

Around the world and back again

Photos and story by 1st Lt. Sherri Pierce, 157 ARW Public Affairs

The homecoming

The clock struck 1 a.m. at Pease Air National Guard Base as the KC-135 landing lights became visible in the night sky. A few minutes later, the aircraft carrying 22 Security Forces Squadron (SFS) airmen on their last leg home from Afghanistan taxied to its parking spot. In what seemed like hours to the family and friends awaiting their return, the cargo door finally opened revealing smiling airmen anxious to be reunited with their loved ones.

The airmen could hear the cheers but only see the silhouettes of their friends and family who stood in front of a hangar about 100 yards away. The members were first greeted by Wing Commander Col. Richard P. Martell on the deck of the aircraft as well as members of the senior leadership team as they descended down the stairs. From there, it was only moments before they made their way across the tarmac to where their families and friends stood in wait.

While he was able to view his new son Ryan's birth using Skype, Master Sgt. Bill Charland saw him for the first time in person.

"He was more than I expected. Pictures and Skype didn't do him justice. He is always smiling and he is a big flirt," Charland said.

"That's my boy," he added with a smile.

While many onlookers were anxious to witness his reaction to seeing his youngest son for the first time, Charland's biggest concern was with his oldest son Daniel.

"I was worried about not reintegrating with Daniel and that he wouldn't know me," he said. "Once we had our first wrestling session we were back on track."

Staff Sgt. Edward Dubaniewicz also came back to a new family addition - a five and a half month old son, Landon. While Dubaniewicz held his 24-month old daughter, Sierra, his wife, Alayna, noticed he had a free hand. She then passed Landon to him and said with a smile, "Start practicing."

Happiness to see their loved ones was the sentiment Feb. 22 and certainly overshadowed the cold temperatures and early hour. Sergeant Nate Charmand's father attested to that.

"I'd be here no matter what time it was," he said.

Airman John Pepper stood among his teary eyed friends and family and said, "Thank you all for coming," to which his mother responded, "I wouldn't miss it for the world."

The mission

A total of 23 airmen spent about six months at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan where they performed air base defense missions.

"We secured planes while they landed, and set up 360 degree perimeters while gear was unloaded," said Master Sgt. Peter Vatisas. "We also assisted in POW transfers."

"The fine group of Senior NCOs, NCOs, and Airmen who were deployed represented the unit and the state of New Hampshire admirably," said 157th SFS Commander Maj. Richard Hamilton.



Members of the 157th Security Forces Squadron arrive home after a six month deployment to Afghanistan.



Airman 1st Class Alak Souphakhot sees wife, Ginny, and daughter, Kiera, who turned two years old on the day of his return.

On our way to Active Associate



Commander's Column

By Col. Richard P. Martell

During the second week of February we hosted the Air Mobility Command's Site Activation Task Force (SATAF), who along with their NGB counterparts made an initial assessment of the steps needed for us to transition to an Active Associate KC-135 Wing. As an overview, they looked at facilities, manpower, member services, and the funding needed for us to make the transition.

I knew from the onset of the visit that it was going to be a most successful one. The AMC team was eager to work with us, as our reputation had preceded their arrival. I was told by several members of the team that already there were numerous members of AMC that had made inquiries to be stationed here. Also, the team knew that our Operations Tempo was already vastly different than the bulk of the Air National Guard Wings. Since the addition of the Tanker Task Force mission here at the 157th, we have basically been operating a two shift flying operation – Monday through Friday till 11 p.m. This type of operation will be needed at an active associate location to incorporate the additional flying hours needed to train the additional flying squadron personnel. Not a major issue for us – as we have been operating since 9/11 - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year!

Secondly, I knew that we were ready, as demonstrated by one of our folks declaring at the end of the in brief – “Let’s get to work!” Over the next three days our folks worked the issues and again demonstrated that we had put a lot of effort and constructive planning into our preparedness to become an Active Associate Wing.

During the out brief I spent some time with the AMC Team Chief. It was with great appreciation that she shared with me that in her 10 year tenure as team chief – this was the BEST visit she had ever participated in. I thank all of you who had a part in making this first step of our new vision so successful. I also know that an organization does not become as well respected, collaborative, and willing to embrace positive change as ours – overnight. It has taken many years of our adherence to our Vision Statement – “Citizen Soldiers building the Nation’s most Respected Air National Guard unit -- - Serving America, New Hampshire, and community... In Partnership with Family and Employer.”

I have no doubt that we will set the standard for the Air Force in the Active Associate partnership.

“I thank all of you who had a part in making this first step of our new vision so successful.”



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The Refueler welcomes articles and ideas that will improve the paper. If you have suggestions for feature or specific articles, please contact the PA office at (603) 430-3577 or your Unit Public Affairs Representative.

Current UPAR List:

Clinic

Tech. Sgt. Aaron Cleaver
Master Sgt. Emily Tebbetts

Mission Support

Vacant

Operations

Tech. Sgt. Lisa Joyce
Staff Sgt. Shane Hurd

Maintenance

Master Sgt. Michael Mercier
Staff Sgt. John Michniewicz

Logistics

Tech. Sgt. Michael Berry

Services

Master Sgt. Lori Johnson

Wing

Capt. Ken Leedberg

ATCS

Tech. Sgt. Harry Welch

Security Forces

Tech. Sgt. Daric Buttrick

State Headquarters

Master Sgt. Bill Bates

Welcome spring with prayer breakfast

By the 157 ARW Chaplains Office

As the cold of winter lingers on, our first harbinger of spring is our celebration of the Commander's Annual Prayer Breakfast; our Wing version of the National Prayer Breakfast. This event is an awe-inspiring gathering of our unit members coming together in the spirit of camaraderie to pray for our nation and her leaders during this great year of political change and world instability. It is a great opportunity to slow down, have a splendid breakfast (prepared by our Services folks), and be spiritually uplifted by an exceptional speaker as well as have a marvelous opportunity to talk, laugh and share with your compatriots. Our vision is to have a true family gathering and we would love to have you come and join us!

This year we are honored to have Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) David H. Cyr, Air Force Deputy Chief of the Chaplain Corps, as our guest speaker. Cyr began his commissioned service in 1979 as a Protestant Chaplain at Vance AFB, Okla. Over the years, he has served as a Wing Chaplain, Chaplain School Instructor, Joint Staff Chaplain at the Pentagon, Command Chaplain U.S. Air Forces Europe, Air Combat Command Chaplain and Commandant USAF Chaplain Service Institute, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

Our Prayer Breakfast gathering is scheduled for Sunday, April 5 in building 149 from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance and will not be available at the door. Tickets will be on sale during the March drills and can be purchased from the following individuals:

Senior Master Sgt. Jimmy Roberts - Building 16
 Senior Master Sgt. June Fonteyne - Building 15 MDG
 Senior Master Sgt. Dave Obertanec - Building 145 MPF
 Senior Master Sgt. Alice Belanger - Building 145 CE
 Master Sgt. Stan Norton - Building 145 Comm
 Master Sgt. Craig Poirier - Building 149
 Master Sgt. Tom Vasile III - Building 157 LGRVA
 Master Sgt. Mike Ploof - Building 244 SFS
 Master Sgt. Dawna Noel - Building 254
 Master Sgt. Marc Gagnon - Concord
 Tech. Sgt. Lisa Joyce - Building 257 OPS
 Tech. Sgt. Karen DiPrizio - Building 262 LRS
 Senior Airman Nicci McCarthy - Building 247 ATC

Germ of the Month

By Tech. Sgt. Aaron Cleaver, 157 ARW Public Health

I'm a virus, I'm nasty, and I'm not very common in the U.S., but lucky for me, you military folks like to travel to where I live. In the last 20 years, I've been seeing more and more of you. I caused an outbreak in 2001 in Hawaii (love those mai tais), and I sometimes get people in Puerto Rico, but I find it easiest to infect people that travel to other tropical countries where my VECTOR likes to live. That's my good ole pal the Aedes mosquito.

In just about any tropical environment where my buddy lives, you'll find outbreaks of ME from time to time. Usually people that get me don't even know they have me, but there are those

times when I'm especially nasty and I can cause some serious pain. In those cases, I typically strive to cause high fever, severe headache, joint pain (especially in the back) vomiting, nausea, a skin rash and even eye pain. In the worst cases, I can cause a hemorrhagic fever (my trademark). That last part sounds bad doesn't it?

This means you'll bruise more easily, and your capillaries leak fluid, and in about 1 percent of the cases you will DIE. That's a more passive way for me to say that I can KILL you. I am a naughty, naughty virus. And there's NO vaccine for me (insert evil laugh here).

What am I????

Germ cont'd page 4

Independence Hall Dining Facility

Dining Hours
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Saturday

Salisbury Steak w/gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Baked shells w/cheese
Vegetable du Jour
Deli Sandwich Bar

Bread and Salad Bar
Assorted Cakes
Assorted Hot & Cold Beverages

Meal Price \$4.25

Sunday

Roast Turkey w/gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Vegetable du Jour
Deli Sandwich Bar

Bread and Salad Bar
Assorted Cakes
Assorted Hot & Cold Beverages

Meal Price \$4.25

*Menu may be
subject to change*

Promotions

Master Sergeant
David Pais, LRS

Technical Sergeant
John McCabe III, MXS
Michael Rondeau, LRS
Celestine Bragg, MPF
Paul Marcus, MIDG

Staff Sergeant
Alan Rogers II, ATC
Owen Murray, MXS

Germ cont'd from page 3

A Vectorborne disease transmitted by a mosquito? Hmmm. So many to choose from... My nickname is BREAK-BONE FEVER (not to be confused with Saturday Night Fever, a close cousin with better hair and wider lapels). By now you probably guessed that I'm Dengue. Sometimes I'm called Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever.

You want me to tell you how you can avoid getting me, right? Well forget it.

DEET and Permethrin are almost putting me out of business with military people, but thankfully not everyone listens to the public health guy and the unit deployment manager.

There is NO treatment for the various Dengue viruses. You just have to ride me out (or maybe die). The good news

(for you) is that you'll probably do just fine with pain management. Your doctor will tell you to drink plenty of fluids,



Female Aedes aegypti mosquito engorged on blood while feeding.

take some pain medication such as acetaminophen (not aspirin - thins the blood) or possibly your doctor will give you the really good prescription drugs. You'll most likely survive, which is fine by me since I can infect you AGAIN

(love that repeat business).

Oh, hey, I've got to go, my ride is here..BUZZZZZZZ (mosquito arrives at next victim, Dengue infection cycle repeats).

And the public health guy says:

Avoiding mosquito bites is a very good idea because they can transmit so many diseases. Mosquitoes suck (you had to know that was coming). Wear DEET and treat your uniforms with permethrin. Avoid skin exposure by keeping your sleeves rolled down. If you see a suspicious mosquito, please report it to your local AFOSI or just squash it with your Airman's Manual.

Baker retires after 28 years of service

By Staff Sgt. Dorrin Finley, 157 ARW Public Affairs

On Feb. 8, the 157th Air Refueling Wing celebrated the retirement of Lt. Col. Ruth Baker as the 157th Mission Support Flight (MSF) Commander. Her ceremony was attended by members of the 157th MSF, friends, and family; with a reception at the Mission's End.

With 28 years of military service, Baker's career was dynamic and influential. Baker joined the Air Force in 1980 and attended Officer Training School in 1981, graduating as a second lieutenant. Her career began as Chief of Administration Communications and Postal while stationed at Ellsworth AFB, S.D. When her writing talents were revealed mysteriously to the Combat Support Commander, she was requested by him to become his Executive Officer. While in this position, she still continued her duties as the Chief of Administrative Communications and Postal. Baker was selected to attend Squadron Officer School in residence. Once she returned, she took command of the Strategic Missile Wing Headquarters Squadron.

In 1984, Baker was selected by the Air Force Director of Administration to be assigned to Pease AFB, N.H., as the Director of Administration. Once again, Baker simultaneously worked as the Combat Support Group Headquarters Squadron Section Commander. While

at Pease, Baker met her future husband, then 1st Lt. Barry Maddix, and they were married Jan. 19, 1985. She received a Humanitarian reassignment to The School of Engineering, where she served as an Assistant of Student Operations and Support while also working as a Resource Advisor.

In 1988, Baker and her husband joined the Air National Guard. She was interviewed and hired as Cost Analyst of the then Resource Management Squadron.

In 1990, Baker completed her Master of Science degree in Systems Management from the University of California. Prior to her master's, Baker earned a Bachelor of Arts in English at Trinity College in Washington D.C., with minors in Philosophy and History. In 1998, Baker was selected as the Wing Inspector General. During her leadership, she took on the responsibility of Exercise Evaluation Team Chief and



Col. Barry Maddix and Lt. Col. Ruth Baker

earned an Excellent in the Wing UCI in 2003. In 2004, Baker became the last Mission Support Flight Commander before the flight changes to the Force Support Squadron.

At the end of the ceremony, Baker said, "This has been a joyful occasion and you all have been my family. I feel so blessed for being a part of this Wing. I will miss hearing the engines start up, the parades, the deployments, and the people. I am ready for retirement and I thank you all."

First sergeant opening in 157th Maintenance Squadron

The 157th Maintenance Squadron will be interviewing candidates for their first sergeant position in the near future. Personnel who are interested and who meet the minimum qualifications must send a resume to 157 ARW/CCM, Attn: Chief Master Sgt. David Eaton, no later than March 21. The resume should include a short biography that includes military experience, PME, civilian education and a statement about why the candidate wants to be a first sergeant. Information about the duties of first sergeant are contained in AFI 36-2108 and in ANGI 36-2102. Minimum qualifications include:

- Must be a master sergeant, senior master sergeant or a technical sergeant who is eligible for promotion to Master prior to the date of assignment
- Must have completed NCO Academy (in residence or by correspondence) prior to application
- Must have a fitness score of 75 or better and must be able to run 1.5 miles
- Must have qualification at the 7 or 9 skill level in an AFSC
- Must be prepared to participate in the Air Force Fit to Fight (FTF) Program to the fullest extent possible while in attendance. Please refer to AFI 10-248, Fitness Program. Member must hand carry a copy of current fitness assessment results with a minimum score of 75 to the First Sergeant Academy
- Must have an administrative score of 41 or higher and a general score of 62 or higher on the ASVAB exam
- Must attend the First Sergeant Academy as soon as possible but no later than one year after assignment
- Must agree to serve a tenure of no less than three years after completion of the First Sergeant Academy

The selection board for this position will take place in April. Candidates will be notified about the time and place. Any questions, please call Chief Eaton at (603) 430-2723.



Will eating peanut butter give me salmonella?

By Maj. Stephanie Riley, 157 ARW Medical Group

I have to admit that I am a peanut butter addict and this recent Salmonella scare involving peanut butter has gotten me concerned. It seems that sometime in September 2008 people began getting sick with Salmonella like symptoms. The states that were experiencing outbreaks began extensive epidemiological studies to locate the source of the outbreak. The Minnesota Department of Health found out, through interviews, that the patients that had become sick either lived or ate meals in one of three different institutions (two long term care facilities and one school). Then by examining the menus and invoices from the different facilities, the one commonality was a food distributor from North Dakota and the one common food item was King Nut creamy peanut butter.

Minnesota health officials, along with the FDA and CDC, were able to confirm that Salmonella bacteria were present in a 5-pound package of King Nut peanut butter at a nursing facility in Minnesota. Because the bacteria were found in an open container of peanut butter, there was some question that the contamination came from another source. States began testing unopened containers of the same brand of peanut

butter. On Jan. 19, the Connecticut Department of Health had a positive reading on an unopened container. The fact that the Salmonella Typhimurium strain was isolated in an unopened container indicated that peanut butter originating from the processing plant was contaminated. That processing plant was identified as the one located in Blakely, Ga., and run by the Peanut Corporation of America (PCA). PCA would sell peanut butter in bulk containers ranging from 5-1,700 pounds to food service providers and peanut paste to companies to use as an ingredient in hundreds of different products. Neither of the peanut products was sold directly to consumers.

Because of the findings of the CDC and FDA, PCA issued a voluntary recall of all peanuts and peanut products processed in its Blakely, Ga., facility since Jan. 1, 2007. The FDA has been working with the company and purchasers of PCA peanut butter and peanut paste to identify affected products and to facilitate their removal from the market. The FDA has created a searchable database for these products, which can be found on the FDA website: <http://www.fda.gov>. The more than 2,000 products listed include cookies, crackers, ce-

real, candy, ice cream and some pet food products. The one statement that I came across on the FDA website that reassured me was that, "Major national brands of jarred peanut butter found in grocery stores are not affected by the PCA recall."

So what happens if you accidentally ingest this micro-organism? Well, you can develop what is known as Salmonellosis, which is basically an infection caused by the Salmonella bacteria. According to the CDC, approximately 40,000 cases are reported in the United States each year. Because many milder cases may not be diagnosed or reported, the actual number may be as much as 30 times greater. An American scientist named Salmon discovered the bacteria more than 100 years ago. Salmonella is a gram-negative, rod shaped bacilli that primarily causes diarrheal illness in humans. They are microscopic living creatures that pass from the feces of people or animals to other people or animals.

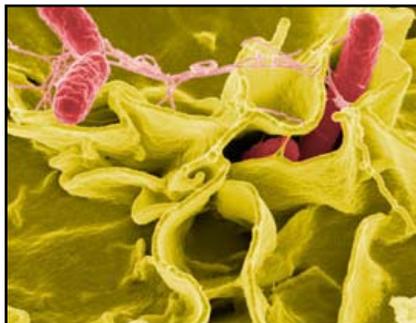
People get sick with Salmonella from eating foods contaminated with animal feces. If present on raw meat and poultry or in eggs, the bacteria could survive if not cooked to a safe minimum internal temperature. If present

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on fruits and vegetables, it can spread if they are not thoroughly washed. It could also cause illness through cross-contamination, for example, when juices from raw meat or poultry come in contact with ready-to-eat foods, such as salads. The other way to spread the disease is through the unwashed hands of an infected food handler.

Most persons infected with the disease develop diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps within 12-72 hours after the contaminated food was eaten. The illness usually lasts 4 to 7 days and most people recover without any type of treatment other than lots of oral fluids. People with severe diarrhea may



Color-enhanced scanning electron micrograph showing *Salmonella typhimurium* (red) invading cultured human cells

require getting rehydrated using IV fluids. If the infection spreads from the intestines to the bloodstream, and then to other body sites, it can cause death unless the person is treated with antibiotics. The elderly, infants and those with weakened immune systems are more likely to have a severe case of the infection.

In order to try and prevent Salmonellosis in your home you should cook poultry, ground beef and eggs thoroughly. Do not eat or drink foods containing raw eggs (no more uncooked cookie dough!) or unpasteurized milk. Wash hands, kitchen work surfaces, and utensils with soap and water immediately after they have been in contact with raw meat or poultry. Consider using paper towels to clean kitchen surfaces. If you use cloth towels; make sure to wash them often in the hot cycle of your washing machine. Never place cooked food on a plate that previously held raw meat, poultry or seafood. Refrigerate or freeze perishables, prepared foods, and leftovers

within 2 hours. Thaw food in the refrigerator, in cold water, or in the microwave. Foods should never be thawed at room temperature. You should marinate foods in the refrigerator. Don't pack the refrigerator to capacity, cool air must circulate to keep food safe. The temperature of the refrigerator should register 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below and the freezer should be 0 degrees Fahrenheit or below.

You can keep your family safe from Salmonella by following the steps outlined above and by going to the Web site to see if you have any recalled products in your home. As you can see from the tedious epidemiological work that the state departments of health, the CDC and the FDA have to go through to isolate the source, it is important to see your doctor if you think you may have contracted Salmonellosis.

Eat Safely!
 Check the Peanut Containing Product Recall List
www.fda.gov or
 1-800-CDC-INFO

Swearing In!



(Photo by Tech. Sgt. Angela Stebbins, JFHQ Public Affairs)

1st Lt. Sherri Pierce swears her husband, 1st Lt. Josh Pierce, into the 157th Air Refueling Wing, Feb. 6.

Voluntary Retired Rated Recall Program

Adapted from Air Force News Service

The rapid expansion of unmanned aircraft systems and other emerging missions as well as rated officer requirements has created an Air Force demand for experienced rated officers. To meet these critical shortages, the secretary of the Air Force has initiated a Voluntary Retired Rated Recall Program.

Pilots, navigators and air battle managers who retired as lieutenant colonels or below, and who are younger than 60, may apply for the program. Officers recalled under this program will be used in myriad positions including intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; rated staff; and other rated functions. Officers will be recalled for between 24 and 48 months depending upon the requirement.

Officers recalled will not be eligible to receive aviator continuation pay. Also, by volunteering for recall, officers will become eligible for deployment. Retired Regular and retired Reserve officers are eligible to apply, and officers who retired via a Selective Early Retirement Board also may apply. Officers permanently retired for a physical disability are ineligible. The application period runs through Dec. 31, 2009.

For details, go to the Air Force Personnel Center's "Ask" Web site <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil> and enter "Retired Rated Recall Program" in the search function. Applicants having additional questions after reviewing this information should contact the Air Force Contact Center at (800) 525-0102. DSN is 665-5000. People also may send queries via e-mail to afpc.recall@randolph.af.mil. The local contact at Pease ANGB is Capt. Brian Jusseaume at (603) 430-3509.

157th firefighters spark interest in Iraq



Nine firefighters from the 157th Civil Engineer Squadron are deployed to Baghdad International Airport for approximately five months. Above left: An Iraqi girl tries on a firefighter suit. Above right: Tech. Sgt. Michael Chisolm shows an Iraqi girl how to use a fire extinguisher. Below: Senior Airman Matthew Slattery and Tech. Sgt. Michael Chisolm put out a fire during a training exercise.



Something to smile about

By Tech. Sgt. Angela Stebbins, JFHQ Public Affairs



Former Senior Master Sgt. John Symington was recently promoted to the rank of chief master sergeant and during the February drill here at Pease a recognition ceremony was held to honor his promotion.

Chief Master Sgt. John Menton was the narrator for the event and the mood of the room was as light and airy as the personality of the newly promoted Chief himself. The room was filled with many distinguished guests, family and friends, as well as most of the other Chiefs to welcome Symington to the ranks.

Those lucky enough to know Symington, know a man who lights up a room with his presence and who is always sure to greet you with a smile. However, not only does his personality speak of his demeanor, but his actions follow in a mirrored parallel.

Chief Master Sgt. John M. Menton, Maintenance Operations Flight Chief said, "John worked in the Maintenance Orderly Room for a number of years and his good nature was as evident there as his willingness to help people administratively."

State Command Chief Master Sgt. Matt Collier said, "What can you say about the character of a person who purposely removes a stripe to become a First Sergeant, thus gaining more knowledge about the enlisted force?

Chief Symington's support to multiple professional organizations both promotes esprit de corps and fosters community relations. His promotion is a testament to his future abilities."

In a conversation with Wing Command Chief Master Sgt. David Eaton, Collier stated that, "John doesn't operate in a stove pipe; he's engaged in many cross functional aspects of issues pertinent to the National Guard."

Symington's vision, coupled with his past experiences, give him the unique ability to anticipate impacts to those under his charge.

"Chief Symington's nature allows him to interact with many people comfortably," said Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Lebel, Vehicle Maintenance Foreman. "But let's look at a recent action that he had taken that may open up a bit more about the kind of person the chief is. Maj. Gen. Clark has a particular thing that he likes to see in all of his leadership positions. That would be: 'If an individual is in charge of a section, that individual does not have people who work for him/her, but that supervisor works FOR the people assigned to him/her,'" continued Lebel. "John had exercised just that when he elected to remove a stripe to become the first sergeant for the Logistics Readiness Squadron. It was not about the pay, or the stature. He did this so he could assist in the development of airmen somewhere within the Wing. He took this very seriously and if I recall he had completed the first sergeants school with honors as well. Chief Symington was a very proactive first sergeant. He was there when he was needed and he was there in case he was needed," added Lebel.

During the ceremony, Menton read about Symington's new rank. "The rank of chief master sergeant is the highest enlisted rank in the Air Force, with the exception of the Command Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. Since its

inception, the rank of chief has evolved to hold a very distinctive role in the total force. Superiors and subordinates alike, rightfully place very high expectations upon those serving in this grade. Chief master sergeants serve in key leadership roles at all levels in the Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Reserve from flight-level up to Air Staff. They serve as commandants, superintendents, program managers, command chief master sergeants, functional managers, first sergeants and career field managers. Chief master sergeants bring substantial institutional, operational, and functional experience as well as strong leadership skills to their organizations and to all of their assigned duties. As key mentors, chief master sergeants are actively involved in developing their airmen, NCOs, and senior NCOs into the enlisted leaders of the future."

With Symington now being one of our Chiefs; that should give us all something to smile about.



State Command Chief Master Sgt. Matthew Collier presents Symington with his Chief's certificate.

Family Readiness Program

Bonnie Rice – Family Readiness Program Coordinator

302 Newmarket Street Pease ANGB 03803

Phone: (603) 430-3545

bonnie.rice@ang.af.mil

Emergency 24-hour hotline: (800) 472-0328

E-MAIL LISTING

For updates on events, activities, discounts and benefits, contact Bonnie Rice to have your e-mail address added.

During our recent computer/e-mail conversion some of the Family Program e-mail listings were lost – if you would like to be added or re-added to the Wing Family Program e-mail listing contact Bonnie Rice at the above e-mail address or phone number. Please note: some e-mails are not being received at the base –when an e-mail is received, a response will be e-mailed back – if you have not gotten a reply be sure to call.

Retirees, we also have a retiree e-mail listing. Please specify if you would like to receive all e-mails that pertain to and include our retirees or just to be on the e-mail list to receive the Refueler when you request to be added to the e-mail listing.

DEPLOYED FAMILY INFORMATION GATHERING

Our next deployed Family Information Gathering will be held on Wednesday, March 11 at 6 p.m. at Pease Air National Guard Base, Building 16, Conference Room. Families of our deployed members are highly encouraged to attend. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to get to know other deployed families. If you are interested in attending these meetings, please RSVP to Bonnie Rice (as soon as possible) so the meal can be planned. These monthly gatherings are still open to those who have had their loved ones return as well. Our monthly deployed family gatherings are normally scheduled on the second Wednesday of each month.

VFW SPRING CHILDREN'S PARTY

WHEN: Saturday, March 28 from 9 to 11 a.m.

WHERE: VFW Post 168 Ladies Auxiliary in Portsmouth, 238 Deer Street, Portsmouth

FOR: Open to all military children, any branch of the service, ages four months to 12 years old.

DETAILS: Additional details are being worked to make this a memorable day for families. Those additional details will be emailed out as soon as they are finalized.

RVSP: No later than March 23 - Email bonnie.rice@ang.af.mil or call (603)-430-3545. (Be sure to leave your name and telephone number so that I can return your call. Please submit child's first and last name, age, and gender for planning purposes)

* Breakfast will be served. Activities will be planned to make this a fun day.

* Should the event be postponed/cancelled – a voice message will be left on my voicemail at (603)-430-3545

Remember space is limited! This is based on a limited first come first served basis

PLEASE NOTE: The VFW puts a lot of time, money and effort into making their parties enjoyable for all our military families who attend. The gifts that they provide for the children are costly and space is limited. At times, it becomes necessary to cut off sign-ups because the space is full. Please remember, if you have sent an RSVP that you are planning to attend, and a situation arises that will not allow you to make it, kindly let me Bonnie Rice know as soon as possible so that other children may be able to come and enjoy the event. We would really appreciate your support on this so that we can continue to enjoy these wonderful events put on by our VFW members.

TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

DATES: April 20-24

LOCATION: Wilbrandt Auditorium, Pease ANGB

RSVP: To reserve your spot call Bonnie Rice at (603) 430-3545

WHAT: The TAP Program that had been traditionally held at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has moved to Pease. This is program presented by the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Fleet and Family Support Program and the Department of Labor/Employment Securities. If you are transitioning from a military to a civilian career you may be interested in attending the next TAP seminar. This workshop is designed to assist voluntarily and involuntarily separating or retiring service members make a successful career transition. Members should plan to attend at least six months prior to separation or retirement. Casual civilian attire is suggested. Spouses are welcome.

Readiness cont'd from pg. 9

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Air Force Services Space Camp

For a complete package –and additional details please email Bonnie Rice at bonnie.rice@ang.af.mil.

Deadline for applications: April 9 to Bonnie Rice, Wing Family Program Office.

WHERE The camp will be held at the US Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL.

DATE: The camp will be conducted July 26 – August 1

DETAILS: Forty-eight scholarships are available for youth, ages 12 - 18, to participate in the AF Services Space Camp Program. The camp is divided into two age groups: 32 youth, ages 12 - 14, will be selected to participate in the Space Academy and 16 teens, ages 15 - 18, for the Advanced Space Academy.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE AF SPACE CAMP:

The Air Force Space Camp (AFSC) is a residential six-day program that shows youth firsthand what it takes to be an astronaut. Activities include simulated Space Shuttle missions, training simulators, rocket building and launches, scientific experiments, and lectures on the past, present, and future of space exploration. More information is available at <http://www.spacecamp.com>.

LOCATION OF AFSC: Offered at Huntsville AL. Space Camp takes a unique, fun, and hands-on approach to learning outside the classroom, and students leave with a greater appreciation for school and their studies.

Dates of the AFSC: Scholarship recipients must be able to attend the entire AFSC program. Recipients arrive in Huntsville AL on Sunday, July 26 and depart on Friday, August 1.

COST: HQ USAF/A1SA has funded all lodging, meals, and activity fees after arrival at Space Camp at no cost to attendees or their installation. Airline or POV travel costs to Huntsville AL are the responsibility of the attendees. Spending money for snacks, souvenirs, etc. are the responsibility of the participants.

Eligible Applicants:

The applicant must meet the following requirements:

*A dependent of Active Duty Military assigned to or living on an AF installation, AF Retired Military, AF Civilian Employees, Air National Guard or AF Reserve who have been activated within the last 12 months

*Must have a GPA of 2.8 (must provide documentation)

*Must demonstrate an application of leadership abilities and social maturity through involvement in school and community activities;

*Must demonstrate skills and achievements outside of the realm of science and outside the realm of academic pursuits

*Must demonstrate a curiosity and an eagerness to explore many and varied topics

Application Criteria:

A complete application (typed) consists of an original of the following:

1. Official Nomination Form
2. A resume detailing your academic achievements and extra-curricular activities
3. A recent academic transcript
4. A letter of support from a teacher
5. Youth Programs Verification of Eligibility Form

AIR FORCE SERVICES TEEN AVIATION CAMP

SUBJECT: 2009 AF Services Teen Aviation Camp and nomination package.

DATE: The camp will be held May 30 to June 4

LOCATION: At the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO.

WHO: Teens who are sophomores or juniors in the 2009 - 2010 school year are eligible to apply. Youth who participated in the 2008 Teen Aviation Camp are not eligible to apply this year.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS: Airline and POV travel costs to Colorado Springs are the responsibility of the attendee. Lodging, meals, and program cost will be centrally funded at no cost to the participant or their installations

Interested youth must complete the application and apply through Bonnie Rice, Wing Family Program Office

For a complete package, details or information contact Bonnie Rice at bonnie.rice@ang.af.mil.

DEADLINE: Completed package must be submitted to Bonnie Rice no later than March 30.

Readiness cont'd on pg. 11

Readiness cont'd from pg. 10**FREE SAT AND ACT TEST PREP**

WHAT: eKnowledge Corporation & NFL Players Tackle SAT & ACT Test Prep Group Extends \$20 Million Donation to America's Military Families For a Fourth Year.

DETAILS: In alliance with the Department of Defense and a group of patriotic NFL football players, eKnowledge Corporation is extending its donation of SAT & ACT Test Prep Software to military families and veterans for a fourth consecutive year.

Over the past three years, eKnowledge has delivered more than 100,000 SAT/ACT test prep programs normally priced at \$200, FREE to military families worldwide. The total value of the donation is now over \$20 million.

Some of the NFL players who are supporting the eKnowledge SAT/ACT donation for 2009 include: Mark Anderson (Chicago Bears), John Bradley (Tampa Bay Buccaneers), Scott Young (Philadelphia Eagles), Garrick Jones (Atlanta Falcons), Corey Williams (Green Bay Packers), Jason Radar (Miami Dolphins) and Ahmaad Galloway (San Diego Chargers).

The donated eKnowledge SAT/ACT Power Prep programs come in a single DVD or two CD-ROM set that includes more than 11 hours of high quality classroom video instruction with up to 40 hours of student interactive learning participation. The test prep programs can be used as a stand-alone instruction tool to prepare thoroughly for the SAT/ACT or as a supplement to other SAT/ACT preparation materials. Each student can select the areas where they need additional or special instruction and then study at their own pace using the 120 classroom video lessons.

Members of Military families or Veterans interested in receiving the FREE SAT/ACT Power Prep software should visit the following website for details: <http://www.eknowledge.com/military>

4-H SPACES CONFERENCE

WHAT: Full day of fun doing hands-on workshops. With sessions to include topics on Science & Technology, Personal Development, Environmental and Global Education, and many more fun filled sessions.

FOR: All Youth ages 9 and up (Youth do not have to be 4-H members to attend.)

DATE: Saturday, April 18

TIME: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Epping Elementary School, Epping

EVENT COST: \$5 per child (Pizza - \$2 per slice)

For additional information. or to request a booklet, call Bonnie Rice at (603) 430-3545 or call me Jean Hussey, Rockingham County 4-H Office toll free (800) 248-6672.

SAVE THE DATE INFORMATION:**"OPERATION THANK YOU!"**

What: "Operation Thank You!" - As you begin to make your summer plans, be sure to mark your calendar for the 6th annual "Operation Thank You!" to be held once again at the Red Hook Brewery. This event is a tribute to our military families. Those of you who have attended any of the previous year's events will know that the day includes a delicious barbeque lunch provided once again by the Meathouse; and music and entertainment for families. For additional details contact Bonnie Rice at (603)-430-3545, bonnie.rice@ang.af.mil. Additional details to follow.....

DATE: Sunday, August 9

TIME: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

LOCATION: Red Hook Brewery, Pease Tradeport, Portsmouth

COST: Free to military members and their dependants (with ID cards).

Extended Family Members (without ID Cards) and Civilians: \$10 per person – tickets can be purchased at any Meathouse location (<http://themeathouse.com>)

RSVP: For planning purposes, if you are planning to attend with a large group please RSVP to bonnie.rice@ang.af.mil.

Once again this year, proceeds from "Operation Thank You!" will benefit the Chaplains Emergency Relief Fund.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program

Scholarship Program that Kohl's is sponsoring. The deadline is March 15. Details about the scholarship program are found at <http://www.kohlskids.com>.

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MORALE, WELFARE AND RECREATION (MWR)

Florida Vacation Deals:

Planning a Florida Vacation? There are many options for military families to take advantage of: For complete flyers with additional information contact Bonnie Rice in the Wing Family Program Office.

For further details go to: <http://www.shadesofgreen.org/salute>

Universal Orlando: Universal Studios wishes "A UNIVERSE OF THANKS FOR SERVING OUR NATION"

FREE - 2-Park Unlimited

Admission Ticket*

Plus - Save up to \$35 each on

2-Park Unlimited Admission Tickets for family and friends!

- ONE (1) FREE 2-PARK UNLIMITED ADMISSION TICKET OFFER – Valid for Active Duty (includes Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard or Reservists) or Retired military service members with valid military photo ID. To receive this offer, please:

- Visit your nearest participating military base ticket office (ITT / ITR) (Portsmouth Naval Shipyard or Hanscom Air Force Base) to receive your free ticket. You will be asked to complete an Acknowledgment Form and sign the signature line on the free ticket.

- Once at Universal Orlando Resort, present your valid military photo ID at any theme park front gate ticket window to ACTIVATE your free ticket. Once activated, proceed to the turnstile for entry to Universal Studios and/or Universal's Islands of Adventure theme parks.

- SPECIALLY-DISCOUNTED 2-PARK UNLIMITED ADMISSION TICKET OFFER – Valid for family and friends. Tickets can be purchased by U.S. Active Duty and Retired military service members and/or familial dependents with the presentation of a valid military or dependent Photo ID. To receive this offer, please:

- o Visit your nearest participating military base ticket office to purchase these specially priced tickets.

- o Once at Universal Orlando Resort, holders of the specially priced companion tickets can proceed directly to Universal Studios and/or Universal's Islands of Adventure theme parks turnstiles for entry.

You will be asked to present your valid military or dependent photo ID to purchase.

For Immediate Release

Disney Parks Celebrate U.S. Military With Free, Multi-day Admission to Theme Parks in 2009 LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. / ANAHEIM, Calif. (Jan. 5, 2009) – As Disney Parks ask "What Will You Celebrate?" and invite guests to turn their personal milestones into magical family vacations in 2009, America's military personnel will have one more reason to celebrate: Free multi-day admission to Disney's U.S. theme parks.

With the "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" offer, active and retired U.S. military personnel, including active and retired members of the United States Coast Guard and activated members of the National Guard or Reservists, can enjoy complimentary, multi-day admission into Disney's U.S. theme parks, great rates at select Walt Disney World Resort and Disneyland Resort hotels, and additional special ticket offers for family members and friends.

"For so many of the men and women who serve in our U.S. military, time together with their families is cause enough for celebration," said Jay Rasulo, chairman of Walt Disney Parks and Resorts. "We are grateful for their service and hope 'Disney's Armed Forces Salute' will allow our troops to create wonderful, magical memories with their family and friends."

At the Disneyland Resort in Southern California: Through June 12, 2009, each active or retired member of the U.S. military can receive one complimentary three-day "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" Park Hopper ticket valid for admission to both Disneyland and Disney's California Adventure parks. During the offer period, active or retired U.S. military personnel also may make a one-time purchase of an adult or child three-day "Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion" Park Hopper ticket for up to five family members (including spouse) or friends for the price of an adult 1-Day Park Hopper ticket.

Disneyland Resort hotels are also offering special room rates for active or retired military personnel. For example, at Disney's Paradise Pier Hotel, active or retired members of the military and their families may find hotel rooms starting at \$119 per night during value season, with great savings during other times of the offer period. This offer is available through June 12, 2009, and the number of rooms available at these special rates is limited.

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Readiness cont'd from pg. 12

For information regarding "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" at the Disneyland Resort, or to make reservations, military personnel may call (714) 956-6424.

At Walt Disney World Resort in Florida: From Jan. 4 to Dec. 23, 2009, each active or retired member of the U.S. military may obtain one complimentary 5-day "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" ticket with Park Hopper and Water Park Fun & More options. This ticket is valid for five days of admission into the four Walt Disney World theme parks, plus a total of five visits to a choice of a Disney water park, DisneyQuest Indoor Interactive Theme Park or certain other attractions. During this offer period, active or retired U.S. military personnel may also make a one-time purchase of up to a maximum of five 5-Day "Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion" tickets (one theme park per day) for \$99 per ticket, plus tax, for family members (including spouse) or friends. Although this ticket for family members and friends does not include either the Park Hopper or Water Park Fun & More options, this ticket can be upgraded to add either such option, or both, for an additional \$25, plus tax, per option. All tickets and options are non-transferable and must be used by Dec. 23, 2009.

Actual prices may be less.

Ask about the great rates that may be available at select Walt Disney World Resort hotels for active or retired U.S. military personnel during this offer period.

For information on the "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" offer at Walt Disney World Resort or the Disneyland Resort, or to make reservations, active and retired U.S. Military personnel may call the ITT office on their base. Information about "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" offer at Walt Disney World Resort is also available at www.disneyworld.com/military. Through the years, The Walt Disney Company has demonstrated its support of United States' servicemen and women through a variety of initiatives. Disney's support for the U.S. Marines' Toys for Tots program started 58 years ago – when Walt Disney became one of the original sponsors. Since 1995, Disney's Operation Uplift program has sent over 90,000 postcards to troops worldwide, thanking them for their service. The company also supports U.S. service members and their families as a sponsor of the USO and its centers. Each year, Operation Disney Care packages, containing Disney DVDs, books, magazines and games, are sent to centers around the world to help entertain the servicemen/women and their families, Disney Minnie Grants are used to host family appreciation events, while Disney VoluntEARS donate many hours participating in local USO projects.

Other Offer Details:

- Complimentary "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" tickets may be obtained only by active or retired U.S. military personnel, including activated members of the National Guard or Reservists (with orders showing active status after Jan. 1, 2008) and active or retired members of the United States Coast Guard. Spouses are not eligible.
- Complimentary "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" tickets for admission to the Walt Disney World Resort can be obtained only at participating U.S. military base ticket offices (including at the Shades of Green Resort at the Walt Disney World Resort), or at Main Entrance theme park ticket windows. Military personnel will need to activate those tickets at Main Entrance theme park ticket windows in order to use those tickets (no more than 1 such complimentary ticket per service member will be activated).
- Please see a participating U.S. military base ticket office for an exchange certificate for the complimentary "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" ticket for the Disneyland Resort. The exchange certificate will need to be redeemed for such ticket by the active or retired military personnel at a Main Entrance theme park ticket window (maximum of 1 such complimentary ticket per service member).
- "Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion" tickets for family members and friends may be purchased only by active or retired U.S. military personnel, including activated members of the National Guard or Reservists (with orders showing active status after Jan. 1, 2008) and active or retired members of the United States Coast Guard (or, in each case, their spouses, but not both).
- "Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion" tickets for admission to the Walt Disney World Resort can be purchased only at participating U.S. military base ticket offices (including at the Shades of Green Resort at the Walt Disney World Resort), or at Main Entrance theme park ticket windows. "Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion" tickets for admission to the Disneyland Resort can be purchased only at participating U.S. military base ticket offices.
- Military personnel (or their spouses) who purchase "Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion" tickets for admission to the Walt Disney World Resort for family members and friends will need to activate those tickets at Main Entrance theme park ticket windows in order for those tickets to be used (regardless of where those tickets are purchased).
- Military personnel (or their spouses) who purchase "Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion" tickets for admission to the Disneyland Resort for family members and friends will receive exchange certificates to be redeemed by such military personnel (or their spouses) for tickets at Main Entrance theme park ticket windows (one ticket per exchange certificate).

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- The military personnel (or spouse) will be required to present valid military identification (which, for activated members of the National Guard or Reservists, also includes orders showing active status after Jan. 1, 2008) for all ticket transactions (including to activate tickets, and/or redeem exchange certificates for tickets, at Main Entrance theme park ticket windows). A valid ID may also be required for admission.

- “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute Companion” tickets are limited to five per service member (regardless of place of purchase and whether purchased by service member or spouse) and all five must be purchased at the same time. Accordingly, no service member (or spouse) will be permitted to activate, and/or to redeem exchange certificates for, more than a total of five “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute Companion” tickets for the Walt Disney World or Disneyland Resort (regardless of whether activated or exchanged by the service member or spouse).

- First day of use of “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute” complimentary tickets and “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute Companion” tickets at the Disneyland Resort must be no later than June 12, 2009, and tickets expire 13 days after the first day of use or June 25, 2009, whichever occurs first. Last day of use on “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute” complimentary tickets and “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute Companion” tickets at the Walt Disney World Resort is Dec. 23, 2009.

- Tickets must be used by the same person on any and all days. “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute” complimentary tickets may be used only by the service members to whom they are issued.

“Disney’s Armed Forces Salute Companion” tickets may be used only by the friends and family members for whom they are purchased.

- This offer may not be combined with any other offer.

“What Will You Celebrate?”

Military personnel taking advantage of this offer will find even more to celebrate during their stay. Beginning now, Disney Parks is embracing a newly identified nationwide travel trend called “celebration vacations,” in which Americans mark special occasions in their lives with a family vacation.

In 2009, Walt Disney World Resort and Disneyland Resorts ask guests “What Will You Celebrate?” and lead this growing trend with new entertainment and services that allow guests to turn their personal milestones – a birthday, an anniversary, Quinceañera or any special occasion – into magical Disney experiences.

Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks: Just an update the Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks - Free Admission Program has been extended through 2009.

- * Complimentary admission for active duty military representing all five service branches, active members of a reserve or National Guard unit, and/or up to three direct dependants.

- * Valid for one complimentary single-day admission per person, per year, to one of the following Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks:

- o SeaWorld Orlando, San Diego, or San Antonio o Busch Gardens Tampa Bay or Williamsburg o Sesame Place o Adventure Island o Water Country USA

- * Offer valid through 12/31/2009. Operating days and hours vary by park. Please check with specific park for current operating schedule.

For further info <http://www.herosalute.com>

For an application to go: http://commerce.4adventure.com/store/os_application.asp

Military Offer details:

Universal Orlando’s Military Salute Free tickets can ONLY be obtained by active duty (includes Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard or Reservists) or Retired military service members with valid military photo ID (a maximum of one (1) Free ticket per service member, regardless of where the ticket is obtained). Offer available through June 28, 2009. Visit a participating U.S. military base ticket office or the Shades of Green Resort in Orlando to receive an unactivated Military Salute Free ticket. The active duty or retired military service member must have the unactivated Free ticket then ACTIVATED at any front gate ticket window at either Universal Studios Florida or Universal’s Islands of Adventure theme parks on the first date of use. Military Salute Free tickets will only be ACTIVATED when presented by the service member to whom they are issued with a matching valid military photo ID.

Universal Orlando’s Military Salute companion tickets can be purchased by Active Duty and Retired military service members OR their familial dependents with valid military or dependent photo ID. 2 Park Unlimited tickets are valid for unlimited access to BOTH Universal Studios Florida and Universal’s Islands of Adventure theme parks for up to 6 days from date of first use. Military Salute tickets are valid through Dec. 18, 2009. Tickets must be used by the same person on any and all days. Companion tickets can only be used by the family, friends or companions for whom they are purchased.

*Savings based on Universal Orlando Resort theme parks front gate Adult 2 Park Unlimited Ticket retail price of \$124.99. Universal Orlando Military Salute ticket offers are for use at Universal Orlando Resort ONLY (not applicable for use at Universal Studios Hollywood).

New Hampshire Military Ball

Ticket pricing couples

\$40 E1-E4

\$65 E5-E6

\$75 E7-E8 / 02-W02

\$85 E9 / 03-W03 & above

\$75 / Retirees / Civilian

Singles 1 / 2 of couple cost per rank



Saturday 21 March 2009

RADISSON HOTEL

Manchester NH *Social hour 1800, Dinner 1915*

Music by - 39th Army Band



Contact Info.

**Bonnie Rice 603-430-3545 , Clem Boutin 603-430-3411
Doug Rasp 603-225-1234 and Kathy Rice 603-715-3108**

