

**GAMES**

YOU'RE INVITED  
TO THE  
HANCOCK FIELD

**FOOD**

# FAMILY APPRECIATION WEEKEND

**SHOP TILL YOU DROP**  
Hosted by Ft Drum AAFES

Sat 5 October (1000-1600)

**WHERE:** Hancock Field  
Memorial Park

**WHEN:** 6 October 2002  
Noon to 1600(+) Sunday



Food, Fun, Music, and much more!

Celebrate the Year of Diversity

Bring your families, appetites and trivia knowledge?

**MUSIC**  
10<sup>th</sup> Mountain  
Div Band

**PICTURES**  
Souvenir for  
the children

## ENGARDE

174th Fighter Wing  
New York Air National Guard  
Headquarters  
6001 East Molloy Rd.  
Hancock Field  
Syracuse, New York, 13211-7099



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Col. Robert A. Knauff  
174<sup>th</sup> FW Commander

Col. Anthony B. Basile  
Vice Commander

Chief Master Sgt.  
Theodore W. Mosley  
Command Chief Master Sgt.

Public Affairs Office  
1st Lt. Jeff Brown, PAO

Editorial Team  
Master Sgt. Jeff Wallace  
(Team Leader)  
Lt. Col. Maryjo Timpano  
Maj. Kate O'Brien  
Senior Master Sgt. Al Nall  
Master Sgt. Gary Ilingworth

Publication Team  
Tech. Sgt. Kevin Brody,  
(Team Leader)  
Master Sgt. Terri Scanlin  
Tech Sgt. Kris Olson  
Tech Sgt. Scott Shaffer  
Tech Sgt. Sandi McAllister



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The EnGarde  
174<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing  
6001 East Molloy Road  
Hancock Field  
Syracuse, New York, 13211-7099  
Comm: (315) 454-6651  
DSN: 489-9651  
FAX: (315) 454-6145  
DSN: 489-9145

## 174th Fighter Wing Vision and Mission Statements



### Vision Statement

**Our Vision is a world class fighter wing comprised of diverse individuals empowered to meet all challengers, and win. We accept nothing less.**

### Mission Statement

**Provide combat ready personnel, aircraft, and equipment prepared for world wide deployment. To deter or attack and destroy enemy surface and airborne forces in support of joint operations; and to support civil authorities at the direction of the governor.**

**Edward R. Capozzi**, died 28 May 02. Ed served with the unit for 7 years, working in the Finance and Accounting Section. After leaving the unit, he moved to the LA area, where he eventually ended up as Regional Director for the IRS.

**Robert Hatfield**, died 6 August 02 in Charlotte, NC, at the age of 53. Bob worked both as a crew chief and sheet metal specialist while a member of the 174<sup>th</sup>. Bob also served 4 years in the USAF, and as a helicopter mechanic in the NYANG. A memorial service is planned sometime in September in Oneida.

**Kenneth C. Kramer**, died in 1997 at the age of 79 in Hayden, Idaho. Ken was one of the original members of the unit, assigned as a pilot to 138<sup>th</sup> Utility Flight, flying T-6 and C-47 aircraft. He left the unit in 1951 for a job with Lear Aviation as a test pilot. During WWII, Ken flew B-25 aircraft.

### New/Reinstated Members

Ed Deaver, Tom Falcone, Bob Kimber, Pat Maiorano, Charles McConnell, Gary Scheirer, and Ron Seoane

### More News & Trivia

\* Our life membership roster never ceases to grow. Since the last Alumni News, four more Life Membership cards were issued to Alex Csigar, Charlie Dirksen, Bud Radtke, and Garry Willard, bringing the grand total of Life Members to 56.

\* Who was the guy in the Hydraulic Shop that they use to always call "Wimpy" because he loved hamburgers and looked just a little like the Popeye cartoon character with the same name? If you can't remember that's OK. What's important is that you know that Wimpy, better known as Henry Weyer, recently celebrated his retirement after many long years of service to his country, and is now enjoying a life of leisure at home in Cicero, NY.

\* Another old head that recently joined the ranks of retirees, was Gary Scheirer. On the 15<sup>th</sup> of June many of his old friends, family and co-workers gathered at the Kirkville Fire House to celebrate his retirement and wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

\* Tom Webster, who many of you remember as "Spider", also recently retired and is currently enjoying some well-deserved travel, with his wife Denise, in their new RV, seeing what the country looks like from the byways, instead of through a cockpit window.

\* Remember, our Thanksgiving Party this year is scheduled for the 20<sup>th</sup> of November at the Cicero American Legion Post. Be sure to mark it on your calendar so you won't forget.

\* Speaking of Phalsbourg; there is a group that is planning a second reunion of all Air Force Veterans, to include Guardsmen and Reservist, that at one time or another, served at Phalsbourg Air Force Base. The event is to be held from October 3rd to the 5<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, in St Louis, Missouri. If you think you might be interested in attending, and would like more information, contact George Stanley at (618) 633-2520

\* There is a new web site out there that is partly modeled

after the WWII efforts to instill patriotism and community solidarity. It is a Pentagon program that highlights units such as the 174<sup>th</sup>, with the idea of placing the spotlight on the thousands of Air National Guardsmen who are serving this nation in the war against terrorism. The site can be found at: [www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com](http://www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com) <<http://www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com/>>. If that doesn't do it, bring up the National Guard Bureau home page, and type in the search block: "Your Guardians of Freedom." Give it a try; you may enjoy it.

### Next Meeting

**Thursday, September 19, 2002, at 7:00 PM in the Base All Service Club. Liquid refreshments will be served. Come on out, we'd love to have you.**



Pictured are just a few of the many individuals that attended the Memorial Service at Alumni Park during this year's picnic. The service was officiated by Don Whiting our Alumni Chaplain.

## New 174th Members for May, June, and July, 2002

SSgt Duane Meszler, AGS  
SRA Melissa Forsyth, FW  
SRA Susan Rogers, FW  
SSgt Robert Blake, MAI  
A1C Leonard Glowacki, MAI  
SSgt Patrick McCormack, MAI  
SSgt Nicholas Menec, MAI  
2LT Scott Bissonnette, STU FLT  
A1C Joshua Kiley, STU FLT  
A1C Mark McClowry, STU FLT  
SSgt Joseph Ralph, LGS  
2LT Kelly Hall, MDS  
COL Robert Lovell, MSF  
MAJ David Brenton 138<sup>th</sup> FS  
SSgt Mark Dilorenzo 274<sup>th</sup> ASOS  
SRA Jason Owen, AGS  
SRA Susan South, MAI  
A1C Stephen Brink, STU FLT  
A1C Shawn Faryna, STU FLT  
A1C Peter Hefty, STU FLT  
1LT Kurt Tongren, STU FLT  
A1C Michael Zimmerman, STU FLT

- Welcome!

## An Apology:

On behalf of the Engarde I would like to apologize to all 174<sup>th</sup> Alumni, for the absence of the Alumni page in August issue of the EnGarde. Chief Monroe got the article in on time and some how it got by us. The EnGarde team will try extra hard in the future not to let this happen again. *1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jeff Brown, 174<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs OIC.*

## Annual Picnic

This year's picnic was probably one of the most enjoyable, and one of the largest Alumni gatherings we've ever had. Over 200 members and guests joined in the festivities. We can't say enough about how pleased we were with the turnout, as it gave us both the opportunity to see some old friends, that we haven't seen for a while, and to meet some of our newest members. One member that hasn't been able to attend for a while is Nick Pirro, our County Executive. Nick has always been a staunch supporter of the Association and a true friend of the 174<sup>th</sup>, so it goes without saying we were delighted to see that he could find the time to stop out to be with us for a while and to renew some old acquaintances. If we were disappointed about anything during the day, it had to be not seeing friends we thought would attend but didn't for one reason or another. The weather conditions couldn't have been better. The food and drink was both plentiful and delicious, and the entertainment was as good, if not better than last year. Everything went as planned, thanks to Bob Musengo and his crew, and our friends from the South Shore Association of Oneida Lake. Without these people there would be no picnic, so we owe them our sincerest thanks. About midway through the picnic, we asked those that wanted to, to attend our annual Memorial Service in Alumni Park. Don Whiting, our Chaplain, officiated over the service, and did an excellent job of honoring those that had past way during the past 12 months. This year we added only 5 names to the stones, and grateful that there weren't more.



Who said there was no fun to be had at this year's picnic? From the look on the faces of those pictured above, it is clear they had a great time talking to their old buddies and reminiscing about the good old days. Pictured from L to R is: Ken Cunningham, Larry Fournier, Bill Raymond, Ed Trudeau, Bill (Forky) Forkhamer, Dick Occhipinti, Jim Broadwell, Unidentified, and Chet Sikora.

Without fear of contradiction, I think it safe to say, "fun was had by all, and many of those that attended this year are looking forward to attending in 2003." We hope that if you didn't join us this year, you will next year.

## Memorial Day Ceremony

In the May issue of the Alumni News, we announced that the Base Honor Guard would be holding a Memorial Service at Alumni Park on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, and that we would be having an informal luncheon at the All Services Club immediately following. Well, due to inclement weather, the ceremony didn't take place as planned. Instead, only the luncheon was held, and the ceremony was rescheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup>, which was a drill day, and the weather was a lot more agreeable. We were disappointed that the ceremony could not be held as planned, but in the end everything worked out well. We can't thank the Honor Guard enough for the support they have given our families and other veterans and their families residing in the Central New York area. This was the 3rd year in a row that the ceremony has been held, and we hope that it will continue to be held for many more years to come. Our luncheon was a mild success, as there were only 30 to 35 members and family friends that attended. If next year is a go, our sights will be on having a bigger turnout, and maybe even improving our luncheon menu from cold cuts to having a cook out. As always, we'd be remiss if we didn't thank Bob Musengo, our Entertainment Chairman, for the effort he made in chasing down all the items that were needed to make this year's luncheon a success.

## TAPS

**James Baker**, died on 28 Apr 02 at the age of 70. Jim was assigned to the 138<sup>th</sup> TFS from Jan 51 until Sep 69. He worked in food Service, and served with the unit in Phalsbourg, France during the Berlin Call-Up.



A popular gathering place during this year's picnic was the old pavilion that provided some much need shade from the hot afternoon sun. Pictured from L to R is: Bill Fowler, Nick Donvito, Larry Kendrick, Harry Wild, Unidentified, Nick Pirro, and Al Webb.

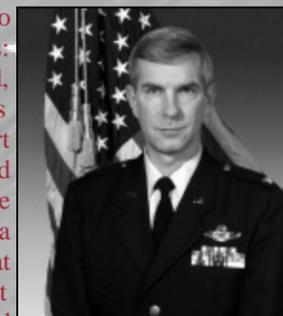
# COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

As most readers of the 'Commander's Comment' have probably figured out, I normally use this column to address future issues. This month, however, I would like to look back at the past, as I think there are lessons to be learned from the experiences of those who preceded us; the specific event of the past I would suggest we think about is the Battle of Saratoga. I can hear it now, a silent groan and the sound of the page being turned, but please bear with me for a moment. For those half a dozen people at Hancock ANGB with a flair for history, you may recall that the Battle was not a horserace, but a decisive showdown between British and American forces during the Revolutionary War. Saratoga has been termed the turning point of the Revolution, and for good reason. For the two years of conflict preceding it the fight with Great Britain had not gone particularly well for the American cause. The defeat of a British army in the field convinced the French to back the rebellion, and without that support and the financial support of other European powers impressed by the American victory, the cause of Independence would likely have been doubtful at best.

So what does this little history lesson have to do with us? Well, for starters, it so happens that the battle began 225 years ago this month. It also happens that Saratoga, for those who may not have caught the horse racing reference, is here in New York State, a short distance north of the town of Saratoga, itself just north of Albany. More to the point, the battle was determined in a large degree by the appearance of volunteers from New York. Much of the revolution was fought by volunteers and militia companies, and the record of these fighters was spectacular in its span. Sometimes the militia got up and ran in huge numbers at the first gunshots, and at other times the militia fought so bravely that the American generals marveled and the British got up and ran in huge numbers.

What seemed to separate the two extremes were fairly simple things: first and foremost, training; second, a clear understanding of what was at stake; and third, adequate support from its leaders, both civic and military. At Saratoga these three elements came together. The militia that started arriving in Saratoga that September began as a trickle, but with each passing day more and more showed up until finally, for the first time in the war, there were more soldiers available to the American side than the British. Many of these volunteers had seen action before, but usually poorly trained, equipped and led. Many had also seen the devastation of their communities as a result of the war. At Saratoga they were drilled, given adequate equipment and supplies, and provided with solid leadership. With these simple tools the New York militiamen defeated the most powerful nation in the world.

Now look at the New York Air National Guard of today. They are trained as never before, equipped with some of the most capable weapon systems in the inventory, and routinely serving under the same conditions and locations as their active duty counterparts. Whether securing an airbase on the other side of the globe, or providing armed aircraft to patrol American skies, the militia of today in New York carries on the tradition that it defined for itself two and a quarter centuries ago. It answers the call to defend the community, state and nation against foreign interests bent on domination and conquest. We are the legacy of Saratoga.



Colonel Robert Knauff  
174th FW, Commander

## PME, CDC'S, And AWARDS

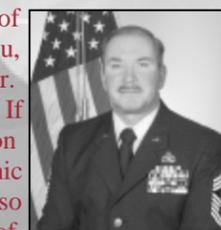
By Chief Master Sgt. Ted Mosley, 174th FW Command Chief



Strange group of topics huh? PME is short for professional military education. CDC is career development course. The word award is self-explanatory. Let's see if I can tie them together. It has come to my attention that many people enrolled in PME or CDC's for career progression are not completing them in a timely manner. What kind of problems does this cause? Well for one, you are not only hurting yourself, but you are hurting the organization you belong to. You are also taking a chance that your end of course (EOC) exam will not expire before you are ready to test out. If you fail the EOC the first time, will there be enough time left to do a re-take? Another problem you cause by doing this is the impact you create on the unit training/test monitor's availability. Many times this person has to come in nights or weekends because you didn't plan appropriately for your EOC testing. The

ultimate responsibility for keeping track of your course expiration date belongs to you, not your supervisor or the training monitor.

Now let's talk about awards. If you score high enough (90 or above) on your EOC, you are eligible for an academic excellence award. Your supervisor can also put you in for one of three categories of Airman of the Quarter awards. The three categories are Airman, NCO, and Senior NCO. Being selected for any of these categories can get you an F-16 back seat ride when we get our D model (two seater). So when you are taking a course and wondering what's in this for me, now you know. Remember the core values of the Air Force. "Integrity first, Service before self;



Command Chief  
Master Sgt. Mosley

*"Excellence in all we do."*



## Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (Lt. Col) R. Paul Mathis, 174th FW Chaplain



### Integrity...

#### A Value of Values

The core value of integrity is a character trait. It is a willingness to do what is right and when no one is looking. We call this our moral compass, or the voice that gives self-control.

Part of this integrity value has helping traits to enhance one's life for the good of all. Justice is one of those traits. When we think of justice, we think of rewards and punishments. For example, do unto others as you would do for yourself.

When we set ourselves up as judge or when who is being judged, I am sure there are four things that come to mind: to hear or be heard courteously, to answer questions wisely, to consider soberly, and to decide the outcome impartially.

Justice and power should always be seen together, so that whatever is just may be powerful and whatever is powerful may be just. We all carry power and justice, whether in our everyday jobs or in our families. Using it to enable others to grow is the trick.

Many great leaders today tell us if we want harmony, order and peace, we must all work for justice. May the gift of justice be part of our equation to a great life!



Chaplain (Lt. Col) R. Paul Mathis

## Consequences of Guardsmen's Financial Irresponsibility

By Lt. Col Joseph Lamendola, 174th FW, Staff Judge Advocate

The subject of financial responsibility has been a hot topic of discussion in recent months. The slides of the stock market, the financial scandals at Enron and Global Crossing have been the hot topics of the major news outlets. This article may cut close to the bone with those of you in the military that are encountering your own financial woes.

Month after month at the Commander's staff meeting, the Wing Financial Officer briefs the staff on outstanding and delinquent Government travel card. Members are constantly reminded by their sections that the Government travel card may only be utilized while performing Official Government Business. Simply put, if you are not on military orders in the furtherance of government business you have no right to use the card. Driving home from drill and stopping off to eat dinner at your favorite restaurant can not be construed as official government business. Obtaining cash advances via an ATM machine with the government card is not in furtherance of government business. Using the government travel card to purchase airline tickets on the internet is also prohibited.

The above examples are but a few of the obvious abuses. Aside from the abuse of the card comes the inability of military members to pay for purchases. The contract between the bank and military member mandates prompt payment. Failure to pay in a timely fashion will result in the bank

implementing forfeiture of military pay.

There is a provision in AFI 36-3209, subsection 3.18.4 that provides for involuntary separation of military members who exhibit irresponsibility in their personal finances. Obviously, failing to pay just debts, which impinge upon the performance of military service, necessitates that commanders take action. Abuse of the Government travel card warrants article 15 action. The article 15 action for abuse of the travel card coupled with other evidence of other financial irresponsibility might trigger administrative separation. Take heed if you have bounced checks at the BX or All-Services Club. Willfully failing to pay child support might trigger separation action. Filing bankruptcy reflects an inability to manage personal finances. When military members renew their security clearance all of the above factors can be used to determine whether a military member can be compromised and worthy of a security clearance.

If you remain in arrears with your just debts, including your Government travel card, you may find your military career in jeopardy. If you need guidance and or counseling talk to your First Sergeant immediately.



Lt. Col Joseph Lamendola

## New 174th FW Historian,

Tech Sgt Bob Zaccaria

Traditional Guardsmen, Tech Sgt. Bob Zaccaria, formally of the 152nd AOG, recently became the new 174th Wing Historian. Sgt Zaccaria, a native Syracusan, has been a member of the Air National Guard for 18 years. He started with the 108th before moving to the 152nd as a Public Affairs Photographer. Sgt. Zaccaria currently works for Medline Industries as a medical supplies representative and lives in Clay with his wife, Ann and their four children.



## Reserve and Guard

### Transitional Health Care Benefits Improve

By Tech. Sgt. Tim Dougherty,  
Edited by Master Sgt. Jeff Wallace, 174th Public Affairs NCOIC

A recent change to health care benefits will be a big help for Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard people who were mobilized in support of the war on terrorism.

Under the revised transitional health care benefit plan, Reserve and Guard people who were ordered to active duty for more than 30 days in support of a contingency and have more than six years total active federal service are eligible for 120 days of health care following their period of active service. Guard and Reserve members with less than six years service will get 60 days of continued medical care. Under a worldwide demonstration project, family members are also covered under this plan. This program is retroactive to Jan. 1. Eligibility for these benefits will be determined by information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

"I think the No. 1 thing a member can do upon demobilization is to ensure their information in DEERS is correct," said Col. Kathleen Woody, director of medical readiness and programs in the office of the assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs. "That's paramount because all of your benefits are contingent on the information in DEERS."

The Defense Manpower Data Center is sending a letter to people who are eligible for this benefit, but only if the information in DEERS reflects their having served in support of a contingency operation such as operations Noble Eagle or Enduring Freedom.

"Our Reserve and Guard members and their families have sacrificed a great deal by responding to the call to duty in support of the war on terrorism," Woody said. "We have an obligation to ensure that each individual is aware of this transitional health care benefit."

Members and families who were enrolled in TRICARE Prime while on active duty will automatically be disenrolled upon release from active duty. The Reserve component member or family must actively re-enroll if they wish to continue TRICARE Prime during the transitional health care period.

An enrollment form is available on the TRICARE Web site or at a local TRICARE service center. No enrollment is necessary for TRICARE Standard or Extra.

## Senate Approves Defense Bill with Pay Raise

AP and Edited by Jeff Wallace 174th, Public Affairs NCOIC

The Senate overwhelmingly approved a \$355.4 billion defense bill for next year offering the latest affirmation of how support for the Pentagon has intensified since the Sept. 11 attacks.

The measure provides the military with \$34.4 billion more than it is getting this year. Procurement, research, personnel, and operations and maintenance programs would all get increases of at least 9 percent.

In a written statement, the White House budget office urged approval of the bill despite objecting to an \$11.4 billion cut it would make in President Bush's request. Most of it would come from denying - at least for now - \$10 billion he proposed for a war contingency fund that he would control.

"Despite these major concerns, the administration supports passage of the bill in the Senate to advance the legislation to conference," where the House and Senate will write a compromise bill, the statement said.

Before passage, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., abandoned plans to try derailing an arrangement enacted last year for the Defense Department to lease four Boeing 737s for ferrying administration officials and lawmakers.

McCain said the deal was too expensive and that it denied other companies a chance to compete, but he seemed likely to lose if he had forced a vote.

Opponents said McCain's language also would block last year's Air Force leasing arrangement for 100 larger Boeing 767s to be converted into refueling tankers, and said competition would open the door for Airbus, the European aircraft builder.

Like the Democratic-run Senate, the Republican-led House also omitted the \$10 billion war contingency fund, reflecting a bipartisan distaste for ceding spending control to the executive branch.

The Senate bill includes \$6.9 billion for continued work on a system for protecting the United States from incoming missiles. In a provision Bush opposes, the bill would create a separate \$814 million fund he could use for missile defense - bringing the total to his full request - or for fighting terrorism.

The bill also provides: -\$3.3 billion, \$600 million more than Bush sought, for 15 C-17 cargo aircraft for the Air Force, instead of the 12 he proposed.

The measure also would allow the purchase of 23 F-22 stealth fighters for the Air Force and 11 V-22 tilt rotor Ospreys for the Air Force and Marines, as Bush proposed.

There also would be funds for a 4.1 percent military pay raise, the same as Bush requested.

*"There also would be funds for a 4.1 percent military pay raise..."*

## Participants in the 2002 JP Morgan Chase Corporate Challenge

By Tech Sgt. Scott Schaffer, 174th FW, Intelligence NCOIC



174th Fighter Wing Personnel that participated in Corporate Challenge.

With a total of over 6,000 participants in this year's Corporate Challenge, I am pleased to say that Hancock Field contributed with 23 finishers, comprised of people from the 174th FW, 274th ASOS and the 152nd AOG. Thanks to several organizations for their support, be it manpower, supplies or financial contributions. Volunteers for the event were Maj. Barb Hisel and Tech. Sgt. Nick Lydell. Thanks for a job well done!

The event was an out and back course covering 3.5 flat miles. Tom Caza, from Civil Engineering, turned in the best male time at 20:45, and representing the female's best time was Michelle Brody, from the 152nd AOG, at 31:15. Mother Na-

ture cooperated with us this year by providing a temperature in the low 70's, partly sunny skies, low humidity and a slight breeze. With thoughts of the high heat and humidity of years past, we went with white tank tops with the 174th logo and they seemed to be a cool departure from the t-shirt.

Coming on the heels of the Utica Boilermaker this outing was equally successful and I am looking forward to getting more new faces involved in all aspects in the upcoming year and beyond. Thanks again to everyone that supported the event. It is great to see Hancock Field come together for community events where we have so much contact with the people who support what we do.

## A Strong Password Begins with You

By Master Sgt. Leonard Strong, Jr., Information Assurance Program Office, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

A strong password is essential to maintaining security and integrity of the Air Force Enterprise Network. Network vulnerabilities can be minimized with an effective password policy, a continuous awareness program, and Air Force members' acceptance of responsibility for protecting their workstations. Air Force Manual 33-223 states, "Inappropriate passwords create some of today's most common information systems vulnerabilities." Base network control centers have system configuration tools for detecting and negating unwanted visitors who might wish to harm the enterprise network, but what have you done lately to mitigate the risks of infiltration?

Does your password meet requirements of paragraph 2.4 of the manual? Specifically, are you using an eight alpha numeric password scheme with advanced special characters? Do you actively use password-protected screensavers, and remind co-workers to use them? Statistics reflect the dangers of using a weak password, since it's apparent a skillful individual can quickly crack it. It's imperative that you use good password construction and protection techniques to prevent intruders from gaining access not only to your system, but ultimately, to the entire Air Force enterprise network.

## Aircraft Conversion Update

By 1st Lt. Nick Lotito, Maintenance Conversion Officer

Thanks to legislative support from our local Congressman and the state, the 174th will be converting to the Block 30 "small mouth" F-16C/D model from our existing Block 25s. You may be wondering "What's the difference?"

The difference is desire. A Block 30 F-16 and pilot that can drop precision guided munitions is one of the most desirable aerospace weapons in the war on terrorism today. The war on terrorism as we have been told will not go away anytime soon. Neither will the need to drop munitions on target and the more accurate, the better.

Now the notable item that is different on the block 30 from the block 25 is the engine. The Engine shop will be very busy converting from a 220 Pratt & Whitney to a General Electric 100b. This engine will provide more thrust and allow the engine shop to do more in shop work than the modular style of the Pratt & Whitney. While you are reading this 4-6 Engine shop troops are TDY being trained and modifying the GE engines.

We are getting these aircraft from the fine people of Sioux City, Iowa. If you grew up in the Northeast as I did, Iowa is the state between Minnesota and Missouri (yes I had to look it up). They have a base very much in size and tradition like ours. They have always been a fighter unit, have great pride in their aircraft, and take on all challenges with professionalism and friendliness. They are converting from fighters to tankers. It will be an exciting transition for them as they are undergoing new construction, and a different operational mission that will help them transition from a class act in the fighter world to a class act in the tanker world.

Officially we are scheduled to enter conversion Oct 1 2002 and end 31 September 2003. We will receive our first two aircraft as maintenance trainers in Mid Oct 2002 and the remainder of the fleet during January 2003. This will pose a logistics challenge. With 17 of our old planes on the ramp while 16 of our new planes are inbound, ramp and hangar space will be tight. Thank goodness for the shelters Congressman Walsh lobbied for and received funding to build. They will help some but our base is not designed to adequately house up to 35 F-16s and associated items. So December and January we will be very busy fixing planes so OPS can fly them out to Duluth as fast as Sioux City can fly theirs in to Syracuse.

Won't the conversion interfere with our Unit Compliance Inspection? Not much. The Wing has contacted ACC/IG and they have agreed to do a "tailored" UCI which will help in the areas that will be hardest hit on conversion such as new aircraft forms, new TCTOs, new technical orders recently received, and possibly some related training records. But most of what we do day to day on block 25s we should be doing on Block 30s. And if we are doing it correctly and documenting it correctly we will do well.

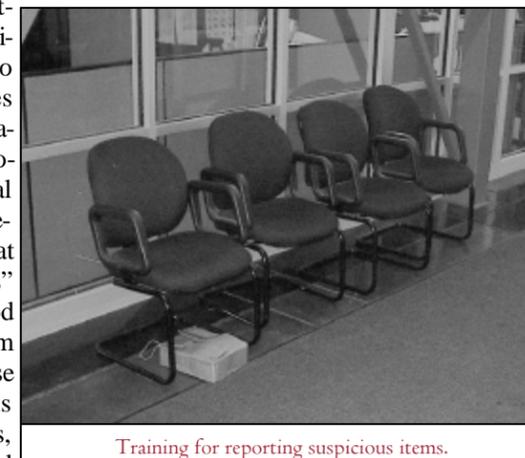
In closing the conversion is big. But for the 174th FW and its experience with this block combined with the quality of 185th Sioux City personnel and aircraft, we will do well. Congratulations on the new aircraft and on how well you have maintained and enhanced our current block 25s. Have a great drill weekend!

## Antiterrorism and "Eagle Eyes"

By Master Sgt. Saverio A. Rotunno, Flight Sergeant, 174 SFS

In the past few months the 174 Security Forces Squadron has been taking part in the new Air Force initiative called "Eagle Eyes" an Antiterrorism Reporting Program. With today's threat environment it calls for added vigilance to detect terrorist plans. The Eagle Eyes program provides the necessary emphasis and reporting apparatus. The program is an Air Force Office of Special Investigations initiative and it will require multi-functional participation at the installation level. The "Eagle Eyes" program is a high-octane "neighborhood watch" some features of the program are widespread education of on-base and off-base populations on suspicious activity for example suspicious persons, vehicles, and objects both on-base and off-base. It involves easy reporting procedures, an appropriate investigative follow-up and rapid information dissemination across the Air Force and DoD. Base level exercises will be

conducted at various locations both on-base and off-base to evaluate the awareness and response of military and civilian personnel, these exercises are for training purposes to make the base populous aware of the possibilities of a terrorist threat. Training will also consist of Security Force members speaking at least once a month or as requested with other unit sections to educate and give up to date information on both local and Air Force wide threats. It takes every airman to become a sensor and we need to continue to emphasize the importance of the total force in defeating the threat, myself and SSgt James Troch look forward to working with other sections of the 174 family to better our knowledge and response to a terrorist attack.



Training for reporting suspicious items.

Please feel free to contact SSgt Troch or myself at 454-6199 to schedule a briefing or if you have any questions regarding the new "Eagle Eyes" Program.

# Services Flight Meets "Fantasy Island"

By Staff Sgt. Jim VanWormer, 174<sup>th</sup> FW, Services Store Room Clerk



These are the members of the 174<sup>th</sup> Services Flight that were deployed. Front (left to right) Staff Sgt. Steve Bender, Senior Amn. Scott Childress, Tech. Sgt. Ruth Taber, Tech. Sgt. Dave MacDonald, Senior Amn. Matt Warner, Tech. Sgt. John Knobel, Staff Sgt. Melinda Haines, Tech. Sgt. Bernice Caruso, Senior Amn. Rich Fowler. Back (left to right) Master Sgt. Cal Salladin, Staff Sgt. Scott Howard, Staff Sgt. Tim Isbell, Staff Sgt. Jerry Dwyer, Staff Sgt. John Morgan, Staff Sgt. Jim VanWormer, Staff Sgt. Dave Knoop, Senior Amn. Amber Hundley, and Staff Sgt. Al Dobransky.

The 174<sup>th</sup> Services Flight recently returned from a 90-day deployment in Diego Garcia. Here's an overview of the experience.

The unit was notified of the deployment around a month before the estimated travel date. Once the initial shock of being deployed was over, members began to prepare themselves for the trip. Employers were notified, briefings were held, and personal affairs were put into order. When the day came to leave, we were ready, or so we thought.

Our flight to the island was one for the record books and will be a hot topic of discussion for all future deployments. Three refueling stops, 27 hours of sitting in the same seat without leaving the plane, and seven airline meals later, we arrived on the island. We were graciously welcomed to the island by a greeting party. Due to the fact it was after midnight when we arrived, we couldn't get a good look at our new home so we unpacked and retired for the first night.

Early next morning provided us our first look at the island. The scenery was amazing. Coconut palm trees, white sand beach and magnificent blue ocean water was only a short walk from tent city.

After an initial briefing we were assigned to one of

three areas – food service, lodging or fitness and recreation. We met with the other Services Flights, which were composed of both Active Duty and National Guard components, and began work.

The heat was a factor, everyday promised 80 to 90 degrees with high humidity. The heat affected everyone, especially those working in the kitchen. After a week of work it was apparent that the National Guard, particularly the 174<sup>th</sup> Flight, would take the lead in making sure the jobs were done right. Initially, there were long hours and poor working conditions for most of the areas. Once we started working, the improvements to the areas began and continued throughout the deployment.

On the island we were members of the 40<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Services Squadron. We were tasked in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Each month 55,000 meals were provided by Services to members of the Support Squadron. Meals and other services functions were 24 hour operations filled by three shifts. Fueled by these meals, 120 bomber and 600 tanker sorties were flown from the island during our tour of duty. The roar of these planes taking off and landing was a constant reminder of the fact that we were at war.

# Pending Bills Could Provide Tax Bennies for Service Members

By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem  
Edited by Master Sgt. Jeff Wallace, 174<sup>th</sup> FW, Public Affairs NCOIC

Several initiatives in various bills before Congress now could sweeten military members' tax benefits if they become law.

Several initiatives in various bills before Congress now could sweeten military members' tax benefits if they become law.

Sure to be the most popular with the troops are proposals to extend combat-zone tax exclusions to Korea and members serving unaccompanied tours outside the United States. Another bill would extend the combat-zone exclusion for troops serving in the Sinai with the Multinational Force and Observers there.

Lt. Col. Tom Emswiler, an Army tax lawyer and executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council, said tax exemptions are immensely popular with service members but ironically may not be the best thing for the troops or the Defense Department.

"A lot of our junior members don't pay a lot in the way of federal income taxes," he said. "If we're trying to target a problem, there may be more efficient ways than with a broad tax exclusion." He noted, for instance, 75 percent of service members would be better off financially with an additional allowance of \$250.

Another break addressed in several pieces of pending legislation in both houses of Congress would exempt service members from a normal two-year residency rule for claiming a tax exclusion on a certain amount of profit on a home sale.

Under current law, individuals who live in a house at least two of the five years prior to the date they sell it can exclude a certain amount of their gain from taxes. Each homeowner can exclude the first \$250,000 of gain, up to \$500,000 for married individuals filing jointly.

A third issue is the exemption from federal taxes of the whole \$6,000 death gratuity paid to families of military members who die on active duty. Only \$3,000 is tax-exempt now. Congress enacted Section 134 of the Internal Revenue Code in 1986 to consolidate and clarify which military benefits were tax-exempt. The law states that increases in existing benefits are tax-exempt only if they're the result of an inflation adjustment. The death gratuity was \$3,000 in 1986, and inflation indexes were not factors when Congress summarily doubled the benefit during the Gulf War.

Chances of seeing any of this legislation enacted improved when the House passed the Armed Forces Tax Fairness Act of 2002 by a vote of 413-0 on July 9. The legislation addresses the death gratuity and home-sales issues.

In the month since, senators introduced several tax-relief bills:

Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa introduced S. 2789 on July 24 to expand the eligibility for membership in veterans organizations so that having these de-

pendents as members does not cause the organizations to lose their tax-exempt status.

Sen. Max Cleland of Georgia introduced S. 2802 on July 26 to address, among other things, ending the taxation of student loan repayments of service members; covering reservists' travel expenses to and from duty assignments; ensuring military service does not interfere with members' capital gains treatments in home sales.

The Senate may address these proposals when it returns from recess in September.



## CSAF's List - Continued from Page 10

**CATEGORY I:** History of the Air Force from its beginning through its major transformations as an Institution

- The Wild Blue: The Men and Boys Who Flew the B-24s Over Germany — Stephen E. Ambrose
- Beyond the Wild Blue: A History of the United States Air Force, 1947-1997 — Walter J. Boyne
- The Transformation of American Air Power — Benjamin S. Lambeth
- Winged Victory: The Army Air Forces in World War II — Geoffrey Perret
- George C. Marshall: Organizer of Victory, 1943-1945 — Forrest C. Pogue

**CATEGORY II:** Insight into ongoing conflicts and the frictions that can produce conflicts in the future

- Bin Laden: The Man Who Declared War On America — Yossef Bodansky
- The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order — Samuel P. Huntington
- War at the Top of the World: The Struggle for Afghanistan, Kashmir, and Tibet — Eric S. Margolis
- Tournament of Shadows: The Great Game and the Race for Empire in Central Asia — Karl E. Meyer and Shareen Blair Brysac
- The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money & Power — Daniel Yergin

**CATEGORY III:** Organization, leadership and success stories holding lessons for the present and future

- The Five Pillars of TQM (Guidelines for Organizational Greatness) — Bill Creech
- American Generalship: Character is Everything: The Art of Command — Edgar F. Puryear

**CATEGORY IV:**

Lessons emerging from recent conflicts — and the preparation for them

- Every Man A Tiger — Tom Clancy with Chuck Horner
- Prodigal Soldiers — James Kitfield



**“Diversity: The Strength of America”**

The year 2002 has been declared the National Guard’s Year of Diversity. Throughout the year, we encourage you to celebrate and appreciate the diversity of our National Guard. Take a minute and think about the diversity in your community, your state and America, and create an original piece of art that these thoughts inspire.

*The National Guard Year of Diversity  
Art Contest*

**Submission Guidelines:**

1. Entrant must be the unmarried, dependant child of an enlisted member or officer serving in, or DoD civilian working for, the Army National Guard or Air National Guard
2. Entries must be on flat medium no larger than 8.5” X 11”. An information page must be attached to the back of the piece and include the participant’s name, address, phone number, age (as of 01 July 2002), sponsoring parent, and affiliation (Army or Air Guard).
3. Entries will be judged in one of three age groups: 5-9 years, 10-14 years, and 15-18 years. A \$100 US Savings Bond will be awarded to one Army winner and one Air winner per age group.
4. Only one entry may be submitted per participant. In the event that a participant has parental representation in both the Army and Air National Guard, he/she must chose one affiliation and will be considered for only one award.

5. All entries must be submitted to **Year of Diversity Art Contest, ARNG Diversity Initiatives Office, 111 South George Mason Dr., Arlington, VA 22204-1382 ATTN: Ms. Nadine M. Meyers, by COB 01 October 2002.** Contest winners will be notified on or before **31 December 2002.** Late entries will not be accepted. Return packaging and proper postage must be enclosed if artwork is to be returned to entrant upon conclusion of the contest. The winning entries will be displayed at the Army and Air National Guard Readiness Centers, respectively for a period not to exceed **31 January 2003.**
6. Winners will be posted on the Year of Diversity 2002 website on or before **31 December 2002.**
7. Submissions will be judged on originality (40%), creativity (30%) and theme incorporation (30%).

If you have any questions, please contact **Ms. Nadine M. Meyers at DSN 327-7096; Comm: (703) 607-7096; or via email: Nadine.Meyers@ngb.army.mil**



General John Jumper

**CSAF’s Reading List**

As your Chief of Staff, I have decided to continue the practice started in 1996 of providing a list of recommended reading for our enlisted, officer, and civilian members. This is a new list, a single list, which replaces the previous tiered list that has served the Air Force over the past six years. That prior list was divided into sections depending upon your rank. Given that my list is new, it’s appropriate for Air Force members of all grades to pursue it, as their time permits. Also, it is my conviction that it’s useful for the generals to know what the young troops are reading and vice versa.

*Continued on Page 11.*



Tech Sgt. Dave MacDonald really enjoyed the beach.



Staff Sgt. Gerald Dwyer showing off his tasty works.

Diego Garcia provided many MWR activities to keep busy on time off from work. There was a phone tent and Internet room to keep in touch with families at home along with free postal service. Running, biking and swimming events were held weekly and provided t-shirts for participation. The fishing on the island was amazing, and many members took advantage of the seemingly endless supply of tropical fish to be caught. Bowling, golfing, tennis and many other activities were also available.

During off time one of the popular hangouts was the beach. “Sun God” Dave MacDonald was there so often that Tim Isbell made a sign for the area claiming it “Dave’s Beach”. Not everyone was as lucky as Dave when it came to

getting a tan. Ruth Taber had permanent red eye shadow for a few days after she fell asleep on the beach while forgetting to apply sunscreen to her eyelids.

Even though it seemed that we were on “Fantasy Island”, we were anxious to get home to our families. When news came of our departure, everyone was ready to go home. The experience had been a good one. We were proud of our contribution to the war against terrorism. Friends were made, experiences shared, and memories of the island will remain. Many members took the time to get a suntan or lose weight. The flight home was a carbon copy of the flight over. At the Syracuse Airport, friends and family greeted us. The adventure was over, but it will not be forgotten soon.



**Air Force Campaign Medal**



Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. James G. Roche

"Award of campaign medals to specially recognized service members and units who fight our wars is a long-standing US military tradition. DOD criteria for such awards have historically been centered on geography to define the area of combat operations. In light of the EAF environment and the transformation in the way the Air Force carries out its missions today, such criteria do not allow the necessary flexibility to appropriately recognize our

members who contribute directly and significantly to the success of wartime campaigns from outside the conflict area of combat operations.

As such, I have approved the creation of an Air Force Campaign Medal. This new medal will be awarded to USAF personnel who are not eligible for a DOD campaign medal but provide direct support of combat operations from outside the geographic area of combat. This action is consistent with DOD policies; that is, implementing a service award to recognize those who do not qualify for a campaign medal, but whose actions merit recognition.

The appropriate design and specific criteria for this new medal was developed and forwarded to SAF/MR for review/approval no later than 30 June 2002. This is another effort to take care of our people who make the mission happen."

**Special Deal on Condominium Rentals**

Servicemembers and Defense Department civilians are eligible to rent condominiums in certain resorts worldwide as part of a vacation club arrangement between the Army and a civilian corporation. Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation arranged with Cendant Corp. and a subsidiary, Resort Condominiums International, to offer the condos at reduced rates to active and reserve service members, military retirees, DoD civilians, and any other persons eligible for MWR services. The deal offers condominium unit rentals for \$234 per week at selected resorts. The normal rates are \$600 to \$1,500 per week in season, according to Cendant official Verlin Abbott.

Information is available at MWR Information, Tickets and Reservation offices or Information, Tickets and Tours offices, or by visiting this MWR section and clicking on the Armed Forces Vacation Club logo. MWR receives \$22 for every reservation booked. For more vacation discounts, see the Travel Center.



**Military Children Can Win Computers**

Military kids worldwide will have the opportunity to win one of 10 personal computers being given away during an August commissary promotion. The essay contest, on "Why I am Proud to Be an American," is sponsored and funded by manufacturers that sell products in the commissary. Essays can be submitted online at <http://www.familymedia.com/dmi/index.lasso> or mailed to Family Essay 2002, PO Box 399, Old Bethpage, NY 11804. Essays are to be 100 words or less and submitted (postmarked) no later than Sept. 15. Winners must be legal dependents of authorized commissary shoppers.



**RETIREMENT PARTY!**

A Retirement Party for Senior Master Sgt. Dave Cerminaro is being held at the VFW Post 9596, 6995 Taft Rd. 20 Sep. Cocktails at 6PM, dinner at 7PM. Cost is \$15.00 per person dress is casual. Please contact Senior Master Dick Rose or Tech. Sgt. Aaron Correll.

**Family Appreciation Weekend**

Mark your calendars now for Hancock Field Family Appreciation Weekend Oct 5-6 2002. Festivities kick off Sat. 5 Oct. with the Ft. Drum Commissary Sale (1000-1600), and the 3rd Annual Wing Dining-Out on Saturday evening. Sunday's activities include food, fun, music and the opportunity to test your trivia knowledge and win prizes. More to come next month. Questions or brilliant ideas welcome. POC: Lt. Col. Timpano ext 139.

**It's Time To Give Yourself Some College Credit**



College credit can be earned by taking CLEP and DANTES tests. These tests are available in several subject areas and can be applied to most degree programs. If you would like more information please contact the Education and Training Office in the Wing Headquarters building at 454-6147, 148 or 409.

The Education and Training Office has initiated a resource center for our members. This resource center, located in the Education and Training Office in the Wing Headquarters building, has information available about college scholarships, DANTES/CLEP tests, Regents College tests, Distance Learning courses and Community College of the Air Force requirements.

Of special interest, we also have study guides for the ASVAB tests, the Officer Candidate tests and the Emergency Medical Technician examination. Our Scholastic Resource Network scholarship program is currently available for use on the computers located in our testing room.

We receive a substantial amount of new information each month. In order to meet the needs of our members, we have centralized our research area and added many new items of interest.

A member of the Wing Training and Education Office will be available to answer your questions or to assist you in any way. Please call x147, x148 or x409 for an appointment.



**174<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Dining Facility Hours**

**1030 – 1300**

**Please see OPORD for menu**



September UTA Pay Date - 18 Sep 02.

The next UTA is 5-6 October 2002.



**NY Air National Guard Blood Drive**

The 174<sup>th</sup> FW and the American Red Cross are sponsoring a blood drive and would love to see you come out and participate.

**WHEN: Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**TIME: 1100 – 1600 hrs**  
**WHERE: All Services Club**

"The fact is that blood donations have been down the last two summers and are anticipated the same this year. Yet the demand for blood has increased 5% and has become more difficult than ever to ensure that blood will be available for every person, every time"

Please call Mike Close at 454-6113 or 559-6453(c) to schedule your appointment.