

VIKING FLYER

934th Airlift Wing (AFRC)
Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP Air Reserve Station, Minn.
December 2002

Toys for Tots



Inside: Security Forces troop awarded Airman's Medal



This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of the *Viking Flyer* are not necessarily the views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 934th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office (Air Force Reserve Command), Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, 760 Military Highway, Minneapolis MN 55450-2100, (612) 713-1213.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The newspaper is distributed on Friday before the unit training assembly.

The deadline for unsolicited submissions is the Monday after the UTA.

EDITORIAL STAFF

934th AW Commander
Col. Gary L. Cook
Director of Public Affairs
Lt. Col. Marge McGlinn
NCOIC
Master Sgt. Al Eakle
Editor
Allen Marshall
Viking Flyer Staff Writers
Tech. Sgt. R.J. Bruno
Senior Amn. Nicholas Olson
Senior Amn. Stephanie Witty
Viking Flyer Photographers
Staff Sgt. Stephanie Robinson
Senior Amn. Chris Guthrie
Amn. Josh Nason



VIKING FLYER

Volume 24, Number 12

December 2002



Airman's

Medal... Tech. Sgt. Mike Ross, 934th Security Forces Squadron, was awarded the Airman's Medal in a ceremony presided over by Brig. Gen. Dennis Shulstad. The medal is the highest awarded for valor in peacetime. Read about Ross's valor... [Page 6 and 7](#)

Recruiters meet goals... The Air Force Reserve met its goals for recruiting in the past year. [See story on Page 5.](#)

Phone cards... The Veterans of Foreign Wars' annual free phone card program is gearing up for active-duty, Guard and Reserve military members serving overseas, and for hospitalized veterans. [See story on Page 4.](#)

Two new leaders... Lt. Cols. Caroyln Lohman and Michael Maza have taken new leadership positions within the wing. [See photos of both on Page 11.](#)

Wish for the coming year... Several reservists were asked what they wished the coming year would bring. [Check out some of their responses on Page 8.](#)

Holiday message... The chaplain sends out a holiday message and discusses the meaning of "incarnation." [See story on Page 9.](#)



On the cover

Alisa Hall from the fitness center, organizes some of the donations made to the "Toys for Tots" box. Boxes like the one pictured are located throughout the base. To find out more about the program, call Recreation Services at ext. 1665. (Photo by Allen Marshall)

Uniform change: Name tag returns to service dress

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The Air Force's service dress uniform welcomed back an old friend Oct. 1: the nametag.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper and other senior leaders selected a new nametag for the uniform at the 2002 Corona Top conference in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The new service dress nametag has a brushed satin finish and blue letters. It is slightly larger and heavier than the blue plastic nametag worn on the blue shirt and medical white uniform. It will only feature the wearer's last name and will only be worn on the service dress, on the right side parallel to the ribbons and medals.

Air Force officials decided last year that a nametag was needed on the service dress uniform. Several proposals were reviewed and feedback was gathered from across the Air Force during several wear-tests.

The new nametags are becoming available in Army and Air Force Exchange Service military clothing sales stores. The name tags are available at the Minneapolis-St Paul IAP ARS clothing sales store. According to Janet Polk, the name tags cost \$7.95. The clothing sales store can place orders for the name tags now.

For more information, call clothing sales at 612-726-6394.

AFRC top performer

Ingrahm top civilian in SF

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Thirteen security forces people won Air Force Reserve Command awards for 2002.

One of those thirteen was Michelle Ingrahm, Chief of 934th Security Forces

Squadron Administration Branch. She won the civilian employee category.

Headquarters AFRC's directorate of security forces announced the award winners in November.

"I was surprised when Capt. Ruminsky and Maj. Dock called me at home to let me know," she said. "I could not believe I had been selected for the award."

Eleven of the top SF people, to include Ingrahm, advanced to the Air Force-level competition.

Results of the Air Force-level competition are expected to be announced in early January by message.



Michelle Ingrahm, 934th Security Forces



Courtesy Photo

Running Vikings...

Eight members of the 96th Airlift Squadron "Flying Vikings" recently competed in the twenty first running of the Edmund Fitzgerald 105 Kilometer Relay Race. This 65.5 mile running event began near Finland, Minn., and finished in Gitchi Gummi Park in Brighton Beach on Lake Superior (north of Duluth). The upper half of the course cut through the steep and winding logging roads of the Saw Tooth mountains. While the lower half hugged the scenic coast of Lake Superior. The Flying Vikings runners completed various distances from 3.1 to 16.1 miles and finished second in the military competition. Runners pictured, back row: **Jill Shepard, Jim Jirele, Tom O'Reilly, Dave Gerda and Gary Bray.** Front: **Doug Trogstad and Jim Alexander.** Not pictured is **Mark Hartnett.**

Who lives here now?



The following offices now reside in building 760, the 934th Headquarters Building:

- Wing Commander's Office**
- 934th Operations Group**
- Public Affairs Office**
- Civilian Personnel Office**
- Wing Safety Office**
- Reserve Recruiting Office**
- Wing Plans Office**
- Inspector General Office**
- Judge Advocate General**
- Military Equal Opportunity**

Holiday phone card program gearing up

WASHINGTON (USAFENS) — In time for the holidays, the Veterans of Foreign Wars' annual free phone card program is gearing up for active-duty, Guard and Reserve military members serving overseas, and for hospitalized veterans.

Both corporate and individual contributors fund the program, which began in the mid-1990s, noted Ron Browning, assistant adjutant general for development at VFW headquarters in Kansas City, Mo.

He said the prepaid phone card program kicks off during the Veterans' Day (Nov. 11) weekend. The cards, he added, will be offered in increments of at least 10 minutes of calling time, up to 30 minutes. The paper cards feature directions for use and include space for user comments, Browning said.

"It's a way of saying 'thank you,' not only from the VFW, but from the donors who promote the cards and provide the cards to these people who are really doing so much for America — especially today," he emphasized.

In fact, since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on America, the VFW and its volunteer network have distributed almost 600,000 prepaid phone cards to service members and veterans,

Browning said. That card count represents almost 6 million calling minutes, he added.

About 25,000 phone cards were issued in the program's first year, he noted. This year, he estimated, about a million will be distributed.

He recalled a note written to the VFW by a card recipient: "When no one else cares, I know you folks will be there. For that, I am eternally grateful. I'll use this card to get in touch with my family, whom I haven't heard from in number of years."

"Anyone who has ever been away from home on a holiday — especially serving overseas — knows how difficult that period can be," Browning said. "To know that we've made a difference in people's lives is huge, even if it's just a 10-minute phone call."

Historically, people such as parents, spouses, other relatives and military commanders have requested the phone cards for service members and veterans, he remarked. To request a phone card on behalf of a service member, visit www.vfwkc.org/marketing/PhoneCard.asp.

To make a donation <<http://www.vfw.org/uplink/donation.shtml>> toward the purchase of cards for distri-

bution, visit www.vfw.org/uplink/donation.shtml.

The VFW attempts to fulfill every legitimate request for phone cards and to get the cards into the hands of service members and veterans, Browning said.

The VFW program "has a pretty extensive volunteer network that makes it work," he said. And this year, he added, the National Football League and Department of Defense have partnered to get the word out about the free phone card program.

"The NFL has selected this particular project as a major part of its salute to veterans on Veterans Day," he said. That effort, Browning noted, kicks off during the Sunday (Nov. 10) and Monday night (Nov. 11) football games at NFL stadiums across the country.

Fans at the games will receive flyers explaining the program and suggesting how to contribute, Browning continued. Program information also will appear on various NFL Web sites, he said.

The VFW and its sponsors, he pointed out, are also involved in other support projects for service members. (Courtesy, American Forces Press Service)



courtesy photo

Teamwork

(From the left) Tech Sgt. Ken Boelter and Chief Master Sgt. Dave Skirka, base fire department; Chief Rocco Forte, Chief of the Minneapolis Fire Department; and Col. Paul Groskreutz, 934th Mission Support Group commander, pose for a picture after the Minneapolis Fire Department awards ceremony Nov. 8. Groskreutz and the other military members attended the ceremony to present a letter of appreciation to Walter Biesiada of the MFD. Biesiada donated numerous hours of personal time to ensure base fire department equipment was inspected following base fire fighter's deployments overseas.

Reserve revs up recruiting efforts

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - The Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service has teamed up with the "Smoke-N-Thunder" jet dragster and is scheduled to perform at 15 air shows nationwide in 2003.

Owned and operated by Scott and Linda Hammack of Corona, Calif., the dragster has been streaking down runways at speeds in excess of 350 mph for more than 20 years while maintaining a perfect safety record.

As the exclusive advertiser, the AFRC Recruiting Service hopes the jet car will not only entertain the crowds but also increase public awareness of the Air Force Reserve, said Chief Master Sgt. Eric Snipes, chief of AFRC Recruiting Service's



advertising branch.

"We are very excited about this affiliation," Snipes said. "We believe this dragster will give our recruiting force a unique identity at air shows and help attract potential recruits. The Reserve is looking for men and women with an interest in technology and mechanics."

Draped in a new patriotic paint scheme and sporting Air Force Reserve logos, the jet-dragster will be known as the *Air Force Reserve Above & Beyond Jet Car Show*. (AFRC News Service)

AFRC Recruiting exceeds goals despite stop-loss

By 2nd Lt. Lance T. Patterson
Air Force Reserve Command
Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - The Air Force Reserve Command exceeded its recruiting expectations for fiscal year 2002, despite being hampered by the Air Force's Stop-Loss program.

In previous years, recruiters relied heavily on separating active-duty members to fill Reserve positions, but that luxury was largely gone because many active-force members were being involuntarily retained by Stop-Loss to fight the war on terrorism. Stop-Loss also affected the Reserve, so it had fewer vacancies to fill because of separations and retirements.

As a result, the recruiting goal was set lower than in years past because the Reserve had to recruit largely non-prior service people to fill vacancies.

With a goal of 7,600 during fiscal year 2002, which ended Sept. 30, the recruiters signed up 8,202 recruits, yielding an end-strength requirement of 103.4 percent. During the previous fiscal year, the goal was 10,037, and the command accessed 10,500 recruits, to finish the year at 100.69 percent of programmed strength.

"We knew it would be a challenge exceeding the recruiting numbers of FY01, which was the highest posted in five years," said Col. Francis M. Mungavin, director of recruiting at Headquarters AFRC. "I give full credit to our bag-carrying recruiters, who are responsible for surpassing our recruiting goal set for 2002."

Mungavin said his people knew 2002 would be a demanding year, so they implemented some new strategies to get the job done.

This fiscal year promises to be another test for Reserve recruiters with a goal of 10,367.

Airman's Medal

934th Security Forces troop recognizes acts, awarded highest medal for valor

By Allen Marshall
Editor

It was a Fourth of July weekend much like any other. Outdoor fun with friends, camping, rafting, and, of course, a tragic accident narrowly avoided. More than two years ago, a father almost lost his 14-year-old daughter to the current of the Illinois River. Thanks to Mike Ross, that father is probably preparing to watch his daughter graduate from high school this summer.

Ross, a technical sergeant with the 934th Security Forces Squadron, was awarded the Airman's Medal Nov. 13 in a ceremony presided over by Brig. Gen. Dennis Schulstad, chairman of the Minnesota Chapter of the Employer Support of Guard and Reserve, and Col. Gary Cook, 934th Airlift Wing commander. The Airman's Medal is the highest award an Air Force member can receive for valor during peacetime. The valor Ross displayed occurred on a stretch of the Illinois River near Tahlequah, Okla.

In July of 2000, Ross was on active duty at McConnell AFB, Kan. This assignment was close to home for Ross, who grew up in Oklahoma and spent many a summer day floating on the river. And, that was the plan for the Fourth of July holiday. Ross joined a group of 25 for several days of camping and floating down, what Ross described as — "a lazy river."

The Illinois River, according to Ross, is not the white waters of Colorado and Wyoming. There are several places where you almost have to pull your raft or canoe because the current is so sedate. But, during this particular time of the year, the region had received more than its share of rain and the river had swelled to as much as six or seven feet above normal, Ross said.

July 1, the first day of floating,

Ross and his group had stopped along side the river to enjoy some refreshments and throw the football around. The group stopped at a point where the river was divided, with flow forking left and right of a large island. It was at this point on the river that fate would introduce itself to Ross and quick action would be the difference between life and death.

"I had seen the father and his three daughters just a little earlier," Ross remembered. "I told him to make sure he stayed to the one side when the river split because the other side was dangerous."

According to Ross, the dangerous side had several downed trees and the current was much stronger. While Ross relaxed with his group on the side of the river, he noticed the father and the three kids and knew right away something bad was going to happen.

"The father must not have heard me earlier because their raft was heading down the wrong side," Ross said. "I knew what was going to happen so I threw on my life jacket and began making my way across the river."

Ross used the current to lead him to the raft, which, by the time he arrived, had capsized and was now stuck beneath a tree and was being abused by the strong current. The father and two of his daughters had managed to grab hold of tree limbs but the 14-year-old was not as lucky. She had become pinned under the boat and was completely submerged, flailing for her life.

"My first thought as I made my way to the raft was to stay above the water," Ross recalled. "I knew my life vest would keep me up and I knew that they were not wearing vests. The 14-year-old was stuck and it just so happened that when the current took me into their raft, I was able to grab her and pull



The Airman's Medal

-- The Airman's Medal derives from the Act of Congress that created the Soldier's Medal (Public Law of the 69th congress, approved July 2, 1926), which was amended by Public Law 86-593 (approved by the 86th Congress on July 6, 1960), amending Title 10 of the United States Code to provide the Air Force with authority to present a distinctive version of the Soldiers Medal to be known as the "Airman's Medal."

-- The Airman's Medal has been in effect since July 6, 1960.

-- The Airman's Medal may be awarded to service members who, while serving in any capacity with the Air Force, distinguish themselves by heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy.

--The first recipient of the Airman's Medal was Captain John Burger, USAF, who was awarded his medal on July 21, 1960, for an act performed on September 9, 1959.

Medal

awarded for his selfless deed in peacetime

her up onto a branch.”

Everyone was safe. A deep breath could be taken but the safe feeling would be short lived. After getting the girl to safety, Ross balanced himself on the family's raft. He then noticed that someone else was trying to make his way over to help. But, the swim had apparently exhausted the 220-pound man and he was now in danger. Luckily, Ross was there to pull the man from the water. Tragedy had been avoided. Two lives had been saved.

After all the excitement, Ross returned to his friends and the weekend continued on as scheduled, almost as if nothing had happened. That night he noticed the family, which had capsized, leaving the campground. “I'm sure it was a traumatizing experience for those kids,” he said. That was the last time Ross saw the family he had saved.

Ross said that every year the Illinois River takes two or three lives. Growing up, Ross experienced several flips in his canoe or raft. “It was just something that happened on a regular basis,” he remarked. “But in this family's case it happened in a dangerous part of the river. I'm glad I was actually there to help. I think, in that situation, it's (helping) just something you do.”

‘Just something you do,’ is a comment that one former and present supervisor finds quite typical of Ross' character. Capt. Theodore Ruminsky, chief of security force operations for the 934th, describes Ross as someone well respected wherever he goes. And Ruminsky should know. He has been stationed with Ross during three different assignments.

“If you imagine a Bell curve with 10 percent at each end of the spectrum and the rest of us in the middle, Mike is a top-10 percenter,” Ruminsky said. “He is a humble, dedicated professional who is an asset to the service of our nation.”

Ruminsky was stationed with Ross when the river rescue occurred. He recalls being surprised that the story of the rescue became public knowledge.

“It was no surprise to any of us that Mike never let anyone know about this little tidbit of information,” Ruminsky said. “Knowing Mike, it was probably no big deal. Something needed to be done, so he did it. If a reserve lieutenant had not witnessed the rescue no one would have ever known it happened.”

The lieutenant wrote a letter describing the events and submitted it to Ross' commander who, in turn, began the paperwork to have Ross considered for the Airman's Medal.

That was more than two years ago. It wasn't until recently



Tech Sgt. Mike Ross

that Ross was finally decorated for his courage on the Illinois River. It took almost a year for the medal to be approved, which is pretty standard.

The medal was awarded in May 2001 but because of his transfer to the Reserve, several deployments and a callback to active duty, the actual presentation of the medal was delayed.

“I'm grateful that my supervisors took the time to go through the process of getting the medal awarded,” he said. “Apparently it took a lot of effort.”

Ross described the medal as humbling. He knows the history of the medal. He knows what kind of people have earned the medal in the past.

“I don't know that I fit into the category of people that have been awarded this medal,” he said. “I was honored to be put in for the medal and I was surprised that it was approved.”

“The truth is that there are people out there saving lives everyday and the only thing they get is a pay check. Like I said, it is a humbling experience.”

In Their Own Words



What is your New Year's wish?

"I hope everyone has good, safe year, good prospects, and good health."

-- Tech Sgt Dean Andersen, 934th CES

"That we would all be home and not scheduled to go anyplace."

-- Lt. Col. Marilyn Chambers, 934th AES



"To be safe and have everyone home safe."

-- Maj. Raymond Otto, 934th Plans

"A little more support from the rest of the nations on what the U.S. is trying to do."

-- Tech Sgt Crealer Alverio, 27th APS



IG: We are here to help you

by Col. Kristin Rudin
934th Inspector General

As the wing Inspector General, I have several roles to play. I am the "eyes and ears" of the wing commander and keep him informed of potential areas of concern that are brought to my attention. This helps the commander prevent, detect, and correct fraud, waste, and abuse and mismanagement.

But it also helps the commander dispel rumors, allay fears, and improve morale by addressing these concerns with the entire wing or with a particular unit or section.

However, I am also YOUR IG and the ombudsman, fact-finder, and honest broker who helps you resolve issues between you and your chain of command or with base agencies.

The most effective way to resolve these matters is still with your chain of command and that's where you should first turn. But sometimes that doesn't work or you just don't know where to turn for help.

In those cases, I am here to help you resolve your problem or get you in touch with the agency that can address your concern.

If you need to speak to me, I am located in Room 260, Building 760, and can be reached at ext 1298. If you feel more comfortable contacting a senior NCO, call my assistant Master Sgt Vicky Kuntz in the same office or at ext. 1286. In addition, we have made available a 24-hour fraud, waste, and abuse hotline. To leave a message, call ext. 1180 or visit our website on the 934th AW intra net web page under Wing pages.

Merry Christmas Chaplain: Christmas, God becomes one of us

Incarnation. No, it is not a brand of condensed milk. No, it is not a relatively inexpensive flower that can be any number of colors. And, no it is not about coming back to earth as an animal or insect after we die. That would be *reincarnation*.

The incarnation is the foundational point on which all of Christian faith is based.

That Jesus is the Word of God incarnate, that is God made human. He is *both* God and man at the same time. During this Christmas season, that is the reality that we remember and celebrate: that our divine God chose to become one of us and be born of the Virgin Mary and to bring light into darkness and bring hope into a despairing world.

In the fast paced and habitual world that we live, in which many of us, as a survival technique, simply go through the motions of life's activities without reflecting on the roots and foundation from which those activities spring, the awesomeness of the reality of the incarnation can be put on the back burner.

It ought not. I have seen the power of God becoming one of us bring powerful men to tears, and countless generations of children and adults to ask, "Why?"

In fact, some generations ask "why" so often they begin to doubt its reality. In the third and fourth centuries, the Arians (a heretical group named after the founder of the teaching, Arius) simply chose not to believe it. Jesus was not really God, they said. He was simply a profound teacher who taught us the ways of God and how to get along with each other.

Sound familiar? A good heresy never dies, it just dresses itself up for another age.

The same challenge to the incarnation was brought even earlier by docetists who, understanding the implications and profoundness of the incarnation, simply could not believe that an all-powerful God would choose to become one of us.

He was simply a ghost walking around who *looked like a human being*. So that is what they proclaimed, not believing that he would be so humble. What it really means is they could not see the awesomeness of God's love.

What the power of the incarnation means is that God loved us so much that he became one of us while still being God. He was not half man and half God, thus creating some bipolar like confusion, but he was all of both. He chose to share our life with him. He chose to share our human struggles, and he chose to give himself that we might have new life.

The awesomeness of this seemingly heady doctrine is not that He primarily chose to come and make us more comfortable, but to have us know that He is with us when we are not.

Wherever we find ourselves spiritually this Christmas time, whether living in legitimate concern about conditions in the world and its effects on our families, whether it is being part of an economy that is struggling after years of growth, whether living with physical ailments, or troubles in relationships, or we are at a comfortable stage in our life, we know that

Christmas at its heart is light in darkness, hope in despair, and God among us as one of us: the incarnation.

934th Comm. Flight

- Unit spent most of UTA boxing up equipment/office supplies in preparation for relocation to Bldg. 729.

- Members completed annual CPR training.

Staff Sgts Scott Inwards and Robertson both completed 7-level training.

Staff Sgt Chris Jones received the "Look Sharp Award" for month of November.

Staff Sgts Scott Inwards and John Herrick received a letter of appreciation from Col. Groskreutz for the work they did in Bldg. 729 in preparation for the UCI.

Scott Inwards's wife Angie, gave birth to the couple's daughter Oct. 18. (Information provided by Staff Sgt. Kristian Krug)

934th Maintenance Squadron

Tech Sgt. Randy Stapleton has taken a job at Hill AFB, Utah.

Staff Sgt. Jeff Spaulding has taken an ART job at Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

The 934th gained two aircraft from Willow Grove.

A major crack rig segment repair was accomplished by the following shops: Sheet Metal, Welding, Hydraulics, R & R, and Flightline.

The Maintenance Support Group has an opening for a career advisor. Resumes and a letter of recommendation are to be submitted by COB Jan UTA.

The squadron completed a Maintenance Manpower study to be used to determine required ART manning

Two members of the unit are going to in-route support in Italy; four are going on a JAATT mission to Alaska; two members went on an AME mission to California, two went on an RAS mission at the end of October. Three members went on an NVG course mission in Alabama; and one went on a mission to Kelly AFB, Texas.

The untimely death of Senator Wellstone brought a number of digni-

taries to the 934th AW in transit to the memorial service Oct. 22. The Flightline turned two 757's, a C'9, and a GulfStream Aircraft in addition to the regularly scheduled missions.

Staff Sgt. Dennis Erickson scored 92 percent on the Munitions Systems Craftsman course.

Staff Sgt. Douglas Kiser scored 92 percent on the Communication/Navigation Systems Craftsman course.

Staff Sgt. Randall Husser scored 94 percent on the Communication/Navigation Systems Journeyman course.

Tech Sgt. Dana Money was married to his 'princess,' Kelli, Sept. 28. (Information provide by Tech Sgt. Richard Rheinhardt)

934th ASTS

The ASTS conducted Medical Readiness training in conjunction with a Mass Casualty Exercise during the October UTA. Medical Readiness training consisted of Day/Night Land Navigation, Resource Protection/CCD, Field Site Survey and Sanitation, Patient Movement, and TQT.

The Mass Casualty Exercise was done to evaluate what the ASTS would do if something happened on base, as opposed to a deployed mission environment.

Senior Airman Danielle Romero returned from a year-long Medical Technician Technician School.

The ASTS deployed four med. techs. and two medical administration specialists to Ramstein AB, Germany in support of Operation Enduring Freedom for a three-month rotation. They are: Master Sgt. Jim Brausen, Master Sgt. Becky Hanson, Tech Sgt Robert Larson, Staff Sgts. Stephanie Belle-Isle, Ben Burgesen and Mandy DeForrest.

Physical exams and immunizations took up most of the November UTA. Physical exams had 235 members scheduled for Saturday and 135 for Sunday. 560 people went through the immunizations line Saturday and 60 Sunday, resulting in 1,000-1,500 immunizations administered for the UTA.



Commander in Chief

President Bush made a brief stop in the Twin Cities Nov. 3. Cols. Gary Cook and Mark Arnold, commander and vice commander of the 934th Airlift Wing, were the first to greet the president as he exited his aircraft. Air Force One, as during most presidential visits, parked on the wing's ramp. This being the president's first visit during a UTA weekend, many reservist may have had a chance to sneak a peak at the 747 sitting outside base operations.

Christmas Events

The Officer's Wives' Club will host a Luncheon & Program: A Victorian Christmas, Dec. 14 at 11:30 a.m. Make reservations (by Dec 13) by calling Roberta Gronemann at 763-494-3517 or Jan Olson 952-470-8879.

The Flower and Garden Club will hold a Christmas Ball Dec. 14. Home for the Holidays will be the theme. The menu is Prime Rib or Walleye -- \$35.00 per person. Coctails begin at 6 p.m with dinner following at 7:30 p.m. The Lou Johnson Band will entertain. Call Trudye Bremmer for reservations at 952-941-3527.



**Lt. Col. Michael
Maza**

Maza is the newly appointed chief of the Military Equal Opportunity office. He had been interim Mission Support Flight commander.



**Lt. Col. Carolyn
Lohman**

Lohman is now the Mission Support Flight commander. She replaces Lt. Col. Pamela LeBlanc.

Services calendar

Officer's Club (612) 713-3678

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

Dinner: Wednesday -Saturday from 5:30 to 8:30 p.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. Lounge menu available from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday

Sundays: Closed.

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

Tuesdays: Dining room closed. Lounge menu available 11-9

Wednesdays: Dinner special Dec 4 – Meatloaf, Dec 11 – Pork Loin, Dec 18 – T-Bone Steak, Dec 25 – Christmas (Club Closed)

Thursdays: Dec 5 – T-Bone Steak, Dec 12 – Shrimp Scampi, Dec 19 – Pork Chops, Dec 26 – Club Closed

Fridays: Different seafood specials in the dining room. Reservations required.

Saturdays: Prime rib for two in the dining room.

Special events: Dec 7 – Army/Navy Game; Dec 10 – 2-4-1 Steak Night; Dec 14 Christmas Ball, see the Flower & Garden Club information below, Dec 31 – New Year's Eve Party.

Tickets...New Year's Eve tickets go on sale the Dec. 7 at the Officers Club. Tickets sales start at 9 a.m. Cost is \$39.95 per person and includes choice of Lobster Tail or Sliced Tenderloin for dinner, a continental breakfast, glass of champagne, party favors and a four-piece band.

Enlisted Club (612) 713-1655

Breakfast: Tuesday-Friday from 7:30-9:30 a.m.

Lunch: Tuesday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Dinner: Friday night only from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Open until 9 p.m. on UTA Friday. Dinner available at Officers Club Wednesday-Saturday.

Lounge: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00-9:30 p.m.; Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Friday-Saturday from 3 p.m. to midnight.

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Closed

Tuesday-Friday: Daily specials for lunch plus regular menu.

Fridays: Evening Specials; Dec. 6 – Porterhouse, Dec. 10 – 2-4-1 Steak at O' Club, Dec. 13 – Seafood Platter, Dec. 20 – Top Sirloin

Saturdays: Open for lunch from 11-12:30 p.m. on Dec. 7 and Dec. 14.

The Club management urges Enlisted Club members to eat at the Officers Club Wednesday – Friday. Club Membership applications are available at all Services Facilities.

North Country Lodge

Reminder to all Unit Lodging POC's and First Sergeants: Reservists are responsible for signing up for their UTA lodging themselves. There have been a number of unit errors recently in which the Unit Lodging POC is signing the roster for lodging and the reservist doesn't actually need lodging. In an effort to assist the reservist, you are actually causing higher lodging fees for the 934th Airlift Wing. **Reservations:** Call 1-888-AF-Lodge or (612) 726-9440.

Fitness Center (612) 713-1496

Operating Hours

0500-2100 Monday-Thursday

0500-2000 Fri

0800-1600 weekends

Closed Federal Holidays

Fitness center news... The annual Pig-out Fitness Challenge that began Nov. 25 ends January 11. Sign up anytime at the Fitness Center.

There will be a UTA volleyball competition Dec. 7 thru February. Form your own team, or come in on your own and join in on the fun! Please call Tech Sgt Stacy Campbell for more information. The UTA racquetball ladder tournament also begins Dec. 7.

Equipment Rental

Outdoor Recreation has rental banquet tables for your holiday parties and ice fishing equipment, including portable shelters, augers, tip-ups, skimmers, buckets/seats & poles. Club members receive a 10 percent discount on rental items. Call ext. 1665.



photo by Allen Marshall

On tour...

The 934th Airlift Wing hosted a civic leader tour Oct. 23-24. Twenty-one civic leaders from the Twin Cities-area boarded one of the wing's C-130 aircraft bound for Lackland and Randolph Air Force Bases in Texas. The group toured the Air Force Reserve C-5 unit at Lackland and the Reserve pilot training unit at Randolph. The wing tries to hold a civic leader tour annually. The tours are designed to help increase community awareness of the Air Force Reserve by giving community leaders an inside look.

Decorations



Meritorious Service Medal

Maj. David Olafson
 Capt. Jay Smeltzer
 Senior Master Sgt. Charles Stemig
 Senior Master Sgt. David Provo
 Master Sgt. Chester Gronewold
 Tech Sgt. Frederick Carlson
 Tech Sgt. John Krebsbach
 Tech Sgt. Vincent Mikulski
 Staff Sgt. Wayne Elo



Commendation Medal

Maj. Sharon Lee
 Master Sgt. Marlana Gilbert
 Tech Sgt. Joseph Wiatros
 Tech Sgt. Thomas Robelia
 Tech Sgt. Thomas Olson



Achievement Medal

Staff Sgt. John Atchley
 Staff Sgt. Randall Chesick

Happy Holidays...Next UTA Jan 4-5, 2003