

From the Director, Joint Staff



Brig. Gen. Jonathan Farnham

Welcome Back!

I hope you are getting settled in and back into your routine. Once again, I find myself in a position where I thought I could just come home and slide right back into every aspect of my life as it was before we deployed last year; however I found it was just not that easy. You can't flip a switch and go back to "normal." It takes some time and a great deal of patience. I continually remind myself how glad I am to be home and how glad I am that almost all of forces less the Warriors and Patriots from C/126 are home. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families as they continue their important mission in Iraq. You and the members of your family should know and not forget that there is a robust support network out there to help you through any adjustment issues you are having now that you are home. If you are having any issues, you should not be afraid to ask for help or assistance.

I'm still adjusting to it all and digesting the entire experience in Afghanistan. I have had many, many, family members, friends and people from the community ask me "how is it really going over there?" I have been very measured and careful in my responses. I believe that 2011 will indeed be a critical year in the effort in Afghanistan as the full benefit of the surge is on the ground and operational. The Commander of ISAF believes we now have the inputs right and the required resources to make significant progress. How things unfold as the weather starts to get better in Afghanistan this spring will greatly impact how the rest of the summer or "fighting season" goes. Continued support for the war domestically and in foreign capitals will be a focus of discussion and heavily scrutinized over the course of the next few months. There is no doubt that the Afghans need to take on increasing levels of responsibility for their future in the security, growth and development of their nation.

I am amazed at how little news coverage there is on the war in Afghanistan and operations in Iraq. You have to search for news on Afghanistan on the internet and seldom are stories, positive or negative covered in the main stream media. In addition to a number of strategically significant and troubling events around the world this year, the war in Afghanistan continues. US, Coalition, and Afghan soldiers and police as well as Afghan citizens continue to lay down their lives for the cause of freedom and democracy in a part of the world that has been in a state of persistent conflict for more than 30 years. We need to keep all these brave warriors, from all services and the 47 nations represented in ISAF in our thoughts and prayers, even though they may not be the top news story every day.

We have some important Yellow Ribbon and reintegration events coming up over the course of the next couple months. I encourage you to let your chain of command know you plan to attend and take advantage of the information and services being offered. It will also be an opportunity to see some of the soldiers you served with during the recent deployment in a relaxed setting.

Thanks to the all of the team that supported us here while we were gone. The members of Task Force Warrior, the staff at JFHQ, state workers and family support networks, Chaplain's, the Outreach Team, Family Assistance Centers and Family Readiness Groups, and the Vermont Air National Guard ; WOW...it made a huge difference knowing you were here for us. A special thanks to our employers for their support. Last but not least, to those families, significant others and supporters; thanks for all your support and care for us, we couldn't have done it without you! Put the Vermonters ahead!

ON COVER



Photo by Sgt. Elizabeth Strauss

Vermont National Guard Biathlon team member Brian Letourneau skis past Jeremy Aucoin of Rhode Island during the sprint race March 9 at Camp Ethan Allen Training Site.

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Leadership Column

By: Maj. Robert Monette,
APMS/Recruiting Operations Officer



Hello to all my fellow Vermont National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, and especially to the Soldiers returning from the 86th IBCT (MTN) Afghanistan deployment! My own post-deployment assignment is as the Recruiting Operations Officer (ROO) for the University of Vermont's Senior ROTC "Green Mountain Battalion." While headquartered here at the University of Vermont, some of our 87 Cadets come from our Partner Schools (Saint Michael's College, Champlain College, Middlebury College, Johnson State College, Castleton State College and the State University of New York at Plattsburgh). The Green Mountain ROTC Battalion and the Vermont Army National Guard enjoy a great relationship, mutually beneficial to both organizations. Many of the current Senior Leaders of the Vermont National Guard are UVM ROTC graduates, and a good many of them are active alumni association members. We consider ROTC "The Smartest College Course You Can Take," and it certainly helped set up much of our own leadership for success.

As many of you returning veterans are settling back into your lives, many of you are considering furthering your education. The Post 9/11 G.I. Bill is an incredible benefit for your service to our country: You can get paid to go to college! In fact, I've already talked with many of our young Soldiers who will be joining us on campus in the autumn, both as students and ROTC Cadets. If you're a returning veteran and are interested in taking advantage of your college benefits, why not continue your military career by checking out ROTC? If you are at all interested in becoming an officer, I can walk you through all of the various options (of which there are many!). We understand, while a full-time college student, that your academics come first, so we have scheduled our military science classes and labs to not conflict with the majority of the scheduled academic classes. However, even within ROTC, there are many opportunities to become more actively involved. For example, you can participate on the Ranger Challenge team, and engage in a higher level of physical training, culminating in a yearly games participation in the autumn. Last year, the Green Mountain Battalion ROTC finished third in our Division; this year, we're training hard to win – stay tuned!

Feel free to stop by and visit me at the Adams House on the UVM campus – walk-ins are welcome. I'd be happy to see my fellow Vermont National Guard Soldiers.

Chaplain's Column

By: Lt. Col. Chaplain Calvin Kemp



"You never know." How often we say these words when someone we know suddenly dies. It's something we say because we want to fill in the awkward silence, and also because it's true. God does not tell us exactly when we will die. He doesn't want us to spend our days focused on the clock or calendar waiting for our appointed time, and He doesn't want us to waste our time trying to determine what "You never know." Instead, He wants us to concentrate on what we do know. We do know that no matter the time, God loves us and has made us His children in Christ Jesus. And we do know that each day is given to us to love those around us. But it seems that we just can't muster the courage to step out and show our love. We all have plenty of excuses to avoid opportunities to love and to be loved. It's as if we don't dare go around the corner to see what's on the other side. But then God puts our fears aside and gives us the courage to truly love, to sacrifice for another, to give rather than receive, and ultimately to forgive as He forgives us. And when we do? We love it! And can't understand why we ever hesitated. It's true—"You never know"—God doesn't tell us when it's anyone's time, but there is always time for sharing God's love.



Education

By: Capt. Joseph Colantoni



As Spring enrollment season comes to an end the pace in the education office is at an all time high. With changes to the Post 9/11 Chapter 33 GI Bill, discounts at many colleges and universities, the possibility of opening up funding for technical education and the possibility of raising Commercial Driver License funding there is no time for delay. As the 86th IBCT has returned we have seen a 150% increase in federal tuition assistance spending and at least a 200% increase in calls and emails to my office. With this increase we have reached out to two amazing organizations; Community College of Vermont and Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for assistance with advising and career counseling. Any Veteran may go to any of the 12 CCV locations and speak with a veterans admissions counselor. They can provide an academic skills test to assess where your education level is at for attending college courses. They can also assist in determining the right degree for you. The same goes with the VSAC Adult Education Outreach counselors. When you call the Outreach office, ask to make an appointment with the EOC counselor in your area. You can choose the time and place that works best for you.

Now for what many of you have been waiting for, "The Post 9-11 GI Bill" Update.. BEFORE you apply for this benefit check in with my office as it's not the best benefit for everyone. Yes it is true that it has opened up to AGR members; yes BAH will be reduced; and yes there is a cap on private institutions. This is still a work in progress. DoD and VA are still in negotiations and we should receive official word early this summer. If you are trying to transfer your benefit and need more information please start at your unit, I have sent out detailed instructions to the 06 Commands, outreach personnel, and the Family Assistance Centers. Utilize these folks prior to contacting the education office.

I will be briefing at the 30 and 60 day yellow ribbon events for the 86th IBCT. Computers will be set up for post 9/11 transfers, and many colleges will be in attendance. This will be a perfect event to ensure your educational goals are met. Be sure to check in with me, as several local colleges are offering outstanding discounts or launching new initiatives specifically for VTNG members.

Health and Safety

By: Lt. Col. Anne Young



Motorcycle Operator Requirements

While it seems that warmer weather may never arrive, spring and summer are just around the corner. Motorcycles are one of the key indicators that spring has finally arrived in VT. Sadly, motorcycle accidents continue to be one of the leading causes of injury and death to National Guard service members. Many of these occurred needlessly as a result of irresponsible driving, ill-prepared or inexperienced drivers. To effectively counter this alarming and tragic trend, the Department of Defense continues to remind service members of the safety requirements for operators of motorcycles.

These requirements include completion of the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) Course. Soldiers can complete the course either the VT DMV or through courses sponsored by the VTANG.

Motorcycle riders must also wear personal protective equipment (PPE) while operating a motorcycle – even where not required by state law. For example, a soldier living in New Hampshire (a state without a helmet law) is still required to wear a helmet while operating the motorcycle in NH. Additional PPE necessary for operating a motorcycle includes a Department of Transportation-approved helmet, face shield or impact glasses properly attached to the helmet, sturdy over-the-ankle footwear, a long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long pants, full-fingered gloves or mittens designed for motorcycles and a brightly-colored outer garment vest/belt/riding jacket for daytime riding and a reflective upper garment for night driving. VTARNG service members that have completed an approved MSF course can obtain a safety vest from the Safety and Occupational Health Office. Bring your certificate and get a vest. Our office is located on the third floor of the AASF.

Social Media Awareness

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



Many of us thought that we would never live to see the day when military computers would be open to websites like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and MySpace. Well, that day has come, as many of us know. In 2010, the Department of Defense authorized official use, and some limited personal use, of social media websites on military computers. This change was shocking for many of us. It is an issue that is still controversial for some service members. Questions of necessity and information technology security naturally followed the DoD announcement. Offices in military bases all over the world were a buzz with chatter on this. Supervisors wondered if access to social media websites would lead to decreased productivity in troops. Commanders wondered if this change would help or hurt our mission. For so many years, restricted access to sites like this was the norm! This change represents a truly fundamental shift in the way that DoD does business. So, what was DoD thinking when they made this change? In a recent visit to the headquarters of Facebook, Deputy Defense Secretary William J. Lynn III discussed the use of these sites with employees. "We use social media just as other organizations do. It's a critical element for us." Lynn went on to talk about how social media websites can enhance the mission of the DoD by providing exposure to potential recruits in the information age. Lynn went on to say, "We would be depriving ourselves of the best and the brightest if we didn't use social media" Another benefit of social media includes making it easier for those deployed to stay connected to each other and families back home, something that can provide a real boost to morale. Lynn also indicated that there are intelligence related benefits to the speed of communications taking place online, making it easier to gather information. However, Lynn does acknowledge that there is risk involved and commented that the effort to incorporate social media into the way we do business must be accompanied by a parallel effort to enhance our cybersecurity. Work also needs to be done to educate DoD users on social media usage policies, as well as professional and personal security. These efforts are all underway, but only time will show us the true impact of social media's acceptance by DoD. Like it or not, social media is here to stay.

Family Readiness

By Mary Bullis,

158th FW Airman and Family Readiness Manager

Readiness, Resources and Resiliency...the 3 R's of Family Readiness. Readiness is an important aspect of both military and personal lives. According to Merriam-Webster, readiness is the "the state of being fully prepared for something". Just as our Airmen and Soldiers consistently train to be prepared to execute their missions, in our own personal lives, we need to develop a plan for being prepared for the many challenges that life can bring, whether it be family, financial, career, or health.

It takes resources and time to develop and sustain readiness. As a military member, there are many resources available to you and your family to assist with readiness, both from the military and through the community. Our team of professionals within the Family Programs may very well be the resource you need or we will be able to refer you to an appropriate resource to assist you. Developing a plan and knowing about the resources available to you, is an important step toward what is called "resiliency".

Resilience is the process of adapting well during challenging times such as trauma, tragedy, threats, or even significant sources of stress such as family and relationship problems, serious health problems, or workplace and financial stressors. It means "bouncing back" from difficult experiences. A combination of factors contributes to resiliency. Having caring and supportive relationships within and outside the family, developing a realistic plan and take steps to carry it out, having a positive view of yourself and confidence in your strengths and abilities, developing skills in communication and problem solving. A few important ways of developing resiliency are making connections, taking care of yourself and being optimistic. Being part of the military, making connections among our military family is very important. It puts you in contact with other people who have similar experiences. There are opportunities available, such as volunteering, youth activities or family events through our Family Program that will help you and your family connect with others. Plenty of resources, such as Military One Source offer information on taking care of yourself and your family, and keeping an optimistic look on life.

Life as a military member and military family can be challenging. Keep these 3 "R's" in mind...Readiness, Resources and Resiliency. The Family Programs, both Air and Army, work jointly to provide you with the information and resources you need to be ready and resilient.

By Maj. William McKern

George Bradley Kellogg 1854-1859

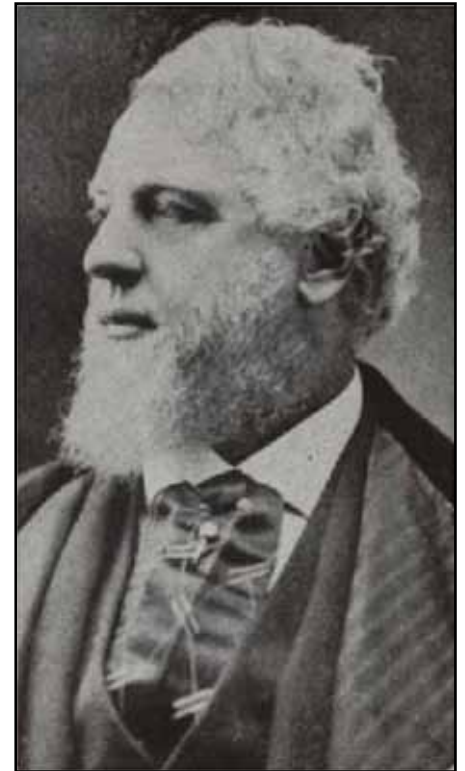


George Bradley Kellogg

The son of former Vt. Adjutant General Daniel Kellogg, George Kellogg was born in Rockingham in 1825, studied law, and became an attorney in Brattleboro. He served as Brattleboro's postmaster, Windham County State's Attorney and a member of the Vermont House of Representatives before becoming adjutant general in 1854. He served until 1859, and in 1861 was commissioned to recruit troops for the Vermont Militia at the start of the Civil War. He raised the 1st Vermont Cavalry Regiment, was appointed its lieutenant colonel and second in command, and fought in several battles before being discharged in 1862. He then moved to St. Louis, where he reestablished his law office. In March, 1867 President Andrew Johnson nominated him to be US Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri, but the Senate did not confirm him. He died in St. Louis in 1875 and was interred at Holy Trinity Cemetery. All the remains at that site were later moved to Calvary Cemetery in St. Louis.

Horace Henry Baxter 1859-1861

H.H. Baxter was born in Saxtons River in 1818. After learning the retail business in Boston, he opened his own dry goods store in Bellows Falls. From there, Baxter entered the construction business when he received a contract to grade rail bed and lay track near Bellows Falls for the Rutland and Burlington Railroad. His success led to more Rutland and Burlington contracts, as well as work for other lines including the Western Vermont Railroad, and he later expanded his construction business outside Vermont, including building the entire Cleveland and Toledo Railroad. Baxter settled in Rutland, became a partner in the Rutland Marble Company, and subsequently became the sole owner. He became adjutant general in 1859 and was commended for taking measures to prepare the militia for mobilization in anticipation of the Civil War. At the outbreak of hostilities he recruited and mustered in the first Vermonters activated for wartime service, the 1st Vermont Infantry Regiment, contributing personal funds to clothe and equip them, and riding at their head as they departed for war. In 1861 Baxter stepped down as adjutant general because he was in ill health, and because he thought someone with combat experience should be adjutant general while the Civil War was ongoing. Living in New York City and Rutland, Baxter became affiliated with the New York Central Railroad, and served as its president. He was also the founder of the Rutland County bank and the Baxter National Bank and an investor in several Rutland utility companies. He was a major stockholder in the Pullman Car Company and the New York Elevated Railway, and took an active role in managing his investments until his health failed and he became an invalid. He died in New York City in 1884 and was buried in Rutland's Evergreen Cemetery. *GMG*



Horace Henry Baxter

Have you been to the Vermont

By Brian Lindner

photos by Sgt. Elizabeth Strauss, State Public Affairs



One could have a healthy discussion about when the Vermont Veteran's Militia Museum and Library was first created. It would be valid to say that the collecting began many, many

decades ago but pinpointing an actual time is probably impossible. The collection moved around to wherever space could be located and often those spaces were inadequate. Never was the quality of the location on par with the quality of the collection. It all changed in 1994 when the VVMML moved into Phase 1 just inside the gate at Camp Johnson. At last the collection was housed in a proper facility with adequate security.

Under the leadership of Ron Crisman, the museum obtained federal recognition in 1988 which was a huge step forward. It was then that efforts began in earnest to create a the Phase I facility worthy of housing some of Vermont's best military artifacts.

By 1994 Crisman had lead a successful charge to raise funds and open a building where the state's military artifacts and a research library could be housed. This was the ultimate recycle project. An old shed destined to be torn down was instead picked up, moved toward the front gate and set down on a new foundation. This was Phase I – today's central building at the museum. The building had long-served the regular Army as a part of Fort Ethan Allen then the Air Force as a part of the Ethan Allen AFB and finally as part of the Vermont Army National Guard. If those

walls could talk...

Mostly through volunteer work, the building was slowly turned into a modern museum. Not only did volunteers do the bulk of the work, several also served on the Board of Directors giving them the honor of doing double duty. The volunteer hours would easily be measured in the thousands.

The project had excellent support from Legislature, Governor and Adjutant General. For the first time in state history, an entire museum of Vermont military artifacts proudly displayed this aspect of our state's rich history.

Over the following years yet another old building was recycled and that now forms the wing closest to the front gate of Camp Johnson. The two buildings were connected and the design created a unique display with the very rare "40 & 8" railroad car given to the people of Vermont by France following World War One. France wanted to thank the state for its help and sacrifice in winning the war. Upon arrival, it was packed with individual gifts and these are today under the care of the Vermont Historical Society. The railroad car itself forms the centerpiece of a World War One display.

Yet another recycle project forms another important aspect of the museum. Legislature was remodeling and ended up with impressive glass doors as surplus. These were brought to the museum and used to create the entrance to the wing housing the library.

The library itself contains hundreds of volumes on military history. Many are unique and important sources for researchers. The library also houses an important collection of posters, photographs and other



nt Veteran's Militia Museum?

paper artifacts.

With the completion of the buildings, accomplished almost exclusively by volunteer work, the floors and walls were filled with displays.

The most important single item on display is the largest oil painting in North America. Charles Andrus' painting of the battle of Cedar Creek entitled *Sheridan's Ride* fills one entire wall and still hasn't been fully extended. Andrus' work portrays Vermonters rallying to save the day at Cedar Creek during that critical battle of the Civil War. The painting is in remarkably well preserved condition and measures an enormous 17' x 28'. It required a tractor-trailor unit to be transported from the Berlin Armory where it had been stored for many years.

One could go on nearly forever in listing the important artifacts in the collection. Being a military museum, weapons are obviously an important part of many displays. Many of the military guns on display were owned by the State of Vermont and destined for destruction during the 1980s. Board President Crisman was able to instead have these rare and important military artifacts transferred to the museum where they will remain to help tell the story of our history for



The Vermont Veteran's Militia Museum and Library houses examples of uniforms worn throughout history, including examples of uniforms worn by women.

many generations.

Many amazing dioramas have been donated over the years. Hundreds and thousands of hours of

dedicated work in creating some highly accurate battle scenes serve to help educate the many school children who visit the VVMML.

Few remember the time when we had Atlas ICBM missile silos in Vermont. Walt Houghton built a highly detailed diorama showing exactly what the inside of these silos once looked like...his work telling a little known portion of our state's history. (Houghton also built a detailed diorama of the former Alert Hangers at the Ethan Allen AFB.)

One member accidentally stumbled across a German World War One field cannon in a junk yard in Vermont. How it got there remains a mystery but it has now been restored and is on display at the museum.

Then there is the early 1900s Kelvinator Field Kitchen that was found many years ago buried deeply in the ground at the Ethan Allen Firing Range. In restored condition, it now occupies an important location just inside the main entrance. How many Vermont soldiers were fed from this wagon?

Uniforms are on display throughout the facility. War of 1812, early militia, Civil War and all the way to Desert Storm on display. Unlike some other military museums, the VVMML has a full display to honor the women of Vermont who have served in uniform.

An entire article could be written about the vehicles on display. Notice the two helicopters on the front lawn. Both were shot down in Vietnam but repaired and returned to Vermont when our troops came home.

Few realize that the VVMML also has an important collection of aircraft beyond the F-4 which sits on the front lawn. These aircraft are stored at the Air Guard base at Burlington Airport. Most were flown by the Vermont Air Guard during earlier decades.

One has to wonder what other artifacts might be in the museum today had it existed in earlier years. For example, Ethan Allen's sword was passed around between various offices and organizations for countless years. Where is it today?

The VVMML proudly displays hundreds of Vermont military artifacts, art works, models, dioramas, uniforms, vehicles, airplanes, and weapons. It is open regularly and visitors are always welcome. Next time instead of driving by – stop in and see the displays. You will be impressed. *GMG*

Korea - My very first deployment

By Airman 1st Class Caitlin Newvine

When I enlisted in the Air National Guard just over a year ago, my intentions were focused completely on getting my college degree and seeing where it brought me in life. I wasn't planning on going on any deployments, but I have always had the adventurous spirit. That spirit eventually led to me to South Korea for a 30 day deployment with some 200+ Green Mountain Boys. Much to my surprise, that deployment would change every plan that I had.

(Defense Switch Network) lines for morale calls home. I had full access to the outside world.

My days began at night. That must sound weird to those who didn't deploy with us. The group was split up into two shifts, day and night. I was graced with the opportunity to mess up my sleep cycle! I went into work around 2pm, and got out around 11 o'clock or midnight, depending on what time the jet maintenance was completed.



U.S. Airmen from the 158th Fighter Wing take a moment to pose for a group photo during their training in Korea

Packing my bag brought forth an overwhelming wave of excitement. I had gone on many trips overseas before, but not on a deployment. What do I bring? What do I not bring? Will there be beds? Showers? What about heat in the sleeping areas? Will we be in tents or little tee-pees? There were a lot of unknowns, and I was excited to see what the South Korean culture had in store for me.

When I got to Kunsan Air Force Base, however, I felt completely spoiled. Many of my companions may beg to differ, but I felt like I had gotten smacked in the face. Not only did we have huts with beds and heat to sleep in, we had a community bathroom house with flushing toilets and showers! They sometimes had hot water, which was a great relief.

There was WiFi eventually, thanks to the hardworking Communication team. We had DSN

I had the amazing opportunity to see our men and women in action day after day. I would hear the radios go off from inside my office, then I would see a few people run out the doors unto the flight line to do what they do best. Then, a little while later, I'd hear the radios again announcing success following the return of the people who had done their job right. I was an "Admin" on the trip (Knowledge Operations Manager), and had a lot of paperwork to do. I typed up and managed recall rosters,

memorandums, and letters. I also processed other records, but when all was said and done at the end of my shift, I'd pry myself away from my chair and find another adventure to embark upon.

Twice I had the opportunity to go out on the flightline. I have learned many things about the Maintenance Squadron. All are so hardworking, and know their jobs like the back of their hands. I got to watch my fellow Airmen work, and it amazed me to know that without the dedication and know-how of these people, we would have no working jets. When we have no working jets, obviously the jets do not fly. If they do not fly, the mission does not get done.

After visiting the flightline and seeing what life is like outside of the AMU (Aircraft Maintenance Unit), I fell in love with afterburners. I fell in love with the sights and sounds, even the smells. I saw many jets take off and many jets land. I saw many crewchiefs taxi

the jets back to their 'homes'. I saw AGE (Air Ground Equipment) do their thing. I witnessed weapons loading, fueling, intake inspections and downloads. I observed Plans and Scheduling, and I saw the Command Staff at work. All of this is something that I probably would have never seen had I not gone on this deployment.

And what to say about the chemical training we received? Well, I learned to 'become one' with my gas mask. I also learned that it is never a good thing to have a cold during a chemical attack; you learn to 'pity Darth Vader'. I learned that no matter how many times you try, the olive colored duct tape that we use on our chem gear will not stick. I have learned that the UCC (Unit Command Center) is a very hectic place when no radios work. I mastered the art of taking MOPP gear off in a very short amount of time, compliments of drinking 50 water bottles.

mediocre compared to the amazing Yaki Mandu that my friends and I became addicted to.

Through this experience, I made friendships that will never be broken, I have images that are engraved in my memory, I have goals that now stretch way beyond only a college degree. I have learned my job, and I have learned to do it well.

The best part about this deployment was that I had the amazing opportunity to learn how every single member of the Air Force has a role, and every member affects the end result. In the end, it is what makes our Air Force the strongest in the entire world.

Through this deployment, I have discovered that my journey is only beginning. My career has only just begun and I have a lot left to learn. If I had the chance to go on another deployment, you bet I would go in a heartbeat. I would have never guessed that I would have learned this much about my fellow Vermont Air National Guard members.

This trip inspired me to be more than who I was when I left. Now, I have more of a drive to learn, to explore and strive to conquer anything that comes in my path. Thank you, VTANG, for pushing me to go beyond my comfort zone. I am looking forward to my life as a member of the VTANG family, and can't wait for another opportunity to work side-by-side with my family again. *GMG*



U.S. Airmen from the 158th Fighter Wing take a moment to pose for a group photo during their training in Korea

I also had some off time. I went to see the Korean countryside, I met many amazing people, and ate some food that I will now be craving until I return to that country. Ramen noodles just aren't the same anymore. Dumplings from the Chinese restaurant are

**due to security restrictions, photography was prohibited in training areas.

CDET Food Drive

By Chief Warrant Officer 3 Doris Sumner,
State Diversity Manager

The CDET collected 555 lbs of food this year in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Observance and the call to action by the Annual Observance.

152lbs was directly from the IO Battalion in Northfield, that food will serve residents in that area. 403lbs was delivered to the Chittenden County Food Shelf in Burlington. One of the warehouse workers was a former military member and everyone working there really appreciated the donation from the National Guard. We beat last year's record of 261lbs. Thank everyone who contributed. Thank the MED DET for the extra food they gave at the GMA drop off site, it was noticed!



Capt. Amy Denis, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Doris Sumner, Tech. Sgt. Marcus Rawls and Master Sgt. Reginald Lawry take a moment to pose for a photo.

Special Thanks to MSgt Reginald Lowry, TSgt Marcus Rawls, CPT Amy Denis, SGT Wendy Letourneau and Holly Letourneau, the cute little beagle pup who rode with us! It was a fun mission!

Another thank you to our drop off site managers, great job everyone! It sincerely helps feed families in need.

GMG

5 New flat screen TVs

By Senior Airman Victoria Greenia

Physical training has gotten a little more interesting with the installation of five flat screen televisions in the base gym in December. The 158th Civil Engineering installed the wall mounts and the Communications Group set the TV's up. Each can be set to a different channel and has its own frequency.

Airmen can bring in their own electronics and headphones to pick up the FM signal and listen to the TV of their choice. "This is a big improvement," said Master Sgt. Kim Burnham, who helps oversee the facility. "Most civilian gyms have these, because they know it's easier to exercise with television or music."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan DiPietro

Senior Master Sgt. Claude Trahan exercises in the 158FW base gym preparing for the upcoming PT test being held in April.

The channels available come from the closed circuit on base and include Fox News, ESPN, Science and History. The gym is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can still use the gym when the gate is closed, by calling security at ext. 5241; and please have patience! *GMG*

Green Mountain Guard updates:

As you can see we've changed our publication to a color format. This is not the only change our readers will be seeing over the next few issues. The Green Mountain Guard is moving to a quarterly publication. Issues will be larger and include several new columns. We will continue to run all of your favorite columns as well as promotions and retirements.

As such, we would like to ask our readers for their stories as well. If you have old photos, or stories of your time in the Vermont National Guard or of family members who served we'd love to share them with other readers. We can accept digital (scanned) copies of old photos and digital copies or photo copies of old news stories you've written. *We'd love for our retirees to be able to share some of their experiences with younger members.*

If you've experienced a professional achievement, been published in a military or professional journal we'd love to be able to share that with other Green Mountain Boys. Send us a link or digital copy of your announcement for us to include in our upcoming "*professional page*". Your hard work should be recognized by your peers.

We've recently added a **social media column**. As most of you know, social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.) has become a part of everyday life and it is a great way to pass information, stay in touch and for those with nefarious intentions, to take advantage of others. The column will go over how to safely use social media, talk about future and current trends and generally keep you on the cutting edge of social media.

The Green Mountain Guard will be published at the end of March, June, September and December. If you are a retiree and you move during the year, please notify us of your address change by the first week of the month of publication so we can be sure to update your information before mailing.

Please look for us on Facebook. We will be posting more stories and news on Facebook, throughout the year and we look forward to seeing you on our "fan" list! You can find us at;

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Vermont-National-Guard/132062863513159>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Vermont-Air-National-Guard-Official/132106696810751>

“There was a girl. She

Story by Senior Airman Victoria Greenia.

Don't call him a hero. Although Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Sudduth regularly puts himself out there to save lives as a firefighter with the 158th Civil Engineering Squadron, a volunteer firefighter and an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for Westport, New York, he shies away from being considered anything but an ordinary guy. And when he explained why he eagerly donated one of his kidneys to a teenager in his hometown of Westport, he said simply, “There was a girl. She was sick. I could help, that's all there is to it.”



Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Sudduth

Sudduth was acting as a basic EMT when the call came in that Molly Rascoe was having a seizure. He knew her; she played on the same basketball team as his daughter, Mallory. That was back in the summer of '09, and the first major indicator that there was something wrong with the now-17-year-old girl.

A trip to the hospital brought a diagnosis of Wegener's Granulomatosis, a rare condition that can shut down a person's body, organ by organ. In Molly's case, it killed the kidneys.

For 17 months the young lady endured time-consuming trips to Fletcher Allen Health Care (FAHC) in Burlington, Vt., three times a week. There she would spend four hours hooked to a dialysis machine, Sudduth said. She spent her junior year unable to play sports like basketball and soccer.

“They say each time a person goes through dialysis, it's like running a marathon. The blood pressure goes crazy, up and down,” the Green Mountain firefighter said. “It keeps you alive but it's not a life.”

Molly needed a kidney. Molly's close family members couldn't donate because of medical reasons. Sudduth knew that the waiting list for one was from three to five years and thousands of people die each year while waiting. In September he made the life-changing decision to start the process for donating.

As an EMT he has seen people die. He knew the risks he was taking when undergoing surgery. But the hope of seeing Molly healthy and back on the court outweighed the chances of something going wrong for him. He discussed the risks with his wife Nicole.

“My wife's pretty tough. She's had two C-sections, has a Harrington rod in her back, and had a tumor removed from her collar bone,” he said. “She told me, ‘stop whining; you're only getting a four inch cut’.”

In his small community he wasn't the only person who wanted to help the young girl. But the process of going through the donation screening is rigorous and thorough, and Sudduth's blood was the most compatible with Molly's.

There are a series of tests and many questions asked before one can donate. Although donating is no cost to the donor, because he or she will lose work days, there are financial considerations. There's a physical exam, an encompassing medical history, and a psychological review as well as numerous blood tests. For a few worrisome days the doctors thought there was something wrong with Sudduth's heart, which would disqualify him, but that proved to be harmless.

With his family and community behind him, the last step was to go through with the surgery. His civilian employer at the YMCA Camp Dudley in Westport, New York, backed his decision with full pay.

The only other time in his life the firefighter had been in surgery was when his tonsils were removed at age five. December 1, 39 years later, he was nervous

was sick. I could help.”



Tech Sgt. Benjamin Sudduth poses with kidney recipient Molly Rascoe

about being cut open and having a major organ removed. The doctors at Fletcher Allen told him he could change his mind at any moment, but Sudduth said he thought that changing his mind half way through was like leaving someone at the altar and he just wasn't that kind of guy.

One minute he was talking to a nurse, the next he was waking up in the recovery room. While he was asleep he had had two incisions - a four inch cut on his navel and a smaller one on the side. The smaller cut was an entryway for the doctors to see if his kidney was healthy looking. Once confirmed, Molly was brought in. The organ was removed, cleaned, and immediately put in the young girl.

This sort of donation is considered a living donation, also called "the gift of life", and is preferred because the kidney will start functioning immediately in the patient, according to the National Kidney

Foundation. When someone dies and their organs are harvested, the "nonliving" organs are without blood for extensive times, and the transplants are less smooth.

Sudduth knew his kidney was working with Molly because when she came in to give him a gift, color had flooded her face and she was already eating ice cream - something she had previously been restricted from eating. He thought it was amusing that he came in healthy and was leaving feeling sick, and she came in sick but was leaving better.

Sudduth said doctors at FAHC estimate that Molly's donated kidney will last 30-40 years.

Although there are a few months of recuperation time, Sudduth expects to live quite happily on one kidney. According to the National Kidney foundation, roughly one in 750 people are born with only one kidney, and suffer few effects. Sudduth's one kidney will become larger as it compensates for the missing kidney, therefore making it more at risk for injury during heavy-contact sports. There are no diet restrictions and other non contact sports are safe.

Sudduth urges people to look into kidney donation. "The doctors won't let someone donate when it would put them at risk," he said. He's eaten his share of unhealthy food, drank alcohol and smoked. "The kidney is a tough organ - a LOT of people could do this."

For further information about kidney donation, contact Kate Devine at the Transplant Center FAHC at (802) 847-4774. *GMG*



Tech Sgt. Benjamin Sudduth and kidney recipient Molly Rascoe pose with some of her friends.



STATE OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
789 Vermont National Guard Road
Colchester, Vermont 05446-3099
4 March 2011

To: All 86th IBCT Vermont Soldiers

Welcome Home from Afghanistan! I hope that by now most of you have settled back into life after deployment and found the transition smooth. As you prepare to resume your drill schedule in March I want to make you aware of a project that we're doing to record the history of your deployment.

The National Guard Bureau is working with a civilian publishing company, **Remember My Service**, to honor and recognize each individual service member with the presentation of a personalized Unit historical record of service. This is not a souvenir, or memorabilia, or even a yearbook □ it is your historical record, your legacy of service.

To understand what we are trying to accomplish for the Vermont National Guard you can check out the Remember My Service web site at www.remembermyservice.com/.

The first phase of the project is data collection. During this phase we will be accepting any pictures, videos or stories that you would like to share. **Your** pictures, **your** stories, and **your** experiences before, during and after deployment will be very important to accomplishing our goal. Also, to enter your personal data you will need to log into <http://www.RMSRollCall.org> and follow the instructions. It's about a 15 minute process and you should have a copy of your DD214 when you log in. Most of the answers to the questions will be on your DD214.

Data can be submitted in any form that can be copied to disc and submitted to me by either email or in person. My office is in the ID Card room at Camp Johnson and my email address is ken.musgrave@us.army.mil. The project start date is March 1, 2011, and will continue for the next six weeks.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and involvement in making this project a historical and memorable record of your service in the Vermont National Guard. I look forward to working with you. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions, 802-338-3440.

Ken Musgrave
Command Project Officer

2011 Chief of the National Guard Bureau Biathlon Championships

By Sgt. Elizabeth Strauss
State Public Affairs

While many were digging out after a record breaking early March snowstorm, 99 athletes from 26 states made their way to the Camp Ethan Allen



Photo by Sgt. Elizabeth Strauss

Vermont National Guard Biathlon Team member Dan Westover shoots from the standing position during the sprint race March 9 at CEATS.

Training Site in Jericho, to participate in the 2011 Chief of the National Guard Bureau Biathlon Championships. The weeklong schedule had athletes competing for top individual and team rankings in four different races.



Photo by Sgt. Elizabeth Strauss

Jake Dalberg of the Minnesota National Guard works hard to catch up to Vermont National Guard competitor Dan Westover in the sprint race March 9 at CEATS.

The weather proved a challenge for both competitors and race coordinators alike. Some racers experienced travel delays and lost luggage but that did not dampen the spirits of the 88 men and 11 women who came to compete.

Competition was delayed for a day to allow athletes and coaches to work through travel issues and give the groomers at CEATS time to prepare the trails after receiving almost two feet of snow.

Competitor Capt. Annaliese Baumer, 131st Engineers, was fortunate that she had no travel delays returning to Vermont from another race, arriving on time and with all of her equipment to "perfect, sunny and beautiful" conditions.

"The Skiing is excellent" said Maj. Andy Parsons, National Guard Biathlon Coordinator, "and everyone is in good spirits."

The annual championships alternate between CEATS and Camp Ripley, Mn. Look for CEATS to host the event again in 2013. *GMG*



Photo by Sgt. Elizabeth Strauss

Vermont team members Erin Graham and Analiese Baumer warm up before their race March 9.

News & Notes

Welcome to Camp Johnson!



Spring is here and Vermont's construction season has begun. After much work last fall at the front gate of Camp Johnson, the upgrades continue with the recent installation of traffic lights and security cameras. As the weather improves work will resume on the back gate as well as construction by the Town of Colchester and VTrans of the Campus Connector Road across the front of Camp Johnson in early May. A bronze minuteman statue will also be installed on a granite base at the front gate, welcoming all to Camp Johnson.

Col Ludwig Schumacher has published an article on Dual Status Command in the Homeland Security Affairs Journal. The article describes the history of efforts to integrate military forces during domestic disaster response, and the recent progress made under the Council of Governors to develop a construct which integrates all military forces, including Title 10 active duty personnel, in support of the Governor of an affected state. The link to the full article is <http://www.hsaj.org/?fullarticle=7.1.4>
Homeland Security Affairs is the peer-reviewed online journal of the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS), providing a forum to propose and debate strategies, policies, and organizational arrangements to strengthen U.S. homeland security.

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

The hours of the Tarrant and Ross Fitness Center at St. Michael's College for National Guard members are as follows:

Monday- Friday
10:00- 2:00
Saturday
1:00- 5:00
Sunday
1:00- 5:00

Please sign in at the desk and have your I.D. with you at all times.

** Please also note, this facility is open for National Guard Members and Retirees ONLY. Not family members**

Promotions and Retirements

AIR PROMOTIONS

TECHNICAL SERGEANT

Daniel Dipietro
Richard Ferrell

STAFF SERGEANT

Darrell Langworthy
Conor Mcmanus
Casey Spinella

SENIOR AIRMAN

Robert Domenichello
Matthew Lavigne
Daniel Russell

AIRMAN

Kayla Sauve

AIR RETIREMENTS

Chief Master Sgt. Leo Besaw

Master Sgt. Peter Gaiotti

Master Sgt. Michael Gerace

Master Sgt. Colleen Winchester

Tech Sgt. Deb Ennis

ARMY PROMOTIONS

MASTER SERGEANT

David Camp

SERGEANT 1ST CLASS

Richard Lafreniere
Keith Randall
Douglas Thornton

STAFF SERGEANT

Stephen Chalifoux
Amanda Fresn
Jody Leach
Melissa Rawson

SERGEANT

Joshua Chim
Justin Parker

SPECIALIST

Matthew Benoit
James Black
Travis Bodette
Joshua Davis
Ned Davis
Jerome Duchaine
Adrian Hahr
Daniel Hart
Matthew Hunter
Angelo Jordan
John Lara
Jonathan Leibold
Timothy McCormick
Christopher Payne
Nathan Rivard
Amanda Smith
Robert Taylor

PRIVATE 1ST CLASS

Adam Allen
Josh Bertinimalette
Gary Bilodeau
Kyle Cantin
Jamison Chadurjian
Joshua Cray
Michael Doran
Alfred Gendreau
Kyle Hinchliffe
Samantha Houske
Samantha Jenkin
Joshua Mable
Kyle Mcrae
Jason Murray
Patrick Stearns
Gregory Villone

PRIVATE

Patrick Bernier
Jedidiah Bisignanowalz
Colin Bleem
Joshua Bolduc
Cody Dashnaw
Andrew Gilbertfuller
Brittany Lewis
Bryan Mathieu
Jair Mayorga
Michael Menard
Joseph Palmer
Benjamin Robinson
Ryan Seidler
Matthew Sims
John Stokes
Joseph Wu

ARMY RETIREMENTS

Sgt. Maj. Kevin White

Sgt. 1st Class Edward Deuso

Sgt. 1st Class Sue King

Staff Sgt. James Crowe

Sgt. Gregory Roy

**Green Mountain
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Welcome Home From Korea!



Twenty-six members of the 158th Fighter Wing return to Vermont after a two month training deployment to Korea March 16.
Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan DiPietro, 158th FW Public Affairs