

December 2003, V.39, 11

# ENGARDE

174th Fighter Wing

New York Air National Guard, Syracuse

## Season's Greetings





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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

As we head into this year's holiday season, it's appropriate that we reflect back on all that we have accomplished. As I see it, it has been an incredible year. We finished last year preparing for a number of sizable challenges: a war, an aircraft conversion, a major inspection, and an AEF deployment.

Most of the 152<sup>nd</sup>, and numerous members of the 274<sup>th</sup> and 174<sup>th</sup> met the challenge of war head-on, and in typical Hancock Field fashion; returning home with many kudos from the active duty component leadership that we worked for. Everything we do here on this base is to be prepared for war. We showed, again, that we are always ready for the call. In fact, as I write this, hundreds of our folks are still deployed, conducting combat ops 24/7. We all hope to welcome them home some time this drill weekend.

We met the next two challenges coincidentally. We blew through our conversion back to Block 30s with incredible speed and efficiency, and in the meantime, left the ACC/IG in awe at a best-seen-to-date performance during our Unit Compliance Inspection and Health Services Inspection.

As we finished up the conversion and inspection, our focus became AEF, AEF, AEF. We accomplished this by deploying for a couple of critical spin-up exercises to Combat Hammer in Utah, and Maple Flag in Alberta, Canada. In October, we deployed our biggest aviation package in 10 years to split a 90-day rotation with Richmond, Virginia. I was getting the aforementioned kudos within a week of our arrival to the deployed location.

In addition, CE spent a couple of weeks at Camp Smith on the Hudson working on a state project, the 152<sup>nd</sup> sent folks to Europe, the 274<sup>th</sup> has been all over the country for training; name a section, and we've probably had people traveling. Our

Comm and CE folks have kept busy with our ongoing massive construction projects, and the Base Honor Guard keeps setting new yearly records for attendance requests. Oh yeah, did I mention the entire base spinning up for a change of command?

With all the professional demands levied and accomplished, we still found the ability to display our human side with a very touching memorial service for one of the best friends Hancock Field has ever known; Brigadier General Doctor Ravindra Shah and his wife Doctor Manjula Shah. Proof, again, that our talents are varied, and many.

Whew! So what does '04 look like? Well, going in, we don't have as much scheduled as we did in '03. It will be a busy year, however, with the key event being an Operational Readiness Inspection scheduled for December (Merry Christmas!). Getting to that end, there will be some mini-deployments and other spin-up. Two major construction projects will be off and running; the Force Protection Project and Munitions Storage Area.

There's always the chance that pop-up tasking will present itself during the course of the year. There is one thing that I'm sure of, however. All three organizations on this installation will be ready when the call comes.

Carol, Lindsay, Meghan, Jordan and I would like to offer our heartfelt wishes for an enjoyable holiday season. Please don't forget to bring safety into your crosscheck as we display holiday lights and candles. I look forward to seeing you at the par-



Colonel Anthony Basile  
174th FW, Commander

## Happy Holidays

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



Here we are at the Christmas/New Years season of 2003. It has been a challenging year with all the events planned and unplanned that we endured. Our AEF rotation will be concluding at approximately the time you are reading this. We can hold our heads high knowing the fact that we are such strong contributors to the war on terror.

Our upcoming year will undoubtedly be every bit as much of a challenge. Our focus will change to the direction of the ORI in December 04 with a practice ORE in October 04. It strikes me as strange that twelve months from the time we returned from a combat zone, we have to prove we are combat ready. Proving we are ready should be easy for us because of all the combat sorties we flew in 03. We also have an advantage of

knowing how the IG conducts its inspections because some members of our unit augment the IG at various times of the year.

Now going back to the holiday season this year. Take the well-deserved precious time with your families and enjoy the season. I am very proud to be associated with all of you and commend you for what you do.

We are an organization that gives 100% to our jobs, community and family. If it were not for you and the support of your families, we would not be the fighting force we are today. Happy Holidays and Happy New Years. I hope to wish you this in person this UTA. God Bless America.





## Chaplain's Corner

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



W e are now in the month where the hours of darkness outnumber the hours of daylight. Is it any wonder that candles, icicle lights, and even the glow of a red-nosed reindeer decorates our homes? After a day at work, driving home in the darkness, aren't the glowing light posts in our yards a welcome sight as we pull into our driveways? When our unit flies night missions, the lights on the runway are there to safely welcome and guide the pilots home. Light is a symbol of warmth and hope, especially during this holiday season.

The candles of our Advent wreaths, the brightly shining stars at the tops of our Christmas trees, and the lights that grow in number on menorahs during Hanukkah, the Jewish feast of lights...all these lights are symbols of renewal for us. Each year we again take these lights out of storage and even gather together in public ceremonies to light community trees and menorahs, ushering in another season of hope...hope that the world will become a better, warmer place, hope that the com-

ing new year will be brighter than the last, and hope that we ourselves will shine our lights a bit brighter for the good of all.

During this season, when we become ever busier, the challenge to us is to remember not to "burn our candles at both ends." The lights of the season can serve as visual reminders to slow down, to appreciate not only the beauty in the candle's flame but also the beauty that can be found in one another. In these quiet, meditative moments, we can become renewed and refocused, so that we can let the things that are truly important – family, friends, and faith – outshine everything else.

*The Chaplains and Chaplain Assistants of the 174<sup>th</sup> FW and NEADS wish you a bright and holy season.*



## The Basics of Financial Entitlements

By Capt. Chuck Hutson, 174<sup>th</sup> FW Comptroller

ing.

You receive military pay for active-duty when your orders are signed, certified and turned into the Military Pay section. Any Staff Sergeant and above who can validate that your duty was performed may certify your military pay orders.

You also are required to file for travel pay when on active-duty, even if you only live three miles from the base. If you live in commuting distance, you file for mileage and any tolls on side 2 of your military pay orders. If you live outside of commuting distance, you file a DD 1351-2 travel voucher along with two copies of your orders and any receipts. You are required to file travel within 5 days of completion of travel. If you've attended basic and technical training, it is mandatory that you apply for and use a Government Travel Card (GTC). You use this card for lodging, rental car, and other official travel expenses while on temporary duty (TDY) orders.

Split-disbursement is required to be used when you file your travel voucher after a TDY. This means Finance will send a specified amount of your travel entitlement directly to your GTC account to pay off the balance. Any entitlement leftover

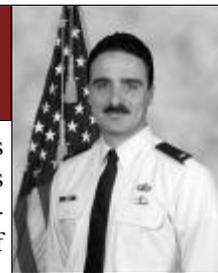
will be transferred electronically to your bank account. Under no circumstances can members receive per diem entitlements while in UTA status at home-station.

Unit leadership receives several reports each month during UTA. First of all, is the GTC Delinquency report. This lists folks who owe money to Bank of America. Secondly is the Late Inactive Duty report. This list shows members who re-scheduled a UTA, but for some reason have not turned in a NGB 105 for pay or did not perform the duty. Thirdly, is the Late Certification report. This report shows members who haven't filed signed/certified military pay orders following their period of active-duty. The final report is an Outstanding Travel Voucher letter which indicates that you may not have filed a travel voucher following active-duty. If you didn't file, come to Finance and file for your travel entitlement. If you did file and have been paid, come to Finance and discuss your situation with a travel technician. The travel technician will verify that you've been paid and ensure that you won't receive another letter.

Always keep your personal information up to date. Direct deposit changes need reported to finance. File changes of address at both Finance AND your unit orderly room. Also, if you change marital status, both Finance AND the MPF will need information from you.

# Family Night

By 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Anthony L. Bucci, 174<sup>th</sup> FW, Public Affairs Officer



Our extended family arrived here at Hancock Field filled with mixed emotions, wanting to send a video message to loved ones who have been deployed. Chris Muszinski of Family Support and Lt. Col Maryjo Timpano 174th FW Community Manager organized this wonderful event called "Family Night". These video messages were produced by representatives from the Onondaga-Oswego chapter of the American Red Cross as a way for family members to communicate with their loved ones. Barbara Ehlers, Joyce Wassel, and Craig Nagy the representatives from the American Red Cross helped to tape these video messages from 174<sup>th</sup> FW military dependents in an effort to reconnect the families during the holiday season.

The family members and co-workers who came for "Family Night" brought all kinds of snacks and treats, while the children colored, ran, and played. It was a nice evening where for just a few hours people were comforted by others knowing they were not alone. Master Sgt McAfee and Staff Sgt Kildea of the 174<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron provided an informative security brief for all members present in dealing with potential issues that could arise. Once again the 174th FW received ex-

cellent support from Technical Sgt. Haines and the entire Services team in making this special event a success. The Visual Information staff provided excellent support of this event specifically Senior Airman Dickson and Staff Sgt Christina.

A total of 19 families, 61 actual people, participated in this wonderful event located in the dining hall here at Hancock Air National Guard Base. Hancock Air National Guard Base is one of the first Air National Guard units to be able to provide this innovative service to deployed unit members. Michele Bull, a Solution Specialist from CABLExpress, who has a family member deployed with the 174<sup>th</sup> FW, has gift certificates available for all military dependents sixteen years old and younger. The Red Cross wants all families/co-workers to know that even though they were unable to attend this function, they can still send a video message by contacting the Onondaga-Oswego chapter at (315) 234-2200 to make an appointment. Make an appointment send a message; I'm sure it will make their day to hear from you!



## Clothing Management Program

By Senior Master Sgt. Samora and Master Sgt. Godlewski, 174 FW Base Supply



The 174TH IEU Section is now operating under the new Clothing Management Program. I would just like to refresh everyone's mind on how this program works and what we have seen so far based on some questions I have been asked.

YES. When order is placed we have the option not to have stripes sewn on. Stripes will come with the uniform in the package. We are keeping a small amount of stripes here for promotions. Also, the MAJCOM patch will be the only patch sewn on thru the pocket.

### 4. WILL I HAVE TO TURN IN MY OLD UNIFORMS?

YES, fair wear and tear is still in effect. When picking up your new uniforms old ones will be turned in at that time.

### 5. WHAT HAPPENS IF I FORGOT MY HAT, ETC, ETC, ETC?

Individual responsibility. IEU will not have any clothing in stock.

### 6. HOW WILL I BE NOTIFIED WHEN ORDER IS READY FOR PICK-UP?

Same as before. Letters will be sent out. When arriving at IEU, customer and IEU rep will go over order. Packages are not opened until customer arrives for pick-up.

### 7. WHAT DO I NEED TO PLACE AN ORDER?

Again same as before. Clothing request signed by supervisor or funds monitor. Orders will not be placed without approval.

Above are several questions that I have been asked. Please, if you have a question, ask. I have a list of other frequently asked questions available on the IEU counter. If I do not have the answer I will forward the question to the POC and get the answer.

### WHY THE CHANGE IN THE PROGRAM?

The 174TH, along with 21 other guard bases, volunteered to be test bases as of 1 Oct 03. This program will become mandatory 1 Oct 04. Supply management volunteered because we just felt it would be better to get a early start instead of being forced to comply as of 1 Oct 04. This is not a new program, the Army has been using this system for 4 years. The basic concept of the change is simply "cutting out the middle man", resulting in lower costs for the Dept of Defense and faster delivery to the end user. Delivery time of orders is 5-7 days instead of two to three weeks. From what we have seen so far delivery time has been 5-7 days based on orders requested.

### 2. WHAT HAPPENS IF THE WRONG SIZE IS ORDERED ?

This falls under individual responsibility. Each individual should know their own size when orders are placed. It is no different then when we are shopping for clothes at a mall. We have sizes in stock of each item for customers to try on if they do not know their size. If the provider ships the wrong size it will be returned and credit will be applied.

### 3. CAN I GET MY UNIFORMS WITHOUT THE STRIPES SEWN ON ?

# 174<sup>th</sup> Engineers Deploy to Camp Smith

By Major Earl Evans, 174<sup>th</sup> FW, CES Commander

For two weeks in September, the 174<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron deployed a small team of engineers to Camp Smith, a New York Army National Guard post near Peekskill. With the 174<sup>th</sup> CES in the lead, and with augmentation from the 107<sup>th</sup> CES of Niagara Falls, 24 engineers, one services troop, and the 174<sup>th</sup>'s own Chaplain

stallation.

The relatively small composite team accomplished numerous projects to facilities throughout the post. New air conditioning systems were installed in two classroom buildings and in an administrative facility, dust collection systems were installed in the post carpentry shop, a new floor installed in the water plant, water coolers, mechanical room lighting and fire hoses were installed in several buildings, the range access roads were re-graded, a former laundry facility was converted to a small fitness center, and the former post commander's quarters were substantially renovated for use as a lodging facility. The post staff expressed a great deal of surprise about the substantial amount of work completed. In remarking on the Commander's Quarters renovations, the Camp Smith Billeting Director stated, "I only expected your team to paint a few rooms, I'm amazed at how much work was accomplished".

The genesis of this deployment was a desire to demonstrate New York State Air Guard Civil Engineering capabilities and to use these to provide valuable facility improvements through a joint operation at an in-state Army Guard installation. This was the first time in recent history that a joint major effort of this type was attempted, within the state, between an Air Guard civil engineer squadron, the State Department of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA),

and an Army Guard installation. While there were some natural hiccups along the way, the team leadership and the installation staff functioned as one, accomplishing the tasks in a spirit of cooperation and with a focus on mission accomplishment. To paraphrase Mike Friess, Director of the Facilities Management and Engineering Directorate

(DMNA), "Real good things are happening in an effort to make the installation's appearance and comfort levels better for our customers. Great things have been done with our aged and inoperative Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems that support soldiers on a recurring basis. The composite team proved to be a great success." Comments from the team members and team leadership echoed these sentiments. This small deployment really became a big success.



Master Sgt. Phil Dockwiler and Staff Sgt. Tom Wood of the 174<sup>th</sup> CES operate equipment to repair range access roads.



Staff Sgt. Steve Glessing, electrician in the 174<sup>th</sup> CES, works on wiring for the carpentry shop exhaust system.

Decker took on the challenge of providing facility improvements to enhance working and living conditions on the post. Since September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001, Camp Smith has grown in importance as a staging area for deployments into New York City and for the training of military units and civilian law enforcement agencies. As those who have been to Camp Smith can attest, the facilities have long suffered from age, lack of investment and overuse. The engineers relished the opportunity to improve conditions at this historic and important in-

## Recent Promotions



Left photo: Col. Kevin W. Bradley, 174<sup>th</sup> FW Vice Commander and Col. Harvey M. Van Wie Jr., 174<sup>th</sup> FW Mission Support Group Commander, pinned the newest 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Andrea Bastedo, 174<sup>th</sup> FW Services Flight Commander. Congratulations 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Bastedo. Center Photo: Capt Charles Hutson, 174<sup>th</sup> FW Comptroller and Senior Master Sgt. Judy Van Wie, 174<sup>th</sup> FW Financial Management Office NCOIC, pinned the newest Master Sgt David Clark. Congratulations David! Right photo: Airman Gary Dick, Personnel Apprentice assigned to the 174<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group orderly room, gets the 'seal of approval' from Col. Harvey Van Wie, Mission Support Group Commander and Master Sgt. Leon Saddler, 174<sup>th</sup> FW Wing First Sgt. as he is promoted to Senior Airman. Congratulations Gary!

# Safety Tips for a Safe Holiday

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



## Alcohol and Parties



Every year thousands of people are seriously injured or killed due to alcohol-related vehicle accidents. If you or your guests are going to consume alcohol keep these few things in mind.

- Limit yourself to one drink per hour.

- Make sure you or your guests avoid straight shot drinks.

- Provide plenty of food and snacks to prevent guests from drinking on an empty stomach.
- Provide alternatives to alcoholic drinks such as NA beer or soft drinks
- Stop serving or consuming drinks at least one hour before the party ends or departure.
- Identify designated drivers before the party gets underway

## Holiday Fire Protection



Winter weather often brings an increased risk of fire. Candles, fireplaces, heaters, increased electrical usage, cooking, and holiday decorations all pose potential fire hazards. The following are some simple fire prevention tips you can use during the holidays.

- Purchase a fresh tree. A fresh tree is green. Needles will be hard to pull from branches when bent between your fingers. If bounced on the ground, a minimal number of needles should fall off. Better yet, purchase a flame-retardant artificial tree.
- Keep your tree fresh by cutting about two inches off the trunk to expose fresh wood for better water absorption.
- Keep your tree stored outside your house until you're ready to decorate.
- When placing your tree, make sure it is kept away from heat sources like fireplaces or heat vents.
- Check out your lights before placing them on the tree. Look for worn or frayed wires and broken bulbs. Don't overload extension cords and keep tree away from pathways.
- Take care when using candles. Keep them away from flammable decorations. Place them where they cannot be knocked over or reached by children or animals. Don't leave lit candles in an unattended room.

- Ensure all smoke detectors are working properly.
- Check extension cords for damage for cords may short.
- Watch for pets playing with decorations, lights, and cords.

## Toys



As the holiday season approaches more and more shoppers will be hitting the streets to find that special something for the youngsters. There are many different kinds of toys to choose from, but keep in mind that some toys can be hazardous to a

child. Here are a couple of tips to keep in mind when shopping for the little ones.

- Select toys to suit the age, abilities, skills, and interest level of the intended child. Toys too advanced may pose safety hazards to younger children.
- For infants, toddlers, and all children who place objects in their mouths, avoid toys with small parts, which could pose a choking hazard.
- Look for sturdy construction, such as tightly secured eyes, noses, and other small parts.
- For all children under age 8, avoid toys that have sharp edges and points.
- Do not purchase electric toys with heating elements for children under age 8.
- Look for labels that give age recommendations and use that information as a guide.
- Check instructions for clarity. They should be clear to you and when appropriate, to the child.
- Immediately discard plastic wrappings on toys to avoid accidental suffocation.
- To prevent serious eye or ear injury, avoid toys that shoot small objects, or make loud noises. Hold noise-making toys next to your ear to determine whether it will be too loud for a child's ears.
- Never buy hobby kits, such as chemistry sets for any child younger than 12 years old. Provide proper supervision for children 12 to 15 years of age.
- Tips of arrows or darts should be blunt, made of soft rubber or flexible plastic and securely fastened to the shaft
- A Pediatrician can help parents decide which toys are safe for each age group.

**The Safety Office would like to wish  
everyone a Safe and  
Happy Holiday Season!!!**

# Honoring Those Who Serve

By Senior Master Sgt. Joseph F. Gianetto, 174<sup>th</sup> Base Honor Guard Superintendent



“Honoring those who serve.” A simple phrase, that says a lot when you consider the impact of its meaning. We as a nation pay tribute, honoring our veterans and the sacrifices they made during times of war, and in times of peace. The rendering of Military Funeral Honors is a way of showing a debt of gratitude to all those who have faithfully defended our country. It is a long-standing tradition that many countries throughout the world have performed for hundreds of years.

Until 1999, it was an unwritten rule that we honor our deceased veterans -- those who have made the supreme sacrifice -- with Military Honors. When the National Defense Act of 2000 became public law on 1 January 2000, it mandated that all honorably discharged members of the Armed Forces of the United States, at the family's request, be given Military Honors at the time of their death. The 174th Fighter Wing Base Honor Guard strives to meet the challenge of providing these honors.

For those who do not know, there are three different types of Military Honors provided to deceased veterans. The ceremonies we provide are, Veteran's Honors, Standard Honors, and Full Honors. Veteran's Honors consists of a two to three-person team that provides a ceremonial flag folding and playing of Taps. Standard Honors consists of a ten-person detail that acts as pallbearers, ceremonial flag folding, a gun salute, and playing of TAPS. (Six of the team members take part in the pall bearing, flag folding, and gun salute). The rendering of Full Honors requires 21-people and consists of a six-person pallbearer/flag folding detail, eight-person firing party, a four-person colors team, a bugler, a Non-commissioned Officer-in-Charge, and an Officer-in-Charge.

Air Force Instruction 34-242 out-

lines the level of honors authorized to eligible personnel. Service veterans, those who served an enlistment in the Armed Services and were honorably discharged are eligible to receive Veterans Honors; those who retire from the Armed Services are entitled to Standard Honors; and those who die while on active duty are entitled to Full Military Honors.

How are we tasked for military funeral honors? It's not a complicated process, but it does require effective communication between our active duty counterparts and our team coordinators. The

## Base Honor Guard Creed

*“I am a proud member of the Base Honor Guard. My standards of conduct and high level of professionalism place me above all others in my service. I have earned the right to wear the ceremonial uniform, one that is honored in a rich tradition and history. I am superbly conditioned to perfect all movements throughout every drill and ceremony. The type of ceremony, severity of the temperature, nor the size of the crowd, will ever dictate the level in which I perform. I am constantly driven to excel by a strong sense of dedication that runs deeper than patriotism. While on ceremonies I stand sharp and crisp, motionless by choice, for I have voluntarily chosen to represent every member, past and present of the United States Air Force. I am a Ceremonial Guardsman.”*

305th Air mobility Wing at McGuire AFB, New Jersey has the responsibility for the New York area west of Interstate 81 and south of Interstate 90. The 66th Wing at Hanscom AFB, Massachusetts has responsibility for the New York area north of Interstate 90 and east of Interstate 81.

Here is how the process works. A funeral director will contact the Base Honor Guard at McGuire AFB and place a request for military honors. The folks at McGuire will contact the Air Reserve Component, (the 174th), closest to the city where the funeral will take place, and see if they can provide the Honors. Once we accept the tasking, we contact the funeral director to obtain the details such as time, location, and other details required, including directions for the funeral service. If it is determined we cannot cover the detail, it is turned back to our active duty counterparts, and they have to send a team to provide the honors. On occasion, we may receive requests directly from a funeral director. In that case, we have to contact the active duty base responsible

for the area the funeral is in, and get the authorization to provide the honors. Very seldom do we turn back a request for a funeral.

Now, here is a little background on the 174th Fighter Wing Base Honor Guard. Currently, we have a total of 54 unit members on our team. It wasn't always that way. Back in September 1998, we had maybe a total of twelve members on the team, the majority of the requests for the Base Honor Guard consisted of community related events, and the participating members “Volunteered” their time to participate in Honor Guard events. Very seldom did we provide military honors, unless it was for a unit member.

With the change in the law and the mandate that all veterans be accorded military honors if requested, our posture changed dramatically. The first year, we received over \$16,000 from the Air National Guard Readiness Center to purchase special uniforms and equipment, began recruiting new team members and gradually increased the team size to its current strength, and began paying team members for participating. Between 2000 and 2003, we received an additional \$30,000 to cover costs associated with uniform and equipment up-keep, and to outfit new team members as the join the team.

Each team member gets paid, receives a ceremonial uniform that costs approximately \$600, and is asked to make a commitment to the team. With the ever-increasing number of events we perform, each team member is asked to participate in a minimum of two events per month. We are currently developing a recognition program for our team members that include awards and decorations, incentive rides, and a host of other forms of recognition.

Everyone participating in providing funeral honors receives either an MPA workday or a Funeral Honors Duty Al-



lowance (FHDA) for pay. The MPA workday is like any other form of workday. The member receives a day's pay, BAQ, BAS, roundtrip mileage, and a retirement point. The FHDA is like a PT and covers a two-four hour period. In the FHDA status, the member gets one day of pay or a \$50 stipend, and a retirement point. In addition, each retirement point counts towards retirement, and is over and above the 85-point cap each member receives for his or her normal military duty. For some, the retirement points can add up fast depending on the number of funerals they perform.

Not only do we provide Military Funeral Honors, we perform a wide range of color guard events throughout the Central New York area. We participate in parades, memorial services, community events, and Wing functions. We go into



schools and teach students the proper way to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, fold the flag, flag history, and talk about military service and of course the Air National Guard. Between the community-related events and the military funerals, your Base Honor Guard covers a very large area. We have traveled as far west as Buffalo, Angola, Hamburg, Bath, and Elmira; as far south as Ithaca, Binghamton, and Deposit; as north as Watertown, Gouverneur, Messina, and Ogdensburg; and as far west as Oneida, Rome, and Utica. Yes, we cover a very large area, providing a tremendous amount of exposure for the unit throughout the Central New York area, and beyond.

In fiscal year 1999, the Base Honor Guard participated in 17 military funerals and 38 Community events. In fiscal year 2003, we participated in 108 military funerals and 49 community-related events. Since 1999, we have doubled the number of funerals each year, except for 2001, to our current rate. With the increasing number of World War Two

veterans dying each year, we estimate we will perform funeral honors for up to 216 veterans for FY04, and as we get more exposure throughout Central New York, we also expect an increase in community events this year. Yes, we anticipate a very busy year.

I started this article with the statement, "Honoring those who served." In closing, I would like share with you my own personal experience. Back in May, our team assisted the Base Honor Guard from McGuire AFB, in providing Full Military Honors for Staff Sgt. Patrick Griffin in Dryden, New York. Staff Sgt. Griffin was killed in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. You could tell this was a difficult time for his family, and we were there to pay tribute to him for his service. As the hearse approached, every team member stood at attention. The pall-

bearers drew the casket from the hearse, placed it on the gravesite, and raised the flag to waist height and held their position. At the conclusion of the memorial service those closest to Staff Sgt. Griffin began to shed tears for him. The firing party came to attention and fired three volleys that echoed throughout the valley. More tears! Immediately following the gun salute, a lone bugler played Taps. More Tears! The flag was folded in precise and deliberate moves. More Tears! As the last fold was tucked into the folded flag, the deafening roar of four F-15 Eagles filled the valley as they flew overhead, executing the "Missing-man" formation. As the sound subsided, there were even more tears as the General officer attending the ceremony presented the flag to Mrs. Griffin. At that moment I felt heartfelt sorrow for her and her children. It was at that moment that I realized even more what it means to serve, and that participating in this ceremony for a fellow Airman puts military service in perspective. "Honoring those who served." It

## Remembrance

By 1st Lt. Andrea L. Bastedo, Commander,  
174<sup>th</sup> FW Services Flight

In September 2001, I joined the 174<sup>th</sup> FW Honor Guard Team. It seemed like the perfect opportunity to get out into the community and show how proud I was of the country that I live in and the military that I serve for. And it has been all that, but that is just the beginning...

The 174<sup>th</sup> FW Honor Guard stands second to none. Our members, 54 strong, wear their uniforms with pride. They go out in to our community, and others, exemplifying the military way of life. These men and women make us shine. Our Honor Guard comes together to pay tribute to our privilege of liberty, to the men and women who found the courage to die for our advantage and to show future generations what we stand for.

As members of the Air National Guard we live and understand the fact that the challenges of our future will not be any simpler than those of our past. In fact, if anything it will be harder, for freedom is not retained any easier than it is earned. And the sacrifices will always be great.

As members of the Air National Guard Honor Guard Team we show our gratitude through remembrance of our troops. We make sure that it is never forgotten what our soldiers died for. We remind the community of the determination with which our soldiers fought- often in the face of overwhelming odds. And we show the families our understanding and appreciation of the hardships that they have been forced to face through separation.

In October 2003, I was afforded the opportunity to become the OIC of the Honor Guard Team. It is a privilege that I hold in the highest of esteem. For it has never been more vital than it is today, that those of us who understand the importance of American values and who understand the importance of our history to keep the spirit of American's fallen heroes alive.





# On the Lookout for Heart Disease

By Colonel Reid T. Muller, 174<sup>th</sup> FW Medical Squadron Commander

Many people think you need to be in your sixties or seventies to have heart disease. The surprising reality is that many times, heart disease begins or manifests itself in your thirties or forties. The youngest patients I have personally seen with coronary artery disease were eleven and twenty-three years of age. The twenty-three year old was diagnosed with coronary disease three years before her father. While age is a risk factor, it's not the only one. Male gender, age over 40, smoking, obesity, diabetes, family history and an abnormal cholesterol are all also important risk factors.

What is obese? If you are more than 25-30 lbs over your ideal body weight for age, you are considered obese. What about family history? If a parent, brother, sister, or even child has a history of coronary disease, then your own personal risk is significantly increased.

Cholesterol is one of the most confusing issues. Most people assume that if your total cholesterol is below 240, you are OK. However, the body carries several different types of cholesterol, sometimes referred to as *good* and *bad* cholesterol. If

you have too much *bad* cholesterol (>130) or too little *good* cholesterol (<40), you may still be at a significantly higher risk for coronary disease, even though the total may be below 240.

Finally, recognizing the symptoms of coronary disease yourself can still be a challenge. Between 30-40% of people with coronary disease don't realize they have it until they drop dead unexpectedly. Most people think you need to be experiencing pain in the center or left of your chest, moving to the left arm in order to have angina. However, many times there is no pain at all – just a sense of heaviness, tightness, or breathlessness in the chest, usually with exertion. Sometimes, there may be an ill defined ache or discomfort in the jaw, or vague discomfort in the back. In older persons, oftentimes the only symptom is shortness of breath with exertion. Frequently, patients will describe having had a profound sense of fatigue for weeks or months prior to a heart attack.

Knowing your personal risk for heart disease, making yourself aware of the variety of way heart disease can manifest itself, and reducing those risk factors that you can, are the cornerstones of preventing and recognizing heart disease before it can cause you permanent injury or disability.

## “Thank You To The 174th Fighter Wing” From The Shah Family

Dear Friends at the 174<sup>th</sup>,

My brother Neelesh and I would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the love and respect that you extended to our family and especially to our parents, Drs. Ravindra and Manjula Shah. As you know, both my parents loved this nation and the Air National Guard. They came to the United States over 30 years ago with little more than their education and their dreams. What they carried with them, however, was far greater than any material wealth – their work ethic, their ambition, and their principles. My parents believed that they had been greatly blessed and tried to share their good fortune by giving back to this nation. From providing compassionate care to their patients, to establishing scholarships for underprivileged students, to devoting time to the Air National Guard – my parents were role models for my brother and me, our family, and our community.

My father especially loved the Air National Guard because it represented integrity, courage, and service. He felt that he learned so much from his colleagues in the military and respected each and every one of you – in each division of the unit – immensely. He felt that the 174th was a team and that each member played an important role. My father enjoyed all

his Air National Guard adventures – from his journey to the North Pole to his travels to the Antarctica. He loved flying and the camaraderie of the pilots and the flight team. My father was very proud of the accomplishments of the 174<sup>th</sup> and regarded all his colleagues there as his friends.

My mother was also very proud of the 174<sup>th</sup> and also gave of her time to this nation. She supported my father's efforts in the Air National Guard unconditionally and helped him achieve his dreams. Like many military spouses, she recognized and understood the dedication and the effort put forth to serve our nation. My mother was a tremendously kind woman who was graced with intellect, compassion, and humility. For all these reasons, my mother is a special role model for me.

Thank you all again for the honoring my parents with such love and respect. My brother and I are deeply grateful for your kindness. We are truly blessed to have such wonderful parents. We are also greatly blessed to have such wonderful friends at the 174<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

Monica Ravindra Shah

# Packed for Pakistan

By Capt Michael Brunner, 174<sup>th</sup> FW Aircraft Maintenance Officer

Last week ten maintainers and two security forces personnel left their plush accommodations in tent city to embark on a journey that would not see their return for three days. The destination: Pakistan. The mission: To diagnose and repair a Viper that had to divert due to potential engine malfunction. Waiting in Pakistan was Lt Col Thomas Owens along with his aircraft, for the timely arrival of the MRT (maintenance recovery team). The team members were Mark Sprague, Aric Coolidge, Gregg Allen, Dave Briggs, Keith Fleury, John Malin, Bud Conto, Mike Will, Mike Brunner, Dennis Reinhard, and two highly trained security forces troops (Marc Navarro & Pete Sosa).

After off loading the C-130 and receiving a security briefing by a Pakistani military commander, the MRT started about the business at hand, and within a few hours of arriving, the team was able to diagnose the problem and make the decision that an engine change was required. Unfortunately, due to airlift lim-facs, the team did not have an engine with them and would have to wait until one could be delivered. The group then pressed to remove the bad engine and prep for install. Shortly after calling back to base for the engine, another C-130 dropped from the sky. The only problem was that it was empty, there was no engine on board. The mission had been scheduled previously for the MRT's RTB in the event that an engine change was not required. While the MRT was disappointed about not receiving the engine, the C-130 did bring four dozen Dunkin Donuts so it wasn't all bad. Considering the fact that another engine would not be delivered until the next day and with nightfall approaching, the travelers decided to make camp for the night. They chose to bed down in an aircraft shelter along with their equipment and two heavily armed security forces personnel who were to maintain a 24-hour watch over the F-16.

Darkness came and went relatively uneventfully, other than the drills that the Pakistani guards engaged in throughout the night. They would practice alarms and challenge each other, screaming at the top of their lungs and dashing about at high speeds on the ramp in almost complete darkness. In addition, as the MRT moved about at night, they were at times greeted with a lunging Pakistani guard yelling, "Halt, put your hands up!" The guards would do this as a precaution before being able to positively identify who was approaching. At first the small group of maintainers was a little concerned, but after the drills were explained, the little band of maintainers slept easier. The next day



The MRT and Lt. Col Owens receive a briefing from one of the Pakistani commanders about base security.

the MRT did get their engine and pushed hard and safe to install and perform the required Ops checks prior to nightfall. All the hard work resulted in a successful launch just after dusk on the second day. Lt. Col Owens and his aircraft were on the way back to base. As for the MRT, one more night's stay was required and the campers settled in for another evening of Pakistani drills and hungry mosquitoes. Mid-morning on the third day, salvation in the form of a C-130 was upon the group. Tools, equipment, and personal items were quickly loaded, farewells to the host nation and single American (Reservist Army Corps of Engineers, Lt. Col Chuck Basham) on station exchanged, and the group settled in for their freedom flight back to the comforts of Base X.

Special thanks to the Pakistan military and other officials for their warm hospitality, and also great debt of gratitude is to be paid to Col Basham for his selfless acts of generosity and kindness. The support team back at base and the multiple C-130 aircrews who made this mission possible should also be recognized along with the leadership and airmanship of Col Owens. Finally, kudos to all the members of the MRT, and the two "Ravens" who made the journey to Pakistan. The teamwork, flexibility, and adaptability exhibited by the group is difficult to document appropriately but remains a truth that will become one small piece of history in a larger fight for freedom across the globe.



As the sun sets, members of the MRT await results of final Ops checks just prior to the aircraft's RTB mission.

## Aero Clubs Announce 'Start Flying' Campaign

Air Force Services Agency aero club officials are inviting active duty and retired service members and their family members to take advantage of the 'Start Flying' campaign, which provides pilot certification training. The campaign begins Nov. 1 and ends April 30, with 23 participating aero clubs worldwide offering pricing well below most general aviation instruction, officials say. For more information, contact the nearest aero club, or call Linda Weston or Annette Strapple at (210) 652-4945 or DSN 487-4945. Or to read more on the 'Start Flying' campaign, see <http://www.af.mil/stories/story.asp?storyID=123005871>

## Scholarships Available

Nov. 4 kicks off the application period for the children of active duty, retired and Guard and Reserve members to apply for \$1,500 academic scholarships. The application window for the 2004 Scholarships for Military Children program extends through Feb. 18.

Now in its fourth year, the program, operated by the Defense Commissary Agency [<http://www.commissaries.com/>], has awarded nearly \$2.5 million in scholarships to some 1,500 children of U.S. service members and retirees.

For more information about the scholarship program and application procedures, visit the program's Website [<http://www.militaryscholar.org/>].

## As of October 1, 2003, GI Bill benefits have increased.

Full-time students with GI Bill benefits can get up to \$985 per month to cover the cost of their education. This increase could mean you have as much as \$35,000 to pay for your education. The GI Bill provides up to 36 months of education benefits for:

**College, Business, Technical or Vocational Courses**

**Distance Learning including Correspondence Courses**

**Certification Tests**

**Apprenticeship/Job Training**

**Flight Training**

If you are interested in taking advantage of your GI Bill benefits, you can receive free information from military-friendly schools. These schools have trained admissions counselors who understand the GI Bill. Additionally, Military.com has recently improved the Military Scholarship Finder. With over \$300 million in scholarships and grants for service members, veterans and dependents, the Scholarship Finder can help you finance your education.

Use the new service today at

<http://www.military.com/Education/ScholarShip/newsearch>

## New members from May 2003 to October 2003

Maj Jeffrey Long, 138 FS  
Senior Airman Deja Miller, 138 FS  
Staff Sgt. Dennis Flynn, 274<sup>th</sup> ASOS  
Staff Sgt. Sean Carleo, AMXS  
Staff Sgt. David Carleo, AMXS  
Senior Airman Joshua Arnold, CES  
A1C Steven Hornbrook, CES  
Staff Sgt. Robert Kent, CES  
Tech. Sgt. Chester Thompson, CES  
Tech. Sgt. Cleopatra DeLeon, FW  
Senior Airman Edward Hague, FW  
A1C Heather Merritt, FW  
Staff Sgt Michael Spaiches, LRS  
Maj Valentine Barzac, MDG  
Senior Airman David Kelletier,

MDG  
Lt. Col. Dwayne Wilson, MDG  
Senior Airman Stefan Spirea, MOF  
Senior Airman Shawn Badman, MXS  
Staff Sgt. James Donnelly, MXS  
Staff Sgt. Michael Niles, MXS  
Staff Sgt. Vidda Serrata, OSF  
Staff Sgt Joseph Griffith, SVF  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gary Bodony, Stu Flt  
Airman Basic Carl Collins, Stu Flt  
Airman Basic Takeya Williams, Stu Flt  
Airman Basic Tonia Miller, Stu Flt  
A1C Coty Reisdorf, Stu Flt  
A1C Eli D'Angelo, Stu Flt

A1C Joshua Faqua, Stu Flt  
A1C Jeremy Griffith, Stu Flt  
A1C Michael Portorsnok, Stu Flt  
A1C John VanWinkle, Stu Flt  
A1C Nathaniel Jobson, Stu Flt  
A1C Rachel Fox, Stu Flt  
A1C Matthew Evans, Stu Flt  
A1C Travis Wilcox, Stu Flt  
A1C Eric Schenck, Stu Flt  
A1C Christine Watson, Stu Flt  
A1C Daniel Kawski, Stu Flt  
A1C Mitchell Dryer, Stu Flt  
A1C Gerard D'Amore, Stu Flt  
Staff Sgt. Nicholas Schultz, Stu Flt

# Base Announcements

## December UTA Theme

- **AEF Return & Recovery**
- **C&SRL Self- Inspection**

## Tech. Sgt. James Kingsley Fund Raiser

Lockheed Martin and the 174th Fighter Wing have teamed up to help the family of Tech. Sgt. James Kingsley raise a little extra cash to help with travel, lodging and incidentals for their visits to the Sunny View Rehabilitation Hospital in Schenectady NY. As most of you already know, James, a full time technician in the weapons back shop, was stung by a bee August 23rd and had an allergic reaction that put him in a coma lasting 9 weeks to date.

Our technical representative David Galloway and his company Lockheed Martin have arranged a donation of three authentic desk models of their companies fighter aircraft: an F-16 Fighting Falcon, an F-22 Raptor and an F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. We have put together a raffle to raise some much-needed cash for the family and would appreciate it if everyone would donate to the cause. Tickets will be on sale for a \$5.00 donation. Please contact Senior Master Sgt. Mark Shearer 454-6817, Master Sgt. Chuck Normanly 454-6416, Master Sgt. Mary Gilchrist 454-6141, or Chief Master Sgt. Theodore Mosley 454-6102 or 6459 for tickets.

## The 174<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Security Forces Squadron...

...requests the pleasure of your company at our First Annual Retirement and Christmas Party on Saturday, the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2003 at the Holiday Inn, Carrier Circle, East Syracuse. This year's honored retirees are Chief Master Sgt Hal Bill, Chief Master Sgt. Ernie Mance, Master Sgt. Jim Campbell, Master Sgt. John Urbaniak, Master Sgt. Bill Becker, and Staff Sgt Todd Johnson.

Social ~1800, Dinner ~1900, Cost is \$25/person. Make check payable to "174 SFS Welfare Fund" RSVP with payment NLT 25 Nov 03 to: 174 FW/SFS, 6001 East Molloy Rd, Syracuse, NY 13211-7099, or in person to Master Sgt Yerton, Tech Sgt Metz or Staff Sgt. Kildea. For information call 454-6678.

[http://deploymentlink.osd.mil/kidslink/  
grade\\_select.htm](http://deploymentlink.osd.mil/kidslink/grade_select.htm)

This is a great site for the kids of deployed members. It is an interactive site that will allow kids to explore and learn more about deployments and what effects they have.

## CCAF Implements New Changes

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

ALL official civilian college transcripts must be sent directly from the institution to CCAF. Transcripts can not be sent to the Education Office. 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://afvec.langley.af.mil> 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.

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.

## Defensive driver course offered

The 174th Safety Office has a requirement to provide local area traffic safety education to unit members. This is accomplished during unit members in brief. On Saturday 13 December 2003, the Safety Office will take this training to the next step by offering the National Safety Council Defensive Driving course. This is a supplemental program that fulfills two objectives. It provides the Commander remedial training for unit personnel due to accidents/lack of demonstrated proficiency and also provides a benefit for unit members to reduce insurance costs and license point reduction. The maximum number of students per class is 40. It is important to understand that once you sign up, if you cannot attend, please call and let us know. The cost is \$30 per student, which is \$10 to \$15 less than outside prices. The course starts at 0830 hrs and runs to approximately to 1500 hrs. The course is held in Bldg. 643 in the Operations large briefing room. Reservations can be made through the Wing Safety Office at 454-6143.

**Pay Date for  
December UTA is  
15 Dec 2003**

**The next UTA is  
10-11 January 2004.**

## Carrying On The Tradition

James M. Lantz enlisted into the New York Air National Guard on 2 November 2003. Col. Joseph J. Bulmer, Jr. administered his oath. You could say that "blue" runs through Jim's veins. With over 100 years of military service in his family, it was only natural for this young man to become a member of the Air National Guard. Jim is the oldest son of Master Sgt. Rita Scheirer and Master Sgt. (Ret) John Lantz. Master Sgt. Rita Scheirer, a member of the 152<sup>nd</sup> Air Operations Group, currently has 18 years of service. Master Sgt. (Ret) John Lantz retired from the Air National Guard with 21 years of service. Chief Master Sgt. (Ret) Gary Scheirer, Jim's stepfather, retired from the 174<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Flight after 32 years of service. Master Sgt. (Ret) Theodore Scheirer, Jim's step grandfather, retired from the 174<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron with 41 years of service. After attending Basic Training in January 2004, Jim will attend the Aircraft Armament Systems school. After completing his training, he will be assigned to the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. Jim's long-range goals are to gain a commission in the military and to attain the longevity of service that his parents and grandparent achieved.



Col Joseph J. Bulmer, Jr., Commander of the 152nd Air Operations Group, administered the oath to Airman First Class James M. Lantz.



Pictured with Airman First Class Lantz is his mother, Master Sgt. Rita Scheirer, Mrs. Harriett Scheirer, Chief Master Sgt. (Ret) Gary Scheirer and Master Sgt. (Ret) Theodore Scheirer.

## Alumni Membership Application

The 174<sup>th</sup> FW Alumni would like to make sure that all recipients of the EnGarde that are retired have an opportunity to become a member of the Alumni Association. The new member's fee is only \$10.00 which includes the one-time initiation fee of \$5.00. Yearly dues are \$5.00 and your spouse is free. If you would like to join please fill the form below, make your check payable to 174<sup>th</sup> Alumni Association Inc., and send it to: 174<sup>th</sup> Alumni Association Inc., 6001 E. Molloy Rd., Mattydale, NY 13211-7099.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First MI

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street

\_\_\_\_\_ City State Zip Code

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Membership  
 ( ) Regular  
 Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ (Home) ( ) Associate  
 ( ) Spousal

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Names: (If Applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_, ( ) Yes ( ) No

Children: \_\_\_\_\_

174<sup>th</sup> Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Assigned Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Specialty: \_\_\_\_\_

Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Rank Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Prior Service: Specialty Dates

USAF: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Army: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Navy: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Marines: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Coast Guard: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

ARNG: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

ANG: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**"Atta-boys", kudos, job well done, and thank you** are only a few of the words we can say to express our gratitude for our outgoing President, Chief Master Sgt Jim Monroe (Ret). After more than seven years as President, Jim has left very large shoes to fill! Chief Monroe was a member of the 174FW for over 42 years as Traditional Guardsman/Air Technician. He joined the Alumni Assn in February 1995 and took over as President in 1996. We can thank Jim and his officer staff and Board of Directors, along with the Committees, for the great Thanksgiving dinners, Alumni picnic's, Memorial Day celebrations and many other events. Again, "thank you" to Jim, his wife Shirley and children for allowing us to take advantage of his expertise, dedication and "get it done" attitude. Jim, don't go far as we'll need to pick your brains over the next year.

**Election of Officers:** Elections took place at the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. The following are the new officers: President Maureen McNamara ; Vice President James Shanahan; Secretary Gary Berberich; Treasurer Jon Le Feber; Chaplain Donald Whiting; Board of Directors: Ralph Brooks; Donald Cook; Melvin Denny Jr.; Paul Jennings; Richard Brady; John O'Hara. I look forward to working with my officers and having a great year ahead of us. I can be reached at jmcnam1@twcny.rr.com. Your continued support in letting us know the health and welfare of our Alumni Assn members is greatly appreciated.

**Taps:** At this writing, we are saddened to notify our membership of the death of a very dear friend and "fellow airman", **MSgt James Olin (Ret)**. Jim retired from the 174<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering, retiring this past spring. He died of a heart attack, in Thailand, while working for a civilian employer. Our most



"Preparing for Desert Storm" Circa 1990's. L to R: Chief Master Sergeant Jim Monroe, and two unidentified 174<sup>th</sup> members during Operatoins Desert Storm.

sincere thoughts are with his family at this time.

**Sick Call: Ralph Brooks** is feeling a bit under the weather these days and may have to have major surgery in the near future. He can be reached at 113 Kaywood Rd, N. Syracuse, NY 13212. **Bill Coleman and wife Jan**, of the comptrollers office

and credit union respectively, are both recovering from illnesses. Most recently Bill was hospitalized in New Orleans, while visiting his son. He was diagnosed with a severe pancreatic infection, but responded well to the medications and was discharged. He returned home to just outside of Atlanta to finish recuperating. Chaplain Whiting said that Bill was doing well now. They can be reached at 1471 Rainbrook Ct, Lil-



"Happier Days" Circa 1960s L to R: Herm Absher, Pete Greco, Charlie Butterfield, and Charlie Orcutt.

burn, GA 30047.

**Alumni Stats:** Current Memberships: 659; New Memberships: 2; Delinquent Memberships: 3; Deceased membership: 3. No applications were sent out during the month of October, so if you would like one sent to you, please notify John Terry, or any member of the Alumni Assn. 15% of our membership will have expired cards by 12/31/03.

**News & Trivia: No December meeting, next scheduled meeting will be January 15, 2004.**

**December 11, 1949:** 56 years ago we lost our first pilot, Lt Robert T. Mankey, P-47D accident in Georgetown, NY,

**October 28, 1947:** the unit was federalized at the Jefferson Street Armory, with 16 officers and 35 airmen. The Alumni membership consists of 15 of the original members and still have contact with two former members.

**September 9, 1979:** the first unit reunion took place. The first ticket was purchased by then Colonel Paul A Schempp, Commander of the 174TFW. He bought his ticket from SMSgt Whitman "Coach" Brady (Ret) who was the treasurer of the newly formed Alumni Association.

How many remember the Childrens Christmas Party we use to have in the main hangar? House of Providence children were invited and many unit members spent hours wrapping all the kids gifts.

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be January 15, 2004 at the Base All Services Club at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be served. Come on out and BRING ANOTHER ALUMNI FRIEND....we'd love to see you. There will be a Board of Directors meeting directly after the main meeting.

# *174th Crunch Hockey Night*



*January 10, 2004 at 7:30 p.m.  
at the Syracuse War Memorial.*

**Must have names and money to SSgt Tad Kalahar before 01/06/2004.  
You can call me at Ext 120/166 or by e-mail if there are any questions.  
This is a family event for all to attend and have fun.**

**Tickets will be \$7.00 per person.**



**Welcome Back to all!!**



## ***ENGARDE***

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