

ENGARDE

Hail to the Chief





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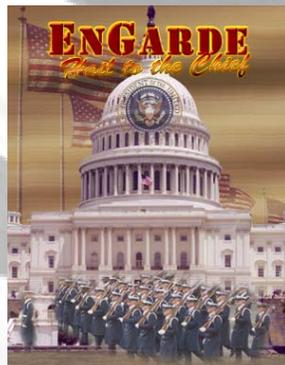
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About The Cover

174th Fighter Wing Base Honor Guard members participated in the Presidential inaugural ceremony.

Vision Statement

Our Vision is a world class fighter wing comprised of diverse individuals powered 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

“Source: Hancock Field to get Predator”.

I'm sure most of you saw this headline in the local newspaper in mid-March. Interesting word, “source.” The word implies that someone with authority, or in the know, has divulged credible information. Interesting that the article's author called us the next day to see if we could confirm the story. Guess it wasn't confirmed when he wrote it. It seems as though the Newburgh, NY newspaper had a source, too. Their paper said Stewart ANGB would receive the Predator Squadron that the Air Force said was coming to the State of New York. No base was mentioned in the Air Force release, as this could be construed as “BRAC-proofing” a base, which is against the law.

This article illustrates perfectly what I've been preaching for some time now at least since we got word of the ORI being cancelled. We are going to be on and off someone's list, both officially and unofficially, on a daily basis throughout this process. As the Iron Majors working on the Air Staff move units around on their boards in an attempt to figure out what the future force will look like, someone in that room will leak information that will be dated by the time the phone rings. We cannot allow ourselves to get spun up every



time we hear or read something. The release of the BRAC list on May 16th will not be the end of it, either. In some respects, it will be the beginning. This process will take until well into the fall to be final. At this point, we are along for the ride. The only way we can help our case is to focus on our mission at hand.

Breaking something or hurting someone because we were worried about our future is a huge concern of mine. It should be yours too.

Could the Predator thing happen? Yes, of course it can. So can newer F-16s, F-15Es, CV-22 tilt rotors, blah, blah, blah.....Everything is on the table. I continue to ask you all to do your jobs to the best of your ability. Focus on maintaining our status as the best Fighter Wing, Air Operations Group, and Air Support Operations Squadron in the Air National Guard. Please don't panic by seeking employment elsewhere. You may very well be missing a great opportunity for a bright future. And the “source” of that optimism, is me.



Col. Anthony Basile
174FW Commander

ENLISTED FEEDBACK SESSION

By Chief Master Sgt. Mark Atkinson, 174th FW, Command Chief



The annual enlisted feedback session is required by ANGI 36-2627 and we are directed by NGB that every Airman must have a yearly feedback review. We will also be accomplishing this because it is the right thing to do. Anytime we increase communication between our folks, we have a positive affect on completing our mission. The following is some detailed information regarding the program.

Feedback is a form of communication that should explain duty performance requirements and responsibilities, establish expectations, and tell the ratee if they are performing as expected. Feedback is essential in the growth of our subordinates, no matter what the rank. Formal feedback does not take the place of informal daily conversation on how an individual is performing. Formal Feedback should ask and answer the following questions:

How are you doing? (Performance)

Where you need to be? (Expectations)

How are you going to get there? (Career Development)

The third question is the heart of the program. Without career development to assist the subordinate, meeting the expectations may be difficult, or not completed in a timely manner.

ANG personnel will use AF 931, Performance Feedback Worksheet (AB thru TSGT), and AF 932, Performance Feedback Worksheet (MSGT thru CMSGT), as the documentation

media. Instructions for completing AF 931 and AF 932 are in AFPAM 36-2627, chapter 2 and 3 respectively. Locally developed programs that meet the requirements and intent of this program are authorized for use. Formal feedback will be completed on an annual basis as a minimum. The supervisor will determine the schedule. Possible schedules could be on birth month or expiration term of service (ETS) month. The rater or ratee can request more frequent feedback sessions to address areas of concern.

Every effort should be made to complete the scheduled formal feedback session in a timely manner that does not conflict with deploying personnel. The appropriate worksheet will be given to the subordinate one Unit Training Assembly (UTA)

prior to their formal feedback session. The subordinates would be tasked to return the completed form on the next UTA rating themselves by putting an “X” on the line as to how they feel they meet the expectations of the category. At the formal feedback session, the rater and ratee can compare and discuss how they based their decisions.

The supervisor will maintain the worksheet in a file. A copy will be given to the ratee. The worksheet will be kept on file until the next formal feedback session is completed and only the current worksheet will be maintained.

The unit First Sergeant will monitor compliance of this program for the Commander.



Chaplain's Corner

Maj. Douglas A. Decker, 174FW, Chaplain



One Key Ingredient to a Successful Marriage

Every spring different young couples call the parish office to set an appointment to help them plan their wedding. Usually I am not the first call they make. Usually they need to secure a place for a party. My philosophy is to help the couple to plan a life long marriage that can weather the good days and bad days of life. In other words I am trying to get them to look beyond the wedding day into the days and years ahead of healthy married life. The Lord wills good and healthy marriages.



One key ingredient to a successful marriage is God. If a couple can bring God into their life and marriage the success rate for marriage is very good. The couple need only invite his power and grace into their lives and marriage every day.

One of the miracles in John's Gospel is the Wedding at Cana. At the wedding of Cana Jesus changed water into wine. Jesus and his mother, Mary were guests at this wedding. They must have been fiends of the family. When Mary learned that they were running out of wine she instructed the headwaiter to, "Do what he tells you." Jesus instructs the waiter to fill the water jugs and have the headwaiter taste. They now have enough wine and it is the best wine. Mary actually set a fine example for not only newly married couple but a fine example for all of us. She says, "Do whatever he tells you." This is a wonderful message for all of us.



By taking God into our life we can rely on his grace and power everyday. God can take the ordinary waters of our life and transform it into the best of the best. God can fill the water jars of our daily existence and over flow them with joy and risen life.

As nature springs to new life.... "Do what the Lord tells you." Be open to his power, his grace and his risen life...

Women's History

By SMSgt Eugene Roberts, 174FW, Human Resource Advisor



With Women's History occurring in the month of March, I thought I would highlight the accomplishments of a few women who truly impacted the landscape of American history by being pioneers of their gender, and helping to change the attitudes and expectations of people around the world. Since the number of women who have and continue to blaze the trail of firsts is so numerous, I'll start from 1965.

In 1965, Patsy Takemoto Mink, of Hawaii, is the first Asian-American woman elected to Congress. She served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 24 years. Althea Gibson is the first African-American tennis player to win a singles title at Wimbledon that year.

Shirley Chisholm of New York becomes the first African-American woman in Congress in 1969. She served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 14 years. 1970 to 1975 heralded several firsts, including Diane Crump, who became the first female jockey to ride in the Kentucky Derby, Sally Jean Priesand, ordained as the first woman rabbi in the United States, and Juanita Kreps who became the first woman director of the New York Stock Exchange. She would later be the first woman appointed Secretary of Commerce.

The 1980's marked more notable advances for women, to include Sandra Day O'Connor's appointment to the Supreme Court. Graduating from Stanford law school, returning to her home state of Arizona where she was a state assistant attorney general, and a Republican state senator, she was appointed to the Court by President Ronald Reagan in 1981. Dr. Sally K. Ride's first trip into space occurred in 1983, making her the first woman to make the journey. Graduating from Stanford University with a Ph.D. in physics, she joined NASA in 1978. She was also instrumental in the design of the shuttle's robot arm and served on the

investigative committees of the Challenger and Colombia disasters.

The 1990's reads like a who's who list of women's achievement. Dr. Antonia Novello is sworn in as U.S. Surgeon General, in 1990 becoming the first woman (and first Hispanic) to hold that job. On January 2, Sharon Pratt Dixon is sworn in as mayor of Washington, DC, becoming the first black woman to serve as mayor of a major city. In 1992 Carol Moseley-Braun, of Illinois, becomes the first African-American woman elected to the U.S. Senate. In that year, Mae Jemison becomes the first black female astronaut. In 1993, Shiela Widnall becomes the first secretary of a branch of the U.S. military when she is appointed to head the Air Force. Janet Reno's appointment to the position of U.S. attorney general makes her the first woman in that department. Toni Morrison, famous poet and author, becomes the first African-American woman to win the Nobel Prize for literature.



The 1990's culminated with Madeleine Albright's appointment as Secretary of State. She is the first woman in this position as well as the highest-ranking woman in the United States government. Lt. Col. Eileen Collins will forever be remembered as the astronaut from CNY, but makes in into this article by being the first woman to command a space shuttle mission. In July of 1999, STS-93 was highlighted by the deployment of the Chandra X-Ray Observatory, which enabled scientist to study exotic phenomena like supernovae, quasars, and black holes.

The new millennium has already opened up many doors and will open up even more. Condoleezza Rice's appointment as Secretary of State makes her the first African American Woman to hold this title. The future holds even greater promise of major achievements for women. There will be no limit to what heights can be reached.

“How Many & Who Gets Tested”

By 2nd. Lt. James Hockey, 174 FW, Military Equal Opportunity Officer

The fact that you are reading this must mean another drill is around the corner. Another weekend of non-stop training and mission requirements need to be met. Appointments and medical exams need to be juggled with your normal job requirements. And here comes your First Sergeant with some great news. You've been randomly selected to join other lucky participants at the Club for a urinalysis test! Lucky you. Allow me to briefly explain how the MEO section decides **how many** and **who** gets tested each drill.

To quote the 23 Dec 2003 memorandum from Colonel James R. Joseph, Chief, Counterdrug Office, “Each state will randomly test its Air National Guard force at a minimum rate of 40% of assigned strength in accordance with AFI 44-120, Drug Abuse Testing Program.” The MEO section goes to MPF for the projected number of assigned strength, takes 40% of that number, and that is our targeted number of personnel to test for each fiscal year. Now that you know how we obtain our total number, how do we choose who gets tasked to test?

The 174th FW/MEO section utilizes an AF Drug Testing software program. We import a global pool, which contains the

names of all members of the 174th, 152nd, 274th, Student Flight, NEADS, Det1, and Det2, into our database. Prior to each drill, the MEO section is able to tell this program to randomly select “x” number of members. For an example, we'll say forty. The program then randomly selects forty names from the global pool. All members assigned to the respective units listed above have an equal chance of being chosen. If you were selected to provide a specimen in January, we hope you realized we are incorporating more pre-printed forms and rosters into the process. This will help speed up the process of waiting in line for something that should hopefully take only a few minutes of your time. As the rules of probability sometimes reveal, there may be times when a member may be selected in successive months or a section has numerous members tasked for drug testing. Please be assured that in no way, shape, or form are any members or units being “targeted”. The selection process is conducted by clicking a button and printing the results.

If you would like any further information on the drug-testing program, please feel free to drop by the MEO office or call us at ext. 212/527.

Financial Management Senior NCO of the Year

By 1st Lt. Anthony Bucci, 174 FW, Public Affairs Officer

A member of the 174th Fighter Wing was named the Financial Management Senior Non-Commissioned officer of the year for 2004 for the Air National Guard.

Chief Master Sgt. Judy VanWie was the winner of this prestigious award, which was announced on the 4th of February by Lt. Gen. Daniel James III Director, Air National Guard.

Chief Master Sgt. VanWie began her military career in 1975 with the U.S. Air Force at Chanute Air Force Base in Champlain, Ill. attending the Aerospace Ground Equipment Mechanic course. Upon graduating from this technical training she was stationed at Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y. until 1978 when she separated from the U.S. Air Force. Later that year Chief Master Sgt. VanWie joined the 174th FW as a traditional guardsman, and then in 1979 she was hired full-time as a technician working in the personnel and training area.

Chief Master Sgt. VanWie resigned her full-time position in the Air National Guard in 1985 to become a full-time student at S.U.N.Y. Oswego where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting graduating magna cum laude. She continued as a traditional guardsman at the 174th FW during this period working in the maintenance group. However, in 1991 she accepted a full-time position with the 174th FW as an accounting technician working in the finance section. Chief Master Sgt. VanWie has over 15 years of finance experience with the 174th FW, and has served in her present position as the Budget Analyst for the 174th FW since 1997.

The winning of this award by Chief Master Sgt. VanWie puts an exclamation point on an exemplary career here at the 174th FW, specifically within the finance section. In 2003 she was

awarded the U.S. Air Force Commendation medal for her impeccable management of the Government Travel Card Program by achieving the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard standard maintaining for more than a four year period, which earned the 174th FW \$20,000 in Air National Guard Reward Rebates. Additionally impressed U.S. Air Force inspectors during a recent Unit Compliance Inspection with a 100% compliance level in her Budget, Systems, Training and GTC program, while also being recognized by the U.S. Air Force Inspector General as having the “best seen to date” Support Agreements Review Process.

“I suspected that Chief VanWie would be competitive for the award. She fills an O-4 position at a base with a Wing, two tenants, and three Geographically Separated Unit's. So the job is tough in and of itself; but the proof in the pudding was that she performs it flawlessly. And since she's enlisted, she balances that already tough job with serving as NCOIC of Accounting and Finance” said Maj. Charles Hutson. 174FW Comptroller

This year has been quite memorable for her, but more specifically the month of February. First she found out that she had won this prestigious award, she was then promoted to her current rank of Chief Master Sgt. all in time for her birthday later in the month.

Chief Master Sgt. VanWie will be formally recognized at the Air National Guard Financial Management Comptrollers Conference on the 6th of April in Reno, Nevada. She will then have the opportunity to compete against the other winners from the Financial Management Senior Non-Commissioned officer of the year category from the other U.S. Air Force major commands.



174th FW Honor Guard at the Presidential Inauguration

By 1st Lt. Anthony Bucci, 174 FW, Public Affairs Officer

Two members of the 174th Fighter Wing Honor Guard were invited to participate in the presidential inauguration ceremonies that took place in January in Washington D.C.

SSgt. Andrew DeSocio from the 174th FW Security Forces Squadron and SSgt. Stefan Spirea from the 174th FW Maintenance Group were the only two Air National Guard members selected from the 88 Air National Guard units to participate in the 55th Presidential Inauguration with the U. S. Air Force Honor Guard.

SSgt. Desocio has been a member of the 174th FW for nearly 14 years starting in Civil Engineering, with the last three being in the Security Forces Squadron. He has been a member of the 174th FW HG team for the past three years and takes great pride in being part of the team. "To see people's reactions, their faces when we are executing our Honor Guard movements during a ceremony is why I am a member of the Honor Guard Team", said DeSocio.

SSgt. Spirea has been a member of the 174th FW for almost a year and a half after spending four years in the U.S. Air Force. He was stationed at Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho for his entire active duty time, where he served as the training Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge for the HG. He was immediately made the trainer for the 174th FW HG.

The participation of the 174th FW HG in the Presidential Inauguration ceremonies marked the first time that an Air National Guard HG team had been used to augment the U.S. Air Force HG during a Presidential Inauguration ceremony. Normally, the U.S. Air Force HG augments their team with members of other active-duty U.S. Air Force or U.S. Air Force Reserve HG teams. However, this unique invitation would have never been extended had it not been for a chance meeting and an officer's keen eye. It was during a networking opportunity at the HG symposium held in Cocoa Beach, Florida in November 2004 where SMSgt. Joe Gianetto, 174th FW HG Superintendent and MSgt. Melinda Haines, 174th FW HG NCOIC, met Maj. Anthony Maisonet the Commander of the U.S. Air Force HG. Maj. Maisonet noticed a white ribbon, the New York State Exercise Support ribbon, on SMSgt. Gianetto's ribbon rack, which his father had received during his service with the 152nd Tactical Airlift Group, which was located in Syracuse, NY. Maj. Maisonet was a resident of Syracuse and had commented on

how much his father enjoyed being a part of the 152nd TAG. He also said that he was touched by how many old unit members from the 152nd TAG had come to his father's funeral and how he was further impressed by their professionalism. SMSgt. Gianetto offered that if the 174th FW HG could help in anyway with the Presidential Inauguration ceremony that he could provide two to three people. Maj. Maisonet contacted SMSgt. Gianetto about a month after the HG symposium to see if he could provide two HG members to augment the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard who would represent the highest standards of drill, professionalism and dress. SMSgt. Gianetto and MSgt. Haines began to evaluate all of the 174th HG members and rank them according to the standards set forth by the U.S. Air Force HG. After a bit of discussion they came to a decision and decided on SSgt. DeSocio and SSgt. Spirea as the two best representatives of the 174th HG.

"An opportunity of this magnitude is rarely offered; therefore SSgt. Desocio and I did our best to prepare for the intense training program. I personally had the opportunity to train twice before with the U. S. Air Force Honor Guard; therefore I had an understanding of what was expected. The idea of us representing the Air National Guard raised our level of concentration and we perfected Honor Guard movements to the best of our ability" said, Spirea.

SSgt. DeSocio and SSgt. Spirea arrived at Andrews

AFB on Thursday Jan. 13th to begin their training with a team of 15 hand picked base HG members from other military branches. Their intense training regimen began on Friday the 14th of January and lasted through the weekend to Monday, with a duty day that lasted approximately 13 hours. These training days consisted of 8 to 10 hours of intense drilling followed by an additional 2-3 hours of uniform preparations. "I learned more about uniform standards and different ways to improve the appearance of the uniform than I could ever imagine. It took a minimum of two to three hours a night to keep up with your uniform, if not you could be dismissed from any activity for that day. You didn't want to be the one who was dismissed for a uniform infraction, it was definitely the hardest and most stressful part of this experience" said, DeSocio. The U.S. Air Force HG trainers were impressed with the level of precision the team practiced at, especially since most of them had never worked together. However, this was only prac-



SSgt. Andrew DeSocio



SSgt. Stephen Spirea

tice and they had to perform at this level for whatever activity they were supporting. Additionally, they could be operating as a Joint Honor Guard team, which would be using different procedures that had to be assimilated very quickly and with adept precision.

"I am very pleased with the performances of SSgt. DeSocio and SSgt. Spirea. As a team we work very hard to show the community how much we care. And the fact that the Air Force Honor guard recognizes our level of commitment fills me with pride." Said, 1st Lt. Andrea Bastedo 174th HG Officer in Charge.

On Tuesday the 18th of January SSgt. DeSocio and SSgt. Spirea participated in the retirement ceremony for Secretary of the Air Force Roche. The ceremony lasted two hours and all of the movements were executed with perfection. One of the more impressive moments from the ceremony was when the 60 HG members struck the floor of the large cavernous hangar in unison with their rifle, that moment defined the precision in which the our team was performing at.

On the 19th of January SSgt. DeSocio and SSgt. Spirea got the opportunity to do what no other Base HG member have ever done, a Full Honors Funeral at Arlington National Cemetery. Members of the U. S. Air Force HG are normally the only ones selected to participate in these events however; SSgt. DeSocio and SSgt. Spirea had earned the trust of their trainers and were allowed to perform this ceremony alongside the U. S. Air Force HG. The weather conditions were brutal during these funeral

ceremonies; in total they participated in four, yet they performed flawlessly and professionally.

The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard traces it's beginning to May 1948 when Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force was instructed to develop plans for an elite ceremonial unit comparable to those of the other Armed Services. As a result, a ceremonial unit was activated within the Air Police Squadron in September 1948 with an authorized strength of 98 airmen and 2 officers.

However, because of transfers and personnel attrition, it wasn't until March 1949 that sufficient personnel were assigned to enable the unit to function.

The ceremonial detachment continued to be assigned to the Air Police Squadron, which in the course of several re-designations eventually evolved into the 1100th Security Police Squadron until December 1971.

On 1 January 1972, the USAF Honor Guard came into its own as a separate unit and was authorized 147 airmen and 3 officers.

Ceremonial Guardsmen. The Honor Guard code reads: "Hand-picked to serve as a member of the Base Honor Guard, my standards of conduct and level of professionalism must be above reproach, for I represent all others in my service."

"It was above and beyond any expectations I had ever experienced in the HG or in the Air National Guard. My goal when I arrived down there was to show our active-duty counterparts that the Air National Guard could compete on the same level as they could or even outperform them" said, Spirea.

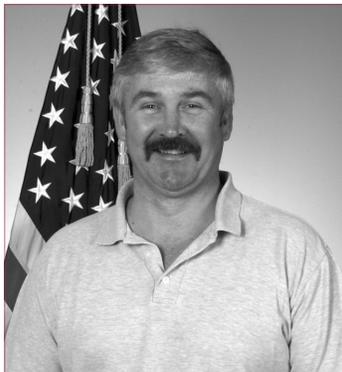


Lockheed Tech Rep Completes 10 Years at the 174th

By CMSgt. Phillip Greenwood and SMSgt. Mark R. Shearer, 174 FW, MXM2 & MXMC

January 2nd 2005 marked the 10th anniversary year for our F-16 Falcon Technical Representative David Galloway. Dave has been supporting the 174th Fighter Wing along with units at; Richmond Virginia, Burlington Vermont and Atlantic City New Jersey. Dave has brought a wealth of knowledge to all his units with his more than 26 years experience on the F16 Falcon aircraft. Working off his Flightline Avionics background, Dave has helped in so many ways. It would be impossible to encapsulate all he's done for the unit. Just the aircraft repairs and assistance he has given to all the shops in maintenance has been commendable. Dave assists with daily aircraft write-ups/technical assistance, parts issues and sometimes even offers his advise on how maintenance should be run.

After 4 years in the active duty Air Force, Dave applied and was hired by the then General Dynamics to help the Egyptian Air Force. He taught them the intricacies of the Fly-by-wire flight controls on the F16 Falcon from 1983 to 1986. From there he traveled to Venezuela from 1986 to 1990 where he instructed Air Force members in avionics and weapons systems. After that he spent a



couple years at Selfridge Michigan, Richmond Virginia, Springfield Ohio and then to Syracuse.

Dave has humbly contributed to many charities. He's raised money for the March of Dimes by being sent to jail and raising money for bail, the "24hr Run for Life"/Cancer campaign.

He also garnered thousands of dollars from Lockheed for the Chapter 50 Non-Commissioned Officers Seminar. Dave's participates in wing functions such as soccer and shuffleboard teams. Dave could also be caught contributing to the annual Sikora and Desert Storm Golf tournaments where he gets his corporate office to help out each and every year.

Here at the 174th Dave holds the record for the number of years here for tech reps by quite a margin, this from a "Southern Boy" from just outside of Atlanta Georgia. He's grown up a bit here also, the death grip he once had on the steering wheel during the snowy season has lessened a bit. He's even learned how to operate a snow shovel, a snow blower and he's even become an avid snowmobiler with a couple of his own sleds.

If you see this slightly graying looking gentleman around the base, please congratulate and thank him for his years of service to the 174th Fighter Wing.



We All Wear One Uniform – Red, White and Blue

By Capt. Sandi VanWormer & 1st Lt. Anthony Bucci, 174 FW, Public Affairs Officers

Staff Sergeant Celio “Cee-J” Castiblanco drew a standing ovation when he humbly spoke these words after pinning on a Bronze Star Medal at the 174th Fighter Wing on February 13, 2005.

Castiblanco received his Bronze Star Medal from Brigadier General Robert A. Knauff, Vice Commander New York Air National Guard, for meritorious service as a Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC) for a Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force while engaged in ground combat against an enemy of the United States at an undisclosed location in Afghanistan from January 23, 2003 to September 20, 2003.

The Bronze Star was established in 1944 and is awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity in or with the Army of the United States after 6 December 1941, distinguished himself or herself by heroic or meritorious achievement or service, none involving participation in aerial flight, in connection with military operations against an armed enemy; or while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

Everyone at the Medal ceremony sat in silent awe as 1st Lt. Anthony Bucci read the citation which awarded the Medal to Castiblanco:

During his tour in Afghanistan, Staff Sgt. Castiblanco’s most significant contribution occurred when his team conducted a direct action mission on an Anti-Coalition Militia Headquarters. During this mission, his Special Forces Operational Detachment Alpha came under hostile fire from enemy forces from three different locations. Sergeant Castiblanco immediately began coordinating for close air support and suppressing the enemy with the squad automatic weapon. He moved to an observation point to locate the enemy positions and directed the AV-8 Harrier attack aircraft and coalition F-16 fighters on enemy targets. He authorized the Harriers to strafe the hostile positions and bomb enemy headquarters.

Sergeant Castiblanco then used coalition F-16 aircraft to engage any enemy cave stronghold and additional enemy positions. Sergeant Castiblanco occupied an observation point to spot enemy positions and call in mortar fire. He moved to a position formerly occupied by enemy troops after it was cleared and started receiving machine gun and sniper fire. He engaged the enemy with his assault rifle and attempted to pin them down while part of his team flanked the enemy positions.

During the hasty attack one of his team members was wounded. While still under fire and trying to assist his team with the firefight, he began coordinating a medical evacuation for the wounded team member. Sergeant Castiblanco again requested air support and received a variety of aircraft. He was able to direct the helicopters and A-10s on the enemy locations and engaged them with 2.75-inch rockets, five hundred pound bombs and

thirty-millimeter strafe. Later that evening, Sergeant Castiblanco controlled an AC-130 on hostile positions; clearing the gunship to fire sixteen 40-millimeter rounds on enemy troops.

The Special Operations Team Alpha conducted radio intercepts that confirmed over fifty enemy troops were unaccounted for and presumed killed. The exemplary leadership, personal endeavor and devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Castiblanco in this responsible position reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

Staff Sgt. Castiblanco said this event lasted about three hours and came after nearly five months of little resistance from

the enemy. However, the events leading up to this scenario were eerie and Staff Sgt. Castiblanco said, “I just knew something was going to happen. I can’t explain it, I could just feel it”. He had been partnered with Technical Sgt. Amory, also from the 274th ASOS, the entire time leading up to this ordeal. However, Technical Sgt. Amory had to replace a fellow TACP who was killed in action and two weeks later Staff Sgt. Castiblanco ran into his first ambush.

There were four vehicles traveling together in the dead of night and it was difficult to see, said Castiblanco. Due to the poor visibility Staff Sgt. Castiblanco’s vehicle crashed into a large ditch tossing the four members out of the vehicle and into the ditch. He had landed on the driver and the gunner had landed on him, none of the men could move.

Meanwhile, a second vehicle had crashed into a mud wall and it’s occupants spilled out onto the road. One of the vehicles in this mini convoy reported all of the personnel in Staff Sgt. Castiblanco’s vehicle dead.

One of the men traveling in this group pulled out his comrades from the ditch as bullets began to fly, they all began to take cover. Once he had taken cover he realized that he had to get back to the vehicle so that he could use his radios and coordinate air support.

He made his way back to the Humvee, which was nose first in the ditch leaving it’s rear wheels a good foot off the ground, and assessed the condition of his radio. Unfortunately, he noticed that the antenna had been separated from the unit making the system unusable. All the while bullets were being fired at the vehicle and the ground left exposed by the vehicle’s raised wheels, which shot rocks off the ground at Staff Sgt. Castiblanco.

He realized that he had to repair the antenna in order to call in Air Support, if not there was a good chance that they would not be able to hold off this ambush attempt. He began to strip away the wire casing and attempted to reconnect the antenna. Although it was pitch dark, “Somehow I could see what I was doing, there was a light. I don’t know where it was coming from, but I could see what I was doing because of it”, said Castiblanco.

He was able to repair the antenna despite the bullets flying around him and the rocks skipping off the ground at him. He called in air support and within a half hour allied aircraft were in



the area suppressing the enemy. "It was the first time I was in a situation like this, but I knew what I had to do and I just did it", said Castiblanco.

Staff Sgt. Castiblanco currently serves as the Weapons and Tactics Non-Commissioned Officer in charge with the 274th Air Support Operations Squadron. His personal story, much like his military career, is one of perseverance, commitment, and dedication.

Cee-J Castiblanco was born in Bogota, Columbia in 1976. He came to the United States in 1986 when he was 10 years old. He grew up in Queens Village, New York and attended Aviation High School in Long Island City. Like most young people, graduation from high school meant deciding what path to take next. For inspiration and guidance, Castiblanco looked to his uncle, Luis. Luis was a retired Special Forces Lieutenant Colonel in the Columbian Army. While Castiblanco decide to follow the family military tradition, it was not the Army that held the most appeal. It was the United States Marine Corps. So, in 1993, Cee-J Castiblanco became Recruit Castiblanco and the next chapter of his life began.

In the Marine Corps, Castiblanco wanted to be assigned to the Infantry, in Force Reconnaissance. When that job was not available, he decided to join the Air Force after spending eight months as a Marine reservist. From 1994-1998, Castiblanco served on active duty as a member of the Tactical Air Control Party, receiving his training at Hurlbirt Field, FL. Castiblanco was stationed at Wheeler Army Airfield with the 25th ASOS until 1998. During that time, he participated in training exercises around the globe, in places such as Korea, California, Louisiana

and Washington. During these exercises, Castiblanco trained with snipers and long surveillance reconnaissance teams.

With his active duty commitment nearing an end in 1998, Castiblanco wanted to join the civilian sector, but also wanted to continue his career in the military. The Air National Guard became the solution. In January 1999, Castiblanco became a member of the Massachusetts ANG and trained at West Field.

Castiblanco became a member of Aircrew Life Support and at the request of the flying squadron Commander switched to the Intelligence career field. In Summer 2000, Castiblanco was deployed to Kuwait. It was a chance encounter in Kuwait that brought Castiblanco to the New York Air National Guard and the 274th ASOS.

Although Castiblanco knew the work he was performing, as a member of the Wing Operations Cell in an Intelligence position, was vital to the ANG mission, he felt there was something missing. While serving in Kuwait, Castiblanco ran into several mem-

bers of the TACP from his active duty days. His former colleagues from active duty told Castiblanco about the 274th ASOS in Syracuse, New York. Castiblanco contacted the National Guard Bureau, researched the 274th ASOS and within three months, transferred to Hancock Field. Staff Sgt. Castiblanco is "enjoying every day" with the 274th ASOS. He has deployed for two overseas combat tours – the one that earned him the Bronze Star and a second tour from July-November 2004.

Staff Sergeant Castiblanco has served his nation in a variety of positions for the last 10 years and one thing is certain – when his country calls, he will be there to get the job done.



AWARDS & RECOGNITION



Col. Charles Dorsey 174th FW Maintenance Group Commander presents an award for 20 years of Federal service to TSgt. Christopher Zablocki, 174th FW Avionic Attack Control Systems. TSgt. Zablocki has been a member of the 174th FW since July of 1991 after spending eight years in the U.S. Air Force with assignments at Hawaii, Germany and Florida.



Ms. Dale E. Shattuck, a member of "Bugles Across America" program accepts a Certificate of Appreciation from SMSgt. Joe Gianetto 174th FW Base Honor Guard for playing "Taps" during military funerals. The Flag of the United States of America in the shadow box, displayed in this photograph was flown over the United States Capitol on January 18, 2005 and also presented to Ms. Shattuck for her dedication and volunteerism.



SSgt. Suzette Moore 174th FW Command Post is presented with an U.S. Air Force Achievement Award from 174th FW Vice Commander Col. Kevin Bradley. SSgt. Moore received this award for meritorious service while assigned as the Information Management NCO for the 174th FW Safety Office from 11 September 1999 to 1 March 2004.



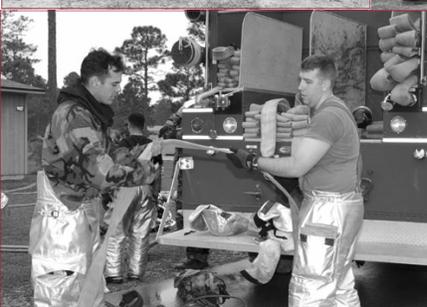
SILVER FLAG

By MSgt Kevin J. Scanlin, 174FW, Logistic Support Specialist

On 12 Feb 2005, half of the 174th Civil Engineer Squadron flew to Tyndall AFB Detachment 1 for Silver Flag, a mandatory field training for all CE troops. We arrived to a sunny South, but by Monday, the first major training day, we awoke at 0500 hrs to the sounds of thunder and lightning and heavy rain falling on our hooches (a harden tent where we spent the next four days). The first four days were used primarily for training and then the hands-on exercise followed. At approximately 1600 hrs on Wednesday, the commander received the order to deploy his troops to Tango Air Base - a location close by. We arrived at the base in MOPP 0. Shortly after arriving at our work centers and planning the next day of work, we went to MOPP 2 that lasted most of the day. At about 1630 hrs the inevitable came - MOPP 4. It was a cool overcast day so two hours in the mask didn't seem too bad - being under attack we were in shelters. The threat was that terrorist in the area were known to have chemical agents in the arsenal and were going to deploy them.



As our readiness folks tested for chemicals, the results were positive. The fire department was busy putting out fires and doing pilot extractions. The Operations section training provided valuable experience for planning and tasking of personnel and equipment for deployment to a bare base beddown area. Maintaining accountability of personnel and materials under wartime conditions provided a challenge. The goal of Operations was to provide a plan and direction for the accomplishment of all assigned tasks for mission to be a success. Electrical and Power Production sections were responsible for the Harvest Eagle electrical distribution to provide temporary power to the primary facilities, by hooking up to a generator run





power plant that was run round the clock. Needless to say a very important tasking. Power production was also tasked to make the Mobile Aircraft Arresting System operational. The primary focus of the Structures Shop at Silver Flag was getting the runway and taxiway operational for incoming flights. The two areas that are the responsibility of the Structures Shop were the folded fiberglass mat and the paint striper. Silver Flag gave the Pavement and Grounds section an overview of Airfield Damage and Repair. They were taught techniques of how to complete a crater repair on an actual blown crater. This gave them an opportunity to do all the steps in crater repair instead of working with a simulation.

The training the Dirt Boyz received was valuable hands on training that will make CE efficient and confident in our wartime tasking. The Environmental Shop merged with the Utilities functions to set up the different style tents, Latrine and Shower, Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU) and the Rapid Utilities Repair Kit (RURK) to fix three ruptured 6-inch fuel lines. In addition, we were familiarized with entomology equipment available for deployment use and had the opportunity to operate the backpack sprayer units in field applications. The HVAC/R shop trained with the 70,000 BTU Pre-way Space heater - our source of heat for the hooches. Several types of Field Deployable Environmental Control Units (FDECU), 150 CU FT refrigeration unit used by Services flights for Dining Facility and Mortuary affairs. Silver Flag also gave CE the opportunity to marry up with our Active Duty and Reserve counterparts and gain valuable experience from their knowledge - making the team part of the Total Force.



Citizen/Soldier Award Winner

By 1st Lt. Anthony L. Bucci, 174FW, Public Affairs Officer

A member of the 152nd Air Operations Group at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base was named the winner of the Col. Gouverneur Morris Citizen/Soldier award for 2004.

MSgt. John "Jack" Baxter a computer-switching specialist with the 152nd AOG won the award based on his technical expertise, selfless dedication to duty, and his commitment to his community.

"It was a total surprise for me, an honor! I did not expect it at all. Especially after seeing the write-up for Lt. Col. Lauri's (Lt. Col. Lauri, also from the 152nd AOG, won this award in 2003) award package, I did not expect it at all!" said Baxter.

MSgt. Baxter's military career began in 1968 with the U.S. Air Force as a ground radio technician stationed at Stewart Air Force Base, Newburgh, N.Y. and later at Altus AFB, Oklahoma where he received an honorable discharge in 1972. He separated from the military and began his civilian career with Bell Atlantic, however re-joining the military was always on his mind. So in 1985 he joined the 108th Tactical Control Squadron at Hancock Field Syracuse, N.Y. as a wideband communications specialist ending a 13-year break in service.

He spent approximately nine years with the 108th TCS serving in this capacity; this squadron would eventually evolve into the 152nd AOG, which MSgt. Baxter has been a member of since 1994. His specialty with the 152nd AOG is listed as a computer, network, switching and cryptographic systems specialist, however his experience enables him to solve other diverse problems that most people couldn't. His military training offered him many opportunities to learn and sharpen his skills, but it was also his civilian career that aided immeasurably to his expertise in trouble shooting communications problems.

"MSgt. Jack Baxter is simply the finest Senior Non-Commissioned Officer with whom one could wish to serve. His technical expertise, loyalty, and ability to work with superiors, peers, and subordinates are unmatched. He is a quiet but firm leader, and despite the fact that his knowledge could command high salaries in the private sector, he has remained with our unit

accepting one temporary tour after another rather than leaving the organization", said Maj. Steve McDaniel 152 AOG Deputy Director of Communications.

MSgt. Baxter retired from Bell Atlantic after 32 years of service as a special services repairman; he then spent two years as a transmission engineer

for the now defunct Telergy Corporation. At Bell Atlantic he spent the first five years of his career as a home telephone repairman, he then transitioned into the radio department and even-

tually special services, which dealt with a myriad of communications applications. "They knew when they sent me on a job I got it fixed right the first time!" said Baxter. Although he kept quite busy between his military and civilian career

he still found time to pursue other interests within his community this included his love of singing.

MSgt. Baxter has been involved with the Master's Touch Chorale, which is a Christian singing group, for more than seven years. His group has released a compact disc with various inspirational songs, one song in particular is entitled, "A Prayer for our Time", which they performed at the White House in December of 2002 for a September 11th memorial service. His singing career began alongside his wife in the church choir, however it was an unexpected event that led him to this singing group, "The church I was attending did away with their choir so I began to look for other singing opportunities." said Baxter. The group's performance at the White House went so well in December 2002 that they were asked to perform again in December 2004.

MSgt. Baxter is a dedicated professional who never shies away from a challenge, whether it is creating a zoned public address system or installing a new control system for utilizing multiple visual aides simultaneously during mission briefings. In addition to his technical skills he has continually demonstrated his leadership ability in assuming positions of increased responsibilities, which are normally carried out by Commissioned Officers. "The hardest thing to do is giving someone else the work when I would want to do it myself" said Baxter.

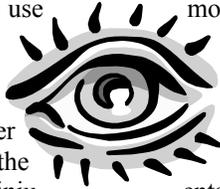
MSgt. Baxter was born and raised in Central Square, N.Y., and now lives in Hastings, N.Y.



Runway Alert - Syracuse, New York, March 1, 1953
A National Guard Heritage Painting by Gil Cohen

Sports Eye Safety

Maj. Thomas A. Andolina, 174th FW, BSC Optometrist



While nearly 90 percent of all sports eye injuries are preventable, eye safety is often at the bottom of a team's priority list. According to PREVENT BLINDNESS AMERICA, more than 40,000 eye injuries occur annually in sports and recreational activities. More than half of these injuries are to children, yet only a handful of sports organizations mandate the use of eye and face protection for young athletes

Children are often injured in sports because they are not as fast, as accurate, or as experienced as their adult counterparts. When youngsters are under pressure to react quickly, they may throw wild, dodge the wrong way, or kick in the wrong direction. Sports eye injuries may include bruises around the eyes, shattered facial bones, retinal detachment, and even permanent vision loss.

Not surprisingly, basketball is now the leading cause of sports eye injuries for both children and adults. Baseball follows

at a close second. Swimming pool sports are ranked third. Within the next decade, the number of sports eye injuries could increase because more Americans are moving toward a more active lifestyle. As Americans become more active, sports eye injuries will continue to climb if people do not take the necessary steps to protect themselves

The 174 Medical Group advises parents and coaches to encourage their children's coaches to require eye and face protection by their youngsters. To help parents provide information to coaches, PREVENT BLINDNESS AMERICA is offering free information about sports eye safety and how to choose proper eye protection for specific sports. People can obtain the information by calling PREVENT BLINDNESS AMERICA at 1- 800-331-2020.

Base Announcements

Free Admission to Busch Gardens/
Sea World/Sesame Place

 **HERE'S TO THE HEROES**

Go to <http://www.herosalute.com>

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PRESENTS, "HERE'S TO THE HEROES"

Anheuser-Busch is honored to salute the men and women of our armed forces and their families. From February 7 through December 31, 2005, members of the military and as many as three direct dependents may enter Anheuser-Busch's SeaWorld, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks free.

Bus Service Available

The Transportation Flight, specifically Vehicle Operations will be providing a base shuttle service from 1000 hrs until 1400 hrs both days of the UTA. This is being done to provide a temporary solution to the parking problems in and around the Dining Facility, Wing Headquarters, and the Medical Group. It can also be used for the firing range and/or the All Services Club (for Official Business Only). The route of travel will be the main road (Bullard Ave) traveling from the far East end of the base to the West end of the base including Bldg 800. There will not be any official stops. Personnel are just asked to have the driver stop where they need to get off.

Also, if there is anyone from an outlying duty section (i.e.: Munitions, Fuels, AGE, etc.) that has an appointment during other than the above hours and needs a ride, they are encouraged to call ext. 278 for taxi service.

Please pass this information on to all Drill Status Guard personnel.

NCO INDUCTION

To Staff Sergeant

SSgt Jeremy Call, AMXS	SSgt Carrie Trendowski, MG
SSgt Nicholas Delahant, MXS	SSgt Clifton Wood, LRS
SSgt Eric Grosso, SVF	SSgt Thomas Moade, LRS
SSgt Mitchell Pomerleau, AMXS	SSgt Stacie Robert, AMXS
SSgt Kristina Rowe, FW	SSgt Gary Smith, AMXS
SSgt Stefan Spirea, MOF	SSgt Richard Tarson, FS

NCO INDUCTION

To Master Sergeant

MSgt Richard Ashley, AMXS	MSgt Thomas Caza, CES
MSgt Patricia Collins, MDG	MSgt Michael George, MXS
MSgt Robert Kite, AMXS	MSgt Ralph Rochon, MXS
MSgt William Rust, DET 1	

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

TIME TO ADJUST WITHHOLDING TAXES

Deduction rates effective 1 January 2005: Medicare Tax Rate is 1.45%, Social Security (FICA) Tax Rate is 6.2%

Naturally, federal and state tax withholding rates are based on your W-4 election. If you paid a large amount in federal taxes or will receive a large tax refund, it may be time for you to process a W-4 to change your withholding amounts. This can be accomplished for military members and technicians via MyPay at the new MyPay website, www.dod.mil/dfas. One very useful resource to help determine W-4 is the "Withholding Calculator" at www.irs.gov. By typing in some simple information from your most recent pay statements and 2004 tax returns, you can determine exactly how to file your W-4 form(s). The process only takes about 10 minutes.

New Telephone Numbers for the 174th

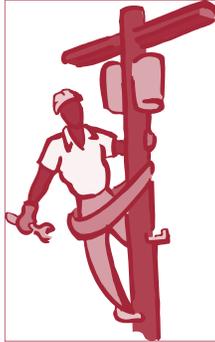
By Msgt Jeremia Farley, 174th FW, Plans & Programming



New Telephone Numbers for the 174th

During the week of 11 April, we will be physically upgrading our base telephone switch with new hardware and software. What does this mean to you? You will have the ability to see in advance the name and number of the incoming call if you have a phone equipped with the capability of reading and displaying the information. This new service will assist our security forces and fire protection in real world situations. We will also have an additional 300 numbers available for future use, giving us a total of 1,000 phone numbers for our base.

Having a total of 1,000 phone numbers for the base presented a dilemma to us. We wanted the new telephone numbers to be uniform to make it easier for everyone to remember. To do this we needed to go to a whole new set of numbers. We have been given the number series of 233-2xxx for our local phone numbers. The last three digits of your phone number will stay the same. When we change over to the new local numbers, an automated message will be put on the old number telling everyone what the new number is. The caller would then have to call the new number. This message will remain on the old number for up to six months.



Now what about our DSN numbers? Our DSN numbers will also have to change, so we requested a new block of numbers to correspond with our new local numbers. We were given the number series of 243-2xxx for our DSN. Notice that there is only one digit different from the local number. Again, the last three digits of your phone number will not change. However, there will not be a message on the old DSN number telling callers what the new number is. Unfortunately, our telephone switch does not have the capacity to retain the old number and the new number at the same time.

For on base calling, we will be going to a four-digit number, which is your current number preceded by a 2. A new phone listing will be provided for distribution within your sections.

The phone number change will take place around the end of April after the physical upgrade of our telephone switch. If all goes well, you will need to notify all of your potential callers of the new numbers when you come in for May drill. There is no formal process for letting them know, so it will be up to individuals to pass the word around.

We thank everyone in advance for their patience and understanding as we transition into this new phase of technology.

Have an Attitude-Spring into Fitness

By Major Priester Bradley, 174th FW, Medical



Spring is here at last! This season of re-birth is the perfect time to make a fresh start with fitness. Yes, it's been a few months since our last physical fitness test, except for the guardsmen/women and family members who participated in the American Heart Association-174thFW Heart Walk this past month.

Let's make today the first day of your new healthy lifestyle. Health experts say you only need to get your body moving 20 to 30 minutes a day, three times a week to look and feel good. For example- a brisk walk, a bike ride or roller blades in the park and you're done. Ready to change for the better? The following four (4) tips will keep an attitude for fitness this spring and forever.

1. Start Slow- if you haven't exercised in a while, the worst thing you can do to your body is to work out too hard, too soon, which may cause strains, sprains and other injuries. Do what your body can handle. A good workout should leave you a little sore the next day, not in painful agony so start slow.

2. Buddy Up- When the initial excitement of starting a fitness plan wears out, it can be a real challenge to stay motivated especially if you hate exercising in the first place. A good way to stay on track is to find a workout buddy. A partner can give you the push you need when you start slacking or consider investing in a personal trainer.

3. Join a Class- If discipline isn't your strong manner, an exercise class is right for you. A class gives your workouts structure and a built-in support network help to keep you going. For example- Jazzercise, African dancing and mall walking are just to name a few.

4. Work Fitness Into Your Day- To work an exercise program into your daily schedule; Be creative!

For example, parking your car further away from your destination will allow you to fit in a brisk walk or try getting off the bus at an earlier stop. Take the stairs instead of the elevator or escalator. with your family or go jogging during your work break try starting up a work.

Do toe stands while waiting on the grocery line, rotate your ankles while sitting, move your jaw muscle while brushing your teeth, raise your hands like you are praising God.



than your destination of the elevator. Go for a brisk walk with your neighbors. Maybe your work break runner's club at

waiting on the grocery line, rotate your ankles while sitting, move your jaw muscle while

Do anything you like, just do something!

It is spring finally, although by past history our winter was a light one. So this means that the Alumni are very busy getting things ready for the upcoming Alumni picnic. This will be held on Saturday, July 30th at the All Services Club. Tickets will be \$6.50 (yes a \$.50 increase to cover increase of costs). Co-chairmen for this year's picnic are Floyd Dufore and Frank Duester. As you know, the door prizes are a big hit each year, and this is a lot of work. So if you have a contact that you could reach and help us to round up some nice door prizes – the committee would be very grateful!

We are also planning on participating in the Base Family Day this year, with a booth exhibit of 174th FW memorabilia etc. Jim Shanahan, Mel Denny and Gene McIntyre are our working committee for this. If you have some neat items that you would like to showcase, let us know.

At our February meeting we discussed the possibility of donating something to the new All Services Club. We asked the President, SMSgt. Marty Brady to give us a list of "want" items. The requirement from us is that it be something that will stay in place. We will then inscribe a plaque to be placed on or near the item.

The Base Chaplain's office also contacted us. If you are in the local area and have expertise in electrical, plumbing, heating, financial, childcare and would like to volunteer to assist military family in need, please contact them at 454-6215. They have a Volunteer Sign Up sheet they can send you.

They are looking for volunteers to help out on the Joe Sikora Golf Tournament, contact SMSgt. Mark Shearer at 454-6817 if you can help out.

TAPS: Riley, Joseph K. Pilot - passed away on 29 Dec 2004. He is survived by his wife Norma. Joe was a Life Member of the Alumni. Cards may be sent to 9 Arthur Ave, Cortland, NY 13045.

Baker, Emma – widow of James – passed away in 2005. Family may be reached at 416 Wheaton Rd, Syracuse, NY 13203

Lisandro, Donald brother of Ronald Lisandro (Instrumental

Shop) passed away in 2005. Family may be reached at Gildner Rd, Central Sq, NY 13036.

GET WELL WISHES TO:

CMSgt. (Ret.) Laurie Radtke, at home after surgery. 204 Gale Ave, Liverpool, NY 13088;

CMSgt. (Ret.) Tom Coldren at home after surgery, 4921 Look Kinney Cir, Liverpool, NY 13088.

MSgt.(Ret.) William Moran, at home recuperating. 115 Sharon Rd, Syracuse, NY 13209

Harriet Schreirer (spouse of Ted) at home 107 Tallowood Ct, N. Syracuse, NY 13212. *The Alumni wish you all well and on the road to recovery!!!!*

NEWS: "Grey Area" Retired Reservists Eligible for Dental Program. Grey area retirees have been eligible for dental care benefits since 1998 but few take advantage of it. For more information, go to www.trdp.org or call Delta Dental at 1-800-838-8737 for enrollment package.

"Afterburner" News for USAF Retired Personnel has been posted on the Retiree Services Branch website. Go to www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afretire/FebBurn05.pdf. Next issue will be published late June 2005.

Survivor Benefit Plan open season to begin Oct 1, 2005. A one-year SBP open enrollment season, a provision of the Nat' Defense Authorization Act for FY 2005 will begin Oct 1. During opening season retirees not currently participating in SBP will be permitted to elect SBP. Retirees participating in the SBP at a reduced base amount will be permitted to increase the base amount. Lastly retirees who currently have child only coverage will be permitted to add spouses or former spouse coverage to the existing child coverage. For more information, contact www.dfas.mil.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 21st at 7:00 pm All Services Club. Refreshments served. WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE SOME NEW MEMBERS ATTEND. HOW ABOUT OUR FEMALE RETIREE'S -

SECTION SPOTLIGHT



MAINTENANCE

Name: Dennis P. Bahr
Rank: SSgt **Age:** 47
AFSC & Title: 2A373B/ Aircraft Mechanic (Phase Dock)

Hometown: Cicero, NY

SSgt Dennis Bahr is an Aircraft Mechanic working in the phase dock and has been a member of the 174 Fighter Wing for 14 years. He has participated in numerous deployments to include Operation Northern Watch, Operation SOUTHERN WATCH and ENDURING/IRAQI FREEDOM. His hobbies include: bowling, photography, jogging, bicycle riding, and vacationing. Some of the things that SSgt Bahr likes about the New York Air National Guard are traveling around the world, working with different people, and new daily experiences.

SUPPORT

Name: Jason L. Chack
Rank: SSgt **Age:** 30
AFSC & Title: 3S051/Personnel Readiness

Hometown: N. Syracuse, New York

SSgt Chack served with the U. S. Army in 1993 as a Petroleum Specialist, in 2001 he then joined the 106th Rescue Wing, Francis S. Gabreski Air National Guard Base shortly thereafter he transferred to the 174th Military Personnel Flight, Hancock Field ANGB. He is the NCOIC of the Personnel Readiness Unit; one of his functions during deployments is to make sure all personnel are equipped with orders, passports, visas and any other pertinent documentation. His hobbies include: weight lifting, working on his house and spending time with his family. He has a wife, a 3-year-old daughter and a baby due in August. When asked why he joined the Guard, SSgt Chack stated, "I wanted a career where I felt like doing something productive and worthwhile for my family and my country".





Armed Forces Celebration at Alliance Bank Stadium



Free tickets are available to the game for all military members, dependents and retirees for Saturday the 14th of May, when the Syracuse SkyChiefs face the Columbus Clippers (Yankees AAA affiliate) contact 1st. Lt. Bucci at X651 if you are interested.



vs.



ENGARDE

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

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