

THE Airstream

MISSION: HUMANITARIAN AID FOR THE HOLIDAYS

*910th, Notre Dame and Rotary
team up to bring aid to poor
of Dominican Republic*



FROM THE TOP

A commander's reflections: sharing learned lessons

Col. Daryl Hartman

910th Operations Group Commander

Anniversaries can evoke lots of feelings and not necessarily good ones! I recently crossed the 30 year threshold of military service and it has caused me to reflect on how the Air Force has changed over the last three decades.

As a young ROTC cadet in the mid-70's, I clearly remember my instructors warning me that one of the greatest dangers to the military is careerism. At the time I was only vaguely familiar, let alone concerned, with the concept. Sadly, I, now, am all too familiar with the process but, happily, I think the Reserve has managed to avoid the path that our active duty brethren have staggered down. I think it's worth discussing what careerism is and how to walk the fine line between promoting oneself and supporting the mission by promoting the best person.

Unlike active duty, we have the ability to promote someone to his highest level of competence (and, hopefully, job satisfaction) and let him serve a long career becoming an expert in that field. We also can encourage and facilitate a truly gifted leader to reach as high as he wants or can. The challenge is in communicating the possibilities and limitations to individuals along the way. Here is where it's critical for supervisors to, for lack of a better word, mentor their people. I almost hate the word because it compartmentalizes a concept that is, and should be, flexible and situational, not rigid and programmatic.

If I've learned anything, I've learned that folks are motivated by different things. It sounds incredibly obvious, but I've seen way to many leaders with a monolithic style of dealing with every situation and every person. An effective leader gets to know what motivates his people and the only way to do that is to get to know them. The most effective mentoring happens while you're talking about tractors, or football, or music, or kids or whatever THEY get excited about. That's when you learn about hopes and dreams and goals and frustrations and doubts and

fears and limitations. That's when we can encourage and discourage career decisions.

Promotion for promotion sake is what we need to, no must, avoid. When you ask someone why they want to move to a different position and their first reason is; "so I can get a stripe," warning bells should go off! We all know someone, probably lots of someones, who left a job they loved for a promotion and then lived in misery but couldn't go back. We also need to recognize and respect special circumstances. Pressuring someone to take a job that, although it's the perfect opportunity, would result in unmanageable family stress is irresponsible.

Again, nearly all potentially disastrous situations can be avoided by getting to know people on a deeper level than "How are you?" while passing in the hall. We also need to let members know how important it is to participate in their own career progress. I mean, they can help us to position them for opportunities by letting us know what good things they're doing. For example, I have an "I love me" wall in my office at home. My graduation certificates, diplomas, awards, and a plethora of other artifacts, worthless to anyone but me, hangs on the wall by my desk. If everyone kept a folder of "I love me" stuff in their desk it would be much easier for your supervisor to write your OPR/EPR/Appraisal at the end of the rating period and it would REALLY reflect what you've done.

Two more uneditable words "Merry Christmas!"

Editor's Note: Col. Hartman penned his article as guest columnist for this month's Airstream during the month of December 2008.



Col. Daryl Hartman

Greetings from new member of 910th Chapel team

Chaplain (Capt.) William Mullins

910th Airlift Wing Chaplain

Greetings, men and women of the 910th, I am Chaplain Will Mullins. I will be serving alongside our Wing Chaplain Capt. Scott Campbell and our Chaplain Assistant Staff Sgt. David Pastorius. Being a part of the 910th Chapel team is an exciting and rewarding opportunity for me—for a number of reasons. One, being attached to a unit that does monthly UTAs provides me with countless ways to befriend, encourage and support you. Two, my role as a Chaplain at Muskingum College gives me the ability to be here and to provide spiritual leadership and worship opportunities on Sundays during our UTAs.

I am married to the former Sommer Fisher and together we have three daughters: Eleanor (age 10), Harriet (age 4) and Miriam (age 1). I enjoy

hiking and camping, as well as, reading and cooking. Once again, I would like to extend to each and every one of you my deepest gratitude for what you do—day in and day out, in service to our country. I look forward to being in your midst and journeying with each of you as we seek to be committed men and women in uniform.

Grace & peace,
Ch. Capt. William E. Mullins



Chap. William Mullins

Changes to 910th Airlift Wing UTA Schedule for 2009!

There are two changes to the 2009 U.T.A. schedule due to a mandatory conference in April and the "Thunder Over The Valley" YARS Air Show in August. The April UTA is rescheduled for April 18-19 April (No "B" UTA). The August UTA is rescheduled for August 8-9 (No "B" UTA). Please contact your work center supervisor with any questions.

Holiday gatherings: a 910th tradition continues



Photo by Senior Airman Clinton Kline

Tech. Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.
910th Airlift Public Affairs

Reservists, Civilians, Contractors, their families and friends gathered for a variety of holiday gatherings across and off of Youngstown Air Reserve Station during the month of December.

The celebrations marked the end of a busy 2008 that included the ORI and an Open House that brought approximately 50,000 guests to the base on a rainy September Saturday.

These holiday events also turned thoughts to a new year that promises to be just as active with, among other events, the base's first air show in decades, "Thunder Over The Valley," scheduled for August 8-9, 2009.

Among the on-base gatherings were the December Commander's Call, the annual wing wide holiday party, the Civilian Commander's Call and smaller get-togethers among the groups, squadrons and offices scattered across YARS. As is tradition, many achievements were applauded with well-earned recognition and moments, public or private, were taken to remember comrades deployed across the country and around the world as well as members of the YARS family no longer with us.

Wherever the gatherings and celebrations were held, they offered the attendees a chance to share in camaraderie, a moment to give or enjoy praise for a job well done and the opportunity to look towards a hopefully happy, safe and healthy 2009 with a renewed sense of an American Airman's core values: Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence In All We Do.

Citizen Airmen from the 910th Airlift Wing enjoy a buffet during the 2008 wing wide holiday party on Saturday afternoon of the December UTA.

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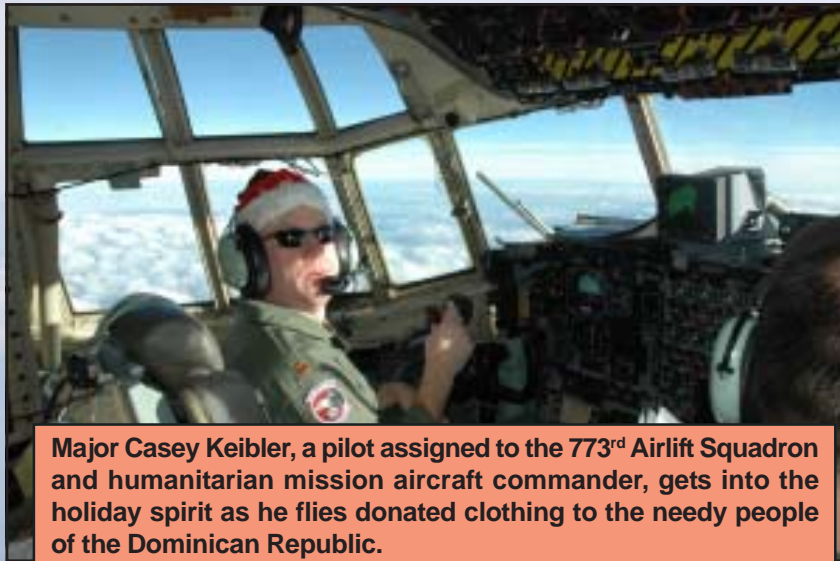
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On the cover...

Master Sgt. Christina Feliciano, a loadmaster with the 773rd Airlift Squadron, spots a Dominican forklift driver as he moves a pallet of donated clothing off of a 910th Airlift Wing C-130 cargo aircraft as part of a mission to airlift approximately 45,000 pounds of new and used clothing for struggling people in the Dominican Republic. See Pages 4 and 5 for the complete story and more photos. Cover photo by Capt. Brent J. Davis

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910th, Notre Dame, Rotary tea



Major Casey Keibler, a pilot assigned to the 773rd Airlift Squadron and humanitarian mission aircraft commander, gets into the holiday spirit as he flies donated clothing to the needy people of the Dominican Republic.



Master Sgt. Mick Burgett, a loadmaster with the 910 Airlift Wing, works with Dominican Army soldiers to break down a pallet of donated clothing for distribution.

Story and Photos by Capt. Brent J. Davis
910th AW Public Affairs

The Dominican Republic is arguably one of the best vacation spots in the Caribbean. Beautiful resorts line the southern coast of the island providing a nice escape from reality. However, a short distance from the lush resorts, a hard reality is very evident.

Although the country's economy is one of the fastest-growing in the Caribbean, 30 percent of its citizens live below the poverty line. The Dominican Republic shares a long border with Haiti, one of the poorest, least developed and least stable countries in the Americas. Large numbers of poor, illegal Haitian immigrants add to the Dominican poverty burden. Countless islanders are in need of help.

Dr. Paul A. Wright, a medical doctor, former cardiologist and Notre Dame alumnus and medical ethics lecturer who resides in Brookfield, Ohio, approached Col. Karl McGregor, commander of the 910th Airlift Wing last July in desperate need of free airlift to transport approximately 45,000 pounds of new and used clothes to the Dominican's neediest people.

Dr. Wright would never have been involved with this project if it were not for divine intervention several years ago.

"Initially I met Mother Teresa in Tijuana, Mexico and there she clearly explained to me the purpose of life - to serve humanity and God within humanity and that we are committed to serve Jesus Christ in the poorest of the poor," said Dr. Wright. "In my life I've noticed that highly academic knowledge multiple degrees does not necessarily correlate with the amount of wisdom an individual possesses," he added.

The project began in April 2008 with Notre Dame students and alumni converg-

ing to collect clothes for the students to box, label and eventually ship to the Dominican Republic.

According to Dr. Wright, a widespread group comprised of various consignment stores, the Retired Teachers Association of Trumbull County, local area schools, the Girard Athletic Department, the Girard Robotics team, senior citizen groups, local church groups, K-Mart and Schneider trucks participated in the worthwhile endeavor.

Col. McGregor felt confident that the 910th could be tasked to airlift the cargo as long as Dr. Wright followed the Denton program (see sidebar) process.

"Initially I thought it would be much more complex. It took a considerable amount of phone calls and e-mails to Washington, but they walked me through the process. They made it as simple as possible for this humanitarian mission to be workable," said Dr. Wright.

By September, Dr. Wright and Col. McGregor began anticipating that the mission would be a go. They chose December 5 as a realistic date to plan for.

In late November, the 910th's 76th Aerial Port Squadron received hundreds of boxes filled with clothes to fit infants to adults.

Meanwhile, Dr. Wright contacted the Rotary International in the Dominican to let them come up



Dominican Army soldiers stand near a truck loaded with boxes of clothing for the needy people of the Dominican Republic.



Dominican Army soldiers pass boxes of clothing from a pallet to load a truck bound for the needy people of the Dominican Republic.

with a distribution plan for the island.

"The clothing will help the children of families of the lowest income class—thousands of children," said Arturo Perez, executive director of the Rehabilitation Medical Center in Santo Domingo.

Clothing was also delivered to a Catholic convent in a community called Santa Rosa in February. The neighborhood is named after the Dominican Republic's independence day. The community is considered one of the most dangerous places to live due to the desperation of its residents.

"The Dominican Rotary is comprised of 64 groups throughout the country. Each of the 64 responded to the offer to receive clothing. The plan would be for each Rotary group to distribute to area churches, schools and the late Mother Teresa's homes for the poorest of the poor," said Dr. Wright.

Two C-130 airplanes, one from the 910th and one from the 911th Airlift Wing, were tasked by Air Force Reserve Command to airlift the donated

am up, aid Dominican needy



Rotarians deliver clothing to one of the late Mother Teresa's homes for the poor.

clothes to the island.

"It's an honor and a privilege to be a part of such an outpouring of generosity. Experiences like this speak volumes of the C-130 and our mission; we truly are capable of operating in all theaters, bringing joy and happiness to those in need just as easily as we bring beans and bullets to the men and women at the front," said Major Casey Keibler, mission commander.

The cargo arrived in Santo Domingo and Santiago on December 6, and 9, respectively.

The Dominican Rotary governor was on hand at the Santo Domingo airbase to welcome the 910th aircrew.

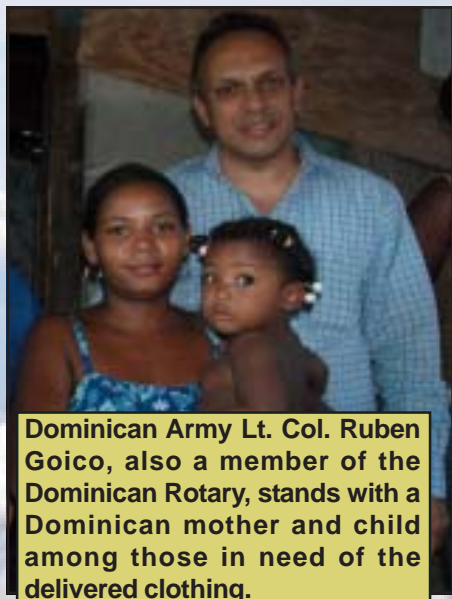
"I am very happy that the Air Force Reserve and Notre Dame University are helping our people. This is the first time we've worked together. The clothing will be given out to many poor people in the Dominican," said Rotary district governor, Milqueya Portes.

Some of the clothing was already being distributed the following day throughout the Dominican Republic.

"They're doing what Jesus says: what you are doing for somebody you are doing for Jesus himself. This effort is very welcome because there are so many kids here that don't have any clothes," said Sister Andrea Martinez, a nun serving at the late Mother Teresa's 27 February community home for the poor.

According to Dr. Wright, some of the donated clothes will be distributed to Haitian refugees, allowing those that choose to go back to Haiti to be clothed.

"Our basic philosophy behind the project is to give clothing because it's so accessible. We have found that this is a program to improve a person's physical appearance so they can go out to church, to school, to try to find work, to essentially break the poverty cycle," he said.



Dominican Army Lt. Col. Ruben Goico, also a member of the Dominican Rotary, stands with a Dominican mother and child among those in need of the delivered clothing.



a ne



Dr. Paul Wright kneels with a Dominican girl at an orthopedic clinic in Santo Domingo. Clothing was distributed to the children at the clinic.

"I'm especially grateful to the Dominican Republic military, specifically, considerable support by Dominican Army Lt. Col. Ruben Goico who is also a Rotarian. Also, the American Embassy was beneficial as well as the Salvation Army."

The outreach program simply could not have been accomplished without the Air Force Reserve's airlift capability.

"What impressed me the most about the Air Force (Reserve) was the tremendous compassion they have for humanitarian missions. They made an intense effort to make this happen. It was their priority despite the continuing war efforts," Dr. Wright concluded.

The 910th Airlift Wing is currently planning on sending approximately 30 medical personnel assigned to the 910th Medical Squadron to the Dominican Republic in April 2009 to provide immunizations, dental and eye exams to thousands of needy islanders.



Dr. Paul Wright of Brookfield, Ohio discusses the distribution of the donated clothing with Sister Andrea Martinez outside one of the late Mother Teresa's homes for the poor near Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

The Denton Program

The Denton program permits the Department of Defense to provide transportation of privately donated humanitarian cargo to foreign countries using military transportation on a space-available basis. The program is authorized under the Jeremiah Denton amendment to the 10th United States Code (section 402). There is no cost to the donating agency or organization for U.S. government transportation related costs.

AFRC commander shares holiday, new year wishes

Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr.

Commander, Air Force Reserve Command

WASHINGTON – As we look forward to this Holiday Season and the start of 2009, I want to express my gratitude to each of you, your families and employers for the sacrifices you make for our great country each and every day.

Much has been asked and each Reservist and family member has given of themselves for their country. You've stepped up to the challenge smartly, without hesitation.

For those who are able to celebrate this Holiday Season with friends and family at home, I ask that you remember our brave men and women who are serving around the world far from family and friends.

About 2,000 of our Air Force Reserve warriors are serving overseas with incredible distinction in global operations every day by saving lives and thwarting terrorism. The entire Air Force Reserve family has you in our hearts and looks forward to your safe return.

The holiday season provides an opportunity to remind us all to set aside time for friends and family who share and support those sacrifices.

Dee and I wish you and your families the very best this Holiday Season and for 2009! (Air Force Reserve Command News Service)

Vets, troops not in uniform now can salute flag

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7, 2008 – A change to federal law allows U.S. veterans and military personnel not in uniform to render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem. The law took effect earlier this month, according to a Department of Veterans Affairs news release.

“The military salute is a unique gesture of respect that marks those who have served in our nation’s armed forces,” Veterans Affairs Secretary Dr. James B. Peake said. “This provision allows the application of that honor in all events involving our nation’s flag.”

The provision builds on a change that went into effect last year. That change authorized veterans and military personnel not in uniform to render the military-style hand salute during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag.

Traditionally, veterans’ service organizations rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag while wearing their organization’s headgear. Otherwise, as with all other Americans, the etiquette is to place the right hand over the heart.

The most recent change was part of the 2009 Defense Authorization Act, which President Bush signed Oct. 14. U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, an Army veteran, sponsored both pieces of legislation.

“The salute is a form of honor and respect, representing pride in one’s military service,” Inhofe said in a written statement.

“Veterans and servicemembers continue representing the military services even when not in uniform. The U.S. Code is now consistent for veterans and all service members in regards to the symbolic gesture of the military salute.” (American Forces Press Service)

Tricare Reserve Select costs to plunge Jan. 1

Karen Jowers

Air Force Times

Monthly premiums for Tricare Reserve Select will drop by 44 percent for individual coverage and by 29 percent for family coverage effective Jan. 1. Reservists will pay \$47.51 a month for single coverage, down from \$81, while for families, the cost will be \$180.17 a month, down from \$253.

There will be no refunds for those who have already paid the higher premiums since the program was established in 2005.

Tricare Reserve Select is a premium-based health care coverage available for purchase by National Guard and reserve personnel when they are not on active duty, and are not eligible for, or enrolled in, the Federal Employee Health Benefit plans.

TRS coverage is similar to Tricare Standard and Extra.

The reduction is a result of the 2009 Defense Authorization Act, which required Tricare to analyze TRS costs from 2006 and 2007 and set new rates for 2009.

In late 2007, the Government Accountability Office reported that TRS premiums initially had been set much higher than was necessary to support the program — 72 percent too high for single coverage and 45 percent too high for family coverage.

The reduction “is pretty close to what it should be and is consistent with what the GAO proposed,” said retired Air Force Col. Steve Strobridge, director of government relations for the Military Officers Association of America.

But Strobridge decried the decision not to give refunds — and the fact that Congress had to enact a law to get the Pentagon to move on the issue.

Retired Navy Capt. Marshall Hanson, legislative director of the Reserve Officers Association, said that while the reduction in costs is “wonderful,” his group will work with other organizations to urge refunds of the difference in premiums for those who have been paying the higher amounts.

Austin Camacho, a spokesman for Tricare, said there is “no retroactive response” associated with the reduction in premiums.

“This is the way Congress has structured it,” he said.

Premiums are based on past experience with claims and expenses, he said. With TRS launching in 2005, he said, Tricare needed time to see what actual claims and costs would be “to determine how much we should charge.”

In a response to the 2007 GAO report, Dr. Ward Casscells, assistant defense secretary for health affairs, acknowledged that the method of calculating premiums did not accurately reflect the military’s costs, and that he hoped a better method would be found when enough data was available about the use of health benefits by reservists and their families.

Congress also had ordered structural changes in the TRS program in each of the past three years, which slowed the “data maturation process,” he said.

Deserving Airman Board

The Deserving Airman Commissioning Board will meet during the January UTA (January 10-11). To meet the board, members must submit the following items to Master Sgt. Jennifer McKendree in the Military Personnel Flight: AFOQT scores, Official Transcripts, Copies of EPRs, Record Review RIP, Fit Test Score and Letters of Recommendation. Service dress is required to meet the board. Contact Master Sgt. McKendree at 330-609-1094 for more information.

NEWCOMERS

Please welcome the following new members of the 910th Airlift Wing family:

Lt. Col. Mark Ables, 773rd Airlift Squadron
Maj. Matthew Muha, 910th Operations Support Squadron
Capt. Jeremy O'Neill, 910th Operations Support Squadron
Staff Sgt. Shannon Baker, 773rd Airlift Squadron
Staff Sgt. Lenworth Carnegie, 910th Maintenance Operations Flight
Staff Sgt. Christopher Edgerton, 910th Services Squadron
Staff Sgt. Jason Horvath, 910th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Staff Sgt. Richard Scott, 910th Maintenance Group
Staff Sgt. Anthony Simpson, 910th Civil Engineer Squadron
Senior Airman Dionte Jimerson, 910th Mission Support Flight
Senior Airman Terry McMillian, 910th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Senior Airman Nicholas Mintz, 910th Civil Engineer Squadron
Senior Airman Richard Rogers, 757th Airlift Squadron
Airman 1st Class Glyestte Delvalle, 910th Services Squadron
Airman 1st Class Monica Hutson, 910th Maintenance Squadron
Airman 1st Class Devon Parsons, 910th Civil Engineer Squadron
Airman Basic Lindsey McDonald, 910th Security Forces Squadron
Airman Basic Ryan Warstler, 910th Civil Engineer Squadron

PROMOTIONS



Daniel W. Lotts, 910th Aircraft Maintenance Sq.
Obod N. Nicely, 910th Medical Squadron



James A. Bader, 910th Security Forces Squadron
Ryan D. Wisniowski, 773rd Airlift Squadron
Michael J. Wyne, 910th Operations Support Sq.



Eric L. Mummy, 910th Operations Support Squadron
Derek J. Pressell, 910th Maintenance Squadron
Rachele M. Sampson, 910th Aircraft Maintenance Sq.



Christina L. Bobak, 910th Medical Squadron
Daniel C. Kudela II, 910th Security Forces Squadron

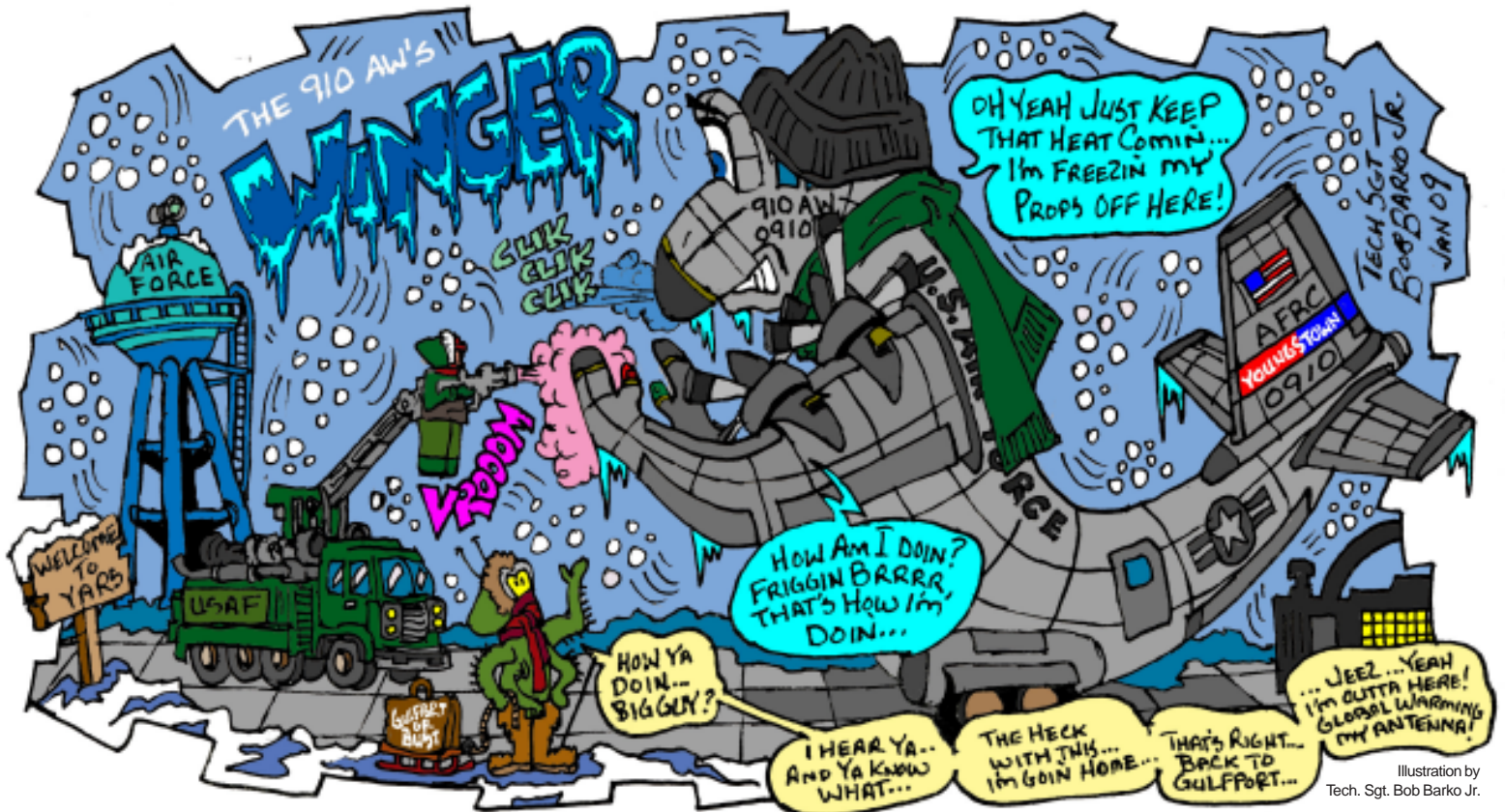


Illustration by
Tech. Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

910th Color Guard: Centre ice for Phantoms Chevy opener



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

Members of the 910th Airlift Wing's Color Guard present the U.S., state of Ohio and Air Force flags during the singing of the national anthem at the opener of the Mahoning Valley Phantoms ice hockey team's season at the Chevrolet Centre in downtown Youngstown.

The Phantoms, a team in the North American Hockey League's North Division, were victorious as they beat the St. Louis Bandits during their debut effort at the Centre in front of an enthusiastic crowd with a 4-3 overtime win.

Military members, civilians and contractors assigned to the Youngstown Air Reserve Station will get a chance to see the Phantoms take to the ice against the Motor City Machine on Saturday, January 10 for a YARS Night Out at the Chevrolet Centre. Members of the 910th are scheduled to be involved with center ice pre-game activities as well as concourse displays \$5 Discount tickets are available at the 910th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office through game day, Saturday of the January UTA. Call the PA Office at 330-609-1718 or 1236 for more information.



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