

VIKING FLYER

934th Airlift Wing (AFRC)

Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP Air Reserve Station, Minn.

January 2007 Vol. 29, No. 1



934th Airlift Wing – a learning organization

By Lt. Col. Toby D. Hammer
934 AW Inspector General

As the New Year begins, so does our natural tendency to reflect on where we are in our life's journey and from that create New Year's resolutions. This desire for an improvement or a change in ourselves keeps us learning and growing. I believe this is a healthy process as well as a lifelong process. This resolution process is an example of the



learning process that is also part of a concept called a **Learning Organization**. Throughout this commentary, the term “we” is placed to expressly refer to every individual member of the 934th Airlift Wing whether they are civilian, active, traditional, or technician.

A **learning organization** places a high premium on continuing to improve itself. It improves itself in many ways; one is through interaction with events. In 2006, we had seven key events called evaluations. From these events, we identified areas of improvement in order to become better at what we do whether it is flying, maintaining, supporting or healing. These events do not necessarily need to be events of the past but can be events that we anticipate. Calendar year 2007 begins with a focus on an event that will occur in 2008, an Operational Readiness Inspection. While this is an event of the future, as a learning organization, we will prepare ourselves to be ready through developing the skills we will need for mission success in an extremely adverse environment.

A **learning organization** is a welcoming organization. While an organization grows from its interaction from events, it also grows from its interaction with individuals. We learn from each other, we are inspired by one another; we should seek to grow through our interaction with one another. A wing such as the 934th, gains in excess of 150 new members each year, over 10 percent of our military strength. My message to newcomers has always been that they have now become the most important individuals in our organization. Why? Because they are our future and they

have individual skills and attributes that our organization needs to grow. The great benefit of an interaction between an organization and individual newcomers is that both the organization and the individual become better. A healthy interaction between a newcomer and the organization can only occur in a welcoming environment.

A **learning organization** develops its Airmen. One of the Air Force core competencies is “Developing Airmen.” Our Airmen are the strength and future of the Air Force. The actor Denzel Washington introduces numerous legends and leaders who celebrate the people who have shaped their lives in a book called, *A Hand to Guide Me*. He writes in his introduction: “Ordinary people accomplishing extraordinary things? Perhaps. But I’ll go one better and suggest that we’re all extraordinary in our own way, and that it’s what we do with our extraordinariness that sets us apart and makes all the difference.”

I agree that all of us are extraordinary in our own way, even more so because we are Airmen. Becoming the strength and future of the Air Force does not occur without mentoring or guiding. Be a hand that guides one another to succeed.

Tap into those extraordinary talents and in turn this learning organization will succeed. Our Air Force depends on that interaction. In your spare time, Google search ‘developing airmen’ and become inspired by the articles available.

A **learning organization** pursues excellence. This attribute ties well with our Air Force core values, specifically, “Excellence in all we do.” This attribute requires each one of us to contribute, in an excellent manner, for the organization to be outstanding. The “chain is only as strong as its weakest link”, is a saying that we have all heard. This suggests that an organization’s pursuit of excellence is only as successful as its’ individual’s determination to also pursue excellence. Imagine the possibilities when we all pursue this excellence. Wow!

Lastly, a **learning organization** is a successful organization. I challenge each of us to support our learning organization’s success as we take time to reflect on our New Year’s resolutions. How are we willing to help our organization, whether it is a section, flight, squadron, group, or the Wing to be a learning organization this next year? Tapping into our individual extraordinariness, I challenge us to develop our airmen, expect excellence from each other and ourselves, and foster a welcoming culture to become a most **extraordinary learning organization**.

During this next year, I plan on re-introducing myself to the 934th Airlift Wing as the new Inspector General. The primary responsibility of the Inspector General is to administer the Complaints and Fraud, Waste and Abuse Programs in accordance with AFI 90-301.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Chaplain (Capt) Steve Svoboda
934 AW Chaplain

Everyone expects the Chaplain to write about New Year's resolutions at this time of year, so I won't disappoint you. But let's add a twist to the old, personal themes of "lose ten pounds," or "run three times each week."

Recently, Rabbi Michael Lerner spoke in the Twin Cities and he said something important. With the short time that we are given on this planet, why not use the time we have to commit our actions and our voices to making the world a better place? I realized that is what we are about as

defenders of the ideals of our nation; making the world a better place through our words and our actions. With all that we have going on in our 'other' lives, none of us is forced to make this commitment, but you have, and we do.

So by way of resolution, let's resolve in 2007 to continue the journey; to use our voices and our actions and together take the next steps toward freedom, justice and equality, and peace for all.

And here's the twist – not for us, but for those we love and for all who come after, let's get it done. Have a blessed 2007!



Photo by Col. Nancy Brooks

Welcome home, Dad!

Staff Sgt. James Anderson, 934th Security Forces Squadron, is greeted by his children, James, Nellie and Emma upon his return from Southwest Asia Dec. 10. Sergeant Anderson was one of six Security Forces Squadron members to return from a six-month overseas deployment.

Wing Commander's Hotline

The hotline provides wing members with a direct link to the wing commander to relay kudos, concerns or suggestions on wing matters.

To reach the hotline, call (612) 713-1115. Remember to leave your name and telephone number.

Before relaying problems, be sure to use your chain of command or call the responsible agency first so it can have the chance to help you.

Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline

Report suspected occurrences of Fraud, Waste and Abuse to the FWA hotline at (612) 713-1180.



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All photos are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The deadline for all submissions is the Sunday of the UTA one month prior to publication.



Photo by Master Sgt. Paul Zadach

On the cover

Children step off the ramp of a C-130 during a simulated ride to the 'North Pole' in Eau Claire, Wisc. See story about wing's involvement in this annual program on page 7.



Tasting the fruits of success

Services wins first ever Inside Out award

By Cristina Oxta
934th Services Squadron

The Officers' and Services Clubs at the 934th Airlift Wing have won the first-ever Air Force Reserve Command Inside Out contest.

Inside Out is an Air Force Reserve Command Services program that is designed to focus on a club's customers and employees. The goal is to ensure all AFRC clubs provide customers with the best service possible. The idea behind it is to teach club employees that whatever they do behind the scenes in their daily operation will affect customers' dining experience.

Margo Leslie, 934th Services chief, said she was ecstatic when she received a call telling her the clubs won.

"I screamed into the phone! I said, 'I'm so excited for the staff!,'" Leslie said. "I'm so proud of everyone. Nothing like this has been done in the Air Force before. This is a very creative AFRC initiative."

Inside Out, which ran from April 1 through Sept. 30, consisted of multiple evaluations, one by the Services chief and another by Headquarters AFRC Services personnel. The evaluators inspected closely the clubs' store room operations, sanitation, food production controls, beverage operations, catering operations, equipment and facilities, personnel management and training, financial standards and marketing. In addition, mystery customers called and dined at the clubs periodically to evaluate the food, customer service and marketing materials.

Sheila Idigpio, AFRC's chief of membership support, visited and evaluated the clubs at Minneapolis and was impressed by what she saw.

"The clubs were spotless! The store rooms were impeccable. The staff was friendly and courteous to everyone walking in the door," Idigpio said. "There was a spirit of cooperation among the entire Services staff that stood out above the rest. The managers of both clubs worked hard along with their staff."

According to Idigpio, winning Inside Out says a lot



Photo by Janell Harwell

Col. Tim Tarchick stands with Services Squadron members as they are presented with a check from Santa at the December Civilian Commander's Call.

about the Minneapolis clubs. "It says that the clubs are customer oriented both internal and external. It says they care about the quality of service they give the customer," she said. "It shows they take pride in what they do and how they do it."

It certainly matters a great deal to Leslie.

"We've reached another level. It has raised our bar," she said. "We are the only AFRC base with two clubs. We serve all military branches and federal agencies. We're always busy, but we still ensure that we provide the best food and service to everyone. Winning this award proves it."

As the winner, the Minneapolis club staff will receive cash awards and on-site training conducted by renowned U.S. Air Force Europe Chef Jean Marc Laurent. They will also enjoy a meal prepared by Chef Laurent and served by AFRC Services staff. Customers get a prize, too.

Club members will be invited to enjoy a special membership evening with hors d'oeuvres compliments of AFRC Services. The date for this event will be announced at a later time. Since the Inside Out program has proven to be beneficial to club staff and customers, AFRC Services plans to continue it next year.

"Inside Out was a great opportunity to take a good hard look at yourself and how you do business. It will help you progress, change and master the weak areas," Idigpio said. "I look forward to running it again."



2007: The year of ORI preparation

By Maj. Ray Gale

910 AW Performance Planning

As of January 2007 we are only fourteen UTAs away from our Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI). On March 29, 2008 over 450 members of the 934th Airlift Wing will deploy with about 400 members from the 910th Airlift Wing and employ the 922d Air Expeditionary Wing at the Gulfport, MS. Combat Readiness Training Center (CRTC). The actual date of the ORI is subject to change based on the needs of the Air Force; however at this point we have no solid information regarding a change of date or location. We know from past experience we will need every single civilian workday, UTA, annual tour and RPA day to adequately prepare our unit for a successful inspection.

Know this: It takes a tremendous effort to get through an ORI, especially when partnered with another

wing. It takes all the traditional reserve members, civilians and contractors in the 910th and the 934th working together toward the same goal. I strongly believe the combined wings are capable of getting an Excellent or Outstanding if we keep ourselves mission focused with an Air Expeditionary Wing mindset.

Look forward to this: We will attain a high level of cross-functional interaction between the two wings. Commanders will assign roles and responsibilities that will be shared by a group coming together as a team. We will integrate warskills into our mission to a degree that few of us have ever done before. Success will depend on our wholehearted application of the Air Force Core Values: Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do. This planning and preparation period is an opportunity for everyone to step up to the plate. You will be asked to lead

or participate in things that apply to accomplishing our wartime mission and skills.

Count on this: It takes about three events for a group of people to become a team. The Operational Readiness Training Program (ORTP) and the Readiness Assistance Visit (RAV) will provide those events for us. Functional experts such as LRS, CES, CEX and SFS are going to provide specialized training that will be essential for success. The process will take dedication and a sense of urgency on the part of all deployers and non-participants.

Be Ready for this: When the IG hits town for the deployment phase they will examine the deployment requirements of every reserve member on this base and will not leave until they are done. Everyone the IG encounters at home station and at the deployed location will be expected to have a working knowledge and

Continued on page 14

Around the pattern



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Williams

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Charles Perry receives the Air Force Commendation Medal for his recent Southwest Asia deployment from Colonel Tarchick last UTA.



Photo by Master Sgt. Kerry Bartlett

Col. Tim Tarchick, 934th Airlift Wing commander, stands next to the award winners after last month's Wing Commander's Call. Back row: Col. Tarchick, Lt. Col. Toby Hammer, Senior Master Sgt. Mike Ginapp, Senior Master Sgt. Mark Larsen, Master Sgt. Paul Zadach, Capt. Jeff Gorman. Front row: Lt. Col. Maureen Banavige, Senior Master Sgt. Bernardette Lunde. Lt. Col. Banavige received the Bronze Star, while the others received the Meritorious Service Medal.



Wing roundup

96 AS

Ongoing proof that the Air Force Reserve is a 24/7/365 operation, during this holiday season, 23 96th Airlift Squadron personnel and two aircraft deployed to Germany over Christmas for Operation Joint Forge. While deployed, crews provided the United Nations with airlift support in the Balkan region of southern Europe.

This month's formal schools had 18 personnel serving in Arkansas, Georgia, Minnesota, New Mexico, Texas and Washington. Congrats to recent promotees, Capt. Chris Rieland, Capt. Mitch Maes, Chief Master Sgt. Mark Hartnett, Master Sgt. Shannon Moerke and Tech. Sgt. Jon Rudisuhle. Lauded as being "Superior Performers" during the recent UCI were, Senior Master Sgt. Diane Johnson, flight management, and Senior Airman Aaron Palmer, Life Support. The following belated SWA medals were awarded:

Air Medal (3 OLC)

Master Sgt. Jeff Hiltgen

Aerial Achievement Medal

Senior Master Sgt. Rob Arkulary

Master Sgt. Jeff Hiltgen

Tech. Sgt. Aaron Hillberg

Aerial Achievement Medal (1 OLC)

Lt. Col. Gary Chambers

Aerial Achievement Medal (2 OLC)

Master Sgt. Gary Scheff

27 APS

The 27th Aerial Port Squadron raised an outstanding \$4,875 at this year's annual Aerial Port Christmas party. The money will go to deserving individuals, families and charities. Santa Claus gave out gifts to many of the unit members' children.

The 27 APS reached its goal of donating 70 of the 120 gifts to be provided from 934th Wing members that were donated to the MN Vets Home on Dec. 11th.

Tech. Sgt. Rich Soderberg was inducted into the ranks of Senior Non-Commissioned Officers with a promotion to Master Sergeant.

Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Janssen was awarded a letter of appreciation from the Navy Reserve, U.S. Naval Ship Repair Facility, Sasebo, Japan for his role in training Naval Reservists on Material Handling Equipment.

Staff Sgt. Jeremy Eggerth was presented an award for excellence for achieving a 90 percent on his end of course test for 7 level CDCs.

LRS

Senior Airman Garrett Weston and Airman 1st Class Matthew Countrymen passed their 5-Level CDC's.

Staff Sgt. Mark Oldenburg and Staff

Sgt. John Czech returned from Joint Forge.

Tech Sgt. John Rice returned safely from his deployment in support of Operation Coronet Oak.

SFS

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Jeffery Imsdahl on his promotion to Senior Master Sergeant. Congratulations to Tech Sgt. Donald Albee on his promotion to Master Sergeant. Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Jamilyn Shelite on her promotion to Technical Sergeant.

Master Sgt. Michael Gullickson was rated as exceptionally well qualified on his recent QC evaluation.

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Todd Besser on his recent retirement. Master Sgt. Besser served on active duty and reserve status for 21 years.

Security Forces welcomes new members, Lt. Vince Fonte, Master Sgt. Thomas Bishop, Master Sgt. Carl Herrmann, Tech Sgt. Kurtis Sneide, Airman 1st Class Steven Carter, Airman 1st Class Benjamin Troyanick, Airman 1st Class Robert Beidler, Airman 1st Class Benjamin Orr, and Airman 1st Class Anthony Moore.

Airman First Class Lindsay Hawkins graduated as a Distinguished Honor Graduate from Security Forces Technical School.

MXS

A large contingent of squadron members are preparing to sacrifice their holiday season to deploy overseas in support of Operation Joint Forge.

Staff Sgt. Ryan Reischauer returned from tech school as a distinguished graduate. He scored 99 percent in the Electro/Environmental Apprentice course.

Staff Sgt. Chantel Chase has accepted the long awaited proposal from the love of her life, Staff Sgt. Tony Haider, also from Maintenance Squadron.

See **WING ROUND UP** page 15

SERGEANTS UPP & ADAM



Senior Master Sgt. Doug Johnson



Ho! Ho! Ho! Reservists fly kids to 'North Pole'

96th Airlift Squadron and Army Reserve engineers team up to give children holiday cheer

**By Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch
934 AW Public Affairs**

Visiting Santa and Mrs. Claus can be a memorable event for most children, usually occurring in a shopping mall. However, when you get to fly to the North Pole to visit the jolly old elf, the excitement can be almost unbearable for any kid. 'Operation Santa' occurred Saturday of the December UTA, when twenty-six fidgety, wide-eyed children from the



Photo by Master Sgt. Paul Zadach

A young passenger gets the chance to be a crewmember.

Eau Claire, Wisconsin area 'flew' in a C-130 to Santa's frozen home, courtesy of the 96th Airlift Squadron, the AT&T Telephone Pioneers, a volunteer group comprised of current and retired AT&T employees and the 394th Engineers of the Army Reserve.

The annual event is designed to brighten the holiday season of 'special needs' children and their families. The children's names are posted on a Christmas tree at the AT&T workplace, where volunteers choose a child's name and receive information such as gender, age and siblings. "There are always many more volunteers than children," said Gloria Grabowski, who was responsible for organizing most of the event. The Telephone Pioneers have been sponsoring 'Operation Santa' ten years with the 96 AS supplying the transportation for eight years. The Army Reserve brings a humvee for the kids to explore and radios to communicate with Santa before they 'take off' for the top of the world.

"We became involved eight years ago when we received a call from the AT&T volunteers," explained Chief Master Sgt. Tom Foss. "That year, the Wisconsin Air National Guard wasn't able to participate. We stepped up and have

been doing it ever since. It has been a real pleasure seeing how happy the kids get."

Every year, a 96 AS aircrew flies a C-130 on the short hop to Eau Claire and parks near the passenger terminal where the kids and their families gather. After a safety briefing, the group is escorted onto the plane where they are strapped in for the flight. The plane is buttoned up and the crew taxis around the runways for twenty minutes, running up the engines and adjusting the flaps to simulate the long trip to the North Pole. When the flight is over, the parents and crew can barely keep the kids from running from the plane to a couple dressed in bright red.

Santa, played by Larry Bradford, and Mrs. Claus, played by Renae Severson, both retired AT&T employees, are waiting on the tarmac surrounded by elves, played by children of other volunteers. Holding a large sign saying 'Welcome to the North Pole,' they are quickly surrounded by the kids who are quickly ushered into a specially decorated room.

The festivities begin with Santa and Mrs. Claus giving attention and hugs to the excited youngsters, who then take turns telling the couple what their wishes are for Christmas. Gifts are distributed to the children, donated by AT&T employees just for that child. Quickly the room is a blizzard of wrapping paper and ribbon, followed by lots of, "Look what I got!" Santa then read a story, 'The Night Before Christmas' surrounded by cookies and hot chocolate.

The rewards for bringing excitement and joy to young people are many. For the Air Force, it may be that of nine year-old Gretchen Kleinschmidt, who said, "I want to be a pilot and join the Air Force!" But perhaps best summed up by Grabowski, who said, "I get the hugs."



Photo by Master Sgt. Paul Zadach

Passengers arrive at the North Pole and are greeted by Santa and Mrs. Claus, and treated to stories and holiday goodies.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeff Williams

Tech Sgt. Bonnie Jamison, 27th Aerial Port Squadron, and her daughter Sarah.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeff Williams

Anna Auel, daughter of Maj. Mike Auel, peels around a chair at the camera while enjoying sweeter side of the buffet.

Christmas is the day that holds all time together.

- Alexander Smith -



Photo by Tech Sgt. Jeff Williams

Alexis Lionbarger, daughter of Staff Sgt. Dawn Lionbarger takes advantage of a precious moment and explains to Santa that a new car and lots of pretty clothes are on her wish list. Many children and infants enjoyed some quality time with the man in red during celebrations here.

Happy Holidays

The 934th celebrates the holiday season



Photo by Tech Sgt. Jeff Williams

Tech Sgt. Kevin Lynch has much to appreciate as he holds his daughter, Shannon, while her older sister, Guinevere, presents a gift from Santa. Tech. Sgt. Lynch is an air terminal controller at the 27th Aerial Port Squadron.



Photo by Tech Sgt. Jeff Williams

Dominic McDonough, son of Staff Sgt. Robert McDonough of the 27th Aerial Port Squadron, smiles as he receives a present from Santa.



Photo by Tech Sgt. Jeff Williams

The man, the myth, the legend greets visitors to the 27th Aerial Port building.

ays from the 934th!

son as a big happy family with plenty to be thankful for.



Photo by Tech Sgt. Jeff Williams

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Photo by Master Sgt. Kerry Bartlett

Kids of all ages enjoyed holiday celebrations around the base at the December UTA. Above are Master Sgt. Pat McCullough, Tech Sgt. Todd Littfin, Maj. Mike Auel, Staff Sgt. Mike Loney and Tech Sgt. Mike Finstrom.



Photo by Tech Sgt. Jeff Williams

Yummy! A box of circles! Senior Master Sgt. Sonja Fisher opens a gift, a box of candy, from her Secret Santa at the Communications Flight party in December.

VIKING VOICES

What is your New Year's resolution?



"To get good grades in school this year."
A1C John Staub, 934th Civil Engineer Squadron



"Quit smoking. I quit last year for six months, so this year I'll give it another shot. Your chances of success increase with each attempt."
SSgt. Curt Richter
934th Communications Flight



"I don't know if I'll keep this or not, but I'm going to try to quit smoking cigarettes."
MSgt. Steve Korolenko,
934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron



"My New Year's resolution is to move to a warmer climate, not necessarily in the desert."
SSgt. Chuck Halosin, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron



Photo by Master Sgt. Kerry Bartlett

Wingman Day

Col. Tim Tarchick, 934th Airlift Wing commander, briefs Headquarters personnel during Wingman Day during the December unit training assembly. Suicide awareness/prevention, military equal opportunity and safety, were among the briefings given to those in attendance.

Awards

Bronze Star

Lt. Col. Maureen G. Banavige

Meritorious Service

Lt. Col. Howard S. Bell
Lt. Col. Toby D. Hammer
Maj. Mark R. Zollinger
Capt. Jeff A. Gorman
SMSgt. Mark T. Larsen
SMSgt. Bernardette H. Lunde
SMSgt. Gary G. Wallenhorst
MSgt. Matthew T. Seppala
MSgt. Paul E. Zadach

Commendation

Lt. Col. Charles A. Perry
TSgt. Dennis L. Maddox

Achievement

TSgt. Patrick A. Haley



Minnesota patriot extends drop zone lease

**By Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey S. William
934 AW Public Affairs**

The 934th Airlift Wing will have access to the Jordan Drop Zone for an additional five years as the newest lease agreement was signed Nov. 16.

In an early morning ceremony at the property, the lease was signed by Mr. Burdette Stief, the landowner, and Brig. Gen. Richard Severson, assistant vice commander, Air Force Reserve Command, continuing a 25-year partnership between Mr. Stief and the Reserve.

When Mr. Stief bought the property in 1969, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units were already using the land as a drop zone. In November 1981, the Air National Guard backed out and the Air Force Reserve took over as the primary tenant. It has been renewed four times since the original 1981 agreement,

“He could have done a lot of things with this property, but he chose not to. He’s a patriot,” Col. Tim Tarchick, 934th Airlift Wing commander, said as he began the ceremony. “Thank you on behalf of the 934th Airlift Wing. It’s an honor to be part of this.”

Referring to the numerous aircrew members and aerial porters who utilize the drop zone, General Severson said, “These guys are supposed to be trained and ready for a 72-hour notice. The only way they can do that is through the Jordan DZ. Your generosity is allowing us to be successful.”

Mr. Stief quoted Mary Kay Ash from his daily quotes calendar during his remarks. “It’s remarkable that when I looked at today’s quote, Nov. 16, it talks about flying. ‘Aerodynamically the bumble bee shouldn’t be able to fly, but the bumble bee doesn’t know it so it goes on flying anyway.’ When I see the planes flying over the property



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Williams

Mr. Burdette Stief laughs with Brigadier General Richard Severson, Air Force Reserve Command assistant vice commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Tom Foss, 96th Airlift Squadron chief loadmaster, prior to the Nov. 16 lease signing ceremony in Jordan.

dropping their loads, conventional wisdom would have it that the planes shouldn’t fly, but they do.

“It’s been a real nice experience. I hope in five years I’m still here to enjoy it, and hope you are too. It’s been a really super relationship,” he added.

Mr. Stief is a World War II veteran having served in the Army’s 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry Regiment, 28th Division from 1943-45, with campaigns in Northern France, Rhineland, Central Europe and Ardennes-Alsace. He served in the Battles of Vossenack and Huertgen, and the Battle of the Bulge from Dec. 1944 to Jan. 1945.

General Severson said, “This is about service before self. I can see a whole bunch of things you could do with this property, but this is definitely service before self. There were incredible sacrifices made by that generation. It’s a proud past you have in your day serving.”

Mr. Stief remarked, “Being in the infantry, I appreciate what the Air Force did, because they did a lot.

Many of my buddies are still over there, that’s why I don’t want to brag about anything. It’s not about me.”

After his discharge from the Army on Nov. 22, 1945, Mr. Stief graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1953 with a Bachelor’s Degree in agricultural economics. He retired from working in 2000 and now spends his time on the farm with his 30 Texas Longhorn steers and 60 Arabian horses.

“They’ve been real careful with the cattle and horses,” Mr. Stief said about the 934th Airlift Wing members who use the Jordan drop zone. “The cattle and horses have actually gotten real used to them.”

Chief Master Sgt. Michael Dressen, 27th Aerial Port superintendent, said, “We’ve had a lot of fun and some difficult nights out here. Sometimes we’ve had three feet of snow and we’re out extracting the parachutes.”

Since the property is near the Scott County Fairgrounds, a lot of people stop along the road and watch
See DROP ZONE page 13



Viking Vibes



Valentine's Day dinner

The Officers' Club will host a Valentine's Day Dinner for Two, Feb. 14 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The menu includes salad, 6 oz. N.Y. steak and shrimp scampi, potatoes, vegetable, dessert and a complimentary glass of wine. There will be musical entertainment from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$24.95 per person for members and \$27.95 per person for non-members. Reservations required. Call (612) 767-1960. Drink specials available at the lounge.

Fun run/walk

The fitness center will host a Valentine's Day Fun Run/Walk Feb. 14 at Lake Nokomis. Participants meet at the beach house at the lake. The run/walk starts at noon. Distance is approximately three miles. Participants wearing red will receive a special prize. Refreshments will be provided. Sign up by Feb. 13. For more information and to register, call the fitness center at (612) 713-1496.

Catering

Both the Officers' Club and Services Club offer catering services for special events, such as birthday parties, graduation parties, bridal showers, weddings, anniversaries, baby showers, promotions, retirements, awards banquets, meetings, workshops and conferences.

Various room sizes are available to accommodate up to 200 guests.

Call the clubs' catering professionals at the Officers' Club at (612) 767-1960 ext. 202 or the Services Club at (612) 713-1674.

Timberwolves tickets

Club members who purchase a meal at the Services or Officers' Club get a chance to win two tickets to a Timberwolves game. Customers can get their ticket for the drawing from the cashier when they show their club card

and pay for their meal.

Customers fill in their name, address and phone number and place their ticket in the drawing drop box at either club.

Winners will be randomly drawn regularly from now until April 2007.

This offer is for club members only. Membership will be verified.

Timberwolves game tickets were provided by Chase Card Services as a benefit with the Club Card Program.

No federal endorsement of sports team or commercial business intended.

Lounge specials

Check out the Happy Hour specials from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Services Club lounge.

The Wednesday Combo Platter includes five buffalo wings, four barbecue boneless wings, two chicken tenders and nine onion petals with chipotle ranch and honey mustard dipping sauce, all for \$9.95.

The Friday Wings 'n' Things Special, which includes mild or hot barbecue wings with ranch or blue cheese dressing, celery and carrots, is \$7.95.

On Saturday wing UTAs, Happy Hour is from 7 to 9 p.m.

On Fridays and Saturdays, get \$1 off the Combo Platter or Wings 'n' Things.

Taco Tuesdays

Every Tuesday, get two beef tacos and a 16 oz. domestic draft beer at the Officers' Club lounge for \$5.95 for club members and \$6.95 for non-members.

Clubs' hours

The Officers' Club and Services Club will be closed New Year's Day. There will be no lunch service at the Officer's Club Jan. 2. The lounge opens at 4 p.m.

Fitness center hours

The fitness center will closed New Year's Day.

Rentals

The Outdoor Recreation Center offers a variety of winter sports equipment, ice fishing gear, toboggans, snow tubes, party supplies, and more for rent. Wing plaques for retirements and award ceremonies can also be purchased at the center. Club members receive a 10-percent discount on rentals. The center is located in Bldg. 778 and is open Mon. - Fri. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. or by appointment. Call (612) 713-1496 or (612) 919-5134.

Mugs

Mug Nights starts 4 p.m. Tuesdays at the Officers' Club and 4 p.m. Thursdays at the Services Club. Order a custom-made mug from the bartender. Choose from a variety of designs. Until it arrives, bring in a mug of your choice. Enjoy tap beer for \$1.75 (up to 20 oz.). A meal of bratwurst, sauerkraut and potato salad is \$3.50. Customers can also order from the lounge menu.

Lunch combos

Enjoy the lunch combos served Tuesdays through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Services Club. Combo meals are served with fries or a salad and a drink. The club also offers theme buffets on Thursdays.

All-You-Can-Eat

Enjoy the All-You-Can-Eat Soup and Salad Bar at the Officers' Club. Get a choice of soup and fresh salad fixings for \$7.95. Club members receive a \$1 discount. Deli sandwiches and desserts are available. Hot lunch is available for large groups.

Need to buy a gift?

Look no further than the gifts and souvenirs at the North Country Lodge. Choose from a wide selection of wing polo shirts and T-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, bear and moose slippers, figurines and more.



DROP ZONE

continued from page 11



Courtesy photo

Pfc. Burdette Stief, 2nd Battalion, 112th Regiment, 28th Division in World War II

the air drops. Fair officials have asked Mr. Stief if 'they are going to be dropping' during the fair. Sometimes, he said, it seems as though the drop zone provides additional entertainment for the fair.

Mr. Stief was recently offered top dollar for his property. He turned the developer down instantly. When asked about why he turned down the offer, he said, "Deer, turkey and airplanes are my biggest reasons for not selling."

Between visiting with guests and the airplanes, Mr. Stief feels that he has everything he needs for retirement.

"I've got to be one of the luckiest guys in the world, with all the nice people I've met along the way," he confided.

The 934th Airlift Wing can consider itself lucky too, for having such a friend and business partner for another five years that will afford more aircrew members and aerial porters training opportunities that will last into the next decade.



Photo by MSgt. Paul Zadach

From one generation to the next...

Lt. Col. Mark Vijums, 96th Airlift Squadron commander, presents a check to Mr. Jim Ingersoll, Minneapolis Veterans Home assistant administrator. Looking on are Senior Master Sgt. Tom Anderson, 96th AS first sergeant, Chief Master Sgt. Tom Foss, 96th AS chief loadmaster, Ms. Shirlee Peterson, supervisor of recreational therapy for the Minneapolis Veterans Home, and Master Sgt. Chris Neitzel, 96th AS first sergeant select. The Airlift Squadron raised funds for Christmas presents for Veterans Home residents last month. The fund began from money left over from a deployment coffee fund.

CE members win AFRC awards

**By Master Sgt. Kerry Bartlett
Staff Writer**

Two members of the 934th Airlift Wing and the Environmental Engineering Flight won prestigious civil engineering awards at the Air Force Reserve Command level last month.

Staff Sergeant Justin Kevelin, a fire protection journeyman with the 934th Civil Engineer Squadron, won the Major General Eugene A. Lupia award as the outstanding civil engineer military manager.

Sergeant Kevelin's nomination includes numerous professional and personal accounts including, "Consistently exceeds all expectations of superiors on job knowledge and... constantly displays a great willingness to learn when thrown into challenging and unfamiliar circumstances."

Mr. Charles Starner, a supervisory general engineer with Base Civil Engineering won the Outstanding Civil Engineer of the Year award, category: Civilian Manager.

Mr. Starner's nomination includes,

among many noteworthy accomplishments, "... is known throughout the base for his drive and tenacity - He never misses a deadline and constantly strives to satisfy the customer while ensuring we meet or exceed all applicable Air Force goals and criteria."

The Environmental Engineering Flight won the Gen. Thomas D. White National Environmental Policy Act award for Team Excellence. NEPA is the federal requirement to conduct environmental assessments prior to commencing proposed actions.

In the complex world of CE and environmental policy, winning this team award is a tremendous accomplishment. The team, led by Mr. Doug Yocum, covers areas outside the base and consults with federal, state and local agencies and even includes cultural considerations of native American tribes. Yes, it's a big deal.

All three nominations have been forwarded from AFRC to compete at the Air Force level. Those results should be available this month.



Baby Basket program
Parents of the newest arrivals to the 934th Airlift Wing family were presented with Baby Baskets by Col. Tim Tarchick during the December Unit Training Assembly. The Baby Basket program is one of the many programs provided by the Family Support Center.

ORI

Continued from page 5

understanding of the AFMAN 10-100 (Airman’s Manual). During the ORI, the IG considers participants as “targets of opportunity”. Our preparation can only attain the necessary level of proficiency if it is done with intensity, extreme prejudice toward mediocrity and mutual

accountability.

The future: The Air Force is constantly changing and our priorities must keep up. Your sacrifices, and those of your family, your hard work, and your struggles with resources and time are greatly appreciated.

You serve in the best Air Force in the world. Join the effort!

Family Fun Time

The Family Support Center will be sponsoring the inaugural Family Fun Time Event during the February unit training assembly.

Sat. Feb. 3 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Family Support Center, family members will be able to make Valentines to send to the 934th Airlift Wing deployed airmen, as well as opportunities to meet other families and learn about the Family Support Center’s services. Family members of all ages are invited to attend. Refreshments will be provided.



Service awards

934th members were recognized for dedicated years of civil service at the Civilian Commander’s Call Dec. 19. From left are Col. Tim Tarchick, Thomas Jorgensen, Jamie VanVleet, Santa, Michael Dukek, Thomas Christian and Timothy Purcell.

Photos by Master Sgt. Paul Zadach



Calendar

Time	Activity	Location	POC
SATURDAY			
0730 to 1600	Newcomers Flight	Per schedule	MSgt Besser, x1755
0800 to 1200	Air Force Testing, Appt Only	Bldg 852, room 206	MSgt Lunde, x1501
0800 to 1430	MPF ID Cards Open	Bldg 852, room 105	TSgt Jorgensen, x1085
0830 to 1200	Disaster Prep, CONOPS Refresher	Bldg 760, room 130	SMSgt Johnson, x1934
0845 to 1130	Physical Exams	Bldg 840	SMSgt Hanson, x1642
0845 to 1130	Sick Call	Bldg 840	MSgt Rebholtz, x1612
0845 to 1130	ASTS Laboratory Draws (All lab draws)	Bldg 840	MSgt Kaufmann, 1633
0845 to 1115	Hearing Exams	Bldg 840	MSgt Rebholtz, x1612
0900 to 1000	Documenting TQT	Bldg 760 room 130	SMSgt. Johnson x1934
0900 to 1130	Immunizations	Bldg 840	SMSgt Brausen, x1617
0900 to 1000	First Sergeants Council Meeting	Wing CC Conf Room	CMSgt Dalton, x1211
0900 to 1000	Unit Deployment Meeting	Bldg 760, room 194	SMSgt Schyma, x1789
0930 to 1130	Medical Outprocessing	Bldg 840	SMSgt Goetz, x1642
1215 to 1615	Certifying HAZMAT	Bldg 745, room 108	SMSgt Schyma, x1789
1230 to 1600	Physical Exams	Bldg 840	SMSgt Hanson, x1642
1230 to 1500	Immunizations	Bldg 840	SMSgt Brausen, x1617
1230 to 1330	Enlisted Advisory Council	Wing CC Conf Room	CMSgt Dalton, x1211
1230 to 1600	Hearing Exams	Bldg 840	MSgt Rebholtz, x1612
1300 to 1600	Medical Outprocessing	Bldg 840	SMSgt Goetz, x1642
1300 to 1600	ASTS Labatory Draws (HIV only)	Bldg 840	MSgt Kaufmann, 1633
1300 to 1600	Sick Call	Bldg 840	MSgt Rebholtz, x1612
1630 to 1730	Protestant Service	Bldg 725, Chapel	Chaplain Svoboda x1226
SUNDAY			
0700 to 0730	Catholic Services	Bldg 725, Chapel	Chaplain Svoboda x 1226
0730 to 1600	Newcomers Flight	Per schedule	MSgt Besser, x1755
0800 to 0900	ORI 101	Navy Auditorium	See your supervisor
0900 to 1000	ORI 101	Navy Auditorium	See your supervisor
1000 to 1100	ORI 101	Navy Auditorium	See your supervisor
1215 to 1615	Increment Manager Training	Bldg 745, room 108	SMSgt Schyma, x1789
1300 to 1400	LOD Review Meeting	Bldg 760, CC Conf Room	Col Llambes, x1616

Wing Roundup from Page 6

SVS

We would like to welcome new personnel to our unit; Tech. Sgt. Lebroke, who came to us from the 440th in Milwaukee, Airman Basic Williams, and Airman 1st Class Deal who are recent graduates of 3-level school.

We would like to wish Staff Sgt. Watts Happy Holi-

days; she is attending 3-level school.

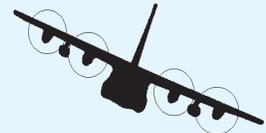
Congratulations to the following: Tech. Sgt. Lee completed his 5-level CDC's with a score of 86 percent, and Senior Airman Keller was awarded her 5-level.

Master Sgt. Kruger's last UTA will be March.

Services wish all a Happy New Year!

UTA Dates FY 07

Month	934th	133rd	88th	Navy/Marines
Feb	3-4, 17-18	17-18	3-4	10-11, 24-25
Mar	3-4, 17-18	3-4, 24-25	3-4	10-11, 24-25
April	14-15, 21-22	21-22	7-8	14-15, 21-22
May	17-20	7-8, 19-20	19-20	7-8, 19-20
June	2-3, 16-17	16-17	2-3	9-10
July	None	None	7-8	14-15, 28-29
Aug	4-5, 18-19	4-5, 18-19	4-5	11-12, 25-26
Sep	8-9, 22-23	8-9	8-9	8-9, 22-23



Super Bowl Sunday Feb. 4 at the Officers' Club & Services Club

Lounge opens 3 p.m. Non-members \$3

Enjoy Sloppy Joes, chips & nacho cheese, giant pretzels & drink specials.

Bring your friends, join the fun & cheer on your team!

Watch the game on the big screen TV!

Prizes throughout the day. Must be present to win.



*Col. Jorge Llambes,
Col. Tim Tarchick and
Capt. Jeff Gorman
serve up holiday meals
at the dining facility
during the December
UTA.*

Photo by Capt. Helen Elrod

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