Uncle Sam's quest for military recruits, President Bush aims to recruit civilians into the USA Freedom Corps in an effort to capitalize on the patriotism and spirit of unity generated by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

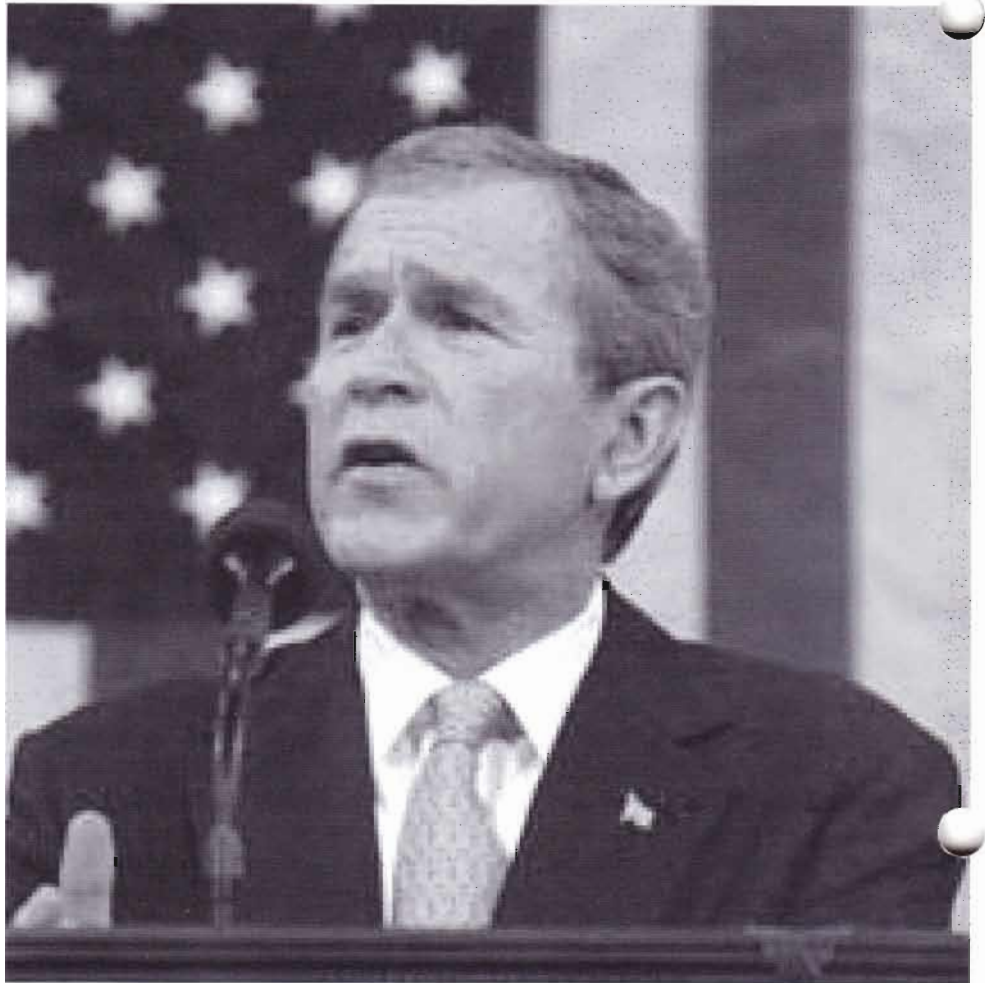
"The people we fight are evil people," Bush said in North Carolina. "They have no regard for human life. They believe in tyranny. ... Imagine a society where women are brutalized, children aren't educated, young girls have no chance of getting an education. It is a barbaric point of view."

The U.S. military is doing its part to fight terrorism. Now, he said, it's time for the American public to do its share. You overcome evil, Bush said, "by doing something to help somebody." Millions of acts of kindness and decency, he said, make up the collective soul of the country, "a nation of heart, a nation that cares, a nation of fine, fine people."

The new USA Freedom Corps will focus on responding to crises at home, rebuilding communities and extending American compassion throughout the world, according to White House officials. They said the 2003 budget request includes more than \$560 million for the program.

"America is no longer protected by our vast oceans," the president said at the Capitol Jan. 29. "We are protected only by vigorous action abroad and increased vigilance at home." Along with the government's efforts, the nation's security will "depend on the eyes and ears of alert citizens."

"My call tonight," the president told the nation, "is for every American to commit at least two years — 4,000 hours



President George W. Bush calls on the American people to join USA Freedom Corps during his State of the Union address before a joint session of Congress at the Capitol, Jan 29, 2002. (White House Photo by Eric Draper)

over the rest of your lifetime — to the service of your neighbors and your nation."

Bush said the nation needs retired doctors and nurses, ex-policeman and ex-firefighters who can be mobilized in major emergencies. Volunteers are also needed to help police and fire departments and transportation and utility workers.

White House officials said the initiative involves creating a Citizen Corps to engage citizens directly in improving homeland security. This would include creating a Medical Reserve Corps, a Volunteers in Police Service program and a Terrorist Information and Prevention system.

The president has proposed tripling over the next two years the number of Americans enrolled in Community Emergency Response Teams. His plan will also

double the number of Neighborhood Watch programs.

The initiative also calls for expanding the AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs to engage 200,000 new volunteers in community service. It also calls for doubling the number of volunteers in the Peace Corps program over the next five years, with specific efforts aimed at rebuilding Afghanistan.

"These are the ways you can help," the president concluded in North Carolina. "These are the ways you can be a part of serving the nation."

Closing his recruiting pitch in North Carolina, he said, "If you want to find out how you can join the USA Freedom Corps ... go to usafreedomcorps.gov or you can call 1-877-USA-CORPS. This is the right thing to do for America."

Yearlong campaign promotes information assurance awareness

To emphasize the importance of information assurance throughout the Air Force, the service is embarking on a yearlong information assurance awareness campaign that begins this month.

Prior to 2001, the Air Force set aside one month each year to focus on IA awareness issues and activities. However, the rapid proliferation of network and information system utilization and the increasing threats to these systems have made it imperative that the service promotes an aggressive awareness campaign on a continual, year-round basis.

The theme of this year's campaign is "Global Vigilance, Reach and Power: Information Assurance in the 21st century." The campaign will highlight the responsi-

bilities of the Air Force team to implement sound information assurance practices.

Throughout the year, a series of articles provided by the major commands and various agencies will be published to help promote information assurance awareness. Each month will have a different theme.

As focal point for the campaign, the Air Force Communications Agency, Scott Air Force Base, Ill., is hosting the month of January and the theme is "Networthiness: Roles and Responsibilities." The deputy chiefs of staff for Air and Space Operations and Communications and Information will use February to promote "Web Security." Air Mobility Command hosts March with the theme "Digital Devices."

"Security is everyone's responsibility," said Lt. Gen. John L. Woodward Jr., Air Force deputy chief of staff for Communications and Information. "We must continually remind everyone to guard, protect, defend and observe networks and information content. Networks are definitely maturing, and because they are part of the fight, must also be considered weapon systems.

"I encourage everyone to participate in, and contribute to, the 2001 Information Assurance Awareness campaign activities, so that we may continue to provide world-class communications and information support to the warfighters worldwide." (Air Force News Service)

DFAS expands web-based financial services for DoD personnel

DoD civilian employees can access even more financial information services through an improved Defense Finance and Accounting Service Internet site.

Upgrades made in December 2001 to the agency's computerized Employee/Member Self-Service system now allow DoD civilians to make online changes to their state tax withholding; to start, change and stop U.S. Savings Bond purchases; and to view and print 2001 W-2 forms, according to Jim Pitt, deputy director of DFAS electronic commerce, military and civilian pay services.

"We want to empower our military and civilian employees to have greater control over their payroll records," Pitt explained, adding that DFAS officials anticipate that military members will have online access to their W-2s next year.

Using the self-service Web site, Pitt noted, is a more efficient way of doing

business that's more accurate, saves paper and time, and reduces redundancy. Instead of having administrative specialists re-input employee-provided information, employees can use the system to enter their data themselves, he said.

Another new DFAS self-service Web link, Travel Advice of Payment, allows military and civilian personnel to view and print their paid travel vouchers online, Pitt noted. At first, only payments made after Oct. 2, 2001, by the agency's Cleveland, Indianapolis and Columbus, Ohio, centers will be available. Other payment locations will be made available soon.

Military members and civilians can also use the Web site, <http://www.dfas.mil/ems/>, to stop the mailing of their Leave and Earnings Statements, Pitt said. Customers now, he noted, can simply print the statements that have been posted online.

Pitt said the DFAS Web site offered a

variety of services to military and civilian personnel even before the December upgrades. They've been able to access, view and print their electronic Leave and Earnings Statements; change federal tax withholding; and change direct deposit information.

Civilians can also use the Web site to file address changes and start, stop, or change allotments, he added.

DFAS serves roughly 5.5 million active duty and reserve military, retired military, annuitants (such as widows) and DoD civilians, Pitt remarked.

The improved Web site, he noted, greatly enhances service.

To access the Employee/Member Self-Service system, customers need a custom personal identification number that can be obtained by calling the system Customer Support Unit at 1-800-390-2348. (American Forces Press Service)

Local AFSA/AFA chapters host enlisted events Saturday Mar. 2

Two professional associations will hold activities on Saturday of the March Unit Training Assembly and encourage members of the 934th Airlift Wing to attend.

Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 858 will conduct an induction ceremony of new chapter officers beginning at noon Mar. 2 in the Enlisted Club.

Retired CMSgt. Mike Carton, AFSA Division 8 president, will induct the new officers who include: President Vicky Kuntz; Vice President Doug Altrichter; Trustees: CMSgt. Dick Grewe; CMSgt. Todd Thompson; CMSgt. Dave Himmer; Chief O'Keefe; CMSgt. Tom Foss; SMSgt. Dave Hammer; MSgt. Lin Davidson; MSgt. Laura Lemaster; retired CMSgt. Clayton

Pyle, retired SMSgt. Mark Davidson; and Treasurer Bob Hatz.

Both the local AFSA and Air Force Association chapters are co-hosting an enlisted issues session at the Enlisted Club beginning at 3 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 2. Several presenters are scheduled to talk about enlisted issues during the session.

Viking Flyer

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The deadline for unsolicited submissions is the 15th day of the month prior to UTA.

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UTA Schedule

Apr. 6-7, 2002

May 4-5, 2002

June 1-2, 2002

July 13-14, 2002

Aug. 10-11, 2002

Dining Hall menu

Sat: Beef yakisoba or pork roast

Sun: Fried fish or spaghetti

God's priority to help couples have successful, rewarding marriage

"Eve was not taken out of Adam's head to rule over him, neither out of his feet to be trampled on by him, but out of his side to be equal to him, under his arm to be protected by him, and near his heart to be loved by him." Matthew Henry

Since God ordained marriage, it is His priority to help married couples have a successful and rewarding marriage.

It is through Scripture that God shows us the blueprint and principles that are needed in a prosperous marriage.

Words are a powerful tool that we can use for or against our mate.

Proverbs 18:21 defines the use of the tongue as *"Death and life are in the power of the tongue."*

You may realize the power the tongue has in destroying and building relationships.

God's word is powerful and my words to my wife Shirley are powerful as well.

According to God's word, we are to encourage and build each other up (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

Our love is expressed through our words in many ways.

Such as we can bring healing (Proverbs 16:24) or our words can pierce like a sword (Proverbs 12:18).

When we are offended, the first desire is to fight back with words.

In marriage this can be termed as "friendly fire."

It is inflicting fire upon one's own fellow soldiers in the heat of battle.

The worst thing we could



Chaplain (Capt.) Derek J. Lauer

do as married couples, including other relationships, is to fight back with harsh words.

According to Proverbs 15:1; *"a harsh word stirs up anger."*

We damage the ones we love and cause division between us.

The use of the tongue can be described as "a deadly poison" (James 3:8) and *"devises destruction ... is a sharpened razor"* (Psalm 52:2).

As Dr. Bruce Wilkinson (author of *Leading and Loving*) says, "Sticks and stones can break your bones, but words can destroy your marriage."

How can one overcome the wrong use of the tongue?

I do believe it is the changing of the attitude and heart toward our mate.

Philippians 2:3-4 explains, we are to look out for the interest of others with humility.

In other words, find ways to serve your mate and expect nothing in return.

God does not require anything from us for His love.

When we expect something from somebody and they

fail us, we are hurt.

In marriage, one must overlook the faults of the other.

Think of the times you dated the one you married.

Where was your focus and did you see many faults in that person?

I would venture to guess, you focused on the positive traits and overlooked the faults.

Where is your focus now?

Do you build up the one you love?

One of the ways to show your love is to hide chocolate candies around the house for your spouse.

Shirley enjoys this and this is a reminder of my love towards her.

Granted, they can't take the place of words but they let her know she is cherished.

If your spouse doesn't like chocolate, than I'm sure you will find something else.

Words last longer than chocolate.

The tongue according to Proverbs 12:18, is *"the tongue of the wise brings healing."*

In addition, "Pleasant words are a honeycomb, Sweet to the soul and healing to the bone" (Proverbs 16:24).

The proper use of the tongue and words of encouragement promote a healthy relationship and overlook the faults of others.

So as you go about your day, enjoy your mate, write little notes to them thanking them and praising them for who they are on a regular basis.

For they are a gift from God, to be built up and encouraged (Hebrews 3:13).

Unit news

934th LSS

Three individuals from the unit are deployed to Germany for an AEF commitment.

The unit recognized the retirement of CMSgt. Andy Berg.

Chief Berg joined in the Air Force Reserve and the 934th Troop Carrier Group in Feb. 1967.

Chief Berg's unit assignments included the 934th Supply Squadron, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron, 934th Mobility Support Flight, 934th Logistics Support Squadron, and 934th Supply Flight.

Annual tours have included Rhein-Main AFB GE, Zweibruecken AFB GE, Spangdahlem AFB GE, Travis AFB CA, McCord AFB WA, Foster ARS MA, Volk Field ANGB WI, Savannah ANGB GA and Alpena ANGB MI.

Unit deployments have included Voliant Oak, Brim Frost, Provide Promise, Desert Shield and Joint Forge.

Chief Berg had a perfect attendance record in 35 years of service, having no unexcused UTA's. He missed only one ORI and one ORE. His retirement was effective Mar. 1.

Submitted by MSgt. Craig Molm, unit public affairs representative.

934th OSF

Baby boy James Francis White was born to proud parents Maj. Karla White and husband Richard White, and proud brothers and sister: Nicholas, Andrew, Daniel, Alex, and Julianna. He weighed at 10 lbs, 1 oz

Submitted by MSgt. Cara Utecht, unit public affairs

representative.

934th MXS

The unit is preparing to support the Coronet Oak rotation segment in March.

SSgt. Ben Rettmann received a 90 percent on his Career Development Course, and SMSgt. Dave Cormier received a 93 percent on his CDC.

Submitted by SMSgt. Robert W. McGonigal, first sergeant.

934th CES

TSgt. Mike Cleveland, NCOIC of the building 729 project on base that involves several CES work centers, reports that the project is 45% complete with an estimated completion date of September 2002.

CMSgt. Dave Angerman and SMSgt. Chuck Super participated as members of the base Color Guard during Saturday's change of command ceremony. Super was honored to carry the American flag and bark out the commands for the detail.

Six individuals from the Fire Department work center will be deploying this month on a 45-day rotation to Puerto Rico in support of Cornet Oak.

The last rotation of troops are in place for the Aerospace Exhibitionary Force in the United Arab Emirates. Thanks to all for their support in making this round of the AEF a success.

This month's "Chief's Challenge" winner was SSgt. Jeremy Bethke, Utilities. This month's question, "During the change of command ceremony held this month, who took over the reins of wing commander from Colonel Despinoy?" Answer, "Colonel Cook."

Submitted by MSgt Mike

On the cover

Members of the Base Color Guard stand ready to present the colors during change of command ceremonies Feb. 2. During the event, Col. Gary Cook assumed command of the 934th Airlift Wing from Col. Dean J. Despinoy. (Photo by SSgt. Stephanie Robinson)



McGuire, unit public affairs representative.

MSgt. Rory A. Ernst.

934th ASTS

Six members of the unit deployed to Travis AFB, Calif., for Topstar.

Forty members of the unit participated in warskills training.

Zachary Blaine Sornoza was born Jan. 29 to proud parents TSgt. Max and Andrea Sornoza. He weighed in at 7 lbs, 15 ozs.

Submitted by SSgt. Angela Kiblin, unit public affairs representative.

Meritorious Service Medal

MSgt. Sally R. Sahr, 934th Support Group.

Air Force Commendation Medal

MSgt. Luis I. Garridogody, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

Maj. Kelly A. Bankole, 934th Operations Support Flight (Third Oak Leaf Cluster).

TSgt. Louis F. Herbes, 934th Mission Support Flight (First Oak Leaf Cluster).

TSgt Timothy L. Stansbury, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

Air Force Achievement Medal

TSgt. Stephen W. Hutchinson, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

SSgt. Nicole S. Swett, 934th Operations Support Flight.

MSgt. Timothy S. McCullum (Second Oak Leaf Cluster)

MSgt. Gerald A. Siehndel, (Second Oak Leaf Cluster).

TSgt. Bruce D. Butturff, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (First Oak Leaf Cluster).

SSgt. Eric L. Eversman (Second Oak Leaf Cluster)

Lt. Col. Michael J. Bladel (First Oak Leaf Cluster).

New employees

TSgt. Thomas R. Jorgensen, 934th Logistics Group;

Robert G. Jacobson, Contracting;

Jill M. Skolte, DOL; Andrea S. Reznik, Contracting.

TSgt. Donald Green, ASTS

A1C Taphara S. Ray, ASTS

SSgt Richard T. Karpinski, MXS

Maj Marie L. Jules, LSS

Retirees

Robert Olson, LGS.

Chief's challenge helps motivate CE enlisted troops

by SSgt. Jeffrey Williams
staff writer

Finding new ways to motivate the troops has been a challenge for commanders and senior enlisted leadership for as long as there has been a military.

While some attempts are great, others are not so good. A few end up as both.

When Chief Master Sgt. Dave Angerman, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron, was in Saudi Arabia last year, he tried to track superior performers by giving away suckers. For each sucker he gave away, he recorded the person's name and the reason behind the award.

He was merely attempting to track performance for different awards and promotions, but got a lot of criticism for it.

"The people I was trying to help were the ones criticizing it the most,"

Angerman said. "It became too much work, so I gave up and said, 'I'd never do this again.'"

Last fall, Angerman received an e-mail outlining the history of the unit coin program. He thought he would try a program like that again, substituting coins for suckers.

"I get a lot of good information that comes from other chief master sergeants that wasn't getting disseminated to the troops," Angerman said. "I put a lot of work on updating the bulletin board each month and highlight the important stuff in different colors. During each month's commander's call, I ask a question pertaining to the highlights. The one who answers the question correctly receives a unit coin."

It's called the "Chief's Challenge," and has been part of the squadron since



December.

Angerman has a numbering system that allows him to keep a running list of past winners, and gives away only one coin per month for the program, although he also gives coins away for superior performers. It is his way to continue to track performance, while giving rewards to top people.

The coin was designed by Senior Master Sgt. Chuck Super and Tech. Sgt. Christina McNamee, and features the logos of the Fire Protection, Disaster Response Force and Prime Beef components of civil engineering on the reverse side.

The reverse side reads, "The more you sweat during peace, the less you bleed during war - 934 CES."

Family Support Center helps military community

by SrA. Stephanie Witty
staff writer

Nearly everyone in the military community can benefit from numerous services offered by one on-base agency.

The Family Support Center helps the military community in adapting to the demands of reserve life.

"We assist the commanders in responding to family concerns," said Rex E. Hodge, director of the Family Support Center.

The Family Support Center handles just about any question or problem presented to us, and if we can't answer it, we'll find someone who can, said Hodge.

The center works closely with the Air Force Aid Society and the Red Cross, who both provide information and services for the military community.

Mobility line support is the first priority of the Family Support Center, according to their Hodge. This includes readiness planning, deployment support briefings, training, and deployment contact for families whose spouse is currently deployed.

They provide family readiness checklists along with family readiness workshops to help in mobility planning.

Workshops can deal with a number of topics including, deployments, wills, power of attorney and military identification cards.

They provide services designed to help family members keep in touch during deployments or on a temporary duty assignment of 14 days or more.

"Hearts Apart and morale calls are programs that allow family members to communicate with their deployed spouse," according to TSgt. Randy Kline, family readiness technician. "Spouses call the base from home over the military phone network."

The center also has a videophone, which allows families to communicate by both sight and sound. Phone cards can also be available.

Family life education is yet another service available through their office.

It supplies families with tools in parenting, family finance, stress management, estate planning and preparing for marriage.

Relocation assistance is provided to people going on TDY or during a move. They provide service members information about their new base.

"We can help people who are deploying or going TDY with points of

interest in the area that they are going to," said Kline.

The Sept. 11 tragedy has had a minimal effect on the Family Readiness Center. The small number of calls in response to the tragedy surprised Hodge.

"It led me to believe that families were already aware," said Hodge. "Many people used the bases 1-800 number and already knew where to go for information about questions that they had," he said.

The center helps anyone with a military tie.

"We take care of everyone, including a lot of retirees and disabled folks," said Hodge. It is not just for married service members or service members with children. Most likely everyone has some sort of family or loved one.

"We are here for any kind of family assistance that anyone may require," said Hodge. "We are here to help."

The Family Support Center can be reached at (612) 713-1516/1517 or toll free 1-800-231-3517, by email rex.hodge@minneapolis.af.mil, or by stopping by the office located in buildir 752.

It's open Tues.- Thur. from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. and 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on UTAs.

Officers Club

Lunch: Tuesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dinner: Tuesday – Saturday from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Lounge: Monday from 4-11 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight.

Bar food menu available from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Bar food menu items reduced 20 percent between 2-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday.

Sundays: Closed.

Mondays: Dining room closed. Lounge open from 4-11 p.m., and closed Feb. 18

Tuesdays: Special in the dining room. Closed Feb. 19. Membership night Feb. 26. Free buffet dinner for club members.

Wednesdays: Daily special in the dining room is pasta. Reservations required for Gourmet Night Feb. 26

Thursdays: Stir Fry Night in the dining room. Valentines Day special (reservations required) Feb. 14.

OClub hosts Easter buffet

Mar. 31: The Officers Club will host an Easter Sunday buffet Mar. 31 with two servings: one at 11:30 a.m. and another at 2 p.m. Open to all club members, the price is \$13.95 for adults and \$6.95 for children under 12. Reservations can be made beginning Mar. 5 by calling the club at (612) 713-3678.

Fridays: Different seafood special in the dining room. Reservations required.

Saturdays: Prime rib for two in the dining room.

Mar. 12: Two-for-one grilled salmon.

Mar. 16: St. Patrick's Day special features corn beef and cabbage for two at \$19.95.

Enlisted Club

Breakfast: Monday-Friday from 6:30-9:30 a.m.

Lunch: Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dinner: Friday-Saturday from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Open to 9 p.m. on UTA weekends.

Lounge: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00-9:30 p.m.; Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Friday-Saturday from 3 p.m. to midnight.

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Chefs special for lunch in the dining room. Monday Night football, with chili, hot dogs and pizza available in the lounge.

Tuesday: Different specials for lunch in the dining room

Wednesday: Different specials for lunch in the dining room

Thursday: Different All-You-Can-Eat buffets for lunch in the dining room

Friday: Different specials for lunch and dinner in the dining room.

Saturdays: Closed for lunch except Feb. 9 and 23. Different dinner specials in the dining room.

Fitness Center

There will be a three-on-three basketball tournament in April.

For UTA activities contact SSgt. Debra Hanson at

(612)-713-1496.

Noon and evening basketball tournaments began in February and continue through March.

Contact Bill Garside at (612) 713-1496 for more information.

Outdoor Recreation has a number of items available for rent.

These include EZ-UP party canopies, eight-foot aluminum banquet tables, coolers, a supercooker gas towable grill, beverage servers, and lawn games.

For water sport lovers, fishing boats, canoes and kayaks are also available.

In addition they also have camping equipment and bikes.

Please call 612-713-1496 for more information and reservations.

All Officers and Enlisted Club cardholders receive a 10 percent discount on rental items. Applications are available at the Outdoor Recreation/Fitness Center office, the clubs and other Services facilities.

Current Discount tickets available at the Fitness Center: Camp Snoopy-\$15.95 all day pass

Underwater Adventures at the Mall of America-\$9.00 adult, child \$5.00.

Chanhassen Dinner Theatre (discount given at reservation, call the Fitness Center for details).

ValleyFair Renaissance Festival

The Fitness Center is offering complimentary magnetic massages Saturday, March 2 from 1-5 p.m. in the Fitness Center gym.

Wellness consultants will be on hand to give massages and answer questions on safe and effective advanced magnetic products.

Fitness Center hours of operation
Fitness Center hours of operation are 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends. They are closed on Federal holidays.

For more information, contact either Bill Garside or Ronna Puck at (612) 713-1496.

A number of Air Force websites are available to help people plan their winter vacation. These include: www.aftravelonline.com; www.rockymountainblue.com and www.afvclub.com.

Officers Wives Club

The Officer's Wives Club meets for bridge several times during the month.

Individuals interested in playing on the second and third Tuesday at 10 a.m. should contact Germaine Reuter Dahl at (952) 881-0107.

Individuals interested in playing on the first and third Wednesday should call either Roberta Gronemann at (763) 494-3517 or Inez Gugisberg at (651) 481-1983.

The OWC meets for lunch in the Officers Club beginning at 11:30 a.m. Mar. 21.



Members of the 27th Aerial Port Squadron were named the Outstanding Aerial Port of the Year for 2001 in 22nd Air Force. (Photo by SrA. Nicholas Olson)

Aerial porters named tops in 22nd Air Force

by SSgt. Jeffrey Williams
staff writer

The 27th Aerial Port Squadron was recently named the 22nd Air Force Outstanding Aerial Port of the Year for 2001.

The unit took the top honors after competing with the 24 other reserve units within the numbered Air Force.

The unit earned top marks in their 2001 Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection, filled 100 percent of their Aerospace Expeditionary Force commitments, and supported humanitarian efforts by loading more than 70 pallets and numerous rolling stock to worldwide locations, according to Lt. Col. James S. Kirchoff, 27th APS commander.

Additionally, they reorganized the unit to accommodate additional manpower as directed by headquarters.

The 27th APS also responded to a short-notice tasking at Volk Field, Wis., received recognition from the Governor of Wisconsin for marshalling the 147th Command Aviation Battalion bound for Kuwait, provide cadre for the Patriot Tiger

exercise, and supported President Bush's visit to Minnesota last year.

Yet it was the top marks in the EORI that the unit is most proud of.

"Our performance in the EORI is what really made the difference," said CMSgt. Mike Dressen, air transportation superintendent.

"We went above and beyond what other aerial port units were able to accomplish. We had no errors in the EORI in areas that other units struggled with. The highlight of our year came from the inspector general's report, yet it's always nice to be recognized among our peers."

The 27th APS commander was elated over the news.

"The folks here have really performed exceptionally well," said Kirchoff. "It didn't happen without all of them."

Maj. Erik Sutcliffe, terminal services officer in-charge, was the team chief during the EORI.

"Getting a (top mark) on the inspection gave us the most satisfaction, he said. "That was our big event for the entire

year."

"It's a good honor for the entire unit," he added. "Individual awards are great, but it's even better when the entire unit gets recognized because every person had a part to do with it."

TSgt. Joe Kniesz, B-Flight team chief, is proud of the accomplishments of his team.

"I'm pleased to be part of a unit that's professional and on top," he said.

For Staff Sgt. James Running, A-Flight member, while there was a degree of personal satisfaction in knowing the unit is prepared in facing the tasks ahead, the hard work he put in while preparing the training records for the EORI team has paid off.

"It makes me proud that we're doing a good job and being recognized for it," he said.

They will be competing against the 50th APS from March Air Reserve Base, Calif., representing the 4th Air Force, and the 67th APS from Hill Air Force Base, Utah, for the Air Force Reserve Command award.