



# VIKING FLYER

934th Airlift Wing (AFRC)  
Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP Air Reserve Station, Minn.  
April 2003, Vol. 25 No. 3

## Engine Work 934th activates 250

- ★ Stop Loss authorized
- ★ Col. G. departs



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) 713-1217.

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.

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# VIKING FLYER

Volume 25, Number 4

April 2003



**Col. G departs....**He joined the unit before some 934th members were born. He worked for 10 different commanders and held several different jobs as both an NCO and officer. March was Col. Paul Groskreutz last UTA after almost 30 years with the 934th Airlift Wing. He looks back on his time here... **Pages 6 and 7.**

**Budget proposal...**The President's new budget proposal includes four percent funding for Air Force Reserve Command. The budget also requests about 200 more reservists...**Read more on Page 4**

**Motorcyclist?...**Are you a motorcyclist? Those who are need to have a safety course if they plan to ride their motorcycles on base...**Read more on Page 5**

**In their words...**The Viking Flyer staff asked some reservists to share their feelings on the recent activation...**Read more on Page 8**

**New Shirts...**There are two new first sergeants on base. See who they are on **Page 8**

**Chaplain's prayers....**Chaplain (Capt.) Derek Lauer describes the power of prayer in the current times. Lauer believes everyone should pray for those in need...**Read more on Page 9**



### On the Cover

**A1C Trista Nicka (stocking cap) and TSgt. Gregory Jacobson, engine shop mechanics with the 934th Maintenance Group, drop engine number one from aircraft 1806. Both Nicka and Jacobson have been called to active duty to support Operation Enduring Freedom. Almost 250 934th reservists were called to active duty March 3. (Photo by SSgt. Troy Novak)**

# Stop Loss authorized

by Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON - The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Manpower & Reserve Affairs) has authorized the use of Stop Loss in order to retain specific skills needed to meet national security objectives.

Effective May 2, 2003 43 officer and 56 enlisted specialties are Stop Lossed.

"We do not take this action lightly," said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche. "Stop Loss is designed to preserve critical skills essential to supporting the Global War on Terrorism, while ensuring we're prepared to meet other contingencies."

"We've implemented Stop Loss to ensure we have the necessary skilled personnel to conduct operations," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper. "We'll use it only as long as necessary to accomplish our mission."

Stop Loss is being implemented across the total force (active duty, Air Force Ready Reserve, and Air National Guard) for the above career fields and affects all airmen in the rank of colonel and below, according to Maj. Teresa L. Forest, chief of Air Force retire-

ments and separation policy at the Pentagon.

Both the secretary and chief of staff are acutely aware that the Air Force is an all-volunteer force and that this action, while essential to meeting the service's worldwide obligations, is inconsistent with the fundamental principles of voluntary service.

"We take Stop Loss seriously and are working hard to ensure the lives of our airmen, their families and their civilian employers are not disrupted any longer than is necessary to meet our national commitments," Jumper said.

Therefore, a waiver process will be implemented for those people with unique circumstances.

"We are doing our best to minimize this disruption," Roche said. "And we will look at unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis and do all we can to offer appropriate relief."

"We understand the individual sacrifices that our airmen and their families will be making," Jumper said. "We appreciate their unwavering support and dedication to our nation."

For more information about Stop Loss, members can contact the military personnel flight at ext. 1507.

## Career Fields affected

### Officer careers

11AX AIRLIFT PILOT  
11BX BOMBER PILOT  
11EX TEST PILOT  
11FX FIGHTER PILOT  
11GX GENERALIST PILOT  
11HX HELICOPTER PILOT  
11KX TRAINER PILOT  
11RXREC/ WARFARE PILOT  
11SX SPECIAL OPS. PILOT  
11TX TANKER, PILOT  
12AX AIRLIFT NAVIGATOR  
12BX BOMBER NAVIGATOR  
12EX TEST NAVIGATOR  
12FX FIGHTER NAVIGATOR  
12GX GEN. NAVIGATOR  
12KX TRAINER NAVIGATOR  
12RX REC WAR. NAV.  
12SX SPECIAL OPS. NAV.  
12TX TANKER NAVIGATOR  
13BX AIR BATTLE MANAGER  
13DX A. COMBAT RESCUE  
13DXB SPECIAL TACTICS  
13MX AIRFIELD OPS  
14NX INTELLIGENCE  
31PX SECURITY FORCES  
32EX CIVIL ENGINEER  
43EX BJO. ENGINEER  
43HX PUBLIC HEALTH  
43TX BJO. LABORATORY  
44EX E. S. PHYSICIAN  
44MX INTERNIST  
45AX ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
45BX ORTHO. SURGEON  
45SX SURGEON  
456FX FLIGHT NURSE  
46MX NURSE ANESTHETIST  
46NXE CRIT. CARE NURSE  
46SX OP. ROOM NURSE  
48AX AERO MED SPEC.  
48GX GEN. MED. OFFICER  
48RX FLIGHT SURGEON  
51JX JUDGE ADVOCATE  
71SX SPEC. INVESTIGATOR

### Enlisted careers

1A1XX FLIGHT ENGINEER  
1A2XX LOADMASTER  
1A3XX AIR/COMM ELEC. SYS.  
1A4XX AIR. BATTLE MGMT  
1A5XX AIR MISSION SYSTEMS  
1A7XX AERIAL GUNNER  
1A8XX AIR. CYPT. LINGUIST  
1C0X1 AIRFIELD MGMT  
1C1XX AIR TRAF. CONTROL  
1C2XX COMBAT CONTROL  
1C3XX COMMAND POST  
1C4XX TAC. AIR COMM/CONT  
1C5XX AERO CONT/WARNING  
1N0XX INTEL APPLICATIONS  
1N1XX IMAGERY ANALYSIS  
1N200 SIGNAL INTEL  
1N2XX AICREW SIG. INTELL  
1N3X4 CRYPTO LINGUIST  
1N4XX SIG. INTELL ANALYSIS  
1N5XX SIG. INTELL EXPL.  
1N6XX ELECT. SYST. SEC.  
1S0XX SAFETY  
1T1XX AIRCREW LIFE SUPP.  
1T2XX PARARESCUE  
2E2X1 CRYPTO SYSTEMS  
2F0X1 FUELS  
2T3X2A VEH. MAINT (FIRE)  
2T3X2B VEH. MAINT (REFUEL)  
3C0X1 COMPUTER SYSTEMS  
3C2X1 COMMUNICATIONS  
3E000 ELECTRICAL  
3E0X2 POWER PRO.  
3E4X1 UTILITIES SYSTEMS  
3E4X2 LIQUID FUELS  
3E5X1 ENGINEERING  
3E7X1 FIRE PROTECTION  
3E8X1 EOD  
3E9X1 READINESS  
3H0X1 HISTORIAN  
3N0XX PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
3P0X1 SECURITY FORCES  
4A1XX MEDICAL MATERIAL  
4A2XX BIOMEDICAL EQUIP  
4B0XX BIOENVIRONMENTAL  
4E0XX PUBLIC HEALTH  
4H0XX CARDIO PULM LAB  
5J0X1 PARALEGAL  
7S0X1 SPECIAL INVEST.  
8D000 LINGUIST DEBRIEFER  
9L000 INTERPRETER

Or, call the Air Force Personnel Center's Stop Loss Control Center (SLCC) at (210) 565-2374 DSN: 665-2374. Information can also be found on the web at: [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil).

## Enlisted bonus program extended

Many Air Force specialties are entitled to a bonus. The enlisted incentive bonus list that had expired March 31 has been extended through Sept. 30. For more information about the enlisted incentive bonus program, call MSgt. Lauri Konz, 934th Enlisted Career Advisor, at ext. 3576. Or, visit Konz in room 114 of building 852.

### Eligible career fields

1A2X1 Loadmaster  
2A1X7 Elect Warfare System  
2A6X1B Aerospace Propulsion  
2A6X4 Aircraft Fuels Systems

2A6X6 Aircraft Elect & Environ. Systems  
2A7X2 Nondestructive Inspection  
2T0X1 Traffic Mgmt  
2T2X1 Air Transportation  
2T3X5 Vehicle Body Maintenance  
3E9X1 Readiness  
MOX1 Services  
3P0X1 Security Forces  
4A0X1 Health Services Management  
4A2X1 Biomedical Equip  
4N0X1 Medical Services  
X4N0X1 Flying Med Tech  
6F0X1 Financial Management

## Band of the Air Force Reserve

The Band of the Air Force Reserve will be in Minneapolis April 30 through May 7. The band will play dozens of venues throughout the area. For more information, call Public Affairs at ext. 1217.



### *Gearing up*

photo by SSgt. Troy Novak

**SSgts. Todd Holden and Patrick Scharn, hydraulics troops with the 934th Maintenance Squadron, do some work on a landing gear. Both were among the 250 recently called to active duty to support Operation Enduring Freedom.**

## **Motorcyclist?**

### **Safety training mandatory, price reimbursable**

by TSgt. Cherie Penn  
Base safety office

Warm weather is approaching, and with it the ultimate riding experience; motorcycling. Members of the 934th and civilian staff must get appropriate safety training before bringing their toys to work.

Proof of a motorcycle training course is mandatory before driving on base. Activated reservists must have proof of a course for both on- and off-base driving. Acceptable courses are: Motorcycle Safety Riders Course IVA, MRC: RSS or Experienced Rider's Course IVB or ERC. A state certified motorcycle program is only accepted.

Motorcycle courses are reimbursable up to \$115; reservists need to submit a Standard Form 1164 and civilians a DoD form 1610 to finance for reimbursement.

Contact the Motorcycle Safety Foundation for course information, sample tests and skill information. The MSF can be contacted at (800) 446-9227 or on the web at [www.msf-usa.org](http://www.msf-usa.org).

Contact TSgt Cherie A. Penn at ext. 1283 at the base safety office for rules and regulations.

## ***New license plates for Mn. vets***

by SMSgt. Dave Hammer  
Wing Historian

Minnesota Veterans plates are now available for service members that have received an honorable discharge from any branch of the military.

Previously these plates were only offered for those who had served in conflicts such as World War II.

The new plate features the United States flag and the phrase, "Proud to be a Veteran."

The proceeds from the plate will build the Minnesota World War II

memorial planned for the state capitol grounds near Korean and Vietnam memorials. The plate costs an added \$30 in addition to normal license fees.

Funding for the memorial is nearly halfway to the expected \$1 million needed to build it.

Contact the local deputy registrar for information regarding veterans' plates.

Donate directly to the World War II memorial by contacting the Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs.

## **ROA Convention**

The Reserve Officers Association, Department of Minnesota, will hold its annual Department Convention April 26 at the Ft Snelling Officers Club. The theme for this years' convention is "National Defense Issues for Reserve and Guard Forces." Senator Dean Johnson and Congressman John Kline have been invited as guest speakers.

For more information regarding the convention, call Lt Col Doug Kveene at 866-231-2728.

## Col G departs

# MSG commander reflects on 30 years of service to the 934th

By Allen Marshall  
Editor

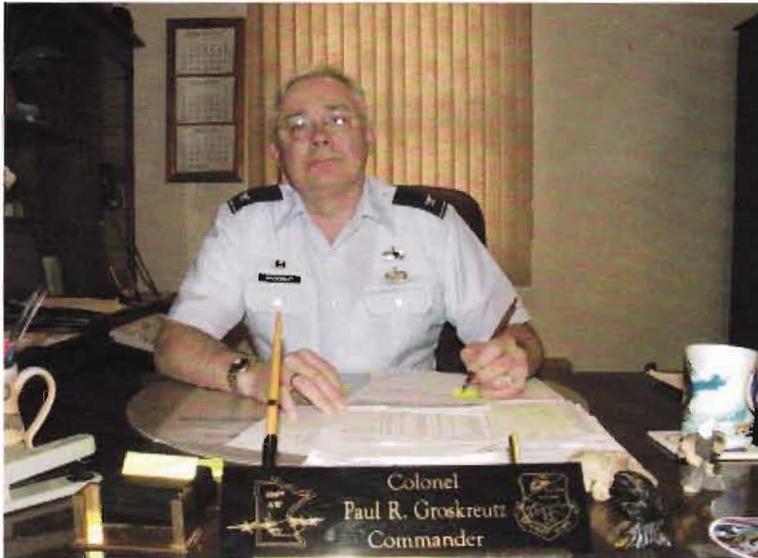
August, 1974.

President Richard Nixon resigns the presidency, the Vietnam conflict is dwindling down, the Minnesota Timberwolves do not exist and Staff Sgt. Paul Groskreutz is making his way to the Minneapolis area.

Now, fast-forward to March of this year. Col. Paul Groskreutz says farewell as he prepares to leave the unit he has been serving for nearly 30 years.

March 7 was Groskreutz's last official day as the commander of the 934<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group. He and his wife, Anne, departed for Dobbins AFB, Ga., where Groskreutz will take over as the commander of the 622<sup>nd</sup> Regional Support Group. The October UTA in 1974 was his first and the March 2003 UTA was his last. A time period of service spanning longer than the lives of many reservists serving under him.

Groskreutz came to the 934<sup>th</sup> from active duty where he had served more than seven years. After leaving Grand Forks AFB, N.D., in August of 1974, he moved his family to the Twin Cities, took a civilian job with the Veterans Administration and then decided to continue his military career with the Air Force Reserve. He enlisted and came to work for the 934<sup>th</sup> as a public affairs NCO. Although this was the beginning of a long and successful reserve career, Groskreutz had few expectations. His primary goal was to get his commission.



**Col. Paul Groskreutz served with 934th Airlift Wing from October 1974 until March of this year.**

"I wanted my commission, which wasn't happening on the active duty side," he said. "That was one of the reasons I left (active duty). Shortly after I joined the reserve, I became aware of the Deserving Airmen Program, and, since I already had my undergraduate degree, I pursued a commission."

Groskreutz was commissioned in September of 1977 after achieving technical sergeant in the enlisted ranks. His first job as an officer was in the base education office. During the next 25 years, the commissioned Groskreutz held many positions throughout the unit. His first command position was with the weapons systems security flight.

"I had told the commander that I joined the Air Force to stay out of the fox holes," Groskreutz recalled.

He commanded the weapons systems security flight for seven years (1986-1993) and during his tenure the flight grew into a security police flight and ultimately into a security police squadron. Groskreutz described his

time as the security police commander as "very special."

"Up until that point in my career I had spent most of my time in staff functions," he said. "Being the cop commander was my first experience in the field where we would deploy to do the job. I learned a lot about the Air Force during that time."

Up until 1993, Groskreutz's roll in the reserve had been traditional. But, in

February of 1993, he took an air reserve technician job as the senior ART for the 934<sup>th</sup> Support Group. Groskreutz left his civil service job with the VA where he had been chief of the administrative division, a job he said prepared him for his next ART position.

In the spring of 1995, Groskreutz was promoted to lieutenant colonel and became the support group commander more than 20 years after joining the unit as a staff sergeant. In April of 1999, he was promoted to colonel. Groskreutz said in the 35 years he has served, from E-1 to O-6, he never dreamed he would achieve so much.

"When I was enlisted my goal was to get commissioned," he said. "When I got commissioned my goal was stick around long enough to retire as an officer. I never dreamed of wearing eagles on my shoulders. I would have been happy to retire as a lieutenant colonel or even a major."

Becoming the support group

**Continued on Page 7**

## Col. G *continued from Page 6*

commander may have never been a goal for Groskreutz but he took advantage of the opportunity and is proud of what the unit accomplished under his leadership. Some of those accomplishments came in the form of construction, like the new lodging project, the base exchange, the fitness center and clothing sales buildings.

"One of the things I am most proud of as the support group commander is the success we have had in bettering the quality of life for reservists," he said. "The construction projects all helped to make things a little nicer for people in the wing."

The support group commander role also gave Groskreutz an opportunity to serve with the active duty component. Groskreutz spent 120 days at Eskan, Saudi Arabia, as the Air Reserve component liaison to the commander of Operation Southern Watch. This was a role Groskreutz was proud to fill.

"It gave me an opportunity to lead by example," he said. "We had been asking reservist to do more than their two-weeks if they could."

From public affairs NCO to security police commander to mission support, the almost 30 years of service to the 934<sup>th</sup> have provided Groskreutz with a lot of memories. And, even though he has left the 934<sup>th</sup>, he hopes his role as the regional support group commander will give him even more opportunities to help reservists.

"This move is definitely bitter sweet on so many levels," Groskreutz said. "I have been part of the unit for so long and have made so many friends. And yet, the move is also sweet because I will have one more opportunity to have an impact on the Air Force Reserve Command. The thing I will miss most is the interaction with the people of the 934<sup>th</sup>."

During the Thursday night commanders meeting prior to the March UTA, Groskreutz said his goodbyes to his fellow commanders. It would be his last Thursday night meeting, a meeting he had been attending since 1979.

## Maintenance ART retires after 37 years with unit

by SrA Stephanie Witty  
Staff writer

Senior Master Sgt. John Lightner joined the Air Force 37 years ago; a time when a loaf of bread cost 25 cents, a carton of smokes cost 75 cents and an airman basic's monthly wage was \$78.

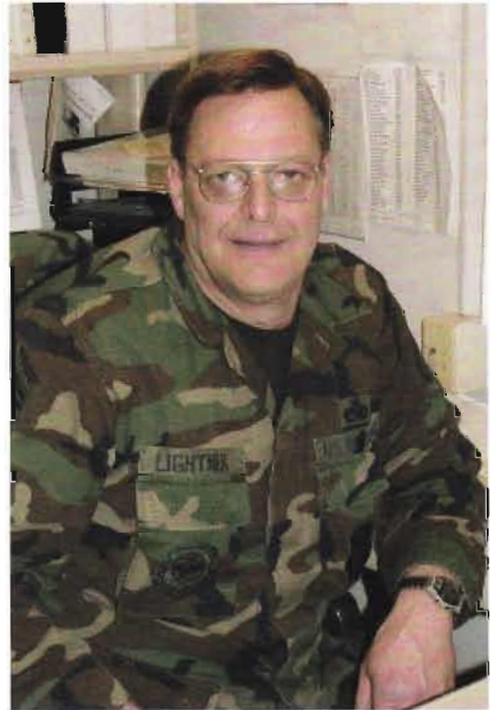
Lightner, 934<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron flightline flight chief, retired last month finishing nearly four decades of service to his country.

Throughout his career Lightner served the Air Force in several career fields. His tenure began as an active duty aircraft mechanic at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas and Clark AFB, Philippines. After four years on active duty Lightner dedicated himself to the 934<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing in 1970 as a

reservist. Once in place in Minnesota he contributed to the airlift wing as a crew chief, isodock foreman, an accessory flight chief and a flightline flight chief.

Lightner's fond memories at the 934<sup>th</sup> include working with the former Russian secret police and Russian intelligence during Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Minnesota. "It was interesting dealing with the KGB," he said. Lightner, a crew chief at the time, helped in parking and handling the Russian aircraft.

When reflecting on his years in the Air Force, Lightner said he will always miss the 934<sup>th</sup>, "when you've been out here this long you have a lot of really close



"When you've been out here this long you have a lot of really close friends."

-- SMSgt. John Lightner

friends."

Lightner looks forward to a peaceful and quiet retirement. "I want to do what I want to do when I want to do it," he said. "I love to hunt and fish, any outdoor activities and I look forward to spending time with my grandkids."

Lightner had always wanted a long Air Force career and said "I had a plan to stay with it, and it's paying off."

In order to have a long and successful Air Force career Lightner suggests flexibility, a good sense of humor and strong support of those close to you.

He attributes his personal success to his wife.

## In Their Words



**What are your personal feelings about the recent activation?**

"It's local, but you're still going to be uprooted from your regular routine."

Tech. Sgt. Cherie Penn  
934<sup>th</sup> NCOIC of Ground Safety



"I wish I could have gone with. That's why we signed up. I hope it's not a great deal of hardship for their families."

Staff Sgt. James Rudh  
ASTS Pharmacy



"I personally feel bittersweet since I have people going but I haven't been activated. Many people have to sacrifice on an individual basis for the whole of the country. It's why we wear the uniform."

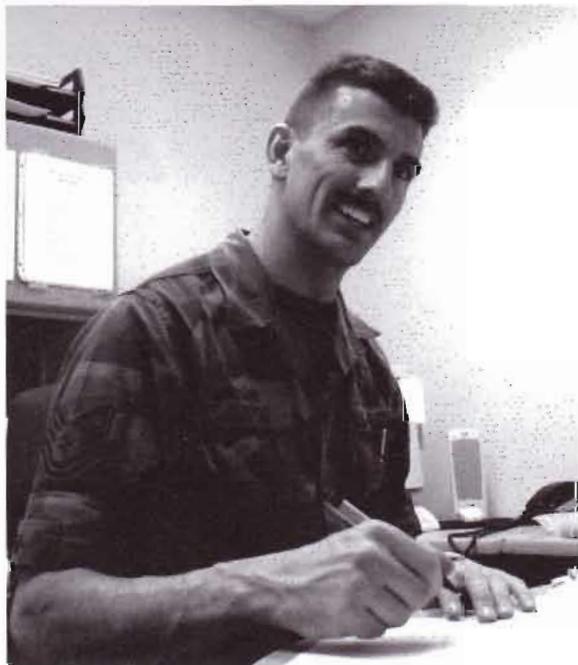
Maj. Donald Kom  
934<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron civil engineer officer



"My wife and I are both military. This separates us and adds extra burdens, but we knew it could happen. We were prepared and are proud to serve."

Staff Sgt. Donald Bonar  
96<sup>th</sup> Operations Resource Management

## New First Sergeants



photos by SSgt. Troy Novak

### **TSgt. Chris Sayre, 1st Sgt. for AES**

Sayer is the newly appointed first sergeant for the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. Sayer, a purchaser with Wenonah Canoe, is currently seeking an associates degree in Network Administration. He said he hopes to "Fill some big shoes to the best of (his) ability."



**MSgt. Mike Sanford, 1st Sgt. for ASTS** Sanford is the newly appointed first sergeant for the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron. he is currently working on his master's degree. Sanford, who is a mental health counselor, said he hopes: "I am able to be a good role model for the young, new people coming into the Reserve. My first sergeants have been positive influences in my career. I hope I can duplicate that to others."

*"I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."*

*-- Abraham Lincoln*

## Chaplain: People need our prayers

**D**uring WWII, surrounded with no place to go, a soldier and his companions were pinned down by German fire. Bullets were whizzing by the building in which they were caught. The Germans had a clear view of the American's escape route across an open field. The soldier thought he and his companions would never make it across the field. The situation looked hopeless with death waiting near by or a possible capture. Regardless, both odds looked bleak.

At that very moment, the soldier's Born Again Christian relative thousands of miles away, had a sudden burden to pray for this young lad's safety. She got down on her knees and began to pray. During the prayer, a fog out of nowhere rolled in between the Germans and the group of Americans.

The Americans were astonished and saw this as an opportunity to escape. As they escaped, the fog began to dissipate as the last soldier made it across the field and into the woods.

At that very moment, the soldiers looked back at the building when all of a sudden mortar rained down on the building, destroying it and all that was near to it. Her prayer was answered.

Thousands of miles away our friends, relatives and others are fighting a war against terrorism. They are under a lot of stress and pressure in life threatening or in unknown



**Chaplain (Capt.) Derek Lauer**

situations. It is times like these that they need our prayers so that God can work miracles in protecting and encouraging them.

It is in a humble state that we realize our own inability and weakness to help those who need help. President Abraham Lincoln said it best, "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

He made many important decisions during the civil war, but had to pray and seek God's protection for his people. We often rely on prayer as the last resort if everything fails. At this very moment, my son is sick and has not kept food down for the last five days. He can't pray for himself, we pray for him.

In the book of Deuteronomy 9:7-29, Moses interceded for Israel because God was going to destroy them due to their sinful acts. Because of Moses' prayer for them, God didn't destroy Israel. Scripture

says "We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does His will." (John 9:31). How does this verse relate to us?

For someone to have God answer their prayer, they have to accept the "free gift of salvation" as Chaplain Perry explained in his last article. Does that mean the person doesn't sin? We all sin, but the point of the matter is, God answers His people's prayer.

In addition, James 5:16 says, "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." It is not our own righteousness that makes us right with God. It is God's righteousness that we receive through Christ that makes us righteous.

With that in mind, the prayers of a righteous man of God, will be answered on God's time and His way. This is a very narrow minded and a narrow view, but it is God's view according to Scripture. The righteousness that I received from God does not make me better than anybody else. I just have a relationship with God. How often do you pray for others? Do you love the ones you pray for?

There are people who need our prayers in our country as well as around the world in these turbulent times. Our prayers are needed and they depend upon our relationship with God.

**If you have a story idea for the Viking Flyer, please contact the public affairs office at ext. 1217.**

## Services Events

### Officer's Club (612) 713-3678

**Sundays:** Closed.

**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 Noon to 11 p.m.; Friday- Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight.

Lounge menu available from 1 p.m. to 8:30 Tues- Fri, 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Sat

**Mondays:** Dining room closed. Lounge open 4 p.m.

**Tuesdays:** Dining room closed. Lounge menu available 1:00- 8:30 p.m.

**Wednesdays:** Apr 2 – Jambalaya, Apr 9 - Meat Loaf, Apr 16 – Liver & Onions, Apr 23 - Shrimp Scampi, Apr 30 Membership Night Oriental Buffet

**Thursdays:** Apr 3 – Pork Loin, Apr 10 – Pork Saltimbocca, Apr 24 – Month of the Military Child Buffet

**Fridays:** Apr 4 - Red Snapper, Apr 11 - Crab Legs, Apr 18 - Lobster Tail (RSVP), Apr 25 Blackened Cat Fish - (RSVP).

**Saturdays:** Apr 5 - Roasted Crisp Duck w/Sherry, Apr 12 - Prime Rib, Apr 19 - Top Sirloin, Apr 26 - Prime Rib.

**Special events: Reservations Required** Apr 15 – 2 For 1 Steak , Apr 30 - Membership Night—Oriental Buffet

**Easter Buffet:** 20 April Two Seatings: 11:30 and 2:00 p.m.

### Enlisted Club (612) 713-1655

Due to construction, the Enlisted Club will be relocated next door in the Dining Hall side until the end of April. Plan your meetings and parties at the Enlisted Club. Although The E' Club will no longer be open for breakfast you may plan functions for over 20 with a breakfast menu.

Call Bingo every Friday night from 7 to 9 p.m.

Bonanza Bingo is available during lounge hours.

**Sunday:** Closed

**Monday:** Closed

**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 Wed-Sat.

**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.

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

**Fridays:** Evening Specials; Apr 4 - Top Sirloin, Apr 11 - Shrimp Fettuccini, Apr 18 - Lemon Chicken, Apr 25 - Chicken Parmesan

**Saturdays/Sunday:** Navy "A" & "B" Open for lunch from 11-12:30 p.m. on Apr 5/6 & 26/27

\* The Minneapolis Club is a consolidated club facility so members are welcomed at either club. Evening Dining is hosted at the O Club. Lunch is served at both clubs .

\* Club Membership applications are available at all Services Facilities.

### North Country Lodge

**Reservations:** Call 1-888-AF-Lodge or (612) 726-9440

**Web page** <http://www.afrc.af.mil/934aw/Lodgingweb/lodging.htm>

Some of the web page features include photos of our facility and an information page. We have also taken our reservation system to the next level providing a group and individual reservation form you can fill out, print and fax to us.

Effective March 5, Space Available reservations will again be taken 24 hours in advance.

Call Tammy Davis, Lodging Manager at 612-713-1978 for more information.

### Fitness Center (612) 713-1496

#### Operating Hours

5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mon-Thu

5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Fri

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends

Closed Federal Holidays

**April UTA Activities:** The Fitness Center will be open until 9 p.m. April 5.

#### March Bowling Tournament Results:

Team Champ—96AS, Gary Scheff, Brad Cooper, Steve Taylor and Tracy Meyer

High Series Female—Mindy Mays, 27 APS (419)

High Series Male—Dan Fitzmaurice, CE (597)

High Score Female—Stacy Campbell, SVS (171)

High Score Male—Dan Fitzmaurice, CE (229)

**Discount Tickets Available:** Camp Snoopy discount coupon Underwater Adventure at the Mall of America- \$9.00 adult, child \$5.00 Chanhassen Dinner Theater (discount given at reservation, call the Fitness Center for details) Minnesota Zoo (20 % off coupon) Imax Theatre (\$1.00 off) *Armed Forces Vacation Club* [www.afvclub.com](http://www.afvclub.com) Time-share units available for \$249.00 per week. Air Force Travel info: [www.aftavel.online.com](http://www.aftavel.online.com) Colorado R&R: [www.rockymountainblue.com](http://www.rockymountainblue.com)

### Outdoor Rec. /Equipment Rental

Club members receive a 10 % discount on all Rec Svs rental items. If you are interested in camper rentals, call Higgins Camper Rental & Sales. They are offering a substantial discount for all military members. They have locations in Oakdale, Turtle Lake and Trego, Wisconsin. Check it out on the web, [www.higginscamperrentals.com](http://www.higginscamperrentals.com), or call the Oakdale store at 651-702-5962.

## Services Squadron

Two Services members were hand picked for the port mortuary team for the Columbia Disaster, Maj Neal Landeen and SMSgt Dennis McLean. They were sent to Dover AFB, DE to assist in positive identification and processing of all seven crewmembers sending them home to their families.

MSgt Lee Traxler and TSgt Erica Twardy went to Lackland AFB, Texas to observe one of Services new airman graduate from Basic Training, and also witness another member during warrior week go from trainee to airman. Their support and camaraderie was well noted and admired by higher echelon and Military Training Instructors.

Maj Scott Calvert attended the Airman Leadership School graduation of SrA Kristen Maloney and was given the opportunity to present her diploma.

Services have members MSgt Ruth Duffy and TSgt Kenny Krueger supporting Westover AFB, Mass. in their Dining Hall. (Submitted by SrA Kristin Maloney)

## Communication Flight

Welcome to the following new members: SrA Eric Harkness, SrA Inez Butler, SrA Sao Xiong and TSgt Sherrill Beecher.

Ground Radio members set up the PA system in support of Col Groskreutz's Retirement Ceremony.

Several members completed Chemical Mask Fit requirements.

Several members trained on the Theater Deployable Communications Integrated Communications Access Package (TDC/ICAP) held at Keesler AFB, Miss. TDC/ICAP is a state-of-the-art ground-to-ground communications infrastructure designed to transmit and receive voice, data and video communications securely to or from wireless, satellite or hard wired sources. (Submitted by SSgt. Christian Krug)

## Airlift Wing

TSgt Cherie Penn departs for 3-level school (safety apprentice course) April 21. TSgt Dawn Flipp, the new NCO

in the military equal opportunity shop, just completed formal training school at DEOMI. and was awarded "Commandant's List" for an academic score greater than 90 percent.

SrA Jamie Christenson graduated from the 1C3, Command & Control, Technical school with a 91 percent. Christenson was also promoted to SSgt March 1. (Submitted by SSgt. Nathan Dilner)

## Civil Engineer Squadron

The unit welcomed new member A1C Anthony Byerly. Byerly arrived to the unit from his 3-level school and will be assigned to the unit's Fire Protection shop. Also, Byerly was named an Honor Graduate of the 3-level Fire Protection school.

Forty unit members will be deploying on Annual Tour to Barksdale AFB, LA, later this month. The unit will be assisting the 2<sup>nd</sup> CES at Barksdale AFB with several base projects.

TSgt. James Palo of the unit's Equipment shop, had his integrity and honesty tested by finding a lost wallet of an active duty firefighter stationed at Minot AFB ND. The firefighter's wallet was mistakenly misplaced into the mobility bag of one of our squadron members while deployed to Silver Flag training at Tyndall AFB this past January. The wallet was discovered with all its contents intact, including \$100 in cash. Palo was able to successfully track down the owner of the wallet and returned it via U.S. mail.

Several unit shops displayed the epitome of teamwork during the March UTA, as several skills were needed to locate and patch a water main break that occurred to the base's fire suppression system over the UTA weekend. The unit's Equipment shop dug up the problem area, located the leak, and handed the problem over to the unit Utilities shop to patch the leak. Before the leak could be patched the unit's Electric shop was needed to remove a streetlight in the way of the leak. Once this was done the leak was patched and the ground covered back up. All personnel involved in the project worked well into

## Remember Force Protection



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the evening hours Saturday night and their efforts were greatly appreciated.

Also appreciated were the efforts of Tom Christian and Jesse Barnaby, members of the CE civilian force, who were involved in the project as well, working side-by-side with their military counterparts. (Submitted by MSgt. Mike McGuire)

## Wing Coins

The following people were presented wing coins by the Col. Gary Cook, 934th AW commander.

- Tina Trimble, Comm Flight
- John Schille, 934th LSS
- SMSgt. Samuel Swann, 934th Command Post
- Jan Dalton, 934th Safety
- Col. Paul Groskreutz, 934th MSG commander

In the March edition of the Viking Flyer, Mike King, who had received a wing coin, was incorrectly identified as working for Rothe. He is a member of the 934th Communications Flight.

It should also be noted that Col. Paul Groskreutz was presented an AMC Warrior coin by Col. Gary Cook during Groskreutz's farewell ceremony.

Each AMC-gained unit received a limited number of these coins to be presented to the "best of the best." Cook has presented two of the coins with the other going to Maj. Ray Otto, formerly the wing's plans officer.



### *Last Flight*

photo by TSgt. Phillip Kvamme

The crew of aircraft 1848 took the C-130 on its last flight from Minneapolis Feb. 20. The crew is: (from the left) Lt. Col. Michael Huttner, TSgt. Scott Hellzen, CMSgt. Marc Gilbertson, Maj. Thomas Anderson, Capt. Robert Rettig and SSgt. Anthony Robinson. Also, aircraft 7822 made its last flight Feb. 18.



### **Meritorious Service Medal**

Maj Raymond C. Otto  
 CMSgt Robert C. Hanley  
 SMSgt Timothy F. Donnay  
 Maj Toby D. Hammer  
 Maj Timothy K. Swanson  
 SMSgt David A. Fischer



### **AF Commendation Medal**

Capt Edgardo L. Galvez  
 Capt Bruce D. Wiskus  
 SMSgt Robert O. Linder  
 MSgt Elizabeth A. Johnston  
 TSgt Paul J. McCann  
 TSgt Lee A. Hansen  
 TSgt Kevin P. Ley  
 Capt Richard A. Crespo  
 TSgt Roxanna L. Steffen  
 SSgt Scott D. Inwards



### **AF Achievement Medal**

TSgt Bradley D. Weis  
 TSgt Nicolette R. Wooden  
 TSgt Brian F. Wollak  
 SSgt Patrick J. Garvey  
 SSgt Michael J. Ross  
 SSgt Aaron C. Groskreutz  
 SSgt Jason A. Megleo  
 SrA Scott W. Murphy  
 SrA Glen M. Kramlinger

SrA Kevin J. Engel  
 SrA Wade J. Asher  
 SrA Tory J. Wagner  
 MSgt Gary W. Dorr  
 TSgt Samuel W. Baty  
 SSgt Reno J. Stradiotto  
 SSgt Clinton D. Wittlief  
 SSgt Julie L. Reichenberger  
 SSgt Todd D. Littfin  
 SrA Joshua A. Nelson

### **Promotions**

#### **SMSgt**

Mark T. Larsen  
 Kenneth W. Olson  
 Randy D. Schauer

#### **MSgt**

Glen M. Dahn  
 Earl D. Dodge Jr.  
 Calvin Johnson  
 Charles Matthews  
 Douglas Roden  
 Robert Rude

#### **TSgt**

Patrick Haefner  
 Jesse Hagen  
 Robert Knight  
 Jessica L. Lind  
 Gerard Marking  
 Kevin Martin  
 James M. Rutz  
 Richard Soderberg  
 Thomas Theis

#### **SSgt**

Jamie Christenson  
 Kristen M. Maloney