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Employees share thoughts on Sept. 11 attacks

by SrA. Stephanie Witty
staff writer

The Sept. 11 attack on the United States has affected everyone in different ways, including members of the 934th Airlift Wing and local employees.

"I won't live in fear," TSgt. Jodie Knight, 934th Mission Support Flight, exclaimed as she spoke about how Sept. 11 affected her life.

"I believe that I can't allow terrorist acts to prevent me from living my life."

Knight's view since the attack has been one of many that the men and women of the 934th Airlift Wing have experienced.

It has affected people in different ways but it has affected everyone.

Knight, like many, has become more attentive to her surroundings.

"I am probably more aware of mail that comes into my office or my house and I am probably more aware of strangers," said Knight.

Some people have been affected more directly than others.

Capt. Neal Landeen of the 934th Services Squadron was one of the unit's 14 port mortuary team volunteers deployed to Dover AFB, Del, to help identify Pentagon victims.



He returned home on Oct. 12. and was back on base for the October Unit Training Assembly.

"I came home and unpacked and repacked for the UTA," said Landeen. It has affected his family greatly.

"All my son asked was 'when are you coming home,' he didn't care about anything else."

"It has also greatly affected my wife who gets up and puts on the news everyday, hoping to find out what the future will hold."

Many other people have had to put in extra time to ensure the safety and security of the base.

The commander of the 934th

Security Forces Squadron, Maj. Barbara Dock says she and her squadron have been working 12-14 hour shifts.

"I have a house to take care of and it is hard to keep that up," said Dock. "My days off are spent taking care of it."

Even though working so much can be very stressful Dock is happy to offer her support. "I'd be very upset if I hadn't been activated. I want to be out here helping," said Dock. "When I was at work (her civilian job), my heart was here."

SMSgt. David

Provo, of the Security Forces Squadron, has also been putting in extra hours. "I work 12-14 hour days and stay on base," said Provo. "It doesn't pay to go home and fight traffic." Provo is only able to work two days a week at his civilian job. Although this puts a strain on his civilian work, his employer has been supportive.



Working so much has affected his family. "Things go undone at home, my wife has to pick up the slack," said Provo.

Many people are making arrangements for their families so that if there is a deployment they will be taken care of.

"The situation has made me make sure everything is in order, in case I am deployed so I can leave at a moments notice," said SrA. Elaine Siebert, of

the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. "But resources are there to tap into if my family needs support."

"We owe it to people in our lives to be responsible," said Knight who has always had to have a plan in place, including a current power of attorney and will.



"I am a single parent and have had to prepare. I have had to explain to my son what is happening. He is kind of nervous that I won't be able to be there for him."



SSgt. Jesse Hagen,
27th Aerial Port Squadron.

"I am a single parent and have had to prepare," said SSgt. Jesse Hagen, of the 27th Aerial Port Squadron. "I have had to explain to my son what is happening," said Hagen. "He is kind of nervous that I won't be able to be there for him."

"I have set up power of attorney and my will, and I talk to my son every night about what might happen," said Hagen.

Many people have experienced stress as a result of the situation.



"It is scary, I have a son in the Army in Germany, and a son-in-law who is an Air Force pilot in Hawaii," said **Janet Polk** of Clothing Sales.

She talks to her son as often as she can, but he is often working in the field and unable to call.

"Coming to work is stressful, it is a reminder every morning coming in," said Polk. "Everyday in the news I hear about it and I personally know a lot of people here on base and it affects me that way."

People have had many different reactions and experiences do to the situation, including some positive.

"I'd have to say that since Sept. 11, all branches of the military have come together to work in a more efficient manner," added Siebert.

Anderson loses battle with stomach cancer

A longtime member of the 934th Airlift Wing lost his battle with stomach cancer, succumbing to the disease shortly after the November Unit Training Assembly.

Maj. Daniel L. Anderson, 40, of Brooklyn Park, passed away on Nov. 6.

"Members of the Wing lost a great officer and good friend to us all," said Col. Dean J. Despinoy, 934th AW commander. "We are all terribly saddened by his passing."

He began his military career with the 47th Aeromedical Evacuation Flight when he enlisted as an Aeromedical Evacuation Technician in September 1983. Anderson accumulated 250 hours aboard the C-130 Hercules.

As an enlisted member of the unit, he served as the flight's Medical Readiness Noncommissioned Officer-in-Charge, the NCOIC of Nurse Recruiting, the unit's Public Affairs representative, and as the Quality Assurance monitor.

Anderson was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air Force Reserve Medical Service Corps in Dec. 1987. From the time of his commissioning until the end of 1992, he served as the unit's mobility officer.

After that, and for the next five years, he was the unit's chief of aeromedical evacuation operations. He returned to that position in 2001.

In between "tours" as chief of "Ops," Anderson became the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron's Executive Officer in Dec. 1997.

Off-duty, he was active in the Reserve Officers Association, serving as president of the Flying Viking Chapter and the Department of Minnesota.

His military awards and decorations included the Meritorious Service Medal, two Air Force Commendation Medals, four Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards, the Combat Readiness Medal; Outstanding Airman of the Year Ribbon; National Defense Service Medal

Anderson is survived by his wife,



Denise Hesselroth; daughters, Emily and Maggie; parents, Sam & Barb; and brother, Rev. Sam Scott.

Several hundred of his many relatives, friends and fellow reservists attended a funeral service Nov. 10 at St. Philip's Lutheran Church in Fridley.

"As I reflect back to the service held for Dan," Despinoy said, "knowing how he lived his life made the service even more appropriate."

"It was not about his loss, it was, rather, a celebration of Dan's life."

"There were times during the eulogy when laughter echoed through the church."

"It felt good to laugh while stories and fond memories were shared about a man who could always find the joy in any situation."

"As a matter of fact," Despinoy added, "it not only felt good, it felt appropriate."

Anderson was buried at Rosehill Cemetery in Wells that afternoon, with full military honors being provided by the 934th Airlift Wing Honor Guard.

His family asks that memorials be sent to: The Reserve Officers Association Freedom Fund.

Chief of staff reiterates need for Stop-Loss

Following a review of the current situation and major command inputs, the Air Force chief of staff determined that airmen in all Air Force Specialty Codes would be affected by Stop-Loss through January.

Citing the new homeland defense initiative and the requirements of fighting a new kind of war, Gen. John Jumper said he believes now is not the time for airmen to leave the service.

It was announced Sept. 22 that Stop-Loss would be effective immediately for the active-duty and Reserve components in order to preserve combat capability.

Stop-Loss is a personnel program that prevents separations and retirements by involuntarily extending duty-service commitments.

"Requirements for both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Noble Eagle are evolving daily, which makes it difficult to release people from the Air Force," wrote Jumper in a message to servicemembers.

Because homeland defense is a mission that has never before been implemented, personnel officials are working to establish required manning figures.

"The bottom line is that we are in the early stages of developing the wartime requirements, thus to release any career fields from Stop-Loss at this time would be ill-advised," Jumper wrote.

Separations and retirements from all AFSCs, initially frozen for 30 days, are now affected for at least an addi-

tional 90 days.

There have been rumors suggesting April 30 or May 1 as Stop-Loss end-dates. This is premature, according to the chief of staff.

"We'll take another look in January," he wrote. "Hopefully (by then), requirements will be better defined so we may be able to release some career fields from Stop-Loss."

"This is a fight we did not ask for, but one we accept in defense of freedom-loving people everywhere. We have fought and defeated the forces of evil many times throughout our existence. With your help, we will do so again," Jumper wrote.

The military personnel flight can provide more information on Stop-Loss. (Air Force Print News)

Viking Flyer

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UTA Schedule

Jan. 5-6, 2002
Feb. 2-3, 2002
Mar. 2-3, 2002
Apr. 6-7, 2002
May 4-5, 2002
June 1-2, 2002
July 13-14, 2002
Aug. 10-11, 2002

Every task associated with holidays taking special significance for everyone this year

by Col. Dean J. Despinoy
934th Airlift Wing
commander

Judy and I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

Every task associated with the holidays is taking on special significance this year for every American.

I know that several members of the 934th have had to deal with personal tragedy and loss this year, as well as the loss felt by the entire country from the Sept. 11 terrorists attacks.

The members of the 934th Airlift Wing had an even greater challenge in dealing with the death of Maj. Dan Anderson, a great officer and good friend to us all.

As we approach, what for many of us is the most joyful and most reflective time of the year, it comes with some difficulty to capture the holiday spirit.

I find that sometimes I almost feel guilty in being too happy or too joyful. I wonder if by allowing these emotions to come to the surface if I am somehow betraying the memory of all those who have lost their lives this year.

But as soon as this thought crosses my mind I remember something else as well. I reflect back to the service held for Dan Anderson.

Knowing how Dan lived his life made the service even more appropriate.

We, of course, were all terribly saddened by his passing.



Dan's life

There were times during the eulogy when laughter echoed through the church.

It felt good to laugh while stories and fond memories were shared about a man who could always find the joy in any situation. As a matter of fact, it not only felt good, it felt appropriate.

For exactly the same reason, it is appropriate for all of us to laugh, be joyful, and enjoy both fellowship and family this holiday season.

If we allow one gathering to be dampened or one opportunity to laugh with close friends and family to be subdued, then the terrorists have won a victory. We must do everything in our power to deny them even the slightest victory.

Part of the greatness of this Nation is our capacity for humor.

Our ability to poke fun or look at the lighter side of an issue is one more way we bond together as a country. Some other cultures don't understand this, but there is much about us they don't understand.

I encourage the groups and squadrons to have their

But the service was not about that loss, it was, rather, a celebration of

traditional holiday gatherings this UTA as they have in the past.

The group commanders, colonels, and myself will again host a holiday gathering at the Officer's Club on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m..

This gathering is for all members of the 934th family; ART, reservist, and civilian.

Come dressed in holiday casual attire and enjoy heavy horducers and an open bar. There will be prizes for the best and worst holiday attire or accessory.

Every one of us deserves a break. We all have been working very hard this year and as always have performed in an exceptional manner.

Some of our members will not be home this holiday because they are performing their duty far away.

Others will spend a portion of their holiday performing their duty right here to keep the base safe and secure.

Remember these people as well as all the people performing their duty whether in the military, the police force or fire department.

Remember also that we don't know how to act as an oppressed society.

The greatest part of the freedoms we hold so dear and those in uniform fight so fervently for, is our freedom to pursue happiness.

So I ask everyone to give themselves a present this year. Give yourself the freedom to be happy and enjoy the holidays to the fullest.

What is your New Year's resolution for 2002?



"I want to get all of my personal things in order, the

things that I've procrastinated in getting done."

TSgt. Louis Herbes,
934th Mission Support Flight



"Prioritize. To get my life in order and

study harder in school."

Staff Sgt. Jordan Marcy,
934th Logistics Support Squadron



"I want to have plenty of popcorn for when the Raiders make the

Super Bowl."

TSgt. Brent Haynes, 27th Aerial Port Squadron



"I don't believe in resolutions, therefore I don't

make them."

Staff Sgt. Aaron Lande,
934th Logistics Support Squadron



"My resolution is to spend as much time with my kids as

I'm able."

Lt. Col. Mike Huttner,
934th Operations Group



"In lieu of everything that's happened, I'll spend more time

with my kids and cherish every moment we have together."

SrA. Kristen Maloney,
934th Services Squadron



"I want to make staff sergeant and finish my two-year degree."

SrA. John Herrick,
934th Communications Flight



"To spend more time fishing. That's my story and I'm

sticking to it."

MSgt. Rob Arkulary,
96th Airlift Squadron

Significance of holiday greater this year

by Chaplain (Lt.) Thomas W. Wilson

As we enter this holy season for the Christian faith and cultural background, the significance of Christmas seems substantially greater this year.

While the meaning of the season and the event of Christ's birth and taking on our humanity are always the same, the dangerous situation our world and nation is in brings the depth of the event closer to the surface of our minds and hearts.

Being deployed, or the prospect of being deployed looming very near for many of us in the unit, the intensity of Christmas and its meaning for our families, both spiritual and emotional, changes for us this year.

Casual attitudes toward family members can change to realizing the blessing that these people are in our lives.

They are not simply another person on the list to buy gifts for, but they are gifts from God to us in and of themselves.

The gift that can come of tragedy is that our priorities are realigned.

During this conflict in which religion plays a role in the motivation of our nation's enemies, it becomes a great opportunity for us to reflect on what we really believe.

While Christianity has a substantial

cultural impact where we live, the significance of Christmas from a spiritual perspective can sometimes get lost.

As we wade through the crowded shopping malls and department stores, Christmas can seem like a mad rush to get a long list of things done.

We take great pains to make Christmas wonderful, perfect and beautiful for our families. It can all seem so busy and so complicated.

But Christmas, at its core, is quite simple.

The humble Virgin Mary giving birth to Jesus in the simple surroundings of an animal stable in a manger, designed for feeding the animals.

The moment did not happen in the midst of chaos, but in the midst of ordinary family life.

Mary and Joseph were doing their civic duty to register themselves in the census.

They were obedient to their daily duties.

The event of the first Christmas is surrounded by obedience to duty and responsibility to family and nation.

Christmas is supposed to be perfect, we often think.

And this year, what went wrong?

We find ourselves in the shadow of evil and violence from people who hate us, absolutely contrary to the peace that Christ-

mas is supposed to bring.

It all seems so contradictory and so messy, while Christmas is supposed to be so clean and pristine.

But as we look at what Christmas is, Jesus taking on our human condition in all things but sin, it is messy.

It is Jesus taking on the messiness of our human condition, and saying to us all, "Peace I give to you. Peace I leave with you."

The awareness of God among us, the truth of the Christmas message, does not take away the possibility of evil in our lives or our world. It gives us the strength to fight against and know that it cannot prevail.

The awareness of God among us, loving us so much that He became one of us, gives us all hope for a better and safer world, and access to the peace that he can only provide.

The challenge of faith is knowing the peace of Christmas, even with the presence of evil that we have no control over swirling around us.

We at the base chapel wish you all the very best and peace that this Christmas season has to offer.

Volunteerism a positive outcome of tragic events

by **Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III**
commander of Air Force Reserve
Command

One positive outcome of this year's tragic events is the way you have stepped forward to serve your country in its time of need.

Whether as a volunteer or one of thousands called up to defend American soil or take the war to the terrorists, you have demonstrated great courage and resolve during these grave times.

Your ability to serve is possible only because of the support and sacrifices made by your families and employers. They too are helping



America and Air Force Reserve Command fight terrorism and protect our way of life.

As we celebrate the holidays and look forward to a new year

and the hopes that it brings, let us remember the words our commander-in-chief spoke Oct. 17 to troops and families at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

"We are determined," said President George W. Bush. "We are patient. We are steadfast. We are resolved. We will not tire, and we will not fail. The cause is just. And we will win."

Marsha and I wish each of you, wherever you might be in the world, the best of the holiday season.

May peace and joy find your families as well while you safeguard the freedoms and blessings of the United States.

God bless each of you and God bless America. (AFRC News Service)

First major attack since the War of 1812

Americans: living the dream, guarding the homeland

by **Lt. Col. James M. Hamrick**
Headquarters Air Combat Command

As we watched the horrific events of Sept. 11 unfold we witnessed the first major attack on the continental United States since the War of 1812.

We asked ourselves, "What can we do?"

For those of us in the military that question was answered for us.

We are at war against terrorism. We will either provide support for those who are deployed or strike the enemy directly.

As we all know, we have an extended American military family.

We are a collection of active duty, reservists, National Guard members, retirees, civil servants, spouses and children.

Our family gets larger when we include our parents, aunts and uncles, grandparents and wonderful citizens of our local communities.

Each of them wants to know what they can do to guard our homeland.

My family asked that question.

The answer from my wife and our two older children was a vow not to succumb to the terrorists' desire to change the American way of life.

My wife travels with her friends.

My teenagers carry on with high



school and university life.

My little girl's answer was to make a donation to the White House fund for Afghan children.

My grandmother and her husband, a highly decorated World War II enlisted pilot, asked, "What can we do?"

After I convinced Stanley that openings for 80-something combat pilots were pretty rare, their answer was to keep an eye out on the comings

and goings of folks in their neighborhood. I guarantee they'll report anything suspicious.

My mother and father, a former Marine and a retired Marine, asked, "What can we do?"

All I can say is bin Laden better not get within about 400 yards of their house!

My sister, a nurse, has got her guard up for suspicious diseases.

My neighbors all asked me, "What can I do?"

Now they all know that if they see something suspicious they can let me know and I'll ensure the appropriate federal authorities are notified.

Each member of our immediate and extended military family has a role to play in our war against terrorism.

Our vast military family has a presence in every government, educational institution, business and region of America.

This new enemy needs to know that every member of our family will carry on with the normal activities of American life.

And that now every member of our extended military family is on guard.

We will not be taken advantage of again.

Cops shoulder installation security responsibility

by **SSgt. Jeffrey Williams**
staff writer

As security measures are put in place to provide for proper force protection and homeland defense, the security of the installation rests on the shoulders of the 934th Security Forces Squadron.

Maj. Barbara Dock, 934th SFS commander, said squadron members have been working 12-hour shifts ever since the events of Sept. 11 unfolded.

"The civilians and air reserve technicians, who normally put in eight hour days, were the first to go to 12s, and the security forces squadron joined them shortly after," Dock said.

"For cops, a 12-hour workday actually is more like a 13-14 hour day."

She believes that the career field merger that occurred a few years ago has given the squadron a tremendous advantage in combating terrorism and providing for the homeland defense.

"We're all one career field now," Dock said.

"Law enforcement and air base defense sections used to be separate career fields within security forces. Even our combat arms instructors are cops."

MSgt. Steven Anderson, 934th SFS chief armorer, knows the situation is demanding but rewarding.

"It makes training and qualifying the cops more difficult because they are all pulling shifts instead of utilizing training days," he said.

"The morale is still good.



"For cops, a 12-hour workday actually is more like a 13-14 hour day."

Maj. Barb Dock
934th Security
Forces commander

"The hours got a little longer at first, and it's more work for the guys, but we're military and up to the task.

"When I was in Saudi, we worked six 12-hour days in a row with one day off," Anderson said.

"Now, like then, we have typical cop duties and hours, which is what you can expect when you come into this career field."

Anderson knows the squadron's training and esprit de corps is beneficial in warding off any potential terrorist threat.

He has occasionally acted as an aggressor during training exercises.

"I've been beat up, stepped on and arrested numerous times while trying to penetrate the perimeter," he said.

"Some of our guys have been working together as a group for 20 years.

"They've deployed and trained together extensively during that time.

"They're good and they're tough.

You should feel safe because you have some of the best security forces people guarding the gates.

"Chances are that you'll never know if we ever repel a terrorist attack," he said.

"We hope potential terrorists take one look at us and say, 'It's too heavily defended,' and find another target," Anderson said.

Dock knows she commands a well-trained unit.

"We're using some of the skills we learned at various training courses like Phoenix Readiness, but we never planned on doing force protection for homeland security," she said.

"Everyone's been trained to do all types of security."

Both Dock and Anderson stress the need for all military people to take force protection seriously and to minimize the risks whenever possible.

"Be careful where you wear your uniform because there have been some incidents," Dock warned.

"And have your personal affairs in order because it will be easier if and when you're called to deploy. It can happen to anyone."

Anderson said, "Keep an eye out for anything unusual.

"Don't ignore things that are out of place. Call it in and let us handle it."

The security forces emergency number is (612) 713-1911 and non-emergency number is (612) 713-1102.

Local construction firm wins bid to renovate headquarters building

by **SrA. Nicholas Olson**
staff writer

A local construction company has been awarded a contract worth more than \$1 million to renovate building 760 scheduled to start in early January.

L.S. Black Constructors, Inc. of St. Paul was one of 12 companies that bid on the project.

"The project is about keeping dollars in the local community," explained Cindy Murry, senior contract specialist for operational contracting.

The eight-month project will

include the renovation of existing windows and updating the interior.

The project will include replacing carpets and wall coverings, adding an elevator and remodeling the white brick work on the exterior.

"The window design is one of the larger concerns," explained Murry.

"Original designs for the building were based on a similar building in Florida. The window design was not meant for Minnesota's climate so the windows leaked," she said.

Building tenants have moved to

temporary locations around the base.

The 934th Airlift Wing commander and his immediate staff, the 934th Support Group commander and his immediate staff, and MET test site moved to Bldg. 852.

The mission support flight orderly room, plans, public affairs, safety, and casualty assistance moved to Bldg. 865.

Civilian personnel and the wing historian moved to Bldg 711.

The wing inspector moved to Bldg. 745.

Vehicle sales impact security if decals aren't removed

When selling a vehicle, some people may only picture the money they are about to make.

But, there is another picture people need to focus on: the potential effect that sale may have on the installation security if the proper procedures for removing vehicle decals are not followed.

If people do not remove their vehicle decals when ownership changes, the new owner could use the vehicle to gain unauthorized access to the base.

Whether out of curiosity or with intent to cause harm, that access is unlawful and dangerous.

Decals must be removed from a vehicle before possession is transferred to another person.

The decals must also be removed when a person is released from active duty, separates from the service or terminates civilian employment with a military service or Defense Department agency.

"If the vehicle is sold to someone authorized a decal then the decal must be transferred, and notification responsibility is with the individual who originally registered the decal," said Ms. Debra Hayes 934th Security Forces Squadron Pass & Registration Office.

"While decals do not have to be removed when personnel make permanent change-of-station moves, they must be de-registered and then re-registered at the gaining base," said TSgt. Barry Haukoos, 934th SFS Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection noncommissioned officer in charge.

"Following these simple guidelines will help keep the base, our people secure and our resources safe," Haukoos said.

"A decal will not peel off in one



Decals must be removed from a vehicle before possession is transferred to another person. The decals must also be removed when a person is released from active duty, separates from the service or terminates civilian employment with a military service or Defense Department agency.

easy pull," Hayes said.

The vehicle decals are specifically designed to break apart as an anti-theft device.

"While this could make them difficult to remove," Hayes said, "it is imperative that people do so.

"Removing the decal prevents potential misuse," Haukoos said.

Because this policy is subject to installation commander discretion and can be made more stringent, exact policies may vary from base to base.

Some policies call for decals to be removed and destroyed, while others require the decals be removed and turned in to the issuing authorities," said Capt David Stai, Police Services.

The 934th AWI 31-201 says to "remove - - - and surrender to the CSF or his/her representative" but decal re-registration is allowed when the vehicle is sold to authorized personnel.

Be sure to remove the decal when replacing the windshield and even when the vehicle is "totaled-out" in a

motor vehicle accident.

Special chemicals are available that will allow the "criminal element" to lift a decal intact from discarded vehicle parts and windshields, Stai said.

"The policies are set forth to protect the people and resources of the base from terrorist or criminal intent," Haukoos said.

"They are also designed to provide more effective security with less inconvenience to base workers during increased Force Protection Conditions."

Failure to follow decal procedures by servicemembers and civilians is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and Title 18 of the Federal Statute for civilians, Stai said.

Base personnel should note the 934th AWI 31-201 is "required reading for all incoming personnel".

For more information on vehicle decals, personnel should contact the 934th Security Forces at (612) 713-1100/1102.

Base institutes winter parking restrictions

Winter parking rules went into effect Nov 15, and will remain in force until Apr. 15.

Overnight parking is prohibited in all parking spaces except for long term parking areas, and buildings 711, 716,

and 707 parking for lodging guests, according to security forces officials.

They said vehicles left overnight in any other space will be ticketed by Security Forces and could be towed if needed to facilitate snow or ice removal.



On the cover

TSgt. Andy Thomas (in flight suit with helmet and goggles) acts as a safety observer while members of the 194th Infantry Detachment parachute out of a C-130 Hercules flying over Camp Ripley during the November Unit Training Assembly. Thomas was there to relay any potential problems to the aircraft commander. Matching up the Des Moines, Iowa-based Army Guard members with aircrews from the 96th Airlift Squadron gave both units an opportunity for some realistic training. Aircrews took advantage of good flying weather both days of the November UTA and dropped airborne infantry at the Camp. The Guardsmen regularly train with the Flying Vikings and are required to make four parachute jumps per year. (Photo by Al Eakle)

Contributions exceed \$20,000

Wing donates generously to Combined Federal Campaign

The 2001 Combined Federal Campaign Fund officially came to a close two weeks ago, with members of the 934th Airlift Wing donating generously as they have in past years, according to the unit's chairperson.

"Together, as a family we contributed more than \$20,000 which will go a ways in improving our local community, our nation, and our world," said Maj. Mike Laughton, 934th AW CFC chairperson.

"While I don't know if this is a record collection for the 934th AW, that isn't important. What is important is we professed our belief that we can still make this a better place for all."

Laughton said a special thanks goes to Mike Dukek, 934th Operations Group, who did the lion's share of managing and accounting for this year's drive.

He also added a special thanks to the unit points of contact who came out of the woodwork when the call came out for volunteers to help.

"It felt weird chairing a fund drive in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack," Laughton said, during a time when we were checking each others ID cards, restricting parking to our own people, extending work hours, deploying, standing guard duty and alert.

"It felt, at times I was just bother-

ing people by asking them to donate. There were more important things to worry about."

However, the outpouring people provided proved him wrong, he said.

"This fund drive was especially important."

There are more than 2,000 charities the CFC supports.

"On behalf of them, the world's hungry, homeless, sick, and at-risk kids who might one day vote or be voted for," he added, "thanks for the message you sent them. Your optimism and generosity is appreciated!"

News briefs

Several Christmas parties are planned during December for members of the 934th Airlift Wing.

The wing commander, vice wing commander, group commanders, and colonels, are hosting a holiday gathering at the Officer's Club on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m..

This gathering is for all members of the 934th family; ART, reservist, and civilian.

Come dressed in holiday casual attire and enjoy heavy hors d' oeuvres and an open bar.

There will be prizes for the best and worst holiday attire or accessory.

The Civilian Welfare 2001 holiday gathering will follow the 934th Airlift Wing Commander's Call beginning at 1 p.m. Dec. 19 in the Enlisted Club. Entertainment will be provided by Santa and guests. Hot cocoa, cider and holiday desserts will also be served.

Personnel announces new bonus AFSCs

Personnel officials have released the Enlisted Incentive Program bonus Air Force specialty codes for the period Oct. 1, 2001 through Mar. 31, 2002.

Bonus AFSC's

include:
1C0X1 (Airfield Management)
1N0X1 (Intelligence Applications)
2A1X7 (Electronic Warfare Systems)
2A551J (Aerospace Maintenance)

2A6X1B (Aerospace Propulsion)
2A6X4 (Aircraft Fuels Systems)
2A6X6 (Aircraft Electronic and Environmental Systems)
2E1X3 (Ground Radio Communications)
2T0X1 (Traffic Management)
2T3X5 (Vehicle Body Maintenance)
3MOX1 (Services)
4A2X1 (Biomedical Equipment)
4D0X1 (Diet Therapy)
4F0X1 (Aeromedical)
4N0X1 (Medical Services)
X4N0X1 (Flying Medical Technician)
4P0X1 (Pharmacy)

Anyone with questions can contact the base career adviser, Master Sgt. Laurie Konz at (612) 713- 3756. Her office is located in Bldg. 852, room 114.

Flying jobs open within 934th wing

Members of the 934th Airlift Wing desiring to take to the skies as a pilot or

navigator can do so, provided they have a bachelors degree and meet several criteria, according to Air Force Reserve recruiters.

"Several changes have occurred in the criteria which will allow more people to apply," said Senior Master Larry Giles, senior recruiter.

"Applicants for either UPT (Undergraduate Pilot Training) or UNT (Undergraduate Navigator Training) can now apply up to age 29, and must be in training by age 30.

"Another change," he said, "is applicants do not have to have 20/20 vision to qualify for UPT."

Individuals interested in applying should contact Recruiting at (612) 713-5627, or Master Sgt. Mike Ginapp in Career Enhancement at (612) 713- 1509.

Flying Vikings mugs available

A few of the special 13-ounce mugs with the 934th AIRLIFT WING "FLYING VIKINGS" logo etched on them are still available at \$5

each. Individuals may purchase them by contacting Roger Hanson at (612) 713-1091 during the week, or Maj. Mo Banavige at (612) 713-3452 on the UTA weekends. Proceeds goes towards next year's event.

Safety day set for Dec. 1

On Saturday of the December UTA, the 934th Airlift Wing will be observing a safety down day.

There will be no flying that day, according to Lt. Col. Larry Snider, chief of safety, and the safety staff will be preparing numerous safety presentations and briefings.

LOAC briefings held Sunday of UTA

The Law of Armed Conflict/Uniform Code of Military Justice training normally scheduled at 2 p.m. on Sundays of the UTAs will be temporarily held (at least until February) in Bldg. 852, Room 208.

LOAC training is required annually for all military. Contact the legal office for more information.



Viking Flyer

Online subscription

As a service to our readers the Viking Flyer staff is beginning an online subscription service. The service will begin in May. Advantages to the service include earlier-than normal delivery, plus color photos. To begin a subscription, simply complete the following information and mail this coupon to: **934 AW/PA, 760 Military Highway, Minneapolis MN 55450-2100.**

NAME: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

I AM: _____ reservist _____ retiree

Signature _____


Promotions

September

- MSgt. Steve Comer, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron;
- MSgt. Michael P. Duffy, 96th Airlift Squadron;
- MSgt. Scott Rian, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
- MSgt. Mark A. Syvertson, 27th Aerial Port Squadron

- TSgt. Charles Brynteson, 96th Airlift Squadron

- TSgt. Lloyd H. Coleman, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

- TSgt. Nestor A. Evaristo, 27th Aerial Port Squadron

- TSgt. Tracy G. Goetz, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

- TSgt. Gino R. Marchetti, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

- TSgt. James A. Palo Jr., 934th Civil Engineering Squadron

- TSgt. Sarah E. Schlicht, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

- TSgt. Heidi S. Schmidt, 934th Communications Flight

- TSgt. David Stevenson, 934th Security Forces Squadron

- TSgt. Michael D. Story, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron

- TSgt. Richard T. Waldoch, 934th Security Forces Squadron

- SSgt. Cory J. DeMuth, 934th Communications Flight

- SSgt. Endrell A. Rucker, 934th Communications Flight

- SrA. Martinroy B. Arceo, 934th Mission Support Flight

- SrA. Andrew G. Halldin, 934th Security Forces Squadron

- A1C Paul J. Kraft, 934th Mission Support Flight

November

- SMSgt. David A. Fisher, 934th Airlift Wing

- SMSgt. Kenneth J. Gillette, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- SMSgt. Michael King, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- SMSgt. Jerome E. Meyer, 934th

Maintenance Squadron

- SMSgt. William D. Rudgers, 96th Airlift Squadron

- MSgt. Lisa Anderson-Levy, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

- MSgt. Douglas J. Blair, 934th Security Forces Squadron

- MSgt. Orvin D. Melaas, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- MSgt. Steven Pittman, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- MSgt. Sandra P. Regner, 934th Operations Group

- MSgt. Gwen Swiechcoffman, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

- TSgt. Eric L. Eversman, 96th Airlift Squadron

- TSgt. Michael J. Gangl, 934th Services Squadron

- TSgt. Brent L/ Haynes, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

- TSgt. Denise R. Sanders, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

- TSgt. Stefamia Strowder, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

- TSgt. Bradley D. Weis, 934th Security Forces Squadron

- SSgt. Terrence Countryman, 934th Security Forces Squadron

- SSgt. Mary L. Rebholtz, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

- SrA. Anthony Haider, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- SrA. Amber Jereczek, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- SrA. Michael McGough, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- SrA. Kenneth McIntosh, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- SrA. Joshua Nelson, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- SrA. John Phelps, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- SrA. Kari Sunderland, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- SrA. Adam Webster, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- A1C Tory Wagner, 934th Security Forces Squadron

- A1C Robert L. Stubbs, 934th Security Forces Squadron


934th SFS

The members of the 934th Security Forces Squadron have all been activated.

The initial activation was for one squad.

The remaining personnel were called to active duty Nov. 4.

The unit Ravens are deployed to unannounced locations.

Security Forces members are providing home station security.

SSgt. Scott Chock and his wife Heather are the proud parents of a baby boy, Benjamin Charles Chock, born Oct. 25 at 7:12 a.m., 6 lbs, 7 oz., 20 ½ inches long.

Submitted by TSgt. Barry Haukoos, unit public affairs representative.


934th CES

SMSgt David Halverson and SMSgt Jeffrey Gustafson have volunteered to be Security Force augmentees.

Both individual's served 30-day rotations throughout the month of November.

The first rotation of troops is gearing up for the Air Expeditionary Force (AEF), and will be departed the base on Nov. 15.

Troops headed for the United Arab Emirates for a 15-day in-country rotation.

Future AEF rotations will be continuing through mid-February 2002.

The newly minted 934th Civil Engineering Squadron coins are available for sale. The coins are \$8 and see SMSgt Clarence Super if interested.

Submitted by TSgt. Mike McGuire, unit public affairs representative.

Medals

Meritorious Service Medal

- Col. Harvey D. Smith, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Air Force Commendation Medal

- MSgt. Aaron A. Mikonowicz, 934th Maintenance Squadron

- TSgt. John R. Krebsbach, 27th Aerial Port Squadron

Air Force Achievement Medal

- SSgt. Sean J. Thiery, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (sixth oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Dennis A. Geyen, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (third oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt David L. Sowers, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (third oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Michael E. Cleveland, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (third oak leaf cluster)

- SSgt. James L. Endres, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (third oak leaf cluster)

- SSgt. Lucas J. Resemius, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (third oak leaf cluster)

- SSgt. Robert J. Rice, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (third oak leaf cluster)

- SMSgt. Robert O. Linder, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Lawrence P. Corrigan, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Scott F. LeClair, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Steven A. Nicolai, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Robert W. Schabacker, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Robert W. Senst, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Jose A. Gonzalez-Rocha, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. John J. Kline, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf

cluster)

- TSgt. Scott F. Novak, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Gary D. Robbins, 934th Maintenance Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Patrick J. Smith, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Wayne M. Stierlen, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- SSgt. Robert A. Ennis, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- SSgt. Jason A. Holm, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- SrA. Brian S. Knutson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- SSgt. Anthony T. Oswald, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

- Lt. Col. Stanley J. Thompson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- Maj. Donald E. Kom, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- Capt. Leslie W. Canarr, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- Capt. David J. Ordahl, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- CMSgt. David R. Angerman, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- SMSgt. Troy D. Ranum, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Patti K. Amos, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Joel D. Johnson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Eugene E. Kirk, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Dale L. Klossner, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Patrick J. Murphy, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak

leaf cluster)

- MSgt. David V. Nelson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Kenneth L. Philippi, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Roger H. Smith, 934th Maintenance Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- MSgt. Robert A. Swartout, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Mark W. Anderson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Robert L. Braesch, 934th Maintenance Squadron, (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Anthony L. Feigum, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. James G. Lockwood, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Charles R. Matthews, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. John T. McEliece, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Michael P. McNally, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Christina F. McNamee, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Troy A. Odella, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Robert M. Payne, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Terrance J. Peltzer, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Thomas F. Schutz, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Jeffrey H. Sommerfield, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- TSgt. Tara L. Venum, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- SSgt. James A. Palo Jr., 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak

Continued on Page 13

Continued from Page 12

Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

- SSgt. Thomas G. Shimota, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)
- Maj. John D. Larson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- CMSgt. David S. Skirka, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SMSgt. David C. Halverson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SMSgt. Jeffrey D. Gustafson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- MSgt. Thomas J. Krueger, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- MSgt. Curtis A. Pargman, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- MSgt. Kenneth J. Weber, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- TSgt. Michael A. Moldrem, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- TSgt. Anthony M. Osborne, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- TSgt. Leroy E. Rothove, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- TSgt. Christopher A. Rumreich, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- TSgt. Susan L. Sheveland, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- TSgt. Robert A. Steffens, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- TSgt. Randal S. Utzka, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- TSgt. Robert J. Walz, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. Wendy A. Albee, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. Kraig H. Berger, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. Shawn M. Conway, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. Charles R. Hill, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. Jeffrey L. Jacobs, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. Roger P. Latterell, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. Nannette K. Maglinao, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. Bobby C. Reece, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. Brent M. Saba, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. Thomas R. Whiteford, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SrA. Anthony J. Brandt, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron

SrA. Paul A. Tobkin, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron

- A1C David A. Dachs Jr., 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- A1C Jonathan P. Patterson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron

Newcomers

- A1C Amber Jerezcek, 934th Maintenance Squadron
- SrA. Benjamin L. Filbert, 934th Maintenance Squadron
- 2Lt. Stephen V. Secraw, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
- SrA. William E. Lohse, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
- Maj. Sharon Lee, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
- SrA. Earl J. Collins, 934th Mission Support Flight
- 2Lt. Steven Christoff, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SSgt. John W. Adams III, 96th Airlift Squadron
- SSgt. Donald W. Scott, 934th Security Forces Squadron
- Amber L. Herem, finance

Reenlistments

- SMSgt. Bernadette K. Blackwell, 96th Airlift Squadron
- MSgt. Steven G. Anderson, 934th Security Forces Squadron
- MSgt. John D. Kopka, 934th Operationa Support Flight
- MSgt. John B. Quinlan, 934th Maintenance Squadron
- MSgt. Jon L. Speir, 934th Maintenance Squadron
- MSgt. Robert A. Swartout, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- TSgt. Todd L. Besser, 934th Communications Flight
- TSgt. Carl A. Dewaard, 27th Aerial Port Squadron
- TSgt. Gary W. Dorr, 934th Airlift Wing
- TSgt. Jeffrey C. Imsdahl, 934th Security Forces Squadron
- TSgt. John J. Murphy, 934th Logistics Group
- TSgt. Daniel F. Schaefer, 934th

Civil Engineering Squadron

- TSgt. Max B. Sornoza, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
- TSgt. David P. Stevenson, 934th Security Forces Squadron
- TSgt. Karl M. Thorner, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
- SSgt. Stephanie J. Belle-Isle, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
- SSgt. Terrance H. E. Countryman, 934th Security Forces Squadron
- SSgt. Jordan V. Marcy, 934th Logistics Support Squadron
- SSgt. Jeffrey S. Williams, 934th Airlift Wing
- SSgt. Brian F. Wollack, 934th Security Forces Squadron
- SrA. Jamie M. Christenson, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
- SrA. John G. Frovold, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- SrA. Geoffrey P. Hauth, 934th Airlift Wing
- SrA. Mark G. Witte, 934th Security Forces Squadron
- SrA. Dean D. Linthalath, 934th Logistics Support Squadron

Commander's

- SSgt. Brad Hegge, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- CMSgt. Dave Angerman, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron
- TSgt. Jan Wills, 934th Airlift Wing
- TSgt. Jon Juliot, 27th Aerial Port Squadron
- SSgt. Tom Theis, 934th Security Forces Squadron
- SrA. Howard Glockzin, 27th Aerial Port Squadron
- MSgt. Sherri Kennedy, 934th Logistics Support Squadron
- SSgt. Scott Johnston, 27th Aerial Port Squadron
- MSgt. Greg Nordwall, 27th Aerial Port Squadron
- MSgt. Bernadette Blackwell, 96th Airlift Squadron
- MSgt. Mark Hartnett, 96th Airlift Squadron
- TSgt. Alan McCann, 934th Maintenance Squadron
- SrA. Todd Besser, 934th Security Forces Squadron



The poster for this year's Military Family Week observance, which is Nov. 18-25, features the winning art of Heather Burke, daughter

of Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Burke and wife, Marietta, from Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. (Courtesy graphic)

2002 Military Family Week essay, art contests open

The Armed Services YMCA is seeking entries from military children for its 2002 art contest and readers' essay contest.

Art Contest 2002 accepts artwork from children in kindergarten through sixth grade depicting their active-duty, Guard or Reserve military families.

Top prizewinners will receive \$500 U.S. Savings Bonds, and their artwork will be printed on posters for

worldwide distribution next year in observance of Military Family Week.

Children of Department of Defense and Coast Guard civilians may enter in an honorary category.

Entry deadline is Jan. 28.

The 2002 Armed Services YMCA Essay Contest highlights the joys of reading.

Essays should be on any subject related to

reading.

In its sixth year, this contest is open to first-through 12th-graders and offers Savings Bond prizes of up to \$1,000.

Children of active-duty, reserve and retired members of the uniformed services and of DOD, Coast Guard and American Mission civilian employees can enter.

Entry deadline is March 18.

Color images of this

year's winning poster and the top posters from each of the other services are accessible on the Web at www.asymca.org/art_posters_2001.htm.

Full contest guidelines are on the Armed Services YMCA Web site. People can also obtain information by sending an e-mail to essaycontest@asymca.org or MilitaryFamilyWeek@asymca.org; or by calling (703) 866-1260.

Officers Club

Lunch: Tuesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner: Tuesday – Saturday from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.m.
Lounge: Monday from 4-11 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight.

Sundays: Closed

Mondays: Dining room closed. Lounge open from 4-11 p.m.

Tuesdays: T-bone steak is the special in the dining room.

Wednesdays: Daily special in the dining room is liver and onions.

Thursdays: Chef's choice special in the dining room.

Fridays: Lobster special in the dining room.

Saturdays: Prime rib for two in the dining room.

Bar Menu: Available Tuesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Dec. 1: Army vs Navy game.

Dec. 8: Tickets go on sale for New Year's Eve party.

Dec. 12: Officer's Wives Club holiday brunch begins at 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 15: Flower and Garden Club holiday social.

Dec. 23, 27, 28, 29: Open for lunch

Enlisted Club

Breakfast: Monday-Friday from 6:30-9:30 a.m.

Lunch: Monday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dinner: Friday-Saturday from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Lounge: Monday-Thursday from 3:00-

9:30 p.m.; Friday-Saturday from 3 p.m. to midnight.

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Chefs special for lunch in the dining room. Monday Night football, with chili, hot dogs and pizza available in the lounge.

Tuesday: Different specials for lunch in the dining room

Wednesday: Different specials for lunch in the dining room

Thursday: Buffet for lunch in the dining room

Friday: Different specials for lunch in the dining room; prime rib is the special in the dining room

Saturdays: Different specials for lunch in the dining room.

UTA weekends: During UTA's, the Club dining room will remain open until 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Dec. 1: Drawing from 6-8 p.m. for two free tickets to the Minnesota Wild. DC Drifters in the lounge from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Dec. 16: Two-for-one sirloin steak from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Dec. 21: One-half price lunch for all members.

Dec 23- Jan 1: Club closed.

Fitness Center

The UTA volleyball tournament and the UTA racquetball ladder will begin Saturday, Dec. 1. Contact SSgt. Deb Hanson for more information on the UTA activities.

The Toys for Tots boxes are at all Services facilities. Cash donations are also accepted. For more information, call

Toys For Tots point of contact, Dave Theisen at (612) 713-1496.

It's not too late to enter the Pig-Out Fitness Challenge. To get one of the awards, participants need to earn one pig, which takes only three hours of working out. The Pig-Out Challenge runs through Jan. 5.

Outdoor Recreation has new banquet tables that would go great with a large Holiday gathering. Ice fishing equipment for rent includes portable shelters, pop-ups, poles, buckets with seats, manual augers and skimmers.

The Fitness Center will be closed Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1.

The current hours of operation are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends. Please call 612-713-1496 to sign up for any activities.

Football Frenzy

For Officer and Enlisted club members who are pigskin fans, two of the three Football Frenzy excursions are still up for grabs.

Later this year, five club members and their guests will receive a trip for two to the Super Bowl in New Orleans; and five club members and guests will head to Honolulu for the Pro Bowl.

"This is just one of several ways that we reward our members throughout the year," said Frank Black, chief of the clubs division for the Air Force Services Agency.

"We're excited to see so many folks participating in Football Frenzy events — especially with so much of our attention focused on world events right now," said Al Sonnenburg, sponsorship manager for the Air Force Services Agency.

Club members still have time to register for the next two big giveaways — the Super Bowl drawing on Dec. 7 and Pro Bowl drawing on Dec. 19.

People can contact either the Officers or Enlisted club for more information.

Hotel discounts

Armed Forces Vacation Club members now receive a 15-30 percent discount off their next stay at any one of the following hotel chains. The program offers more than 4,000 participating hotels. Just call the toll-free number listed below and give them the member I.D. number 60712 to receive a discount:

Days Inn, 1-800-268-2195;

Howard Johnson, 1-800-769-0939

Knights Inn, 1-800-682-1071

Ramada, 1-800-462-8035

Travelodge, 1-800-545-5545;

Wingate Inn, 1-877-202-8814

Advance reservations required. Blackout dates may apply. Discounts cannot be used with other programs.

Newest recreation venture offers snow-filled fun

by 2nd Lt. Virgil Magee
Air Force Space Command Public
Affairs

Servicemembers and government employees looking to get away from their day-in, day-out routine have a new option when it comes to snow-filled recreation.

The Air Force's newest recreational venture, Rocky Mountain Blue, opened Nov. 5 in Keystone, Colo., and gives Department of Defense employees the opportunity to frolic through the snowcapped scenic mountains of Colorado at greatly reduced costs.

RMB, a partnership between Air Force Space Command, The Air Force Academy and Keystone Resorts, is an initiative in which the resort offers a variety of discounts to active-duty, reserve, guard, retiree, DoD civilian and non-appropriated funds civilians.

The brainchild of Gen. Ed Eberhart, commander of Air Force Space Command, RMB is the first step

in determining if there is a market for a government-owned resort in the area. That decision will be made in two or three years.

In all, Keystone features 1,749 acres of terrain served by 22 ski lifts, including two high-speed, six-passenger gondolas and three high-speed, four-passenger chairlifts.

Located just 90 minutes west of Denver, the Rocky Mountain Blue programs offers servicemembers many activities such as skiing, horseback riding, mountain biking, hiking, ice-skating, shopping and golf.

"There are a lot of ski resorts in the area, but Keystone offers a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities and they were happy to have us," said Col. Dave Estill, Air Force Space Command director of services. "This is a good value for our members to have a good time in the Colorado outdoors."

Keystone includes three interconnected mountains with groomed terrain



Keystone includes three interconnected mountains with groomed terrain set to test skiers of all levels and abilities. The premier trail "North Peak" features several steep plunges that may be especially attractive to the more advanced skier. (Courtesy photo)

set to test skiers and snowboarders of all levels and abilities.

The premier trail "North Peak" features several steep plunges that may be especially attractive to the more advanced skier.

For the beginner, there are many classes, starting with one for 3-year-olds, to teach ski basics.

The resort is home to the largest single-mountain night skiing experience in North America. Three lifts serve 288 acres of terrain until 8 p.m.

Visitors can also skate all day and evening on the five-acre Keystone Lake, the largest outdoor-maintained ice rink in the country.

Finally, for those who don't wish to indulge in the snow sports, horse-drawn sleighs and stagecoaches can be reserved for a ride through the Snake River Valley to an authentic 1860s Old West cabin, where cowboys cook mouthwatering dinners over a campfire.

Additional information on Rocky Mountain Blue can be found on the Internet at <http://rockymountainblue.com>.



For those who don't wish to indulge in the snow sports, horse-drawn sleighs can be reserved for a ride through the Snake River Valley to an authentic 1860s Old West cabin, where cowboys cook mouthwatering dinners over a campfire. (Courtesy photo)