

## ***From Assistant Adjutant General- Air***



Brig. Gen. Steven Cray

I can't remember when we had a break in the action but it's going to be another busy year for the VTANG. Having just returned from a very successful deployment to Korea, the VTANG jumps right back into training for a phase 1 Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI). Although not as demanding as the phase 2 of last year, this ORI inspection, scheduled for the summer of 2012, is no less important. It will take numerous training sessions this year and early next year to get ready for the Inspector General. I know we will continue to excel and show the IG why the Green Mountain Boys are the best in the business. Progress continues in the release of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the potential basing of the F35 here in VT. Although delayed from the original timeline, this EIS will be the most comprehensive and accurate assessment of basing the F35 in Vermont. Current estimates have the EIS being released to the public sometime this fall. Don't forget the hard work and dedication of our Vermont airmen that are stationed at Langley AFB who are responsible for the Air Sovereignty Alert mission. Defense of our homeland continues as the number one mission for our Nation. The men and women assigned to the detachment at Langley support the ASA mission 24/7 and are the very best at what they do. Hard work and ingenuity continue at the 229th Information Operations Squadron on the Campus of Norwich University. Lt Col Hank Harder leads a group of highly respected cyber warriors that are enabling cyber education to the entire Air Force and our joint partners. Now part of Air Force Space Command, the 229th IOS is an integral part of cyber education using both distance learning and class room instruction. And of course the deployment of our airmen overseas never stops. It seems as if we have a small number of warriors deploying everyday into harm's way and we must never forget them or their families that are supporting their service. Thank you for all you do to serve our great Nation, State and Community.

**ON COVER**



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan DiPietro

First Lady Michelle Obama visits the Vermont National Guard to express her appreciation for the sacrifices made by military families June 30 at the Army Aviation Support Facility.

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## Leadership Column

By: Command Sgt. Maj. Gerald Marckres

124th Regiment (RTI)



The monumental change in the National Guard over the last decade creates unique challenges for leaders, Soldiers and Airmen, and especially for Guard families. While our great Soldiers and Airmen consistently outperform their peers, high OPTEMPO, deployment, reintegration, and primary employment challenges place stress on our organization and its members. Mitigating that stress in the long run requires observant leadership that places great value in creating effective balance between mission success and Soldier care. Leaders and peers must pay close attention to identify Soldiers with family, employment, or performance issues and ensure that time and resources are readily available and dedicated to assist them. The Vermont National Guard has built the model for Soldier outreach and support if, we as leaders encourage its use and continue to stress that taking advantage of the help makes us better as individuals and as an organization.

Some basic principles I try to follow as we work toward balance in our organization are outlined below. I would like to say that I have always practiced these principles fully, but to quote my Commander on the subject of tasks, “the trivial many can often get ahead of the critical few”.

1. Take the time to know as many people in your units as possible, not just those in your direct chain up or down. I have had bosses that knew my interests, my spouse and children, and my priorities and goals, and others that did not know where I lived. It is easy to figure out who created more loyalty.
2. Reward strong performance and work ethic with meaningful time off. Find out when their anniversary is or when their kids have a ballgame or school activity and release them early from a drill weekend to attend or award them a pass if appropriate.
3. Cross train key functions to provide flexibility in supporting Soldier needs without jeopardizing the mission.
4. Counsel, counsel, counsel, and inspect counseling so your subordinates know that their mission, well being, family, performance, and growth are important to you.
5. Find someone in your peer group you can trust and talk to. Run your ideas by them. You can't think of every second and third-order effect in your decisions and counsel from a respected peer can add perspective in difficult situations.

Achieving personal and professional balance is central to developing and sustaining a high performing organization. Building the environment that encourages balance however can be tough to accomplish. Enacting organizational and individual change is hard and requires leaders to accept risk to achieve the potential rewards of greater organizational pride, loyalty, initiative, and high morale.

## Commander's Column

By: Col. David Baczewski

158th Operations Group



“Always Ready, Always There” -- four simple words used to describe the Citizen-Soldiers and Airman of the National Guard. I would like to take a moment to zero in on a single word from that title – Ready. During the 134th Fighter Squadron Change of Command, I issued a challenge to our new Squadron Commander. The challenge was to be ready as it is not a matter of whether you will receive the proverbial call, but when—and you have between now and when the phone the rings to have your team ready.

So, how do we define ready? Very simply stated, ready is prepared or ready for service. No easy task in today's environment of constrained resources and persistent conflict. I would like to say the demands placed upon us are lessening, but it should be obvious to all that they are not. The world is a dangerous place. The enemies we face threaten our way of life, and we are the ones that stand between these dangers and the American People.

The current conflicts will end one day, but that will not change our commitment or resolve. The challenge is to be ready for the next threat and conflict that lies ahead because inevitably there will be one. We must be ready for the next war. We must prepare to meet the challenge ahead. It is not an option – it is our Duty.

As I wrap up, allow me to thank you for your continued service during this most critical time in our Nation's history. Please recognize that your service matters and that you are making a difference. I also need you to take the time and thank your families for their unwavering support. The demands that have been placed upon us – whether you are an AGR, Technician, or Traditional Guardsman – can take a toll on your family. I personally see very little separation of service when it comes to family as they serve day-in and day-out by your side. Please take the time to recognize that and thank them for their sacrifice.

## Education

By: Master Sgt. Kelly Gabard

158th FW Base Education and Training Manager  
Supervisors and Training



In preparation for the upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection, your training programs are about to be evaluated. As a supervisor, this is your time to shine because a successful training program depends on you.

In your role as supervisor, you probably have no more important duties than those that involve training. Effectiveness of on-the-job training (OJT) in the Air Force has become more important in recent years due to increased technological sophistication of military equipment and systems, the diversity of tasks which a service person may be asked to perform, and the need for persons to have skills necessary to move within their specialty area. Trained people are a critical resource with which organizations accomplish their Air Force missions. In other words, we must train our people if we are to successfully accomplish the mission. Training is a critical part of an enlisted person's career progression, specifically upgrade training. As members are promoted the ranks of a Non Commissioned Officer (NCO) they take on the responsibility of planning, developing, conducting, and supervising individual and group training in technical and military subjects.

Supervisors have the greatest single impact on successful mission accomplishment. They are responsible to: share their experience and expertise; provide a quality OJT program to the trainee to meet mission requirements; and consult the UETM for assistance needed in carrying out training responsibilities and duties as stated in AFI 36-2201. The supervisor is the key element in planning, conducting, evaluating and documenting training. As supervisor, you need attend unit OJT meetings to keep current on training policies, methods, procedures, and changes to the OJT program. This will guide you towards having a successful training program and produce top quality Airmen. How will your training program reflect on you?

## Health and Safety

By: Lt. Col. Terry Moultroup

158FW Chief of Safety



As I write this we are still at the beginning of the motorcycle riding season in the Northeast in late April, early May. In the rest of the country the riding season is already under way. This is highlighted in the negative by the headline on the Air Force portal "2011 - YEAR OF MOTORCYCLE SAFETY. This year, we are asking every commander, every rider, and the rest of our Air Force family to get focused and committed to motorcycle safety. Motorcycle fatalities are up over 150 percent since January 2011, compared to the same period last year. These losses are unacceptable for our Air Force. The Air Force has already suffered one permanent total disability and five fatal motorcycle mishaps. All had two common factors: no automobiles were involved and the rider lost control of his motorcycle. All were preventable tragedies and were devastating to our units, communities, and our Air Force family."

The Army has also experienced a large number of fatalities. They have had 18 motorcycle fatalities in FY11 compared to 9 for the same time frame in FY10 with the causes being similar to the Air Force.

How can Commander's help their airmen and soldiers safely enjoy riding motorcycles? The Vermont ANG installation has a Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) rider training course. The Basic Rider Course (BRC) and the Experienced Rider Course (ERC) are offered. There are several Guard only courses being offered over the summer and they will already be under way by the time you read this. These are run by experienced motorcycle riding Guard members with a passion for riding. The state of Vermont also offers a number of courses throughout the summer over weekends.

The BRC is required both for a motorcycle endorsement on your license and by the military. It is also an excellent introduction to an enjoyable pastime and with today's gas prices a more economical form of transportation. As a motorcycle rider for the past 35 plus years and an attendee of the ERC I can personally highly recommend this valuable training. Ride safe!

# Recruiting & Retention

By: Chief Warrant Officer 3 Scott Beaulieu, Warrant Officer Strength Manager



Psssssst. The pay and benefits are better. My name is CW3 Scott Beaulieu and I am the Warrant Officer Strength Manager for the Vermont Army National Guard. It's no secret that being a Warrant Officer is the best rank in the Army. Vermont is actively recruiting technical Warrant Officers in several vacancies across the state.

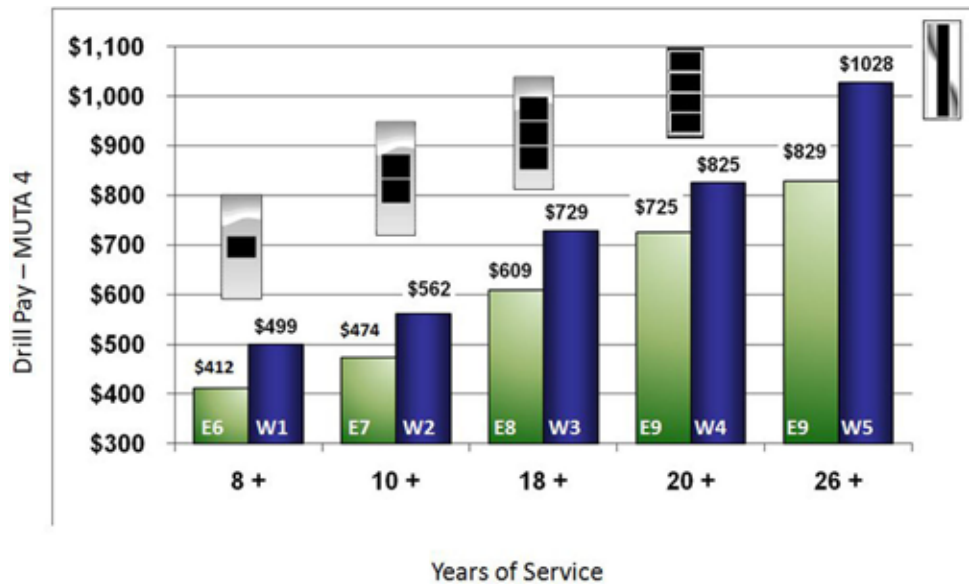
Eligibility. The non-waiverable criteria for becoming a Warrant include: GT score of 110 or higher, U.S. Citizenship, high school diploma or GED, interim SECRET clearance or higher, passing score on the standard three event APFT (no alternate events), meet height and weight standards IAW AR 600-9. Criteria varies per MOS.

If you are an NCO with 6 to 10 years of outstanding service and have hit the promotion ceiling, a Warrant Officer career is calling to you. You have the professionalism, education, expertise and the drive, but the next higher enlisted positions move glacier like. Do you have the time and patience for the next higher position to open? It may be time to promote yourself.

In a recent study from USAREC, the findings were startling. "The selection rate for eligible WO1's to CW2 was 99% and selection rate for eligible CW2's to CW3 was almost 89%. NCO promotion rates are not as positive. The selection rate for eligible SSG's (E6) to SFC (E7) was only 21% and the selection rate for eligible SFC's to MSG (E8) was only 18%."

The VTARNG is specifically looking for Army NCOs in MOSs 11C, 13B, 19D, 25B, 25Q, 25U, 42A, 68J, 92A, 92G, 92Y, 88N, 89B, 91A, 91B, 91L, 91P, 91X.

We are also looking for Air Force NCOs to convert to Army Warrant in the following AFSCs: 1A4xx, 1A6xx, 1C5xx, 1C6xx, 2G0xx, 2S0x1, 2S0x2, 2T0xx, 2T2xx, 2T3xx, 2W0xx, 3C0x1, 3M0xx, 6C0xx.



# Chaplain

By: Col. Chaplain John G. Feltz  
124th Regiment (RTI)



My name is Chaplain John G. Feltz and I am the new JFHQ chaplain attached to the 86TH Brigade HQ. I have been a catholic priest for 38 years and currently I have parishes in both Milton and Fairfax. For the almost 16 years that I have been in the Guard, I have been the 186th BSB Chaplain. I thank Chaplain Puritan for the excellent work he has done as the brigade chaplain and I wish him well in his retirement. .

We have just celebrated Memorial Day. Too often for many it means the beginning of summer, and the true meaning of the day – remembering our fallen comrades – is forgotten. We remember them not only through pictures and sharing stories, but also in our prayers. In these ways we honor not only our friendship, but their service and their sacrifice, and we can build upon that. In prayer we claim a power greater than death; that power is called love, the love that God has for us, the love that we have experienced through our friends and loved ones. That love is also seen in our lives, and it is greater than the evil with which we must deal. When we fall back on that love, it changes us and those around us. I am looking forward to working with you in my new assignment.

# **Social Media Awareness**

By: Tech. Sgt. Andrea Sheeran, State Public Affairs



If you regularly read this column, you already know that we need to be careful about uploading photos to social media websites from smartphones because these photos can contain geographic metadata that can be used to pinpoint the exact location where the photo was taken. But it seems there are new things to be concerned about when we use our smartphones. You may have heard all the buzz in the media recently about the revelation that smartphones, and many smartphone applications, are built to track your every move. Unless a user intentionally opts out of the default settings that come with the phone, the phone and your apps can use the phone's built-in global positioning system to compile and transmit information on your whereabouts. The two companies that have come the most under fire in recent weeks are Google and Apple. Both admit that their phones and apps do indeed track and catalog users locational information and that information can be transmitted back to the companies and app makers several times a day. The most pressing question the public, and lawmakers, are asking of makers of this technology is: Why? Both companies have maintained that they compile this information in order to better anticipate the needs of smartphone users so that the customer's needs can be better met. However, many people are disturbed greatly by this revelation. Speculation that information on your movements can be used to discriminate against you for your political activities, lifestyle habits, and the like, by insurance companies and others have all abounded in the media of late. It brings to mind an Orwellian world where people are tracked, their every move recorded and controlled. Granted, this futuristic scenario may be a bit of stretch, but many are concerned nonetheless. For we military members, we know that our missions are often sensitive and the tracking of military member's movements can present a serious security threat. In response to all of these worries, a group of lawmakers on Capitol Hill have introduced legislation to strengthen mobile privacy laws and make it harder for companies to gather your personal information via your phone. What do you need to know to keep yourself and your family safe in the interim: read your phone's manual and turn your GPS feature to "911 only" so that you can be located in an emergency, but not tracked otherwise.

# **Family Readiness**

By Lt. Col. Marc Goudreau, State Family Program Director



The more that you can understand the resources available and the issues and problems associated with service members and their families the better off you will be at helping them.

"There are many of you who have recently attended Yellow Ribbon events or are about to attend one in the near future. I am asking for your patience when it comes to attending these events. I know that many of you feel that they are a waste of your time and wonder "Why are we doing this?" Here's why: I am asking you to attend these events with an open mind. You may fall into the fortunate category of being a Service Member who has returned to your home life and are back to work and adjusting very well to life, stateside. Or you may be a spouse who is having no difficulties with the reintegration of your recently returned Service Member. I am very happy if this is your situation and I can see how you might be a little frustrated with some of these events. However, I would like you to consider the following: A number of our Service Members and their families are not in the same boat as the folks I just mentioned. There are families who are having reintegration issues that include major financial difficulties, substance abuse issues, PTSD, TBI, employment issues, marital problems, etc. I am asking for those of you who are in a good place to please pay attention for those who are not. At these Yellow Ribbon events, I am asking you to think of yourselves as a Battle Buddy and to learn some very valuable information that could help to save your Battle Buddy's life, marriage or home. These events are designed to provide you with tools to help support any issues that may arise in the future and/or the needs of others within our military family community. Please note that many families have reported that a number of these issues that we discuss at these events, do not arise until well after the events are over. They also report that they were glad to have attended the event, even if at the time, they were not excited about being there. Our military community represents a very small percentage of the US population. I am told that less than 2% of the population serves in the military. With that said, 98% of our population are more than likely very much in the dark about our issues and our needs. So now, more than ever, we need to be aware of the situation and what resources are available to our Service Members and their families, as we are a unique commodity." So if you are a friend, relative or service provider just think of the many complicated issues that arise during a deployment cycle and know where to turn for resources to support them.

# ***REVOKING A POWER OF ATTORNEY***

*Sgt. 1st. Class Barbara Quilliam-West*  
*Paralegal NCO*



A Power of Attorney (POA) is a written document giving another individual(s) (agent) authority to perform certain acts (banking, taxes, purchase or sale of personal property, etc.) for you. The JAG Office normally includes a termination date on all POAs, but not all attorneys follow this practice.

Why should you terminate a POA prior to the expiration date and how would that be done is what I will be discussing.

Some of the reasons you should revoke a POA is you have returned from deployment and the POA is no longer needed; you had a falling out with the person you appointed and you do not believe they would act in your best interest. In Vermont if you have given a POA to your spouse, a final divorce decree will terminate the POA but waiting for a final decree may not be in your best interest. As long as you are legally competent you have the right to revoke a POA and you do not need to give a reason for revocation.

To protect yourself you should revoke a POA in writing; there is a sample POA Revocation in the Legal Guide to Deployment booklet that was given out by the JAG Office. You will need to include your name, the name of your agent you gave the POA to, the date of the original POA and sign the POA Revocation form in front of a Notary. Give or send, certified mail/return receipt, to your agent; ask for the original and all copies to be returned to you. The original and all copies of the POA should be destroyed. Give a copy of the POA Revocation to all financial institutions/business/government agencies where it may have been used. If you are not sure where the POA was used you can file a copy in the public records, especially if real estate is involved; you can also place a notice in your local newspaper that your POA has been revoked. Once a POA has been revoked it cannot be legally used, but that does not mean it would not be accepted if someone were to try. Safeguarding your property and investments is very important.

If you have any questions, please contact the JAG Legal Assistance Office at 338-3336.

GMG

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## ***TRICARE Supplement Plan***

For all of you who are currently enrolled or plan to enroll into the TRICARE Reserve Select health insurance program there is a new benefit that can be accessed by you and your families. This new benefit is the TRICARE Supplement Plan.

The TRICARE Supplement Plan provides benefits to help pay your TRICARE cost share for in-hospital and outpatient care, doctor visits emergency room care, prescription medications and more. The supplement pays 100% of all covered expenses in excess of the TRICARE allowed amount, not to exceed the legal limit, after the TRICARE deductibles are met.

This plan can be purchased throughout the year as long as you are eligible for TRICARE Reserve Select.

Quarterly premium rates :   Member:   \$21.00  
  Spouse:    \$21.00  
  Each Child: \$18.00

Monthly Premium rates:    Member:   \$7.00  
  Spouse:    \$7.00  
  Each Child: \$6.00

For more information please call 1-866-919-6572

GMG

# ***Suicide Prevention***

*By SFC August F. Haberstroh  
Assistant Inspector General*

“This is not business as usual. As a leader and human being, I’m deeply saddened each time a soldier loses his or her life, but it is especially troubling when a soldier commits suicide.” -General Peter Chiarelli, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army.

Two basic responsibilities should always be uppermost in the minds of leaders in the Vermont National Guard— accomplishment of the mission and the welfare of Soldiers. The growing number of Soldiers committing suicide is a threat to both standards. The Air Force and Army Suicide Prevention Programs were established to minimize suicidal behavior. It is the responsibility of Airmen and Soldiers to monitor the behavioral health of themselves and their Battle Buddies and Wingmen in order to reduce unnecessary stressors. The National Guard Suicide Prevention web-site lists numerous suicide prevention resources at <http://www.ng.mil/news/archives/2010/05/Links.aspx>.

If you or a service-member whom you know is feeling distressed or hopeless, thinking about death or wanting to die, or if you are concerned about someone who may be suicidal, the Department of Veterans Affairs’ (VA) Veterans Health Administration has founded a national suicide prevention hotline to ensure veterans in emotional crisis have free, 24/7 access to trained counselors. To operate the Veterans Hotline, the VA partnered with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Veterans can call the Lifeline number, 1-800-273-TALK (8255), and press “1” to be routed to the Veterans Suicide Prevention Hotline.

The following is a list of situations where Soldiers and Airmen may fall through the cracks if a comprehensive Suicide Prevention Program isn’t established or followed:

- ⊙ Vulnerable Periods: Between drills, PCS, ETS, Departure to/Return from Professional Military Education Courses, Deployment/Redeployment, and Changes of Leadership.
- ⊙ Airmen/Soldiers are not aggressively integrated or sponsored in their units and end up feeling alone and without support.
- ⊙ Commanders are not aware of their Airmen’/Soldier’ problems.
- ⊙ Senior leaders worry that disclosing problems ‘brands’ them.
- ⊙ Commanders and service-members are

unfamiliar with support resources available.

- ⊙ Commanders and service-members are unsure how to access support services.
- ⊙ Airmen/Soldiers do not have an established social support network at their unit.
- ⊙ Stigma remains a major barrier to seeking help.
- ⊙ Coming home from deployment is not always a positive time.
- ⊙ Leaders assume “all is well” as long as there are no performance changes noted.
- ⊙ Inconsistent unit and wingman/battle buddy support.
- ⊙ Inability to consistently monitor changes in behavior.
- ⊙ Economic challenges such as civilian unemployment.
- ⊙ Failure to follow-up with Airmen/Soldiers who miss drills/training.
- ⊙ Failure to initiate separation proceedings for repeated A & D rehab failures.
- ⊙ Leaders have limited active duty time to address Airman/Soldier needs.

Bottom line, when personal problems have been identified, the impact is minimized. By counseling, mentoring and monitoring their subordinates, leaders in the Vermont National Guard can gain a better understanding of their Soldiers and Airmen’s frame of mind.

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# ***CPI shapes the future of the Vermont Guard***

By COL Dan Molind, Joint Force Headquarters J5

The National Defense requirements of the Nation are uncertain. What is certain is the future will hold many challenges for our nation and our National Guard. The Vermont Army National Guard has been involved in the Army Communities of Excellence (ACOE) program for many years, recently finishing 6th nationally. Likewise, the Air National Guard has been involved in AFSO21 for some time and has two projects they are currently working on. These two programs within Vermont are being combined; bring the best of both programs to bear, and establishing a joint continuous process improvement (CPI) methodology for the Vermont National Guard.

The National Guard must respond to the current financial crisis, which touches communities across our state and nation, just as it does when hostile actors threaten from abroad or floods threaten at home. Reducing waste, controlling costs and improving our processes are tasks we must face to prepare for and meet mission requirements. The CPI program provides methods, training, and guidance for directorates and units to complete these tasks.

CPI is a value add program that uses the Lean and Six Sigma processes to eliminate waste, reduce the process time and develop more effective processes. The methods used in CPI provide the tools and skill sets necessary to evaluate processes, make data driven decisions, and obtain fact based real data, rather than perceptions or "gut feelings."

The value to the state of this program, in addition to becoming a better organization, is that efficiencies found within the state are retained, so that money, labor, and other resources are available to the Adjutant General to reinvest within the State as he sees fit. A simple Army example and possible future project is Organizational Clothing and Individual Equipment (OCIE) that has not been turned in when soldiers leave the Army, this currently amounts to over \$250,000. If we could save that restocking of equipment, we would have that



money to purchase new equipment, or replace worn gear. This money would allow us to purchase and issue a company's worth of additional GENIII, 7-layer system sets each year.

To demonstrate his commitment to the CPI program, AFSO21 and organizational improvement, MG Dubie is scheduled to lead out by attending training himself. The Joint Staff, and O6 commanders of the Army and Air have been briefed on this program and its benefit to the organization. Expect to hear more on our efforts to improve the organization we are all a part of in the coming months. The J5 directorate Joint CPI office is your resource, your champion and your partner in implementing a culture of continuous process improvement in our organization. Together we can provide readiness at the best value to the State and Nation. We request your support for this program. If you are already a green or black belt through your civilian employer, please let us know so we can use your skills. If you have an interest in training or have a process you believe can be improved get in touch with us. My contact information is (802) 338-3105 or daniel.molind@us.army.mil I look forward to hearing from you.

GMG

The Vermont Veterans Militial Museum and Library is always looking for volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering please call the museum at 802-338-3360.

Museum Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

10:00- 15:00 hrs.

and by appointment

# ***VTANG Spouses Fly with NHANG!***

*By Maj. Kieran O'Shea  
158th FW Public Affairs*

For those who are 'married' to the military, one might argue that these spouses are just as committed as the Guardsmen who don the uniform every month or every day.

The Vermont Air National Guard (VTANG) renewed a long-dormant tradition by having a spouse orientation flight in partnership with the New Hampshire Air National Guard (NHANG) 157th Air Refueling Wing, April 3. Twenty VTANG spouses took off from Burlington aboard a NHANG KC-135. While soaring through the New York skies, the VTANG F-16's saddled up just below the CKC-135's to refuel.

Christine Gillis of Lebanon, N.H., was one of the excited spouses to take to the skies. Her husband, Staff Sgt. Dan Gillis is a chaplain's assistant with the 158th.

"I wanted to see what the Air Guard did and how they did it," she said.

Alysia Duncanson of Salisbury, Vt., said that programs like these helped her feel more connected to the military and less like an extension. Her husband, Tech. Sgt. Walter Duncanson, works on ejection seats in the F-16's. She went because she had been looking for ways to experience the Guard on a more personal level. "It's important to have the spouses involved and seeing what our airmen do," she said. "Especially for our traditional airmen."

The spouses were strapped into seats with their backs against the fuselage of the airplane as they were fighting the pull of gravity. The boom operator chatted informally with the civilian guests in between instructions to allow the spouses a close-up view. Lying on a small couch, a person can look through the floor-window to watch the boom inject the fuel into the VTANG F-16's. Side-windows gave views of F-16's nearly touching the refueler's wings as they waited their turn.

Christine Gillis said she was amazed as she watched the boom-operator delicately maneuver the long, slender injector into a small fuel intake of an F-16 with what looked like an old-school video game joy-



The 157th Air Refueling Wing from New Hampshire assisted the Vermont Air National Guard by renewing a tradition of spouse orientations flight May 3. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan DiPietro

stick. "These guys just need so much expertise," she said.

Getting a first-hand look at what the Air Guard does, even though Staff Sgt. Gillis doesn't actually fly planes, helped her see why her husband stays in the Guard. "When drill came around I would think, ok, there goes my husband for the weekend, but now I feel the sense of purpose he must have. I get it, now."

Staff Sgt. Gillis says his wife talked about the experience for at least a week afterward. "She was so excited - but mostly she ribbed me about how she did something I will probably never be able to do."

GMG

# ***Camp Johnson Gate Statue Commemorates Our Proud Heritage***

*Tech. Sgt. Andrea Sheeran, State Public Affairs*

Some of you may have noticed the construction that is going on at the main gate to Camp Johnson. With all the activity, it could be easy to miss our newest addition to the Vermont National Guard family. Just before the security house, there stands a new ten foot symbol of the National Guard, a Minuteman statue, atop a three foot base made of Barre granite. There is an inscription on the base dedicating the statue to all proud Vermonters who have served in the National Guard. We owe our thanks for the statue to a team at Joint Force Headquarters.

Chief LaPointe attended a conference at Maxwell AFB a few years back when he first saw a similar Minuteman statue; this one stood outside of the Enlisted Heritage Hall and was only six feet high. The idea of getting a similar piece for Vermont began to take shape in his mind. Then, later on, while attending a Command Chief's conference, Chief LaPointe saw a ten foot version of the Minuteman and the idea began to take root. While overseeing the reconstruction of the Camp Johnson gate projects, he saw the ideal location open up to him: in the circle outside of the main gate to Camp Johnson. Encouraged by the acting Facility Maintenance Officer, Mr. John Patry, Chief LaPointe took the idea to General Cray. General Cray was enthused about the idea and gave Chief the green light to go ahead with the proposal.

Now, the statue stands in copper tones at the front gate, as Chief LaPoint envisioned. It was constructed by a company out of Wisconsin named F.A.S.T. Corp. The statue is made of fiberglass and painted with a custom shade of auto-grade copper colored paint. This paint eliminates the oxidizing effect



Photo by Sgt. Elizabeth Strauss

that true copper statue can suffer over time, turning the statue a less than brilliant green. The statue is sealed with a clear coat to prevent weathering of the paint, ensuring its brightness for years to come.

Why the Minuteman statue? Most of us are familiar with this symbol as associated with the National Guard, but how many of us know the real history behind this iconic image? During the Revolutionary War, 'minuteman' first became a colloquial phrase. It was used to refer to the 'reserve' force of locals who took up arms to stop the progress of the British. They were expected to be ready at a moment's notice. These citizen soldiers were farmers, hunters, blacksmiths and the like who marshaled to defend what would later come to be the independent United States of America. For this reason, the classic Minuteman image depicts a

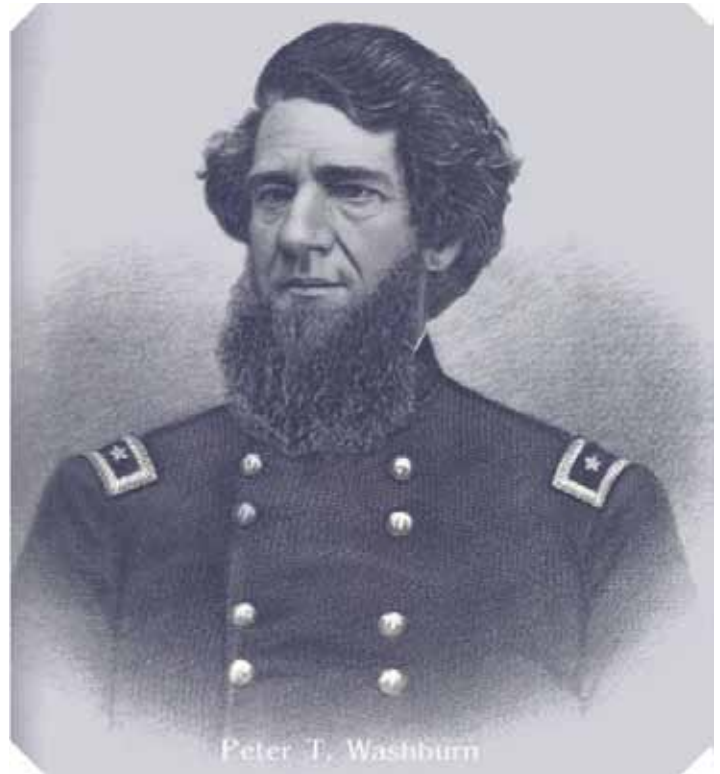
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DEDICATED TO ALL  
VERMONTERS  
THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY  
WHO SERVED IN DEFENSE OF  
THE GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE  
AND  
OUR GREAT NATION

Photo by Sgt. Elizabeth Strauss

## ***Peter Thacher Washburn 1861-1866***

The next adjutant general of Vermont was Woodstock's Peter T. Washburn. Washburn was born in Lynn, Massachusetts in 1814, graduated from Dartmouth College in 1835, and was admitted to the bar in 1838. From 1844 to 1852 he was the Vermont Supreme Court's reporter of decisions, and he served in the Vermont House of Representatives from 1853 to 1854. Washburn became active in the militia as it was reenergized in anticipation of the Civil War, serving as commander of the Woodstock Light Infantry Company. Washburn's unit was incorporated into the 1st Vermont Regiment at the start of the Civil War, and he was appointed lieutenant colonel and second in command, but actually served as de facto commander during the regiment's service in Washington, DC and northern Virginia. In 1861 he was elected Vermont's adjutant general, serving until 1866. As head of the Vermont Militia he earned accolades for bringing order to the process of recruiting, equipping, training and transporting recruits for the Union Army, working with Norwich University's Alonzo Jackman to develop a process that was later adopted by other Union states. After the war he was president of the Woodstock Railroad and a director of the Rutland and Woodstock Railroad, also serving as a trustee of the University of Vermont and the State Agricultural College. Washburn was elected governor as a Republican in 1869 and served until his death in February, 1870, the first Vermont



Peter T. Washburn

governor to die in office. He was buried in Woodstock's River Street Cemetery, and his Civil War era office is part of the National Park Service's Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller Park walking tour.

GMG

### **Continued from P. 12**

soldier with one hand touching a plow and a musket in the other hand. Like the National Guard family that we know today, it was common for these men to fight alongside their sons, uncles and brothers. These men worked the land and knew the lay of this wooded landscape much better than the opposing British forces. Although it was not a war easily won, the militias and the Minutemen of the revolution served the British a resounding defeat.

The Minuteman is a perfect symbol to represent the National Guard of today, imparting a legacy of home-grown defense forces who were essentially civilians who answered their nation's call. The duality of being a member of our communities and also a member of the greatest fighting force in the world is a thing that the Guardsmen of today are all too familiar with. The Minuteman image is a testament to our proud heritage as citizen soldiers. As Vermonters, we are even more historically linked to this image, as the Revolutionary War was essentially fought in our

backyard. The legacy of the Green Mountain Boys stems from this period in history. Ethan Allen, the farmer, businessman, land speculator, philosopher, writer and patriot who commanded the Green Mountain Boys during 1778-1780 was a founding father of the state of Vermont and the city of Burlington. He was instrumental in the capture of Fort Ticonderoga in 1775 and went on to command troops during the revolution. Today, we are still known as the Green Mountain Boys and one of the oldest National Guard units in the nation. From the inception of the Green Mountain Boys, we have been at the "tip of the spear". Vermonters have served in every major conflict that the US has been involved in since the revolution. Indeed, we have a lot to be proud of as Vermonters. Our new Minuteman statue is a testament to this. Thank you to all those involved for this symbol that reminds us of our role in history and our continuing role in the defense of our nation!

GMG

# ***THE LEGEND of RAMADI: The Making of "THE TIKI BAR"***

*by Sgt. 1st Class James Greene*

July of 2005, TF Saber finally set foot on Iraqi soil. It was the start of our yearlong mission of battling the heat, the dust, the mud...and, oh yeah, those pesky insurgents.

The first couple of weeks were pretty much non-stop as we worked to do the battle handover with the unit we were replacing, the 1/9th Inf. These guys were anxious to get out of "Dodge" so to speak, after doing a world tour of S. Korea, Germany, Kuwait and finally Iraq. We, on the other hand were anxious to take over the AO so we could start the clock to our countdown to leave. Three days into our tour there was a little celebratory mortar fire from our friendly insurgents to welcome us to the FOB, landing in and around our motor pool, just a couple hundred yards from the TOC, Good Morning TF Saber! This is your wakeup call! No one was hurt in this, but there would be other wake up calls. Within a month we would lose our first soldier, Sgt. 1st Class Chris Chapin. By the end of September we would lose five more men including two Vermonters, Lt. Mark Dooley and Spc. Scott McLaughlin.

By September, a routine had become established for the men of the Command and Staff. We'd get off shift or come in from a mission and Col. Lovejoy's PSD team would go to their rooms and close themselves in from the outside world. Recognizing that a year of this would be too long, Sgt. Chad Prue

conceived the idea of building a place for the guys to go and relax, play cribbage and have some ice cold non-alcoholic beer.



A view of the exterior of the completed Tiki Bar. All decorations and lights were sent from home.

At first, as Chad started to put together the foundation (built from scraps of lumber from the local military dump) most of us, I think, thought he was little off his rocker, taking up a perfectly good empty space, working in the heat of the day and mainly bugging the hell out of the night crew that was trying to sleep. (I believe I was one of those night crew guys.) But as he persisted, some of the other guys joined in to help (me included). Thus, by dump picking, begging and dare I say... well, let's just say you can find a lot of useful things (lumber) in the dark, Chad's dream started to take shape. As a result, shortly before Halloween, the "TIKI BAR" came to life. As the Tiki Bar was being built the word sorta, kinda leaked out to the folks back home and suddenly we were inundated with all sorts of Tiki supplies, lights, decorations, tiki cups and plates, even a huge Pepsi sign welcoming the soldiers on the FOB to the Tiki Bar.

What had started out as a place to get TF Saber Command and Staff Soldiers out of their rooms suddenly became the hot spot on the FOB. At some point it was decided it would be fitting to throw a Halloween party as a "Grand Opening" bash. From



The stairs to the upper deck. A railing was added to complete Col. Lovejoy's safety requirements just hours before the New Years Eve Party.

that night on, when 80+ people showed up (many of them in costume) the “Legend of Ramadi” was born and as word leaked out across the FOB and photos made it to friends and family back home the Tiki Bar, aka “Chapin’s Pub”, became a magnet for the Soldiers who would hear of it, and a focal point for mailing goodies to by friends and family back home.

And the Legend grew...literally! After the Halloween party and seeing how tightly everyone was squeezed into the space we had, I decided, with New Year’s not too far off, that we needed more room and decided to add an upper deck! What seemed a simple process became a bit more complicated especially after Col. Mark Lovejoy happened to be walking by the Tiki Bar one day as I was building the stairs to the upper deck. “No no no no...what are you doing?” he asked (I don’t think he was a strong proponent of the bar) “Building an upper deck, Sir” I said cheerfully. Yeah, he wasn’t buying into it real well. Even after (or especially after) I said we needed more space for the New Year Eves party. After a few moments of friendly bantering (at least I think it was friendly), the Colonel said I had better have a railing for the upper deck or there wouldn’t be one. I assured him there would be, and as he went to leave, he turned to me and said “No more building after this!” So much for the pool house plans.

Well, I won’t bore you with the details but suffice it to say, the day before New Year’s Eve, I figured out how to secure the railing for the upper deck, and it opened for business.

New Years Eve was a record breaker, with well over 100 people showing up through the course of the night to include Col Lovejoy. I even got to do the countdown to the New Year. It was yet another successful event at the Tiki. But none of this could have happened without the support of the Troops, who gave generously to the tip jar that we put out every night that enabled us to continue restocking our beer and soda supplies from the PX, who for a time was giving us half off the non-alcoholic beer until the word got out and it was back to full price. As Alice (manager of the PX) said, “Our success was our own worst enemy”. Nor could the Tiki have been such a popular spot without the Soldiers of the Command and

Staff, especially Sgt. Bob Brueckner, who were willing to spend their free time cleaning the Bar on a daily basis, and then doing the bartender duties. But what it boils down to is one man’s vision to make something out of the hell we had to live with for a year. It was everything and more than it was planned to be.

As the years go by, and we think back on our year in Iraq, of the men we lost and of the great successes we had in accomplishing our mission, these will certainly be things we talk of. But for me and for many of the Soldiers from across the FOB that were able to “stop by for a cold one” the one bright spot of our time in Ramadi will be the lasting memories of the times spent at the Tiki Bar and the simple pleasure it gave us and the feeling that we were sitting at our favorite hometown bar enjoying a beer and a game of cribbage with our friends. It was almost like being there.

It only goes to prove that that old saying was right...“when all else fails...build a bar.” Okay I made that up! But it worked for us! 1st VERMONT!



Sgt. Earl Suitor and Staff Sgt. Jerry Wolfenbarger make some last minute musical selections before the New Years Eve party at the Tiki Bar.

GMG

# ***Air Guard going Green: Fire Station renovation***

*By Maj. Anne-Marie Farrell  
158th FW Public Affairs*

The fire station on base is getting a face lift; you have probably noticed the building has been under construction for a few months now. The renovations started in the fall and the completion date is expected to be this August.

The renovation of the Apparatus Bay where the emergency vehicles are parked will happen concurrently with the addition of a Fire Crash Rescue Station. The cost of the project is approximately \$5,000,000. The fire station serves not only the Vermont Air National Guard (VTANG) but also the Burlington International Airport, as well as the local surrounding civilian community.

This project is different than any other construction project ever done on this base, according to 2nd Lt. Mathew Lehman the Contracting Officers Representative who is otherwise filling in as the Deputy Base Civil Engineer.

“The Guard is becoming better stewards of the environment because we are striving, through the government mandates, to achieve the same mission as always but with using less natural resources” said Lehman.

It is the first time the VTANG implements the “Green” federal legislative mandates which call for an energy reduction goal of 3% per year starting in 2006, and a 30% reduction goal by fiscal year 2015 and a Department of Defense (DOD) renewable energy goal of 25% by 2025.

Have you ever wondered why some rabbits and other small animals live in burrows deep in the earth? Because burrows provide cool living during the summer and warmer temperatures in the winter.

As a matter of fact, six feet or more below the ground in many places in the US, no matter what the weather is like outside, the temperature is always moderate, about 56-57 degrees Fahrenheit. The Air Force and the National Guard Bureau (NGB) are working to reduce our dependency on fossil fuels in all new facilities and looking to utilize renewable energy such as the constant heat of the earth.



Construction is underway on the fire station to make it much more energy efficient building, providing an energy cost savings of an estimated 30 to 60 %. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan DiPietro

Tapping into a renewable heat and energy source is what geothermal pump technology and Photo-Voltaic Arrays is all about.

The fire station will be retro-fitted with a geothermal system which uses the earth’s thermal energy to heat and cool the building.

In the winter, the system captures the heat from the ground, and uses ground loops or pipes filled with water buried up to 450 feet deep. These vertical pipes are connected to horizontal pipes which enter the fire station and are then connected to a heat pump and the heat exchange takes place. The system is also used to heat the hot water tank.

In the summer, hot air from the fire station can be pulled through an equipped heat exchanger into the relatively cooler ground where the cool 56 degree ground water transfers its temperature to the air to keep the fire station cool and comfortable

The energy cost savings for the geothermal system are estimated to be around 30 to 60%, and the initial investment is estimated to be recouped between 8-15 years.

Photo-Voltaic (PV) arrays will be installed on the roof of the facility to capture even more renewable energy. The PV cells convert solar energy into direct

# ***tion incorporates Geothermal technology***

current electricity. Most PV arrays use an inverter to convert direct current (DC) power produced into alternating current (AC) which in turn would power the lights, and any other electrical devices. All electrical and mechanical components of this energy efficient system will be controlled by a state of the art computer.

"This is also an investment in the environment as we will be decreasing our carbon footprint by using less (non-renewable) natural resources to power the building" added Lehman.

These earth and environment friendly measures will give this base an opportunity to get a certificate much like a report card. The Leadership in Energy Efficient Design (LEED) will carry out a certification process which will award the base a silver certification at a minimum for the "green" improvements made. The fire station is actually expected to score even higher than "silver".

Not only is the base using top of the line technology to ensure a viable and sustainable future, but it is also addressing the problem of refuse and its earth friendly disposal.

The south side of the old building underwent

significant demolition to include the foundation all the way up to the roof and 95% of the debris removed has been diverted away from the landfill and instead recycled. The contractors E.F. Wall and Associates from Barre have sorted the waste and their waste management program will also be graded on the "report card" and in turn will contribute to a higher LEED certification for the overall project.

Once the renovations and the addition are completed, the firefighters will have increased space for storage and training. All residential functions to include the bunk rooms, the day room, the kitchen, will be moved to the second floor of the building for better rest cycles.

"It is going to give our fire fighters more training rooms, a small gym, residential functions which will give the base the safety of knowing that the fire firefighters are more qualified, more fit, and better rested" said Lehman.

Lehman also said that DOD is incessantly stepping towards a "bluer" tomorrow by continuously decreasing the Air Force's carbon footprint; tomorrow's skies will be bluer than ever.

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## ***Editor's Note*** ***Attention! All Seasonal travelers***

The Green Mountain Guard is now a quarterly publication. Address changes will be processed as recieved and applied to the next issue. In order for the change to take effect, there must not be any inconsistencies between our information ant the Postal Service's information.

**If you travel frequently, or are a "Snowbird" who splits time between residences, please note that your delivery of the Green Mountain Guard may be interrupted. If you arrange to have your mail temporarily forwarded, the Post Office will not forward the Green Mountain Guard- it will be discarded.**

*If you change your mailing address more than once a year, and do not wilsh for your delivery of the Green Mountain Guard to be interrupted, please discuss your options with your local Post Office.*

**Also, please check us out online at [www.vtguard.com/publicaffairs/index.htm](http://www.vtguard.com/publicaffairs/index.htm) and look for us on Facebook "Vermont National Guard" (Government)**

# 40th CAB medevac crew treats Soldiers

By Spc. Darriel Swatts

40TH CAB PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – “MEDEVAC, MEDEVAC, MEDEVAC!”

It’s a cry for medical assistance that is enough to make even the most combat-hardened Soldiers cringe when they hear it cross the radio waves. For the Soldiers of Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment (Air Ambulance), Army National Guard, the call starts a race to respond in 15 minutes or less.

Charlie Company, based out of both Westfield, Mass. and Burlington, Vt., is currently attached to the 40th Combat Aviation Brigade, which is deployed to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn. The company has a big role to play in Iraq, providing medical evacuation (medevac) services to all troops on the ground. For medical emergencies, its aircraft must be in the air and on the way within 15 minutes.

“Even though the Army standard for being ‘wheels up’ is 15 minutes for a medical emergency,” said Staff Sgt. Richard Flach, 4th Platoon, Charlie



A flight crew from 4th Platoon, Charlie Company, 3-126th Aviation (Air Ambulance) shows their colors in front of their HH-60M medevac helicopter upon arriving back at Camp Taji, Iraq on March 25, 2011. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Darriel Swatts)

Company, 3-126th Aviation, “we beat that with an average between 7-8 minutes during the day, with our best time being around four minutes, and at night we average just less than 10 minutes, because each minute we shave off our response time is a minute gained for the patient.”



Two Army National Guard HH-60M medevac helicopters from 4th Platoon, Charlie Company, 3-126th Aviation (Air Ambulance) take off at Camp Taji, Iraq on March 16, 2011. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Darriel Swatts)

The medevac crew operates and lives slightly differently from your traditional unit.

Because the Soldiers of the medevac crew live and operate in such close quarters, unit cohesiveness is imperative, said 1st Sgt. Kris Sample, Charlie Company, 3-126th Aviation.

“Our unit operates like a family, a very close knit family,” Sample said. “We have our moments when the stress is high and we get cranky with each other; but, like any family, we are always there for each other when we need one another, and we love to have fun together whenever possible.”

When the 3-126th responds to a medical emergency, for them, it’s

# s like family

like treating an extended family member.

"We are all brothers and sisters in arms," said Sgt. Cassandra Kennedy, flight medic for 4th Platoon, Charlie Company, 3-126th Aviation. "When I have to treat a Soldier that has been injured in whatever type of incident, I treat them as I would my own family; with the best care that I can possibly provide."

Kennedy said the care and treatment the flight medics are able to provide while in transit to the nearest treatment facility is far superior to what it used to be.

"We used to go by the 'Golden Hour' rule, where you had one hour to effectively save a person's life, limb, or eyesight," Kennedy said. "Now it is pushed in upwards of two hours because we are able to provide better care and treatment to the patient. But we always strive to make it within that Golden Hour."

To get the patient to a treatment facility inside the Golden Hour timeframe, the pilots must be able to make it from their base to the patient and to the treatment facility in an expeditious manner.

"Once I hear 'Medevac, medevac, medevac!'

come over the radio, I drop whatever I am doing, gear up and head out to the aircraft to start her up," said Capt. Joseph Strassner, medical evacuation pilot for 4th Platoon, Charlie Company, 3-126th Aviation. "Once everybody is on board and ready to go, I'll fly to either a HLZ (helicopter landing zone) or POI (point of injury) to pick up the patient. As soon as the patient is secured in the helicopter, we're off to the best treatment facility for the wounds the patient has suffered. After that, we fly back to base. Mission complete."

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## DOD to drop Social Security Numbers from ID cards

*Air Force Print News*

Beginning June 1, Social Security numbers on military identification cards will begin to disappear, said Maj. Monica M. Matoush, a Pentagon spokeswoman.

The effort is part of a larger plan to protect service members and other DOD identification card holders from identity theft, officials said.

Criminals use Social Security numbers to steal identities, allowing them to pillage resources, establish credit or to hijack credit cards, bank accounts or debit cards.

Currently, the Social Security number is printed on the back of common access cards, and on the front of cards issued to dependents and retirees. Beginning in June, when current cards expire, they will be replaced with new cards having a DOD identification number replacing the Social Security number, officials said. The DOD identification number is a unique 10-digit number that is assigned to every person with a direct relationship

with the department. The new number also will be the service member's Geneva Convention identification number.

An 11-digit DOD benefits number also will appear on the cards of those people eligible for DOD benefits. The first nine digits are common to a sponsor, the official said, and the last two digits will identify a specific person within the sponsor's family.

Social Security numbers embedded in the bar codes on the back of identification cards will remain there for the time being, and will be phased out beginning in 2012. The department will replace identification cards as they expire.

Staff Sgt. Rae Couillard, a traditional with the 158th Force Support Flight, is a verifying official for the ID card machine. She says that it will take three years to phase out the old CACs (Common Access Card). Couillard commented "It is a good thing because it is one less place where people can steal your identity. It is good for force protection."

The identity protection program began in 2008, when DOD started removing Social Security numbers from family member identification cards.

GMG

# State Partnership Program: a look at Senegal

By Capt. Kate Irish

VTANG Military Personnel Management Officer

The partnership between the Republic of Senegal and the Vermont National Guard entered its third year with an ambitious schedule of events, both in Senegal (Travelling Contact Teams – TCTs) and here in Vermont (Familiarizations – FAMs). Among the many subjects that such a partnership explores is the topic of gender integration in the armed forces.

Col. Janet Thomas, Commander of the Medical Detachment, Lt. Col. Maureen Evans, the state J5, and Capt. Kate Irish, Military Personnel Management Officer traveled to Senegal mid-April with the purpose of meeting with Human Resources representatives from the Senegalese Army, Navy, Air Force and Gendarmerie. The Working Group discussed numerous aspects of gender integration, including considerations concerning facilities, training, physical fitness, family planning, evaluations, fraternization, uniform regulations and the presence and roles of



The Vermont delegation poses for a group photo with Officers from the Senegalese Army, Navy, Air Force and Gendarmerie who participated in the Human Resources Working Group during the April TCT. Photo by Capt. Kate Irish.

women in deployed and combat settings.

Through several days of intense and productive meetings and discussions, the Working Group laid the groundwork for future FAMs and TCTs, devising a strategic plan to further address the many topics associated with gender integration. In addition to the progress made by the

Human Resources Working Group, the team from Vermont met with Elisabeth Feleke, Regional Program Manager, West Africa for the Africa Center For Strategic Studies and Jennifer Browning, DoD HIV/Aids Prevention Program (DHAPP) Senegal Program Manager to discuss their organizations' initiatives and opportunities for collaboration. The team also attended a formal ceremony in which the Senegalese Minister of the Armed Forces and the Senegalese Minister for Gender Relations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (see accompanying article).

While the meetings and discussions took up the majority of the five days that the team was in country, they managed to squeeze in some local



Senegal is known for their elaborate sand paintings. These paintings were done by a local artisan on Goree Island. Photo by Capt. Kate Irish.

# al and Gender Integration

By Elisabeth Feleke,  
Regional Program Manager, West Africa  
Africa Center for Strategic Studies

On April 21, 2011, Honorable Becaye Diop, Minister of the Senegalese Armed Forces and Honorable Awa Ndiaye, Minister for Gender Relations signed a Memorandum of Understanding to launch their activities on gender mainstreaming in the Senegalese Armed forces. This event was attended by representatives of both ministries, as well as representatives from the Vermont National Guard, the Africa Center for Strategic Studies and the United Nations Office for West Africa.

The ceremony marked the conclusion of a year long project that the Government of Senegal launched to examine and to outline the opportunities and challenges facing the armed forces in developing policies, allocating resources, and creating structures and processes to better integrate women in the military. With technical and financial support from the Africa Center for Strategic Studies and AFRICOM, the Ministry of the Armed Forces developed a strategic framework and capacity building plan both at the institutional and personnel levels to better integrate women in the armed forces. During the signing ceremony, Colonel Maissa Niang, the focal point on gender at the Ministry of the Armed Forces, outlined the recommendations and studies conducted over the course of the past year.

Honorable Becaye Diop, Minister of the Armed Forces, spoke about the history of the progressive integration of women in defense and security forces in Senegal mainly in the medical corps and more recently in other units of the armed forces. He noted that although progress has been slow to date, he reaffirmed his personal and the ministry's commitment to tackling the challenges ahead. As such, and in order to better meet the needs of women pioneers and future recruits, the Ministry of the Armed Forces will collaborate closely with the Ministry of Gender Relations and he reaffirmed his interest to continue to engage the expertise of partners such as the Vermont National Guard.

The Minister for Gender Relations



Honorable Becaye Diop (left), Minister of the Senegalese Armed Forces and Honorable Awa Ndiaye (right), Minister for Gender Relations signed a Memorandum of Understanding to launch their activities on gender mainstreaming in the Senegalese Armed forces. Photo by Col. Janet Thomas

acknowledged that a comprehensive strategy must include the collaboration of both ministries and applauded the efforts of the Armed Forces in Gender mainstreaming. She noted that her ministry can play a key role in sensitizing the public to the notion of more women in the military assuming non-traditional roles. This was seen as a crucial step to complement the gradual gender mainstreaming in the armed forces.

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View of Dakar, capital city of Senegal from a high point on Goree Island. Photo by Col. Janet Thomas.

# PRIME BEEF Makes Choice Cut

By Airman Victoria Greenia  
158th FW Public Affairs

The 158th Fighter Wing has made VTANG history again by winning the William L. Deneke Award for the 2010 year. The award is also known as the Air Force Reserve Command Outstanding Civil Engineering Unit Award. The 158th Fire Department, Civil Engineering, Emergency Management and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) units have once again soared above the rest.

PRIME BEEF (Prime Base Engineers Emergency Force) as they like to call themselves, also received the award one year after its inception in 1979.

Mr. William Albro, director of Installation and Mission Support for the National Guard Bureau, presented the award to the VTANG on Saturday, May 14.

“This is the Air National Guard award for the best civil engineering unit out of all of the units across the country.” He said there were roughly 80 units competing and what makes a guard unit stand out are its deployment history and training program.



Retired Col. Albro presents Lt. Mathew Lehmen, Capt. Daniel O’Neil, Tech. Sgt. Patrick Searles and Lt. Jimmy Garcia with the 2010 Deneke Award for outstanding Civil Engineer Unit May 14 at the Vermont Air National Guard Base in South Burlington. Photo by Tech Sgt. Dan DiPietro

According to 158th Civil Engineering leadership, the Air Force considers several criteria for selection; Expeditionary Engineering, Installation Engineering, Environmental Leadership, and Emergency Services. The 158th CES met these criteria with such accomplishments as \$35 million in on-going design and construction projects, a \$4.6 million solar photovoltaic project that will produce 25% of the base’s electricity, deployments in support of OIF (Operation Iraqi Freedom) and OEF (Operation Enduring Freedom), a deployment to Haiti, and several “outstanding” and “best seen to date” comments by Air Combat Command (ACC) Inspector General (IG) during the 2010 Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI).

Chief Master Sgt. John Talcott doesn’t believe that it’s only numbers and grades on ORI’s that make the 158th CE distinctive. “These guys will do anything, fix anything, build anything,” he said. “When the Haiti deployment came up we had to turn volunteers away. Just recently, when our own state had it’s flood disaster, we had six guys go out to places like Isle La Motte, filling 4,000 sand bags in one day. It’s an attitude.”



Col. Joel Clark, (Ret) Brigadier General Sevi, Lt. Col. Rice and CE Commander (Ret.) Lt. Col. Nash proudly hold up the 2010 Deneke Award for outstanding Civil Engineer Unit May 14 at the Vermont Air National Guard Base in South Burlington. Photo by Tech Sgt. Dan DiPietro

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# First Lady visits VTNG

By: 1st Lt. Dyana K. Allen  
State Public Affairs

First Lady, Michelle Obama, visited hundreds of members of the Vermont National Guard and their families today at the VTNG's Army Aviation Support Facility in South Burlington to thank military members and their families for their continued hard work.

"I come here today on behalf of a grateful nation to say two simple words that you all should hear every single day: Thank you. And I come here to celebrate the people who serve right alongside you without ever wearing a uniform: your amazing families, our heroes right here at home," said Obama.

Mrs. Obama's visit to the Vermont National Guard was due in large part to the encouragement of Marcelle Leahy, Honorary Chair of the Vermont National Guard Family Readiness Program and wife of Senator Patrick Leahy, the Senate Co-Chair of the National Guard Caucus.

Mrs. Obama spoke about the "Joining Forces" campaign which recognizes, honors and serves military families. The intention is to help take care of troops and their families throughout the duration of deployment. She spoke about the community of Hyde Park, who came together and did nation-wide fundraisers to build PFC Andrew Parker, an active duty Soldier who was wounded in Afghanistan, a wheelchair-accessible apartment within his family's home.

Mrs. Obama also stressed that that the goal of her initiative is do whatever can be to done, join forces and ensure that every school supports and celebrates military children and supports military members.

"For her to join us in our great, little state of Vermont is a great honor," said Maj. Gen. Michael Dubie, The Adjutant General, VTNG.

His words resounded with the Gold Star Family members. Regina Meckle, whose son Pfc. Kyle Gilbert was killed in action in Iraq in 2003, said that she is proud that the First Lady came to Vermont and she is proud to be an American. Her husband, Sgt. Herbert Meckle said that he is very honored that Mrs. Obama is showing support to the military.

The Merchant Family, also a Gold Star Family, was



First Lady Michelle Obama visits Vermont expressing her appreciation to military families for the sacrifices they have made at the Vermont Army National Guard's Aviation Support Facility, June 30, 2011. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan DiPietro.

curious to hear what Mrs. Obama had to say. Janet Merchant, whose son, Spc. Christopher Merchant was killed in Iraq in 2006, was very grateful that Mrs. Obama was showing support for our troops.

Support did not only come from the White House and its staff. The event planning started over two weeks ago with intricate coordination required from the Secret Service, local Police, local Sheriff's Offices, DHS, TSA, all Air and Army NG Major Commands, Emergency Medical Services, the Red Cross, and the Vermont State Guard.

"There was a lot of hard work and extra hours put in by all parties involved in this effort, but it is a pleasure to welcome the First Lady," said Lt. Col. Dwight DeCoster, Director of Military Support.

Capt. Rob Evans, Assistant Field Force Commander for the Vermont State Police, was also honored to welcome the First Lady to Vermont and is proud of our military and we all do together. "It is a wonderful opportunity to work with the National Guard in events like this. With all the missions that we do together with all agencies, we seem to work seamlessly," said Evans.

Mrs. Obama has been traveling throughout the Nation visiting Service Members and their families to reassure military families of the deep appreciation of our Nation and to demonstrate the importance of taking care of our military families during times of deployment.

GMC

# ***“Realizing Our Pot***

## ***The 2011 National Guard Military W***

### ***A Message from Major General Michael D. Dubie***

The theme of the first Vermont National Guard Military Women’s Workshop, “Realizing Our Potential”, is of the utmost importance and really sets the stage for this significant event. The Vermont National Guard (VTNG) holds the professional goals of all committed service members, both male and female, as the foundation of the future of our organization and the achievement of these goals are crucial to its success.

Our Diversity Plan has primarily focused on race demographics mirroring the labor force. We continue to achieve parity with those numbers and work diligently to develop relationships within the community as the populations shift. The transition of gender roles over the last few decades in family life, in the professional life and in the way we win wars, engage militaries to maximize every serving individual, male and female. The focus of our Diversity plan now will be on increasing the percentage of women among Senior NCO’s, Warrant and Officer Positions. Research conducted at all levels of the military shows that simply recruiting women is not the answer to increasing these numbers, but rather their retention. With more and more women leaving the military, sooner than men, at every grade level, the gender gap only increases. Particularly detrimental to the military organizations are the women who leave just as they reach the brink of competition for command positions. According to

surveys conducted by the VTNG, the data clearly supports gender based reasoning for these losses. The VTNG is committed to developing strategies to minimize these losses and increase the opportunities for women to reach their potential. You and I all know fiercely competitive, brilliantly competent and loyal female service members who would enhance our organizational capabilities if only the opportunities existed. You may be wondering how we can accomplish this, and the Military Women’s Workshop is only the beginning.

This workshop is the first initiative creating the opportunity to collectively voice the gender concerns and collaborate on recommended solutions. The committee charged with organizing the event has done, and is continuing to do their research on reviewing the history of women in the Military and particularly the VTNG. They have analyzed the numbers and surveys, critiqued the occupations and force structure, and spoken directly to hundreds of the women currently in the ranks or retired. The workshop’s objective is simple:

“To answer the call for more female leaders by providing the current female force with accurate information to help them make informed decisions supportive of their professional goals in the VTNG.”

Did you know there are 491 female

service members assigned to the VTNG, and only nine (9) females hold significant leadership positions? With over sixty (60) key positions open to females, we want your input on how we can improve the retention of females for these opportunities. The networking alone will flourish growth. The commitment to solutions during this workshop will create solid recommendations which can have a true impact on the culture for women in the VTNG and expand opportunities for everyone.

The day’s agenda is packed full of learning, networking and opportunities to contribute for everyone. Over the course of the morning, there will be an outstanding lineup of guest speakers that will connect with every person in the audience. The speakers for this workshop will include our previous Adjutant General who had the honor of being the first female TAG, Retired Major General Martha T. Rainville, who will offer her historical perspective for females in the Military, Ms. Mary Powel who is the Chief Executive Officer for Vermont Green Mountain Power, and Chief Master Sergeant Denise M. Jelinski-Hall who is the Senior Enlisted Leader for the National Guard Bureau. Following key speakers a panel of recently deployed females, who range in rank, service, occupations and assignments, and will give an overview of their experience.

There will be coordinated breakout

# ential”

## Women’s Workshop

sessions to provide key career management information by service and grade. The chosen instructors are committed to optimizing the time and ensuring participants receive the most advantageous information helpful in reaching career objectives.

In addition to these excellent activities, the participants will be provided a delicious lunch on site, at St. Michael’s College, with a great selection of cafeteria style food during which time a pictorial presentation on Female Engagement Teams (F.E.T.S) will be presented by SFC Jill Alberi.

After lunch, the momentum will continue with individual sessions on four different topics, focused facilitators will lead each large group in a discussion on how we can move from the selected concerns to solid solutions. These sessions will develop the recommended courses of actions to be briefed back to Senior Staff members at the end of the day. These recommendations will be staffed and monitored by the State Equal Employment Manager.

After receiving quality feedback that could better the VTNG as an organization, the fun and action doesn’t stop there. An optional team building activity will be a 5K run from the Tarrant Sports Center on campus to the Fort Ethan Allen Park and back in which members of all fitness levels will be supported and encouraged to build confidence and cohesion with other future female

leaders of the VTNG. If nothing else, you will leave the day with new heroes, new friends, new ideas, and most importantly will develop beneficial, professional goals for the future.

I find the service of every guard member to be of extreme importance and believe that the future of our organization rests in the hands of each and every one of you and the diversity of our organization. Diversity creates an inclusive organizational culture which promotes synergy among teams and respect among individuals. It is the expectation of me, my staff, and our organization that every leader supports these diversity initiatives.

2011 National Guard Military Women’s Workshop is open to all women of the Vermont National Guard. A letter of instruction was sent to each female service member HOR and Unit of Assignment. The workshop is scheduled for 07 August 2011 at St. Michael’s McCarthy Arts Center, Colchester, Vt. For more information contact the event Program Manager, CW3 Doris J. Sumner, 338-3148, [doris.sumner@us.army.mil](mailto:doris.sumner@us.army.mil).



Chief Master Sgt. Denise Jalinski- Hall



Ms. Mary Powell



TAG Ret. Maj. Gen. Martha Rainville

# ***Green Mountain Boys assist in tornado clean-up***

By Tech. Sgt. Christopher Santoro

“It sounded like a train coming”, “The house exploded around us”, “I looked up and could see the sky where the roof had been”. These are all comments made by residents of Gloucester, Virginia as they told their violently tragic stories of the deadly tornadoes that tore through the region on Saturday April 16th 2011.

In the days that followed, members of the 158th FW Det 1 learned that one of the homes destroyed was the residence of a member of the 192nd FW, Virginia Air National Guard, a fellow citizen Airmen. Without hesitation they volunteered to assist in the clean-up effort that had been planned by members of the 192nd for Saturday April 23rd.

At 0830 on clean-up day, members of Det 1 met at a local convenience store just a few miles from the affected neighborhood and drove together to the site. The devastation, destruction and property loss witnessed on the drive in was something most had only seen in



Member of the 158th FW Det 1 clear brush after tornados damaged property in Gloucester, Virginia April 16.

movies. Whole sections of forest had been flattened. The only trees left standing had their tops snapped off and carried away. The damage to houses, garages, and cars was extensive with roofs torn off, windows blown out, and some homes even ripped from their foundations, their tattered shells blocking roads and driveways.

Clean-up started at approximately 0900 and the work varied from raking up broken glass, shingle pieces and other debris, to cutting up fallen trees with chainsaws and moving larger pieces of timber and even parts of homes with tractors. A large portion of a roof from a neighboring house needed to be removed. The material was placed in piles; some were remnants of sheetrock, siding and roofing, all destined for the local landfill. Other piles were fallen trees and branches all set to be burned.

Current and recently retired members of Det 1 participated in the clean-up effort alongside members of the 192nd FW, active duty airmen, and residents of Gloucester. The owners of the home were overcome with emotion when they witnessed the turnout of help and expressed their sincere gratitude to the volunteers who had come together to help out their fellow man in time of need.

For nearly four years, the 158FW Det 1 has been manning and executing the Air Sovereignty Alert mission at Langley AFB and has enjoyed the excellent relationship and support it receives from the 633 ABW. Vermonters have a proud tradition of volunteerism and community outreach and many members of Det 1 actively give back to their Hampton Roads community via a variety of local charities and causes – it’s the Green Mountain Boy way!!!



A member of the 158th FW Det 1 removes a broken limb from a tree after tornados damaged property in Gloucester, Virginia April 16.

GMG



**STATE OF VERMONT**  
**OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL**  
789 Vermont National Guard Road  
Colchester, Vermont 05446-3099  
June 8, 2011

To: All 86<sup>th</sup> IBCT Vermont Soldiers

In March of 2011, a letter was sent via email to each of you and that same letter appeared in the March edition of the Green Mountain Guard Magazine, asking for your participation in the Remember My Service Project. At the time the end date for the project was scheduled for mid-April.

Due to some changes in the program, requested by the Guard Bureau, the project was put on hold on April 14. The collection of some information, determined to be too personal in nature, has been dropped from the project. This information included the RMS Roll Call function, unit rosters, and mobilization orders, in theater assignments, unit movement orders, and in-theater briefings. I am pleased to say that the requested changes were made and the stop work order was rescinded on May 27.

As a result of these changes and the stop work order our data collection time has been extended. Instead of the mid-April end date we can now continue to collect data through the month of July.

Once again, I am asking for your support. We have collected a number of photos and video from several units and individuals already but we still have plenty of room to add additional data to the DVD. You are the history of the Vermont National Guard and have completed a difficult and important mission. Please help us to capture the event and make it an accurate and valuable Remembrance for all who served. For those of you that need a refresher of what the completed project will look like please check the website at [www.remembermyservice.com/](http://www.remembermyservice.com/).

In addition to the pictures and videos, SSG Alvarez will be contacting the units to schedule video interviews that will be used on the DVD to get your personal perspective on the deployment. If you don't hear from him and want to participate please contact me, or SSG Alvarez to arrange a time that works for you.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions, 802-338-3440.

Ken Musgrave  
Command Project Officer

# MILITARY RETIREES GREY AREA RETIREES And Dependents



All Branches of the Armed Forces/Uniformed Services  
**You are Invited to**

## THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND MILITARY RETIREE ACTIVITY DAY

SPONSORED BY  
VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD IN COOPERATION WITH: HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE,  
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD, FORT DRUM  
AND THE NATIONAL GUARD  
AND ARMY RETIREE COUNCILS FROM MAINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, AND VERMONT.

### HERE'S WHAT'S AVAILABLE

LEGAL ASSISTANCE, HEALTH CARE INFORMATION,  
SURVIVOR BENEFITS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES,  
COMMISSARIES, EXCHANGES,  
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION  
VETERANS CEMETERIES, VETERANS HOMES,  
DEERS/ID CARD RENEWALS, AND MUCH MORE.



### COME AND JOIN US SATURDAY JULY 23, 2011

Vermont Army National Guard Regional Training Institute,  
Camp Johnson, Colchester, Vermont  
All activities will be indoors

Photo identification card required for driver, military or drivers license



**0800-0900 REGISTRATION**  
**0900-0945 OPENING CEREMONY**  
**0945-1500 STATIONS AND OPEN**

### Directions to RAD 2011

From Interstate 89, turn right at Exit 15, Vermont Rt 15 and follow sign to Camp Johnson.

For more info contact Major (Ret) Paul G. Blacketer at [blacketer1@yahoo.com](mailto:blacketer1@yahoo.com) or 802-893-7186  
OR LTC Lloyd Goodrow at [Lloyd.Goodrow@us.army.mil](mailto:Lloyd.Goodrow@us.army.mil) or cell 802-233-1805

# News & Notes

## Airman enlists two friends

Airman 1st class Megan Coons, from the Armament shop, was approached by her friend Victoria Palmer about her recent deployment to Korea. Palmer's interest led to conversations with her friend Shannon Lapham about what the VTANG was all about. Palmer and Lapham both enlisted into the Ammo/Munitions section on May 10. Coons said "I like bringing people into the unit to see what I do". She also said there is a friendly rivalry between Armament and Ammo, and that Ammo 'owes' her big!!



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## Congrats VTANG for your Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

By Airman 1st Class Caitlin Newvine  
158th FW Public Affairs



Congratulations, Vermont Air National Guard, as your dedication has paid off and has been recognized; you have been awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. First given in 1954 by the Secretary of the Air Force, this award is presented to units that perform 'above and beyond' the expected services, accomplished acts of outstanding achievements, or have excelled in combat operations against enemies of the United States of America.

Deploying over 885 personnel and moving over 200 tons of equipment in the past 24 months, the 158th Fighter Wing remains a constant presence in training and contingency operations. Thanks to the flawless execution of Homeland Defense, zero missed missions, and the overall grade of 'outstanding' in mission effectiveness and information operations, there is no doubt that the men and women of this unit are deserving of this award.

Furthermore, the Vermont Air Guard was hand-chosen by the National Guard Bureau, and given the opportunity to be the lead unit in testing and developing

the 'next generation' advanced targeting pods in air-to-ground and air-to-air missions. The F-16 ANG Weapon Instructor Course also boasted 100% graduation rate. VTANG played an instrumental part in the "first ever" F-16 Mission Training Center, which is a hands-on, virtual training tool for pilots. Also high on the accomplishment list, the VTANG was chosen as a possible future home of the F-35 by the United States Air Force.

Col. Joel Clark the 158th FW Vice Commander said "This is a fitting award for two of the busiest years in the VTANG's history. ( The Fighter Wing has) great people doing great things, that's the Green Mountain Boys." The official award ceremony took place during the June consolidated UTA (Unit Training Assembly) and the ribbon was issued to all VTANG members at that time. The ribbon is worn on the Dress Blues. Well done, Green Mountain Boys!

# *Air and Army Promotions*

## **AIR PROMOTIONS**

### **TECHNICAL SERGEANT**

Stephanie Becker  
Tara Corwin  
Andrew Hale  
John Lawrence  
Trad Leavitt  
Robert Oldytowski

### **STAFF SERGEANT**

Christopher Brosseau  
Corey Burton  
Paul Cappellino  
Dean Moreau  
Emily Santillo  
Andrew Vaughan

### **SENIOR AIRMAN**

Sean Clark  
Joseph Sarno Benoit

### **AIRMAN**

Katie Jacques

## **AIR RETIREMENTS**

Chief Master Sgt. Lucie Hill

Senior Master Sgt.  
David Demingware

Senior Master Sgt.  
Darryl Merchant

Master Sgt. Joseph Forgione

Master Sgt Chris Morrison

Master Sgt. Darcy Spence

Master Sgt. Walter Trojanic

Master Sgt. Connie Webster

Tech Sgt. Alan Garey

Tech Sgt. Cynthia Sanders

Tech. Sgt. Laura Upton

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## **ARMY PROMOTIONS**

### **SERGEANT 1ST CLASS**

Robert Bunch  
Christopher Dayton  
Richard Lafeniere  
John Mingo  
Keith Randall  
Douglas Thornton

Eric Livingstone  
Justin Parker  
Clifford Pebley  
Robert Rouillard  
Tyler Vaughan  
Patrick Wright  
Matthew Zinti

Daniel Hart  
Steven Hernandez  
Jonathan Hogan  
Matthew Hunter  
Carlos Javiertorres  
Angelo Jordan  
Kathryn Kayhart  
John Lara

### **STAFF SERGEANT**

Jason Alvarez  
Stephen Chalifoux  
Raymond Crowley  
Amanda Fresn  
Stephen Gross  
Jody Leach  
David Ludwig  
Melissa Rawson  
Andrew Trayah

### **SPECIALIST**

Timothy Audet  
Matthew Benoit  
James Black  
Travis Bodette  
Jamie Briley  
Cody Choquette  
Kristopher Clodgo  
Joshua Davis  
Ned Davis  
Jerome Duchaine  
Jennifer Dumont  
Mark Evans  
Eric Fournier  
Jef Franke  
Scott Giguere  
Adrian Hahr  
Amanda Hahr

Jonathan Leibold  
Timothy McCormick  
Corey Miner  
Christopher Payne  
Ashley Progin  
Nathan Rivard  
Dakota Russellgreen  
Adam Senecal  
Brandon Sherratt  
Hannah Slack  
Amanda Smith  
Jessica Smith  
Martha Stemp  
Corey Stanley  
Robert Taylor  
James Thomas  
Stephen Trombly  
William Woodward

### **SERGEANT**

Margo Adams  
Joshua Chim  
Paul Fitzmaurice  
Judy Gendron  
Korey Kaigle  
Banting Liang

# *tions and Retirements*

## **ARMY PROMOTIONS** *continued*

### **PRIVATE 1ST CLASS**

Adam Allen  
Mariah Almy  
Daniel Armstrong  
Josh Bentinimalette  
Paul Berwise  
Gary Bilodeau  
Jessica Bradley  
Kyle Cantin  
Jamison Chadurjian  
Jason Chandler  
Emily Colvin  
Joshua Cray  
Michael Doran  
Tyler Dromgol  
William Flood  
Francis Friend  
Alfred Gendreau  
Andrew Gilbertfuller  
Kyle Hinchliffe  
Samantha Houske  
Jordan Jackson  
Samantha Jenkin  
Joshua Jerome  
Brandon Lambert  
Connor Langley  
Alexander Love  
Jair Mayorga  
Kyle Mcrae  
Jason Murray

Christopher Peno  
Melvin Peno  
Maryann Phillips  
Taylor Place  
Timothy Poplin  
Robert Powell  
Daniel Rousseau  
Justin Santos  
Kyle Spaulding  
Patrick Stearns  
Allicen Waite  
Jon Wedge  
Rachel Westcott  
Justin Williams  
Gregory Villone  
William Wells  
Joseph Wu

### **PRIVATE**

Zachery Allen  
Frederick Allard  
Patrick Bernier  
Jedidiah Bisignanowlaz  
Colin Bleem  
Howard Bolduc  
Joshua Bolduc  
Chad Carpenter  
Adam Cavoli  
Tyler Cormier

Cody Dashnaw  
Cody Dingman  
Shawn Dodge  
Shannen Fortner  
Tyler Fortune  
Rodwin Friot  
Jesse Guyette  
James Hance  
Alexander Harris  
Zakery Hunt  
Samuel Kent  
Jennifer Lafountain  
Jacob Lapointe  
Brittany Lewis  
Christopher Link  
Bryan Mathieu  
John Maye  
Michael Menard  
Lonnie Muller  
Joseph Palmer  
Kody Ploof  
Michael Poirier  
Kimberly Pratt  
Devan Roberts  
Benjamin Robinson  
Ryan Seidler  
Zachary Simoneau  
Matthew Sims  
Ashley Skinner  
John Stokes

## **ARMY RETIREMENTS**

Lt. Col. James Mclaughlin  
  
Lt. Col. Charles Purinton  
  
Capt. Keith Davio  
  
Capt Jeffrey Willey  
  
Chief Warrant Officer 5  
Eugene Sumner  
  
1st Sgt. Nelson Charron

1st Sgt. Kevin Dunican  
  
Master Sgt. John Huestis  
  
Master Sgt. James Molleur  
  
Master Sgt. Brian Perry  
  
Master Sgt. Alex Sargent  
  
Master Sgt. Keith Ward  
  
Sgt. 1st Class Edward Deuso

Sgt. 1st Class Michael Greig  
  
Sgt. 1st Class Sue King  
  
Staff Sgt. Jason Brown  
  
Staff Sgt. James Crowe  
  
Sgt. Thomas Conley  
  
Sgt. James Gossens  
  
Sgt Gregory Roy

**Green Mountain  
GUARD** State Headquarters  
Vermont National Guard  
789 Vermont National Guard Rd  
Colchester, Vermont 05446-3099

PRSRRT STD  
US POSTAGE PD  
BURLINGTON VT  
PERMIT #417

## VTANG Wins Outstanding Unit Award!



Congratulations to The Vermont Air National Guard, recipients of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. Well Done!  
*Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan DiPietro, 158th FW Public Affairs*