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# ENGARDE

74th Fighter Wing

New York Air National Guard, Syracuse

**On/Off Duty; Safety Is  
Always A Priority**



**Who Is The 152nd AOG  
Recruiting For The Future**



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## 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 challenges, 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.

# COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Colonel Anthony Basile  
174th FW, Commander

I hope you all are enjoying summer 2003. After a slow weather start, it's finally turned into another beautiful Central New York season. While we are enjoying our warm weather activities in our off-duty life, we are busily preparing for our on-duty activities this fall. Although there are always numerous things on our plate, we should all have only one main focus for the next few months. And that's making absolutely sure that we are absolutely ready to send hundreds of people, and the equipment they'll need to do their jobs, into a combat zone.

As you read this article, we have a hundred people and 8 jets at Hill AFB. They are out there expending precision-guided munitions such as Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM, or GPS guided bombs), Laser Guided Bombs (LGBs), and the latest versions of the Maverick missile. We are acquiring extremely important experience for our weapons crews as they build and load munitions they haven't seen before. Our pilots are expending ordnance that most have never carried before. And we're getting assurances that our F-16s will reliably carry and drop these weapons when asked to do so.

Back at the home drome, you're starting to see us filter in some night flying to get our pilots proficiency training with night vision goggles and employing the Litening II targeting pod in that environment. We will have a 24/7 alert commitment for some of our aircraft during this AEF. Most of the base has been through the new chemical warfare conops training. There are certainly some new ways of doing things in this arena. We're certainly some new things in this arena. We're ramping up on requirements, personnel requirements, and any other requirements in order for that we need us to fulfill the mission state-ment that reads, "to provide combat ready personnel, aircraft, and equipment prepared for worldwide deployment."



Yeah, it's always true that there are a lot of things going on around here. But for the next few months, whether you're deploying, or helping to prepare those who are deploying (every one of us fits into one of those two categories), there is nothing more important, on-duty, than AEF prep for a combat zone.



## Promotions... Are you ready?

By Chief Master Sgt. Ted Mosley, 174<sup>th</sup> FW, Command Chief



I'm sure you are all familiar with the phrase "A Dollar and a Dream", or "you cannot win the lottery unless you buy a ticket". Promotion possibilities are similar.

I just reviewed the available promotions for the month of August. The entire Wing has two Chief, four Senior, 46 Master, and 75 Tech positions to be considered.

So, what does this mean to you? Are you ready to be promoted? Have you fulfilled all your training requirements? Have you done all required PME for your next pay grade?

Many people think they are stuck in a junior NCO position because there is no available slot in the next level of their current work area. You may have to consider the possibility of changing career fields in order to move up. It is also possible that you can be promoted under the Deserving Airman (DA) program, (i.e. a Staff Sergeant in a Staff slot can be promoted to Tech under DA). The rules state that for only a specific period of time can a person be one grade over in any existing slot.

Now for some more important information for you to factor in... all ANG unit's are allowed to be 25 percent over for Tech (25 percent for DA), 20 percent for Master, zero percent for Senior and Chief (except for Exceptional Promotion Program). If your Squadron is at 125 percent for authorized Tech or 120 percent for authorized Master, no one can be promoted. Regardless if the person is in an authorized slot, he or she can not move up until a Tech or Master leaves.

So yes, the Wing has the ability to promote, but it may not be in your career area. The ability to be promoted in the enlisted grades has never and I repeat **never** been better. You and I know how fast things change around here, so be ready, and don't be afraid to look outside career field.

Ask the question...what do I need to do to be promoted? If you have any question please feel free to call my office at 454-6102.



## Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (Maj) Douglas Decker, 174th FW Chaplain's Office



### The Home Church

As I look at the liturgical calendar I see that we will soon celebrate the feast of Pentecost. The feast of Pentecost is the celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. In many ways it is the birthday of the Church. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the Church is born from the side of the Lord Jesus as he hung upon the cross on Good Friday.

With the birthday of the church comes the notion of the domestic church. The domestic church means that we develop our family life around the idea that it is a family church. It is a unit where faith and good values are the core to the family. The home church is the sanctuary where spiritual life grows and is nourished. The goal of the family is to keep the home safe, inviting, orderly, a place of affirmation where faith, love, and respect are visible.

In the domestic church, children are welcomed as the first fruits of love and received as gifts from God. Children are not resented but loved and guided in adulthood. They are taught

the lesson of God through his word and in his church each week-end. The home is a place of wholeness even if it may not be holy.

In the domestic church there is mercy and forgiveness. Speech is to be used to build up and to encourage. Communication is essential in the home. No one is a mind-reader. Talking to God each day is necessary. Daily conversations with the Lord are therapeutic and healthy. It lifts our spirits and makes life meaningful.

In the domestic church meals need to be shared together. Breaking bread at the family table is a part of the domestic church. The family table serves as the altar and is to be respected as a holy place. It is the place of prayer and thanksgiving, fellowship, listening, good manners, generosity and initiation.

The family church is a place of witness as to what God is doing. It offers us the opportunity to bring the Word of God to life each and everyday. We become bearers of 'Good News' to each other and to the world.

We need the domestic church today. There is so much that pulls at family life. Much of it is against what families work for. With some serious regrouping the light of God can shine from the domestic church of the modern family.



## AEF Finance Information

By Capt Chuck Hutson, 174 FW, Comptroller

Military Pay Entitlements for Personnel Deploying with the Flying Package: Base Pay (BP) – Rates determined by grade and years of service. Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS) – Full rations and/or basic allowance for subsistence. Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) – Rates determined by grade, zip code, and dependent status. Hostile Fire/Imminent Danger Pay (HFP/IDP) – 1 day in theater earns a monthly entitlement of \$225.00 per month. Combat Zone Tax Exclusion (CZTE) – Applies to all military pay earned that month. Taxes will be withheld from pay and refunded after active duty tour is complete. Tours less than 30 days will be paid at end of tour when signed / certified order is turned-in.

Additional Military Pay Entitlements for Personnel Deploying with the Flying Package Over 30 Days: Leave Accrual - 2.5 days earned per 30 days of duty. When leave is sold-back it does not count towards 60-day career maximum. CZTE applies to leave earned in theater as well. Family Separation Allowance (FSA) – If member has dependents who reside with them, the entitlement is \$250.00 per month / pro-rated by # of days in theater. Hardship Duty Pay (HDP) - If in theater more than 30 days, the monthly entitlement is \$50 per month / pro-rated by # of days in theater. Tours of duty 30 or more days will be paid mid-month and end of month. Signed / certified orders need turned-in at beginning and end of tour.

Accessing Pay Information: The best way to access your military pay information when deployed is the internet-based MYPAY system at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. It is simple to apply for a Personal Identification Number on-line, but you need to apply now because it takes a few days to be mailed to you. Having a MYPAY PIN is a requirement for deployment—however, it

cannot be done in the deployment processing line!

Travel Entitlements for Personnel Deploying with the Flying Package: Personnel deploying with the flying package will be provided meals and quarters at no cost and will therefore receive \$3.50 per day for incidental expenses. Per diem is payable on travel days to and from the deployed location.

Government Travel Card (GTC): You must deploy with your GTC and use it for the following.... Lodging (government or commercial quarters), Meals (whenever possible) when government meals are not available, ATM advances (keep the amount of withdrawal as small as possible), Rental car (if authorized on orders), Excess baggage (if authorized on orders)

Interim Vouchers & Split-Disbursement: Whenever you are TDY 30 days or more, you should mail or fax interim travel vouchers to 174<sup>th</sup> Finance. You must use split-disbursement and identify the amount of outstanding charges on your GTC. This will speed your reimbursement and allow you to pay your GTC balance on time. Finance fax is DSN 489-9483.

ATM Cash Advances: You should take some amount of cash when you deploy in case of emergency. You are authorized a travel advance by using your GTC at an ATM within 3 days of going TDY. Your travel advance cannot exceed 80% of your travel entitlement. General guidelines for ATM withdrawal amounts: 80% of ((\$3.50/day x 23 days) + (75% of per-diem on travel days)) = around \$100

Additional Cash Requirements: You should take blank personal checks whenever you deploy. Typically, the servicing finance office will allow you to cash \$100 - \$200 per month. While that doesn't sound like a lot of money, you probably won't have many opportunities to spend it—other than the BX.

# Base Monthly Activity Plan



As the compass and GPS guide many aircraft pilots, our base Monthly Activity Plan guides our Unit Training Assembly (UTA) plans. Each year your base leadership gathers together to plan out our schedule for the next two years. Our goal is to ensure all our guardsmen and full-time forces have timely information to predict deployments, inspections and training requirements.

Part of this process involves firming up our fiscal year UTA schedule and our workweek schedule. Master Sgt. Greg Giamas takes this information and produces a user-friendly calendar. You can find a copy of the fiscal year 2004 calendar on our shared base drive: Y:/Fs\_base/Wing Planning/FY 2004.

The Monthly Activity Plan (or "MAP") is a bit more complicated and fluid. This document takes into consideration our flying operations, inspection schedule, AEF rotations, unit exercises and annual reoccurring events. For example if you are

wondering when our unit will be deploying overseas you can look on our shared base drive: Y:/Fs\_base/Wing Planning/174 FY 03-04 MAP.

## A few important milestones in the year ahead include:

Air Expeditionary Force Deployment (Aviation Oct-Nov)	Jul – Dec 03
Combat Hammer Exercise	2-8 Aug 03
ORE (Phase II—Table Top Exercise)	9 Aug 03
Family Day/Awards Ceremony	7 Sep 03
ORE at Savannah CRTC	2-8 Oct 04
ORI at Savannah CRTC	4-12 Dec 04

To add topics to our MAP or discuss the planning process please contact me at 454-6697 or Capt. Ed Cook at 454-6543.

## Who is the 152 AOG?

*By Maj. Greg Gardner, Deputy Director - Intelligence*



The 152 Air Operations Group is a relatively new unit on base, but an old friend as well. Formerly the 152 Air Control Group – the headquarters unit for a multi-state group of Ground radar squadrons, the 152 Air Operations Group is in the final stages of transitioning into a unique unit within the Air National Guard, with a new and exciting future.

Under the Command of Colonel Joseph Bulmer, the 152 AOG has a unique mission in the Air Guard, and is a leader in the reshaping of reserve roles in a modern Air Force. The unit is responsible for running an Air Operations Center – the command and control central hub for an air war. Unit members plan and direct combat air operations, including air to ground bombing, close air support, air to air combat, time sensitive targeting, and rescue operations. Their skills include expertise in every major aircraft system in the US inventory, as well as advanced communications, intelligence, and logistics support.

The unit is attached to the 32 AOG at Ramstein Air Base in Germany. Working together, the two units are responsible for planning and directing air wars in the European theater. Like many other units, the 32 AOG and 152 AOG were assigned to Central Command for combat operations during Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Air Force has only a limited number of Air Opera-

tions Center experts and they depend on the 152 AOG to be available anytime/anywhere, when needed.

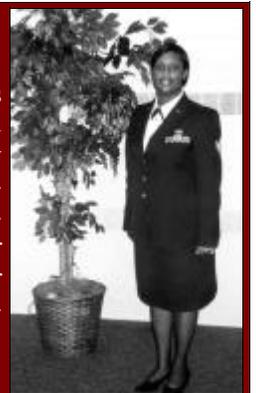
The 152 AOG is currently the most widely-deployed unit in the New York Air National Guard. They have had members deployed in support of the war in Kosovo, in support of military operations after the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, in support of homeland defense, and managing the aerial defense of the continental United States. Members of the Intelligence section were also activated for several months in Europe supporting the war against terrorism. Most recently, the 152 AOG deployed to five locations in the middle east in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

When not deployed to international hot spots, the unit spends its time training and recruiting for its new mission. "We have a broad mission and need a broad cross-section of skills. We have spots for all kinds of people – intelligence, pilots, weapons controllers, weather, comm. – you name it." Says Colonel Bulmer. "The future of the AOC mission is bright and will continue to expand. We are extremely fortunate to be part of the Air Force's newest weapon system and in a role that has a huge impact on the outcome of any air campaign."



### 174th Member Recipient of Two Special Awards

Recently Staff Sgt. Alicia Jones was presented two special awards; the first was given by the UAW Local's 624 and the 2149 Veterans Committee. She received the award for her involvement in Noble Eagle at Ground Zero. The ceremony was held at the Knights of Columbus in Syracuse. She also received the 10th Annual Pat Washington Award. Pat Washington was a long time supporter and activists of women's issues in Central New York. Alicia was recognized for 'Fair Practice'. The Award states "Given yearly to the person who exemplifies fair practice and outstanding achievement. Staff Sgt. Jones is assigned to the Mission Support Group Orderly Room as a Information Management Specialist.



# Summer Safety

By Senior Master Sgt. Al Nall , 174<sup>th</sup> FW, Ground Safety NCO



## ON DUTY/HEAT AWARENESS

Now that the summer is in full swing and warm weather will hopefully be with us for at least the duration of the New York State Fair, it's a good time to remind everyone that we are still within the 101 critical days of summer. This means we should continue to adhere to practices that allow us to safely enjoy the season, both on and off duty. If you are fortunate enough to be representing the Air National Guard at the Fair this year, be sure to hydrate with water and be careful about how much time you spend in the heat or sun. Take frequent breaks and get into an air-conditioned building if you feel dizzy or faint. Be familiar with the signs of heat illness and be sure to keep an eye on the people you are working with.

## SAFE LIFTING

The base is currently going through a lot of physical changes, which have caused many of us to be temporarily displaced. With that displacement comes a lot of moving and heavy lifting. Lifting is one of the most common causes of injury on the job. All personnel are reminded to practice safe lifting techniques and to utilize the proper amount of manpower for safe lifting. Be sure to crouch and lift with your knees, rather than bend from your waist. Do not attempt to lift an object that is too heavy for you to handle alone, call a supervisor and ask for help. Use moving and lifting equipment, such as hand trucks or dollies if possible. Remember as you get older you generally cannot lift as much as you could when you were younger (even though you think you still can!

Supervisors should follow principles of Operational Risk Management (ORM) by assessing the probability for mishaps. For example, if you think you do not have enough personnel to move a piece of equipment, do not attempt to move it until more personnel can be assigned to the task. Report challenges to good ORM up your chain of command, to ensure risk decisions are being made at the appropriate level. Take the time to check member records to ensure personnel have been trained in proper lifting techniques before assigning them to the task.

### Other considerations for lifting safely:

- *Height, weight and age of the worker*
- *Number of personnel lifting the load*
- *Fitness level, health problems and previous injuries*
  - *Size, shape and balance of the load*
    - *Grip on the load*
    - *Distance between lifter and load*
- *Distance and the direction that you lift the load*
  - *Floor surface*

## OFF DUTY/BOATING SAFETY

With the abundance of lakes in Central New York, our waterways are seeing an increase of boating traffic every year. The safe operation of a boat depends upon the level of knowledge, skill, judgment and maturity of the operator. Deficiencies in any of these areas could easily result in a marine accident. New York State law requires that all boating operators and passengers have an approved personal floatation device (PFD) on board with them. Know the area where you are boating and familiarize yourself with all applicable regulations.

In New York State, if you wish to operate a motorboat and you are: Under 10 years of age, a person 18 or older must be on board. 10 to 18 years of age, a person 18 or older must be on board, or the operator must hold a Safety Certificate. 18 Years or older, you may operate a motorboat alone

Currently anyone under the age of thirty who wishes to operate a personal watercraft (PWC), i.e. jet skis, wet bikes, etc...



must complete personal watercraft education. By the end of this year, all operators of personal watercraft will be required to complete PWC education. In addition to learning the basics of how to handle a PWC, attendees will also learn about boating regulations, reading buoys, boat handling, and other boating safety related topics.

With so many challenges to safe boating, it should go without saying that boating and alcohol don't mix. In fact, one-third of all boating fatalities are alcohol related. It is illegal to operate a boat, or allow someone else to do so, while under the influence of alcohol. Alcohol can decrease a person's ability to operate a boat and erode one's sense of balance. Many boating fatalities occur as a result because of people falling off of boats and from not wearing personal floatation devices. For more information on safe boating, check out [www.boatsafe.com](http://www.boatsafe.com) or contact the US Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety.

## MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

The motorcycle community is experiencing incredible growth, but risks continue to grow as well. In 2001, motorcycles represented 2.2 percent of all registered vehicles in the US, but crashes involving motorcycles accounted for 7.6 percent of total traffic fatalities. Per vehicle mile traveled, motorcyclists were 18 times more likely to die in a traffic accident than passenger car occupants. In response to this public health hazard, we are in the process of establishing a mandatory Rider Coach Program to educate the motorcycle riding population on base.

In 2001, the intoxication rates for vehicle operators involved in fatal crashes was 27 percent for motorcycles, 20 percent for light trucks and 19 percent for passenger cars. Motorcycle riders assume a much greater level of risk than the rest of the motoring public. Additionally, it takes a considerable amount of coordination and balance to ride a motorcycle. Alcohol use greatly reduces those skills and your ability to react. Know your limits, and ride within them.

Although motorcycle riders accept greater risks, they can still be minimized. Personal protective equipment, rider education and awareness, and riding sober are the best defenses to prevent crashes and mitigate injuries. Motorcyclists must ensure they have all done that is possible for a safer ride. Check your lights, horn,

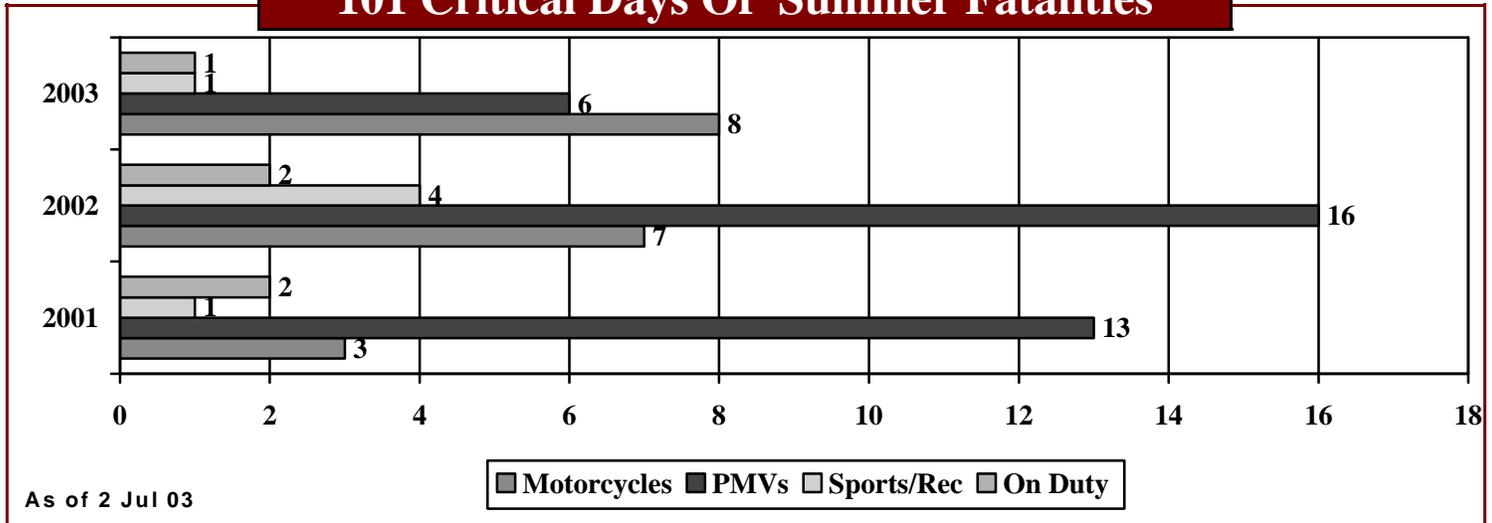
## Motorcycle Safety Equipment:

- DOT approved helmet
- Long sleeve shirt
- Long trousers
- Sturdy shoes \
- (no open toe shoes or sandals)
- Leather jacket
- Full-fingered motorcycle gloves
- Eye/Wind protection
- (full face shield or goggles)
- Reflective vest

controls, and tire pressure before getting on your bike.

Reduced risk does not mean reduced enjoyment. Always take weather, the environment, your skill level and the limitations of a motorcycle into consideration. Taking the time to prepare and educate yourself will result in a more pleasurable riding experience.

## 101 Critical Days Of Summer Fatalities



Enjoy  
the rest of the summer,  
...but do it safely!



# Recruiting for the Future

By Master Sergeant Dion Adamson, 174 FW, Recruiting Office Supervisor



An article in the June issue of Guard Times was directed towards the importance of personnel recruiting and retention vitality. In this article, Major General Thomas P. Maguire, the Adjutant General for the

State of New York most eloquently expressed his stance on the need for "Back to Basics" recruitment and retention of our airmen and women. The success of personnel end strength has always been due to the hard work of all members of the ANG.

General Maguire stated, "I can't stress enough how important it is for all our leaders and members - whether they are traditional guardsmen, fulltime technicians or AGR personnel, state or federal civilians - to take personal responsibility for aggressively seeking out new members. Our production recruiters, already operating at mach speed capacity, can't keep turning miracles. The leads they obtain from force members and agency and headquarters employees are invaluable".

Dating back to October 28, 1947, the formation of the 138<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, and continuing through federal activations of the 174<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing during the Berlin Crisis, Pueblo Crisis, Desert Storm/Shield, Noble Eagle, and Enduring Freedom mission accomplishment has been due to having the personnel strength required to maintain all aircraft and to handle any personnel needs. Now more than ever we must get back the basics of making certain we are prepared for upcoming missions. This starts with the **personnel** whom without we cannot accomplish our mission.

Over the next 5 years we stand to lose 25 to 30 % of our personnel due to attrition (retirements). We do indeed having an aging force here at the 174<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing some of which are Vietnam Veterans. It is paramount at this time that we act upon General Maguire's call to action on recruitment. If everyone in the Wing told one person about the Air National Guard and the benefits they have received by becoming a member we could probably gain enough people to fill all of the positions on our Unit Manning Document. Some High Schools in the area do not allow recruiters to visit. Unit members who have High School level children or relatives could be helpful entries into those schools. If you are a PTA (Parent Teacher Association) member at a local school, you could help get the word out to that school about our Wing. These are just a few things that could be done to help the recruiting effort. We in recruiting are always looking for new ways to connect with the teenagers in Central New York. Any suggestions are always welcomed.

The process for joining the Air National Guard can be lengthy and is driven by the prospects since of urgency to complete the ASVAB test and physical examination. Once these things are accomplished its time to select a career field. We in recruiting are skilled on how to sell the Air National Guard and its benefits, but it's you, the professionals in you're given AFSC or career field that has the knowledge to effectively sell your career field to new prospects. This is another area that can be extremely helpful to the recruiting effort. The purpose of Section Orientations is to introduce the individual to the section so that he or she can make an educated decision on their career field selection. It is **not an interview**. The recruiter has already handled the interview at this point. If the prospect is not qualified for your section he or she will not be visiting. The Orientation is a courtesy to the prospect and is also your place to shine. It's your opportunity to use all of your career experience to sell your career field. In most cases the orientation directly impacts whether or not they decide to join your section.

During the summer months we are always looking for ANG members to help with recruiting events in the area. These events usually take place on weekends. Also during the school year visits, we would like to have ANG members who are Graduates or Alumni of local schools to go along with us on our recruiting visits. If you would like to take part in any of these events or visits individually or as a shop, please call ext.822 and speak with MSgt Adamson.

So, what can you do to make an impact in our Wing? Tell someone you know about the Air National Guard (ANG) and what it's done for you. If you have teenagers in your immediate family who live in the area, give them pamphlets or information about the ANG to take to the career counselors office for other kids to see. If you have any connections with a local school you can help us to get the Wing information into that school. When the recruiters bring prospects to your section for their orientation you can make certain that individual gets the royal treatment. If you or anyone in your area would like to accompany recruiting to an event or to a school please call ext. 822 and speak with MSgt Adamson. It's time to return to the basics by spreading the word to the community about the great opportunities in the ANG. All members must take personal responsibility in the personnel strength of our Wing. This is paramount for the continued success of this Wing both now and into the future.



Dr. Weeks Elementary School children walk proudly in their Flag Day parade. The event involved close to 1000 students, faculty and administration of the school. Started by the principle after September 11 2001, this was their second such parade honoring 'Old Glory'. Along with Board of Education and Syracuse City Officials representatives from the 174<sup>th</sup> participated in the event. The children from pre-k through 6<sup>th</sup> grade displayed their patriotism with creative American Flag artwork that showed a real love their country and home.

Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli will be our COMREL Luncheon speaker for August. Assemblyman Magnarelli represents the 120<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. He graduated with honors from Syracuse University Law School in 1973. Upon graduation he served in the Army National Guard for six years and rose to the rank of Captain. As an Assemblyman, one of his most honored accomplishments is his work on the Central New York Missing Child Alert system. Please join on Wednesday August 27-2003 in the 174<sup>th</sup> Dining Hall. Great food, 7:50 per person. Doors open at 11:30 am.



## SGLI Premiums Come Down, Other Options Available

As of July 1, 2003, the Department of Veterans Affairs will reduce the premiums for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI). The monthly rate will be reduced from 8 cents per \$1,000 of coverage to 6.5 cents. Monthly premiums for the maximum \$250,000 of coverage will be reduced from \$20 to \$16.25. This reduction does not affect Veterans' Group Life Insurance rates. Sea Service Members have additional options with Navy Mutual Aid Association, and can obtain individual plans for themselves and their spouses at a lower cost than SGLI. For example, Navy Mutual Aid Association can save a family up to \$228 per year over SGLI. For free information about NMAA, fill out a short form on Military.com.

[http://tracking.military.com/cgi-bin/outlog.cgi?url=http%3A//www.military.com/nmaa/NMAALeadform/&code=NMAA\\_MRtxt062303](http://tracking.military.com/cgi-bin/outlog.cgi?url=http%3A//www.military.com/nmaa/NMAALeadform/&code=NMAA_MRtxt062303)

## Transitional Health Care for Reserve, Guard and Active Duty

If you are a National Guardsman or an Activated Reservist ordered to active duty for more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation; or an active duty service member separating from service who belongs to one of four applicable categories, such as Stop-Loss or involuntary separation, you and your covered family members may be eligible for benefits under the Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP). TAMP provides health care coverage for you and your eligible family members as you transition back to civilian life. TRICARE has provided a fact sheet on TAMP which can be found here:

[http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourceFileView/MR\\_Transition\\_070603.pdf](http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourceFileView/MR_Transition_070603.pdf)

## Congress Approves Money for Retirees

Some military retirees will soon be receiving monthly payments for service-related health problems thanks to a provision of the 2003 National Defense Authorization Act. Combat-related special compensation allows some disabled military retirees to collect payments for both their military service and their service-related disability. According to the legislation, a veteran with "combat-related" disabilities is any 20-year military retiree with at least a 60 percent combined disability rating, with injuries as a "direct result of armed conflict," are a result of "hazardous" military service, were incurred while serving in "conditions simulating war" or were incurred "through an instrumentality of war." Automatic qualifiers include any military retiree with at least 20 years of service who is rated as at least 10 percent disabled by injuries related to the award of a Purple Heart, officials said. Payments are retroactive to June 1 for those whose disability occurred before that date. Those who apply and are approved will begin receiving payments about 60 days after approval. For more details, see [http://www.military.com/NewsContent?file=usaf2\\_062403](http://www.military.com/NewsContent?file=usaf2_062403)

## VA Expands Agent Orange Benefits

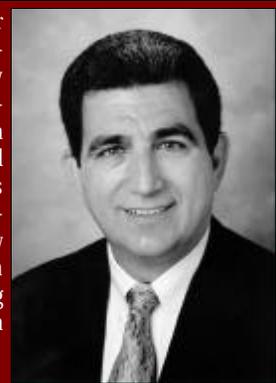
Based on a recent review of scientific studies, the VA is extending benefits to Vietnam veterans with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL). The ruling means that veterans with CLL who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War don't have to prove that illness is related to their military service to qualify for VA disability compensation. Also, the VA offers special access to medical care to Vietnam veterans with any health problems that may have resulted from Agent Orange exposure. The following conditions are considered service-connected for Vietnam veterans: type II diabetes, chloracne (a skin disorder), porphyria cutanea tarda, acute or sub acute peripheral neuropathy (a nerve disorder), non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, soft tissue sarcoma, Hodgkin's disease, multiple myeloma, prostate cancer and respiratory cancers (including cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea and bronchus). In addition, Vietnam veterans' children with the birth defect spina bifida are eligible for certain benefits and services. Veterans with questions can call a toll-free help line at 1-800-749-8387 for information. More information about Agent Orange can be found at <http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourcesContent/0,13964,30978,00.html>

## WWII Veterans May Be Eligible for One More Medal

Army News Service reports that World War II veterans who earned the Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medical Badge are eligible to receive another award to honor their heroism, the Bronze Star. In 1947, the Bronze Star Medal was authorized for all of those who earned a Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medical Badge, according to Army regulation 600-8-2, Military Awards. The medal was designed to honor the infantrymen who endured the greatest hardships and the medics who accompanied them on the front lines, officials said. When the son of a World War II veteran was restoring lost copies of his father's record, he found out from the National Personnel Records Center out of St. Louis that his father was one of many who had never received the Bronze Star Medal. Officials from the National Personnel Records Center say that they don't know how many veterans are eligible for the medal or who still have not received the award, because a massive fire in 1963 destroyed most of the official military personnel files from World War II. For more on how to get service records and apply for medals, see

<http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourcesContent/0,13964,31460,00.html>

Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli will be our COMREL Luncheon speaker for August. Assemblyman Magnarelli represents the 120<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. He graduated with honors from Syracuse University Law School in 1973. Upon graduation he served in the Army National Guard for six years and rose to the rank of Captain. As an Assemblyman, one of his most honored accomplishments is his work on the Central New York Missing Child Alert system. Please join on Wednesday August 27-2003 in the 174<sup>th</sup> Dining Hall. Great food, 7:50 per person. Doors open at 11:30 am.



# Base Announcements

## August UTA Theme

- Phase II ORE
- Combat Hammer
- Recovery

## CCAF Implements New Changes

Effective 1 July 2003, CCAF will implement new changes that will affect everyone who wishes to obtain a CCAF degree. The following are highlights of the changes that will be made.

ALL official civilian college transcripts need to be sent directly from the institution to CCAF. They will not need to be sent to the Education Office first. However, in order for your credits to be applied to your degree, you must let us know that you have sent an official transcript to CCAF. We must then follow-up with an AF968 to start the evaluation of your credits.

CCAF transcripts may be ordered directly by the student through a new website: <https://afveclangley.af.mil/afvec>. This eliminates the need to send in an AF2099 request form.

When accessing the website, follow the directions for each field requested. Use "Langley" for your assigned base since Air National Guard bases are not listed. Remember your password!

On the above website, students may view their progress report, check the receipt of civilian transcripts and order CCAF transcripts.

If you have any questions or difficulty in using this website, please call the Education Office at 454-6147, 148 or 409.

## Golf Tournament

12<sup>th</sup> Annual Desert Storm golf tournament is Sunday Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003 at Brooklawn golf course. The tournament will have a 9am shotgun start. Cost of \$45.00 per person covers green fees, gas cart, hotdog or hamburger and refreshments on the turn. Door prize and Steak bake afterwards at the 'All Services Club'. A \$45.00 dollar deposit per foursome is required by end of August drill, with the balance to be paid by Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>. For information about the event see Tom Brown at 454-6479, Chuck Normanly 454-6471 or Rich Doctor 454-6158

## Family Day

Mark your calendars for the Hancock Field Family Day on Sunday 7 Sept 2003. Festivities kick off at 1200 at Alumni Park. We hope to see you and your families there. POC: Lt Col Timpano 454-6139 and Chris Muszynski 454-6577.

## Please join us for... Sue Cenci's Retirement Picnic

August 9<sup>th</sup> 2003, at 1600 hrs, in the picnic area. Donation is \$10.00 includes food, beverage and gift. Contact TSgt Haines at x264 for more information.

## Bake Sale

HELP!! The Cultural Awareness Team will sponsor a bake sale during both days of the August drill to benefit the Base Family Day celebration (coming in Sept.). Donations of baked goods are needed and should be dropped off at the Base Dining facility between 1030-1100 on either Sat. or Sun. of the August drill. Come out and treat yourself to a baked goodie after working hard in the physical fitness test. For more information Master Sgt. Joe Johnson at 454-6212 or 454-6527.

**Pay Date for August Drill  
is 18 Aug 2003**

**The next UTA  
is 6-7 Sept 2003**



Maj. Valentine Barzac is sworn in by his wife, Lt Col. Bernadette Barzac, during the July UTA. He transferred from the USAFR. They are both assigned to the 174th Medical Squadron.

**D**ue to the early deadline for this month's issue of the En-Garde, we are unable to give you any kind of a report on how this year's Annual Picnic turned out. We promise that in next month's issue of the Alumni News we will not only provide a written report, but will make every effort to publish a picture or two of the day's activities.

Next month (September) we will once again have our annual election of officers. All five officer positions and three board member positions are up for grabs. In the past, we have had little or no trouble finding individuals willing to run; however, this year there doesn't seem to be much interest, and if this trend continues, we may end up with less than a full slate of officers.

One of the positions that will need to be filled, that is especially critical to the operation and future well being of our organization, is the Presidency. Jim Monroe, after 7 years as our President, has decided that he will not seek another year of office. The sad part of it all is that since Jim's announcement in June there has been no one willing to step forward and declare his or her intentions to run in his place. It goes without saying that without leadership our future as an organization is truly in question. It's obvious we need your help. If you feel you would like to run for any one of the 8 positions or have a question about running for the Board, give Jim a call at (315) 635-5402, or e-mail him at [chiefjpm@twcny.rr.com](mailto:chiefjpm@twcny.rr.com). Our future as an organization may depend on your response.

## Taps

Robert Meath, died 5 Jan 03 at the age of 54. Bob transferred from the Army Guard to the 174<sup>th</sup>. He worked as a Comm/Nav Specialist, served with us in Cannon AFB, NM then later on in his career attended OTS.

## New/Reinstated Members

Andy Butler, Paul Jennings, Milt Graves, Dick Kratz, & Kris Olson

## More News & Trivia

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of August, the Munitions Section will be having their annual retirement party to honor the following individuals: Daryle Bitely, Mike Connors, Sidney Cooper, Tim Hannon, and Mike Silkworth. The party is being held at JR's Barbecue and Bakes, 7435 E. Taft Rd., E. Syracuse, NY. Party begins at 12:00 noon and will run until 5:00PM. Cost per person is \$20.00. If you are interested in attending, contact Chris Cushman at (315) 454-6463.

Another retirement party you may want to attend is Sue Cenci's retirement picnic. It is being held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August, beginning at 1600 hours in the Alumni Park picnic area. Cost is \$10.00 per person, which includes food, beverage and gift. If you wish to attend, call Tech. Sgt. Haines at 454-6264.

Like to play golf? If you do there is going to be two golf tournaments held within one week of each other. The first one is the 12<sup>th</sup> Desert Open, which is being held on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2003 at Brooklawn Golf Course. It will begin at 09:00AM with a Shot Gun Start. Cost is \$50.00 per person, which covers green fees, cart, food, drink, and a steak dinner back at the club following play. For more information, call Tom Brown at (315) 454-6479. The other

tournament, which is a brand new one, is the "1<sup>st</sup> Annual Bob Martin Bomber Memorial Golf Tournament. It is being held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September at the Green Valley/Greenview Golf Club. Play is Captain & Crew. Fee is \$45.00 per person, which covers Green Fees, Cart, Food, Beer, Soda & Steak Dinner. If you are interested in playing, contact either Jim Martin at 472-5682 or Dave Ryan at 457-0264.

We'd like to congratulate Leonard Boisseau and Andrew Sinco and their wives on their recent 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

## Next Meeting

**Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 21 at 7:00 PM in the Base All Service Club. Liquid refreshments will be served. Come on out... we'd love to see you!**



Summer Camp July 1958

Front Row L to R, Bob Terry, Eric Ahrens, Back Row L to R: Dick Babiec, Collin Wells, Ronald Lisandro, Tony Daragona

# ***174TH FIGHTER WING FORMAL DINING OUT***

**WHERE:** Holiday Inn, Carrier Circle      **WHEN:** Saturday, 6 September 2003

**TIME:** Cocktails: 1800 to 1900    Dinner: 1900 to 2100

**GUEST SPEAKER:** To Be Announced

## **COST**

Junior Enlisted – **\$20.00 (Sponsored by the Senior NCO's & Officers)**

Senior NCO's & Officer's - **\$25.00**

## **UNIFORM**

**OFFICERS:** Mess Dress

**ENLISTED:** Semi-Formal Dress or Mess Dress Uniform

**CIVILIAN GUESTS:** Formal Evening Wear or Business Dress Attire

## **SPONSORSHIP**

Senior NCO's and Officer's are encouraged to sponsor a Junior Enlisted Member.

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

## ***I PLAN TO ATTEND THE WING DINING OUT ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2003***

<b>GRADE:</b>	<b>NAME:</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>
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NUMBER OF GUESTS (COUNT YOURSELF)

## ***PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHAPTER 50, ANG NCOAGA***

Please return this form to MSgt Jeremia Farley, 174th Communications Flight/SCX. As soon as possible, but NLT 18 August 2003, to allow us to get a head count of those attending.

***ATTENDANCE IS OPEN TO ALL CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE 174TH FW, 152ND AOG, 274TH ASOS,  
& THE 174TH ALUMNI, AND THEIR GUESTS***

# ***ENGARDE***

174th Fighter Wing  
New York Air National Guard  
Headquarters  
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Syracuse, New York, 13211-7099