

VIKING FLYER

934th Airlift Wing (AFRC)

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

February 2008 Vol. 30, No. 2

Space A rises again



Stray shots: part II

By Lt. Col. Theodore Ruminsky
934th Security Forces Squadron Commander

Who doesn't like a classic quote? We often quote co-workers and lines from movies when reminiscing about something funny or profound. But if you look beyond the delivery of the message, there is often a point to be made in the content. Sometimes these quips, or one-liners, can serve to remind those around of the deeper message that you actually intend to convey. In all of our relationships, there are those close to us that understand what we mean with a simple comment, where a simple phrase speaks volumes.



As we prepare for our ORI this Spring, I offer several quips based upon my own experience for your consideration. They are each accompanied by a brief explanation. Most of these concepts are not original; you've probably heard

them before in some form or fashion. Perhaps in this form, they are easily encapsulated and exportable for your use:

1) Don't ever accept a "no" from someone not qualified to say "yes." No is the easy answer. It often requires little to no risk on the part of the person impersonating a road-block. If you need a "yes," you, or anyone you pass the standard to, must be speaking to the person that has the actual authority to say "Yes." Otherwise you will not affect change. When you are at the ORI, and you call another office requesting the support you need, support that will cause failure if you don't get it, make sure you are talking to someone with the actual authority to make the tough call.

2) Always get the plate. This is a cop thing, but applies universally. It refers to being able to identify a vehicle and its registered owner. In this context, it means "identify the source." How often have you heard someone say, "They told me I couldn't." Who is "they," what's their name, position, contact information, etc. You cannot engage on an issue, nor can your supervisor, if no one knows where to start. IE: Get the name of the person that said, "no" so your supervisor can follow up. Get the plate.

3) Details count. Is the weapon properly cleared?

Have all Squad Leaders physically inspected their troops to ensure there are no live rounds before issuing blank ammunition? Did you proof-read the memo you sent up to your commander? Did you use spell check on that EPR? Did you use "Tongue and Quill" format? Do you render proper customs and courtesies as you roam around the installation? Did you properly annotate your timecard or leave paperwork? Do not confuse paying attention to details with micromanaging. Not paying attention to details can lead to mission failure, micromanaging doesn't. Sloppy work can be contagious and cause needless delays. When supervisors stop paying attention to details they validate and passively accept the lower standards. Passive acceptance equals approval. If you can't do the simple things right, how can I trust you to do the complex or more hazardous ones correctly? So if you see details being overlooked at Gulfport, so will the IG. Overlooking details is to the IG, as blood in the water is to a shark. The IG will look harder for problems that they will assume must be there if you don't pay attention to details.

4) Show up. This is about loyalty. Sometimes, 90% of the battle is just being there when needed. Who can you truly depend upon in your life? At work? Who will be there when everyone is cold, hungry, tired and we need a volunteer? When your unit is being overrun, and all hope is fleeting, who will come find you alone in your fighting position, jump in and split their last magazine of ammo with you? More likely, and less dramatic, are the day-to-day administrative ambushes. We've all been there. Its a couple minutes prior to shift change and you overhear someone comment that a key project is not done or the EOC levies a task. You can pretend not to hear and try to sneak out in hopes of escape or you can choose to show up and help. Do you accept responsibility or do you avoid it at all costs? Quitting is easy. I want people that show up on my team.

5) Full-up rounds. Happiness is a dry fighting position and a full magazine. This one is actually more to do with being prepared. Are you "good to go," is everything prepared? However, another common usage is preparing your supervisor to engage on an issue that you cannot deal with at your own level. If you have a problem and need your boss to get it fixed, give him/her a full magazine, meaning you do the research to provide them with the background and regulatory references they need to quickly assess, understand and engage on the issue. Don't bring them an empty magazine by giving them a problem that they will have to figure out for themselves. Next time you bring an issue to your boss, make sure you are full-up rounds so you can answer their questions, so that they can be full-up rounds when they engage your issue. Anyone can be a critic, they are a dime a dozen. Be a contender, show up full-up rounds.

Continued page 4





Photo by Master Sgt. Paul Zadach

Like father like daughter

Tech. Sgt. Julie Schwebke is commissioned a 1st Lieutenant as she is given the oath by her father, Maj. Gordon Wix, both members of the 934th Airlift Wing. The new lieutenant has nine years of service and her father, who was also prior enlisted, has more than 23. Lieutenant Schwebke will work as a Medical Service Corps officer with the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron where her father serves as a flight nurse.

The 934th Airlift Wing has won the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

All military members who served in the 934th between Sept. 1, 2005 - Aug. 31, 2007 are authorized to wear the AFOUA ribbon.



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.

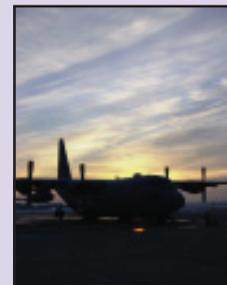


Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael J. Edmond

On the cover

A 934th C-130 awaits boarding by travelers using the reborn Space A program. For story see page 8.



Commentary cont. from page 2

6) *You can't train attitude.* I qualify this one by saying, yes, you actually can train attitude, albeit with enough time and the proper motivation. Generally speaking, in the Reserve, we don't always have the luxury of either. It's the Bell Curve theory applied to people; some will be stellar performers and some are just destined to be oxygen thieves. Therefore, what I tell my subordinate supervisors is to hire/select personnel based upon attitude above all else. I have seen people with skills and resumes that walk on water yet turn out to be "No-Go's" when you need them most. We can train just about anyone to do just about anything, but a poor attitude can be contagious and bring others down. Someone with a great attitude can be a force multiplier.

7) *Don't bring a pistol to a rifle fight.* This simply means you need to select the correct tool for the job. IE: Don't bring a shovel when you really need a backhoe. It can also apply metaphorically, for up-channeling issues that really need to go to the next higher level of supervision. You may want to carry the standard, but sometimes we all experience the need for more horsepower to carry our issues forward. Give the issue an honest assessment and don't be afraid to pass the standard on to your boss.

8) *Trust your instincts.* If it doesn't seem right, it's probably not. I often get an uneasy feeling whenever I'm uncomfortable with something that is about to happen. Usually it comes when I'm getting briefed about a plan or procedure. I often pause and the briefer will try to reassure me with a, "It'll be fine, Sir" or "Don't worry, Sir, this is totally legal, we wouldn't get you fired." *Famous last words...maybe not deliberately.* There have been occasions when I've surrendered to the advocate, ignored my instincts, and ended up regretting my decision later. I submit to you that you should trust your instincts. If it doesn't feel right, you might want to more thoroughly research the issue at hand.

9) *Does it pass the common sense and logic test?* This is kind of the

bottom line of all decision-making. Sometimes a policy or procedure just doesn't make sense. If you apply common sense and logic to the issue, how does it stack up? If it doesn't pass the test, work toward change. Local issues are the easiest to address, but even things in AFIs can be bad ideas, if not plain wrong.

10) *Address the issue, not the symptoms.* All too often I see supervisors directing compensatory measures to address the symptoms of an issue without working on the issue itself. If you address the symptoms, the issue will not go away....it will continue to fester until someone finally addresses the underlying issue.

One example of this is when one member of a team is not carrying their share of the workload. It is often easier for a supervisor to re-assign work from the non-performer to other team members. Re-assigning the workload is only a band-aid on a bullet hole. In extreme cases, removal or administrative demotion, to a rank more commensurate with their abilities, is appropriate for non-performance. Conversely, great performance needs to be rewarded.

Think of a dog-sled team. You want to go faster, but you just can't seem to reach top speed. What happens if one dog isn't pulling, or worse, is dragging its paws? The other dogs have to pull harder, often with the same ration of food as the dog that isn't pulling. The symptom is speed, the issue is workload. Whipping all the dogs to go faster is not only wrong, it's not sustainable. There should be a reward for doing more than fair share, just as there should be consequences for those that do less. What if the lead-dog is pulling, but not in the right direction – the infamous all thrust but no vector situation? The symptom is a wandering course, the issue is leadership. Perhaps re-assignment to a different position is appropriate, one where someone else can provide the direction. Usually there is another dog in the pack that works hard and pulls in the right direction that would prefer the view from the front.

In some cases you don't have time to fix the issue, so you are forced to

address the symptoms. This is especially true in the heat of an ORI. The better option is the ounce of prevention beats a pound of cure theory. If you can, address your unit's issues before you get to Gulfport, because you'll have a whole new set once you get there for the ORI.

11) *Establish expectations.* For the ORI, the expectations have been made crystal clear: "Excellence is not our goal...it is our Standard." It's been said that if you aim at nothing you will surely hit it. Too true, but it starts with having a target. Supervisors play a critical role in team success by their establishment of expectations. It provides a target for the team. Team members must plan and adjust accordingly to meet or exceed the minimum acceptable standards. Supervisors then have a benchmark by which to evaluate performance. Everyone must be clear on expectations.

12) *We succeed or fail together.* The military is a team. Like any team sport, everyone has a position to play. The success comes from everyone collectively executing their duties and responsibilities. Take a sports team analogy, it doesn't matter if you are only in for one play or if you are in for the entire game, everyone has a role and everyone needs to execute their part of it for the team to succeed. The game is always made up of many plays. Your duty is to work hard and execute as best you can on every play you are in for. The beauty of a team is that sometimes your teammates can "pick you up" if you make a bad play. Nobody gets it right 100% of the time. But any great team will not leave one of their own "hanging" if they slip. This carries over to our partners from the 910 AW. Together, the 910th and the 934th are one team, the 922 AEW.

The concepts I have highlighted have served me well to this point. If you apply all the concepts listed above, it has been my experience that you can affect change. I hope that you might discover a nugget in there that you find useful and can add to your own axioms as you continue your preparations for the ORI and honing your war-time skills.





Courtesy photo

Cops in blues

The 934th Security Forces Squadron takes a few moments to show off their Air Force pride in their Air Force blues following their annual service dress uniform inspection.

ORI Warrior skills schedule

February 2	1000-1300 1215	Weapons familiarization for all players Hazmat training
February 3	0800-1100 1215	Wing-wide ATSO X (TQT) - Everyone Increment Manager training
March 1	All day 1000-1300	Personnel and cargo processing -including alternates Weapons familiarization for all players
March 2	0800-1100 All Day	SFS Selective Arming training Personnel and cargo processing -including alternates
March 27	0800-0930 Rest of the day	Commanders Call in fitness center SABC, J-I-T training, Bunker training
March 28	All day	Transition point training, CCA training, other remaining training

Awards

Ms. Kristin Borntrager, Financial Analysis Officer & Civilian of the Year (GS-11 and above)

Mr. Jason Dunn, Financial Analysis Officer & Civilian of the Year (GS-10 and below)

Mr. Tim Tamlyn, Resource Advisor of the Year-Installation level

Please congratulate them when you see them.

WELL DONE Kristin, Jason and Tim!



Comm passes photo ops to PA

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Michael J. Edmond
934 AW/PA

The base photography and audiovisual personnel have been officially integrated with the 934th Public Affairs as of Oct. 1.

The merger has effectively consolidated photo and audiovisual into one unit to streamline its functions, said Master Sgt. Paul Zadach, the noncommissioned officer in charge of 934th public affairs.

"It's now a one stop shop," he added. "Now everything photographic is under the umbrella of public affairs."

"Public Affairs has absorbed two photographers into its unit, and are already reaping the benefits of it," said Sergeant Zadach.

"PA is learning the comm skills, and former comm. photographers are learning the skills of PA. It gives PA personnel a wider knowledge base," he explained. "The merger will enable PA

to provide better service to our customers because we now have more people with more skills."

Two of the larger functions that PA is now responsible for are official photos and passport photos. PA is able to shoot both types during the week by appointment only. During the Reserve drill weekends, official photos will continue to be by appointment only, but passport photos will be from 8 to 10 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday, and no appointment is necessary. Those who need passport photos or official photos need to fill out an AF Form 833.



Tech Sgt. Bob Sommer trains PA specialists how to take an official photo using the photo studio which remains in the comm. building.



Photo by Master Sgt. Paul Zadach

Optimists primed for favorable forecast

Col. Tim Tarchick, 934 AW commander, speaks to the Richfield Optimist Club in January about the 934th's mission and positive impact in the community.



Chem Warfare training gets facelift

New style to focus on hands-on approach, fewer PowerPoint presentations

By Staff Sgt. Michael J. Edmond
934 AW/PA

Starting this month, the Emergency Management Readiness Flight is slated to change the way it teaches the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive incidents course, otherwise known as chem. warfare training.

"The new method of teaching requires much more audience participation", said Senior Master Sgt. Doug Johnson, the training supervisor of the EMRF.

"I think hands-on training is always better than death by PowerPoint," added Johnson.

The current method of training requires Reserve members to first take a web-based Explosive Ordnance Recognition course prior to attending a PowerPoint-based chem warfare class that typically lasted between three and four hours.

The new program accomplishes EOR training using a more comprehensive and timely web-based course that has been renamed "CBRNE Awareness." This new course is divided into small modules that can be completed in multiple settings, with the program saving your progress after you complete each defined section. This self-paced course takes two to four hours to complete, depending on the individual's knowledge of the subject matter, said Sergeant Johnson.

After completing the web-based course, a copy of your training certificate is to be given to the Unit Training Manager who schedules you to attend a new CBRNE Survival Skills Training class within the next four months.

"Even though the CBRNE Awareness class course can be taken as individual modules, you must finish all sections of the

web-based course and be issued a certificate four UTAs (four months) prior to attending the CBRNE SST class. This SST class is new and is a performance based hands-on training event." he added.

According to Sergeant Johnson, members will arrive at the SST with their chemical protection mask and chemical protection gear and immediately "MOPP up" or don their chem gear to start the course which is scheduled to take about two hours.

The new course is designed so members can go through several "stations" where they will see and touch the type of chemical equipment they could use in a deployed environment, Johnson commented.

"These stations include areas such as a mask inspection and wash area, a demonstration of M-8 and M-9 tape, a demonstra-

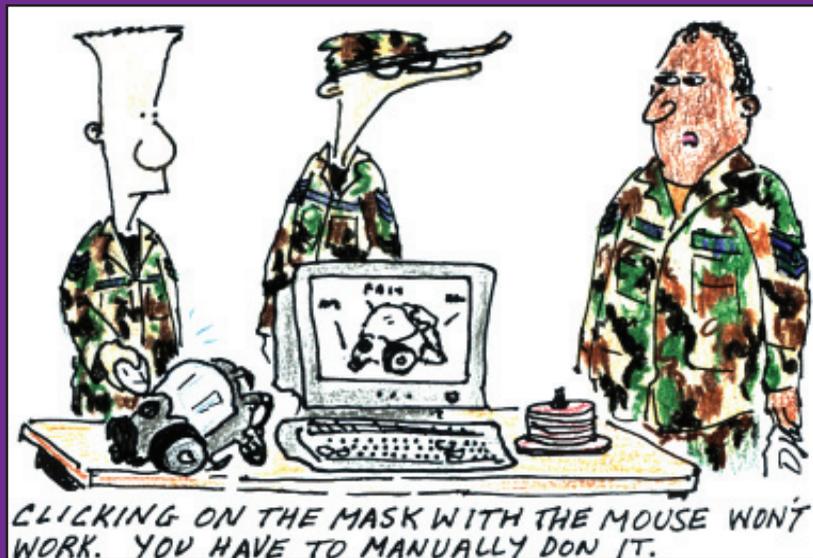
tion of 291 and 295 decontamination kits, a donning and doffing of the chem gear area, and a station that teaches members how to mark an area for Unexploded Ordnances and/or chemical contamination," he explained.

"This hands-on training is another way the 934th is ensuring its members are better prepared to deploy," said Col. Tarchick, the 934th Airlift Wing commander.

The web-based CBRNE Awareness course is located online at the Advanced Distributed Learning Service web site under Course list/Emergency Management/CBRNE Awareness.

Note: Due to the high volume of users, the web-based course may not function properly. If that happens, contact your Unit Training Manager for an alternative solution.

SERGEANTS UPP & ADAM



Senior Master Sgt. Doug Johnson

Wanted: highly motivated applicants

The Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service is now seeking applicants to fill recruiting positions in locations across the globe.

"We're always looking for enthusiastic, qualified people. If you are motivated to excel, perform above the status quo, and are physically and morally fit this could be the career move you've been looking for," said Chief Master Sgt. Dave Schoch, chief of the AFRC Recruiting Service training branch.

The application process begins with a face-to-face interview with the local senior recruiter. If qualified, applicants need to submit a package to recruiting headquarters.

If selected, applicants attend a five-day evaluation and selection course at Robins Air Force Base. The top candidates are afforded the opportunity to attend the challenging six-week long recruiter class held at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

An initial recruiting tour of extended

active duty can last up to four years.

Four extensions are reserved for those who "meet or exceed the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, appearance, integrity, production, and acceptance of responsibility," according to Chief Schoch.

For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Brendt Traicoff, the senior recruiter at the 934th Airlift Wing at (612) 713-5627, or call Master Sgt. Briana Ontiveros, the training NCO at headquarters, at (478) 327-0630.

The sun rises again on Space A



Ground crews prep a C-130 that can carry up to ten Space A travelers.

**Photos and story by
Staff Sgt. Michael J. Edmond
934 AW/PA**

Although Minnesota winters are harsh, and its one day of summer is unbearably hot and humid, thrifty and adventurous travelers like Earl Czech and his wife Rosemary will no longer be imprisoned in the clutches of the whimsical weather warden.

The 934th Airlift Wing began offering Space Available travel once again as of Oct. 1.

The 934 suspended Space A after the Sept. 11 attacks. After new regulations came out, the Travel Management Office took ownership of the Space A program, said John Bruns, the TMO and supply warehouse supervisor.

"The Space Available program is a privilege that certain armed forces people have a right to. If they have a desire to go from here to another Air Force base we are flying to, certain people have a right to sign up for that trip," explained Bruns.

One person taking advantage of those privileges is Earl Czech, a retired Air Force Master Sergeant of 20 years. He has crossed the Atlantic 54 times, most of them flying Space A, he said.

"It's nice to catch a flight from the 934. The night before you fly, you can stay at the lodge here, which is a first class facility," Earl commented.

One thing to remember and be

aware of, said Bruns, is that Space A travelers are not guaranteed a ride home. Once they arrive at their destination, they must sign up for the Space A flight back home.

"Travelers are always advised that they may have to find their own way back," added Bruns.

Space A is open to all Reservists and military retirees. Only military retirees who are currently collecting retirement pay are authorized to bring their spouse on Space A flights. Reservists don't need to be on orders to fly, but they are required to have a DD Form 1853, verification of Reserve status, signed by their commander, said Bruns. This form is valid for six months, he added.

Travelers wishing to use Space A must first call the Space A hotline to check available flights for that month.



Earl Czech and his wife Rosemary wait to board a Space A flight.

This recording will also give callers the number to the Air National Guard Space A hotline, which Reservists and retirees may also use.

"The itineraries for the next month come out the last week of the current month," said Bruns.

Once they find a flight, they will then need to call Bruns. He will put their name on the list and start any necessary paperwork.

When they are ready to fly, travelers need to arrive at Base Operations, building 821, two hours before the flight is scheduled to take off. Any bags they bring will be searched and the traveler will be wanded before boarding the aircraft.

"All TSA travel rules apply, and travelers must show their I.D.," said Bruns.

For Earl and Rosemary, the return of Space A couldn't have come at a better time. This year they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. As they sit patiently to board the C-130, the morning rays of the sun creeping through the windows remind them that this just isn't the dawning of a new day; it's the beginning of the rest of their life.

For other questions or to request Space A, call John Bruns at (612) 713-1519. The Space A hotline is (612) 713-1741.

The 934th does not offer overseas Space A flights.

Around the Pattern



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Edmond
Col. Steve DeWerff, the 934th vice commander, greets recruits set to attend basic training.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer
Master Sgt. Lisa Deleon salutes Col. Tim Tarchick, 934th commander, after he pinned on her commendation medal. Tech. Sgt. Lisa Driggs (center) and Staff Sgt. Heather Schlitt each received an achievement medal.



Photo by Master Sgt. Paul Zadach
Col. Tim Tarchick, 934 AW commander, attends the January Retiree Affairs Committee meeting. The RAC provides local military retirees from all services with information on benefits and activities of interest to retirees and their families. The RAC is at bldg. 727. Phone:612-713-1516/1517



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer
Col. Allan Swartzmiller, 934th Operations Group commander, gives command of the Operations Support Flight to Lt. Col. Tim Wollmuth.



Photo by Master Sgt. Kerry Bartlett
934 AW members participate in weapons familiarization training in preparation for the ORI.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer
Col. Tarchick and Command Chief Master Sgt. Jan Dalton stand on either side of the 934th's Airmen of the year winners.

Wing Roundup

LRS

Congratulations to Technical Sergeant Scott Sippel on his retirement. Thank you Tech. Sgt. Sippel for your service and commitment to our country. His last UTA will be in February. The ceremony and celebration is scheduled for Saturday of the February UTA at 3:30 p.m.

Kudos go out to Staff Sgt. Kevin Schulz for achieving a 91 percent score on his 5-level CDC end of course test for vehicle maintenance. Senior Airman Waleed Kishta received an outstanding 90% average score in completing Supply Technical School. Airman Robert Baer completed Vehicle Maintenance Technical School. Also, Tech. Sgt. Jason Virkus was awarded his 7-level in vehicle maintenance in Dec. Now it's time to put all of this well deserved knowledge to work! Way to go troops!

Master Sgt. Charles Colstrom and Senior Airman Matthew Countryman will be headed to Puerto Rico in support of Coronet Oak beginning January 12 through 28. Master Sgt. Colstrom will support the supply function, while Airman Countryman will support Fuels.

Finally, Tech Sgt. John Schmidt will be joining LRS as First Sergeant. Sergeant Schmidt is currently a communications specialist and will begin his new role in the near future. Congratulations on your promotion!

SFS

Congratulations to Tech. Sgt. Daniel Mellesmoen on his promotion to master sergeant.

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Richard Waldoch and Master Sgt. Kevin Harstad on their recent retirements. Sergeants Waldoch and Harstad both served on Active Duty and Reserve status for 22 years.

Security Forces welcomes new member Senior Airman Louis T. Wolfe.

Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Randy Barker and Senior Airman Chad Iverson, the SFS members of the quarter. Staff Sgt. Barker received the award for the AGR side, and Senior Airman Iverson was chosen as the traditional member of the quarter.

CHAPEL

Friday night Pizza and Movie time is **pushing back to 8:45 p.m.** on Friday evenings in the Chapel building (725).

For those who are unable to make it on Friday, we are also **adding Saturday evening: same movie, same time, same place** (we'll get new pizza!)

February's movie selection: "The Tuskegee Airmen."

Come as you are – everyone is welcome – rank will be left at the door!

Reminder to all that a Chapel staff member is on call from Friday evening through sign-out Sunday afternoon.

Please call X1226 to reach the chapel.

AES

This is a busy month for the squadron. We'd like to wish our best to our deployed members at Andrews AFB and Ramstein AFB. They are serving as part of the Integrated CONUS Medical Operations Plan (ICMOP), in support of Operation OIF/OEF. Keep up the great work!

Our First Sergeant, Master Sgt. Chris Sayre, is still at large, supposedly at Hill AFB, UT.

Several members are away at school. Maj. Michael Mackovich and 2Lt. Jennifer Larson are at Maxwell AFB for Reserve Commissioned Officer Training. 2nd Lt. William Fleischer and Staff Sgt.'s Mary Wetterstrand and Michiel Kiel are at Flight Nurse/Aeromedical Technician school at Brooks City Base, San Antonio. Once finished, they are off to Survival Evasion Resistance Escape training! Good Luck!

Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Jodi Wortman and Staff Sgt. Michiel Kiel on their recent promotions.

Congratulations also go out to the Wing Senior NCO of the Year, Master Sgt. Dennis Swanson and Company Grade Officer of the Year Capt. Anne Selimos. And, congratulations to Staff Sgt. Amanda Hightshoe on her recent marriage.

Welcome to new member Staff Sgt. Sharon Rexeisen. And good luck, and best wishes to our recent retirees, Master Sgt. Carl Thorner and Master Sgt. Pete Sirna. You and your wealth of

experiences will be greatly missed.

And finally, congratulations to our fearless commander Lt. Col. Cherie Roberts on her recent selection to the rank of Colonel. Well done!

MXS

Master Sgt. Pete DeSanctis was recognized as the 2007 Maintenance Civilian of the Year.

Two of our newest members walked through the door with well-deserved Meritorious Service Medals in tow. We take our hats off to Senior Master Sgt. Brian Smith of the Metals Technology section and Master Sgt. Tom Donnelly of the Electro/Environmental shop.

Staff Sgt. Dave Barrett of the Electro/Environmental shop was recently awarded his bachelors degree in aviation management maintenance from St. Cloud State University.

CES

Congratulations to Senior Airmen David Lein (Electrical) and Donald Saragosa for their well-deserved promotion to Staff Sergeant.

Final annual tour preparations were accomplished for 55 members deploying to Dobbins ARB, Atlanta, Ga. in mid January for Prime Beef training.

The men and women of CES said goodbye to our friend and comrade Master Sgt. James Werner. He served in the Marines 1966-69. After a 15 year break Sergeant Werner joined the ANG, eventually arriving here in 2001 to finish his career.

It must also be noted that in December we bid farewell to Senior Master Sgt. Gerald Siehndel, a long time warrior, companion, and mentor. Sergeant Siehndel entered the Army in 1975, joined the 934th in 1981, retiring after 33 years of service to his country.

Staff Sgt. Matthew House (Fire) received an outstanding score of 93 on his CDC end of course test.

Senior Airman Kyle Sunne (Electrical) received an AETC Commander's Award for his exceptional performance at tech school. Senior Airman Christopher Schlembach (Electrical) received this month's CES "Look Sharp" award.



Air Force Canterbury Snocross

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Williams



(above) An Air Force sponsored snocross racer flies through the course. (below left) New Air Force recruits recite the oath of enlistment given by Brig. Gen. Zan Vautrinot at a public ceremony at the start of the Air Force Canterbury Snocross at the Canterbury Downs in Shakopee, Minn.



(right) General Vautrinot congratulates recruits. (far right) Recruits standby for the playing of the colors as a 934th C-130 approaches to perform a flyover.





Viking Vibes



Valentine's Day Dinner

*Feb. 14 * Officers' Club * 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.*

Menu

Soup: Lobster Bisque

*Salad: Wild Field Greens with Dried Cherries,
Candied Pecans,*

Blue Cheese & Balsamic Vinaigrette

*Entrée Choice: Butter Poached Monk Fish, Wild
Rice & Asparagus or Blackened Rib Eye*

Side Dish: Twice Baked Potato & Asparagus

Dessert & Glass of Wine

\$60 per couple

All ranks & military branches welcome.

Reservations required. Call (612) 767-1960.

*Book the Romance Package, which includes dinner,
a room at North Country Lodge & complimentary gift
basket, for only \$150 per couple. Limited number of
packages available, so call today!*

Super Bowl party

Join the fun and cheer for your team at the Super Bowl Party Feb. 3 at Officers' Club lounge starting at 3 p.m. There will be a Build-Your-Own Bloody Mary Bar. For more details, call (612) 767-1960.

Food delivery

The Services Club's pizzeria delivers pizzas, pasta, salads, sandwiches and more anywhere on base, including lodging, Tuesdays through Fridays 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call (612) 713-1672.

Club specials

Enjoy the burrito special for \$8.95 at the Officers' Club lounge every Tuesday. Every Friday is Seafood Night at the dining room. There is a different seafood special every week. At the Services Club, try the new and

improved lunch menu! More great food at great prices! Both clubs prepare all food with trans fat free oils.

O'Club lounge

The new lounge hours at the Officers' Club are Monday through Thursday 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Don't forget to ask about the Wines of the Month.

Fitness classes

The fitness center offers spin, yoga and fitness boot camp classes every week. All classes are free and one hour long. For more information, call (612) 713-1496 or visit the fitness center and pick up a schedule.

Personal training

Get into shape for the New Year with the help of one of the certified

personal trainers at the fitness center. Various price packages available. Call (612) 713-1496 for more details.

Massage

Relax and try a Swedish, sports or rehabilitative massage with a certified massage therapist at the fitness center. Rates vary. Pick up a brochure at the fitness center. Gift certificates are available. Call (612) 713-1496.

Winter rentals

Enjoy the winter season! Rent winter sports equipment, including ice fishing gear, toboggans, snow tubes and more at the base Outdoor Recreation Center at Bldg. 778. Club members receive a 10-percent discount. Military units get a 20-percent discount. Call (612) 919-5134.

Fitness center closed

The fitness center will be closed Feb. 18 for President's Day.

Lodging shuttle

North Country Lodge offers a shuttle service to and from lodging to the Mall of America, Veterans Hospital, Humphrey Terminal, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, Officers' Club, Light Rail Station, 88th Regional Readiness Center and 133rd Air National Guard Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person one way. This service is available to everyone on base. Lodging guests can make arrangements at the front desk. Those not staying at lodging can call (612) 726-9440.

Texas Hold 'Em

The Services Club will host a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament Feb. 2. Start at 6:30 p.m. No registration required. Prizes for winners. No money played. Chips only.



1st Sgt. selected as outstanding student

By Harvey Meyer
Metropolitan State University
Publications/News Services

A long-time Air Force Reserve member has been selected fall 2007 outstanding student in Metropolitan State University's College of Arts and Sciences. Senior Master Sgt. Vicky

Kuntz, a computer information systems major, was one of 825 students receiving bachelor's and master's degrees at the university's 81st commencement ceremony on Dec. 18.

"Vicky is an exemplary student," said Sue Fitzgerald, a CAS information and computer sciences professor. She added, "I admire her persistence and

hard work, her commitment to excellence and her cheerful attitude."

Sergeant Kuntz, from Elk River, has served in the Air Force for 22 years, the past 16 in the Reserve. She is a First Sergeant of the 934th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. She is planning to pursue Chief Master Sergeant, which she terms "my last long-term goal in life."

In her day job, Sergeant Kuntz is a senior application analyst for General Mills. She has been with the company for 17 years, starting as a legal secretary before assuming computer program positions.

Sergeant Kuntz participates in the General Mills Women in Information Systems mentoring group. She is a member of the company's Oracle technical reading group, the Twin Cities Oracle User Group and the Independent Oracle User Group.

Her association with the Air Force started as a teenager in 1977, when she enlisted for six years of active duty. She met and married her husband Scott in the Air Force.

She is a lifetime member of both the Air Force Sergeants Association and the Air Force Association and recently won the 934th Airlift Wing First Sergeant of the Year Award.

Previously, she volunteered at the Armed Forces Servicemen's Center at the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport. Sergeant Kuntz, a member of the 934th Human Resource Development Council, hopes to start a women's mentoring group in the 934th Airlift Wing.

Sergeant Kuntz, who has an associate's degree from Hillsborough Community College, Tampa, Florida, ranks graduating from college as an outstanding student among her biggest life accomplishments.

She is the only one of her three siblings to graduate from college. Among her other achievements: raising her two children, achieving a black belt in karate, and being married for 27 years.

She graduated from Vocational High School, Minneapolis, in 1976.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer

Senior Master Sgt. Vicky Kuntz (right) gets final instructions from Capt. Julie Hamiel (left) before going on stage to be recognized for her senior noncommissioned officer of the year nomination.

Promotions (to)

Tech. Sgt	Timothy L Stachowski	96 AS
Staff Sgt.	David S. Lein	934CES
Staff Sgt.	Donald L. Saragosa	934CES
Staff Sgt.	Joseph J. Tomlinson	934MXS
Senior Airman	Misesu T. Emeka	934ASTS
Senior Airman	Derek J. Rutks	27 APS
Senior Airman	Eric M. Grotegut	27 APS
Senior Airman	Amanda J. McCullough	934ASTS
Airman	Gabrielle L. Cohrs	934AES
Airman	Nicholas R. Muller	934AES

VIKING VOICES

Other than your job, which career field do you think is the most underappreciated?



Master Sgt. Donald Johnson, Operations Group

“Services, without question. They put in long hours and encompass a lot of different things. I don’t think they get near the recognition they deserve.”



Master Sgt. Michael McNally, Civil Engineer Squadron

“The Air Reserve Technicians. I know that isn’t a career field, but they put in more time coordinating things but don’t seem to get too much recognition.”



Master Sgt. Shirley Smith, Military Personnel Flight

“Services. They have all the stuff to get ready for (food service) and we’re all crabby when we go through the line. I don’t think people appreciate them enough.”



Master Sgt. Ruth Duffy, Services Squadron

“Security Forces. They put in a lot of late nights and are out in the cold during exercises protecting our perimeter. They’re usually the last ones to get a hot meal.”



Senior Airman Taylor Debel, LRS

“Security Forces. You don’t hear much about the police. They’re the first to prevent us from being in danger, and the first to know if we are even in danger, if it ever came to that.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael J. Edmond

Building fast ties while breaking fast

Col. Greg Hasse, commander of the 133rd Air National Guard Wing, talks with Mr. Martin Ludden from Senator Amy Klobuchar’s office, Col. Tim Tarchick, 934th Airlift Wing commander, and other congressional representatives during the quarterly Congressional breakfast. The representatives use this time as an opportunity to let members of the Guard and Reserve know what issues are being discussed in Washington D.C. It also gives military commanders a chance to up-channel military issues to congressional members.

Calendar

Time	Activity	Location	POC
SATURDAY			
0730 to 1600	Newcomers Flight	Per schedule	MSgt Besser, x1755
0800 to 1200	AFOQT/AFCT Testing	Bldg 852, room 206	SMSgt 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, 16330
845 to 1115	Hearing Exams	Bldg 840	MSgt Rebholtz, x1612
0900 to 1000	Deployment working group meeting	Bldg 862	
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	TSgt Rice, x1788
0930 to 1130	Medical Outprocessing	Bldg 840	SMSgt Goetz, x1642
1215 to 1615	Certifying HAZMAT	Bldg 862	TSgt Rice, x1788
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

SUNDAY

0700 to 0730	Catholic Services	Bldg 725, Chapel	Chaplain Svoboda x 1226
0830 to 1130	AF testing Appt. Only	Bldg 852 Rm 206	Gary Hayda, x1515
0830 to 0930	HRDC Meeting	Wing CC Conf Room	Col. DeWerff x 1204
0900 to 0930	Protestant Services	Bldg 725, Chapel	Chaplain Svoboda x 1226
1000 to 1100	Chief's Council Meeting	Wing CC Conf Room	CMSgt Dalton s 1211
0730 to 1600	Newcomers Flight	Per schedule	MSgt Besser, x1755
1215 to 1615	Increment Manager Training	Bldg 862	TSgt. Rice x1788
1300 to 1400	LOD Review Meeting	Bldg 760, CC Conf Room	SMSgt Atchley x1607
1500 to 1530	Catholic Services	Bldg 725, Chapel	Chaplain Svoboda x 1226



UTA Dates

Month	934th	133rd	88th	Navy/Marines
Feb	2-3, 9-10	9-10	2-3	9-10
Mar	1-2, 15-16	15-16	1-2	8-9
Apr	3-6, 19-20	19-20	5-6	12-13
May	3-4, 17-18	17-18	17-18	10-11
Jun	7-8, 21-22	21-22	7-8	14-15
Jul	NA, NA	NA	12-13	19-20
Aug	2-3, 16-17	14-17	2-3	9-10
Sep	6-7, 20-21	20-21	6-7	13-14

Firing range off limits

The 934th Airlift Wing firing range, located on Fort Snelling grounds, is off limits to unauthorized people. Trespassing is illegal and dangerous due to gun fire. If there is a valid need for entry, contact Master Sgt. Anthony Gamboni at 612-713-1815.





During a wing-wide commander's call, safety noncommissioned officer of the year Senior Master Sgt. Mike Vosen enlightens 934th members on ways to keep safe over the winter season.

934th Airlift Wing
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760 Military Highway
Minneapolis, MN 55450-2100

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