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PLAINS GUARDIAN

VOLUME 57 No. 1 *Serving the Kansas Army and Air National Guard, Kansas Emergency Management, Kansas Homeland Security and Civil Air Patrol* JANUARY 2013

Dold joins ranks of Kansas National Guard generals

By Spc. Jessica Haney
105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
Col. Scott Dold, the chief of staff of the Kansas National Guard, was promoted to brigadier general Jan. 5, during a promotion ceremony at Nickell Armory, Topeka, Kan.

“There is nothing as an officer up here that we earn without the Soldiers and Airmen who have served,” said Dold. “I am honored to stand up here and represent the Soldiers and Airmen who have sacrificed. As officers, those individuals are who we are here for.”

Dold thanked his daughters, Kennedy and Crosby, for keeping him humble and honest. Dold’s daughter Crosby sang the national anthem.

“Simple things tell a lot about the character of a person and that’s true for Scott Dold,” said Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, the adjutant general of Kansas. “He took on the path of facing and tackling tough problems, outstanding mentorship to those he commanded, and always putting mission and team before himself, traits that I’m sure were instilled in him and his brother from an early age.

“His experience, leadership and the integrity I just described are the very reasons why he is exactly the right person to wear the rank of brigadier general,” he contin-



Col. Scott Dold is pinned with his new rank of brigadier general by his wife Jean and Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, the adjutant general, during a ceremony Jan. 5 in Topeka. (Photo by Spc. Jessica Haney, 105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

ued, “and to help lead our Guard family through the tough challenges ahead. He has my complete faith and trust, and I ask all of you to support him and follow his example

in the years ahead.”
Dold joined the U.S. Marines in 1983, serving as a tank platoon commander, adjutant, headquarters company commander

and a logistics officer. He saw service in a variety of assignments and locations across the globe, including Korea, Japan, Thailand and the Philippines.

He graduated with a degree in political science and history from the University of Kansas, and in 1990, he graduated from KU School of Law. He then joined the Air Force and served as a judge advocate. In 1994, Dold joined the Kansas Air National Guard. He deployed to Italy and Turkey for military and peacekeeping operations in support of operations in Iraq, Bosnia and Kosovo and was also involved with domestic homeland security activities.

During his time in the Kansas National Guard, Dold has served as senior legal advisor/judge advocate general to the adjutant general, commander of the 190th Air Refueling Wing’s Mission Support Group and as director of staff for the Kansas Air National Guard. He also commanded the state’s 73rd Civil Support Team (Weapons of Mass Destruction). During his time as commander, the 73rd CST successfully responded to real world incidents and was repeatedly recognized as the nation’s most proficient team, setting many national records.

As chief of staff, Dold is the principal executive assistant and advisor to the adjutant general. **(Continued on Page 7)**

Kansas and Missouri Guard rev it up at Kansas Speedway

By Pfc. Brandon Jacobs
105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
A line of cars pulls up to the white line as the stands vibrate with energy. At the changing of a light from red to green, they surge forward in an unbridled display of

speed and power. Thus began the 12th Annual Hollywood Casino 400 race at Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kan.

Drivers and race fans from around the country began arriving as early as the morning of Oct. 18 for the Kansas Lottery 300 held Oct. 20 and the Hollywood Casino 400 Oct. 21. Among them were approximately 3,000 National Guardsmen, families and friends who received free tickets from Kansas Speedway.

“We appreciate the sacrifices the men and women of the Kansas National Guard and their families make to let us be able to host races at Kansas Speedway,” said Pat Warren, the president of Kansas Speedway. “These tickets represent a small thank you of our deep appreciation for what they do and I hope they are able to enjoy an exciting day at the races.”

“It’s pretty awesome to get to be out here,” said Pvt. Kyle Wilkeson, Company A, Recruiting and Retention Battalion, of Overland Park, Kan.

Wilkeson spent the weekend assisting civilians with the National Guard’s Physical Training Challenge booth and answering questions about the many military vehicles on display outside the track.

“It was cool to get to see the equipment,” said Wilkeson. “It helps civilians put things in perspective, maybe gives them a sense of security.”

The Kansas Army National Guard hosted the pre-race events.

Crowds of people swarmed around the fan walk to get their picture taken next to the National Guard Patriot Chopper, a motorcycle designed by Orange County Chop-

Retired Stratotanker honors former 190th commander

By 2nd Lt. Angela Brees
190th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs
Despite thunder, lightning and heavy rain, it was a full house Oct. 13 at the Museum of the Kansas National Guard for the dedication of a retired KC-135E in honor of Col. Michael J. O’Toole, former 190th Air Refueling Wing commander.
O’Toole served as the 190th ARW wing commander from 2002 to 2003 before pass-

ing away in a civilian aircraft crash. Many members of the O’Toole family attended to honor the memory of their loved one.

“We always considered the 190th part of our family. He wouldn’t want this to be about him. This is not about Mike today; it’s about all the members of the 190th,” said Pam (O’Toole) Truesdale. “It’s about the past members and the future members, **(Continued on Page 7)**



Pam (O’Toole) Truesdale (front left), retired Brig. Gen. Ed Gerhardt (back left) and Brig. Gen. Keith Lang unveil the plaque during the dedication of the KC-135E in honor of former 190th Air Refueling Wing commander Col. Michael J. O’Toole at the Museum of the Kansas National Guard Oct. 13. (Photo by Master Sgt. Allen Pickert, 190th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Office)

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Warrior Dash builds teamwork

By Capt. Joe Blubaugh
190th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

More than 70 members of the 190th Air Refueling Wing braved a chilly morning and a cold mud pit Nov. 29 to compete in the first Warrior Dash.

The event, sponsored by the First Sergeant Council, featured 18 teams of four competing in a timed run with five obstacles. The obstacles included a mud pit, low crawl, turning over a giant tire, unexploded ordnance identification and running through a fire hose.

The competition was conducted in conjunction with the Wing Commander’s Call as an opportunity to promote fitness and team building among wing members.

The council also took responsibility for planning the obstacles.

“We wanted to have obstacles that military members might be asked to perform in a given environment,” said Master Sgt. Shad England, first sergeant for the Maintenance Squadron. “We also took into consideration that not everyone had equal fitness levels.”



An Airman makes his way through the low crawl obstacle, one of five obstacles of the Warrior Dash, with his rubber rifle in hand at the 190th Air Refueling Wing on Forbes Field Nov. 29. (Photo by Master Sgt. Allen Pickert, 190th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs)

The council was limited by manpower and funding when choosing their obstacles, so they relied on those that were reasonably easy to prepare.

“The mud pit was the most difficult obstacle to set up due to coordinating the dirt and having the fire department fill it with water,” said England. “We then had to mix the dirt to make a good mud consistency.”

The council was able to employ a propane cannon and smoke machine at two of the obstacles to provide more excitement to the course.

England said the council received positive and constructive feedback following the event.

“We will use the feedback to make next year’s even better,” he said.

The council hopes to make the Warrior Dash an annual event, but they do hope to open up the planning to those interested across all ranks in the wing.

Even though the Warrior Dash was created to promote fitness and build esprit de corps, it was first and foremost a race. The team from the Aerial Port completed the course the quickest. Teams from the Civil Engineering Squadron and Aircraft Maintenance Squadron rounded out the top three respectively.



Three Airmen from a four-person team run through smoke on the flight line to the next obstacle as they compete in the Warrior Dash at the 190th Air Refueling Wing on Forbes Field Nov. 29. (Photo by Master Sgt. Allen Pickert, 190th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs)

E model Stratotanker makes final voyage

By Capt. Joe Blubaugh
190th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

It’s not very often that you have the opportunity to see a KC-135 roll down a normally busy street, but that is exactly what happened Aug. 22 when the 190th Air Refueling Wing’s last E model made its final journey to the Museum of the Kansas National Guard. The trip was only a few miles, and took more than six hours to complete, but the planning started more than two years ago.

“Once we received notification that 57-1429 would be transferred to the museum, 190th Maintenance personnel began the demilitarization procedures in the spring of 2010,” said Master Sgt. Shad England, project lead for the move.

The museum also started planning for the move. A concrete pad would need to be poured to serve as the final resting place for the jet. More importantly, a route needed to be found that would have the least impact on the aircraft, but that was also practical and cause the least disruption.

In the early fall of 2011, the pieces of the puzzle started to come together. It was determined that the 891st Engineer Battalion of the Kansas Army National Guard would construct the pad as part of their annual training. It was then that work really began in earnest on the proposed route.

“I spent countless hours looking at the route, taking measurements between traffic signals, ditches, signs, trees, telephone poles, width of the roads and counting signs that would need temporarily removed,” said England.

Six weeks prior to the move, members of the 190th Air Refueling Wing, the museum board and representatives from several state and local agencies and organizations met to discuss the proposed route.

“As I pitched the crazy idea of towing a KC-135 up Topeka Boulevard, I could see the wide-eyed expression on some, but it was an incredible feeling to get such a positive response from everyone,” said England.

Even after the route was chosen, there were two major obstacles that needed to be addressed. The tanker had to cross a

ditch as it moved onto Gary Ormsby Drive near the end of the runway. Additionally, the traffic signals at the intersection of Gary Ormsby Drive and Topeka Boulevard might have to be temporarily removed, but it was so close that they weren’t going to know until the aircraft was actually making the turn.

England contacted two companies to assist with the move. One specialized in traffic signal operations and was on hand to remove the signal apparatus in

while pulling 120,000 pounds isn’t a trip to the grocery store,” said England. “I felt that once we cleared the ditch we were 75 percent home and once we cleared the traffic signal we were 95 percent home.”

After making the turn onto Topeka Boulevard, the process was relatively smooth. The tanker was towed into its final resting place just after 8 p.m. as the sun was setting. A crowd of more than 100 curious onlookers broke into



The 190th Air Refueling Wing’s last E model Boeing KC-135 Stratotanker rolls down South Topeka Boulevard, a normally busy street, to its final resting place at the Museum of the Kansas National Guard Aug. 22. Multiple citizens of Topeka and nearby cities came to watch the tanker maneuver its way past everyday street objects such as traffic lights. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mandy Johnson, 190th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs)

sections to allow the tanker to make the turn. In the end, the tanker had less than a foot of clearance that kept the company from taking down the entire traffic signal pole on the day of the move.

The other company had years of experience in moving oversized items. They surveyed the route and suggested the optimal location to cross the ditch. On the day of the move, the company deployed more than a dozen employees and 190th Maintenance volunteers to construct temporary bridges made out of wood that allowed the jet to cross the ditch safely.

“Keeping the tanker on the bridge surface was critical and to do that

spontaneous applause as the jet rolled to a stop.

“The tow team was outstanding and a special thank you has to go to Master Sergeant Stefan Kuhn for driving the yuke that pulled the tanker,” said England.

“My emotions were on a roller-coaster ride the day of the move, but there was nothing that could have taken the smile off my face when 1429 was sitting in front of the museum looking like a sentinel.”

The costs associated with the move were paid through the Col. Michael O’Toole Memorial Fund and by the Museum of the Kansas National Guard.

Col. Neidhardt retires with 38+ years of service

By Steve Larson
Public Affairs Office

Col. Hans J. Neidhardt, deputy chief of staff – Air, Kansas National Guard, was honored in a retirement ceremony Dec. 1, marking nearly 39 years of service to the state and nation.

The ceremony was held at the Museum of the Kansas National Guard, Topeka, Kan.

“During his nearly four decades of service to the Kansas National Guard, Hans has served the organization well, providing a wealth of knowledge and proving himself to be a committed and dedicated leader,” said Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, the adjutant general. “He will be missed and we wish him well in his retirement.”

Neidhardt began his military career in February 1974 as a private in the Kansas Army National Guard; initially being assigned as a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 137th Infantry, Maintenance Platoon. He completed basic training at Fort Dix, N.J., in July 1974 and advanced individual training at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Aberdeen, Md., graduating as a Distinguished Graduate from the Recovery Vehicle Operator course in September 1974. During the fall of 1981, he was reassigned as the assistant operations and training sergeant, working at the battalion level.

In March 1982, Neidhardt transferred to the Intelligence Section, 184th Fighter Group, Kansas Air National Guard, in Wichita as a traditional or part-time Guardsman. In November 1983, he became a full-time Active Guard and Reserve member, supporting the F-4D Replacement Training Unit, F-4D Fighter Weapons School and the F-16 A/B/C/D Replacement Training Units.

Neidhardt was the recipient of the 1988 Air Force Outstanding Intelligence Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Award - Air Reserve category. In December 1989, Neidhardt was awarded a Master of Arts degree in Management from Webster University and was subsequently se-



Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, the adjutant general, awards Col. Hans J. Neidhardt, deputy chief of staff – Air, Kansas National Guard, the Legion of Merit for his service of almost 39 years during his retirement ceremony held at the Museum of the Kansas National Guard, Topeka, Kan., Dec. 1. (Photo by Jane Welch, Public Affairs Office)

lected to attend the Academy of Military Science, graduating in September 1990.

Upon his commission, he was reassigned to the 134th Tactical Air Control Squadron as an air weapons director. During his tenure with the Air Control Squadron, he became an instructor air weapons director and held various additional duty positions including intelligence officer, plans officer, checked flag officer, combat support officer and modular control equipment conversion officer.

In April 1994, Neidhardt was reassigned to the 184th Fighter Group as the chief of intelligence and B-1B intelligence conversion officer, overseeing the transformation from a fighter-training schoolhouse to the first conventional operations B-1B bomber unit within the Air National Guard.

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Demands on military attorneys limit their ability to take cases

By Maj. Alma Whitelaw
Command Judge Advocate
287th Sustainment Brigade

The Judge Advocate General’s Corps serves as the military’s in-house counsel. The attorneys that serve in that corps--the judge advocates-- provide legal advice and representation for their command and for their units. Their responsibilities also include assisting individual service members with civil legal matters, but resources are tight and time constraints are rigid.

There is a great need for private attorneys from the state bar to step forward to fill the void. As the command judge advocate of the 287th Sustainment Brigade, Kansas Army National Guard, I have put together a few question and answers discussing the difficult role of the U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard judge advocates in trying to provide legal assistance to nonactive duty service members and their families.

What are the greatest obstacles for judge advocates in taking these service members’ civil cases after they have returned from deployment?

The Kansas Army National Guard JAG Corps does not currently have a full-time dedicated judge advocate or civilian attorney to provide legal assistance, therefore the greatest obstacle faced by the service member and the judge advocate is having or making time available. The service member concerned has likely returned to his or her regular civilian job and is now a “traditional” National Guard or reserve Soldier or Airman. Likewise, the judge advocate, also a traditional National Guard Soldier or Airman, works a demanding full-time civilian attorney job, has a family, as well as other actual duties for their assigned military position. Two days a month and two weeks in the summer just does not cut it for making enough time available, nor is there enough free time in a given month to address all the legal assistance issues arising with our service members.

The Kansas National Guard command recognizes the importance of providing our service members with legal assistance. Soldier care is foremost on the minds of the senior leadership within the Kansas National Guard. The ever-increasing suicide rate for military personnel, post-traumatic stress disorder, medical issues, unemployment and a plethora of other civil legal issues festered or caused by the service members’ deployment demand that Soldiers and Airmen receive the legal assistance they deserve. Service members who have deployed are eligible to receive legal assistance at active duty installation JAG offices. So, if their legal issue arises from deployment and if that active duty JAG office has timely availability, although distance to get to that active duty location may be prohibitive it is advisable to make an appointment.

In addition, reserve and National Guard judge advocates are understandably most experienced in their civilian law practice. Most of the Kansas National Guard judge advocates have limited practical experience in the most requested services, specifically including family law issues, such as divorce, child custody and child support. These areas of law require more than just a review of the applicable statutes.

For instance, most courts prefer (and some require) a child support worksheet prepared by commercially-purchased software. Unless a lawyer regularly practices this area of law, the judge advocate may

not have the software available or know how to maximize the use of the formulas presented.

Because of the distance to the JAG office, the demands of the requesting service member’s full-time job and the judge advocate’s full-time job; distance and location; and, many other obstacles, most appointments will likely be completed by telephone. This causes identity questions and raises potential ethical issues for the attorney, may limit the actual time spent on an issue. Furthermore, appointments by phone are typically not as effective as face-to-face appointments. These are issues that reserve and National Guard Soldiers and Airmen must accept which typically are not experienced by their active duty counterparts.

Does the individual judge advocate’s state of licensure have any impact on the matter?

Yes and no. Judge advocates may advise any eligible client regardless of the state where he is licensed or where the client is located, so long as the assistance is provided by the JA in a military capacity. Obviously, a judge advocate will likely have greater expertise in the state law in which the JA is licensed. Although most states bar an appearance by an attorney licensed in another state if the case proceeds to litigation, this issue does not typically affect JAs. Unless the JAG office has an Expanded Legal Assistance Program, which allows attorneys from authorized legal assistance offices to provide in-court

representation in limited circumstances to eligible active duty military personnel and dependents, JAs cannot appear on behalf of any client in civilian proceedings. Kansas National Guard JAs are prohibited from entering an appearance or doing anything that would cause the Kansas National Guard judge advocate to be an attorney of record in a civilian court.

Are judge advocates located where the Guard and reserve units are based?

Judge advocates in the National Guard are located in brigade/wing level units or higher and not typically where the Guard or reserve units are based. Even if a judge advocate is located with a Guard or reserve unit, that judge advocate will likely have a conflict with providing legal assistance advice to service members assigned within that unit. For example, if the judge advocate represents the command, that judge advocate will likely have a conflict with providing legal assistance on most issues to service members within that unit.

Are judge advocates restricted in which kinds of cases they can take with respect to individual service members’ legal problems?

Again, yes and no. Military regulations dictate the types of cases any judge advocate may accept, i.e., AR 27-3 for Army personnel. National Guard and reserve judge advocates by nature of being “traditional” service members are limited by the amount of time available to represent service members, and also by the limitations set upon them by their service’s staff judge advocate. National Guard judge advocates who provide legal assistance are not full-time; they work full-time jobs in the civilian community and do their judge advocate duties on drill weekend and in any free time they may have. This lack of time creates the restrictive environment for any judge advocate rather than any formal limitation by regulation. Technically, a National Guard or reserve judge advocate may take any case allowed by regulation and procedure so long as the judge advocate does not

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Gamers beware: your account may be targeted

By Tech. Sgt. Jake Meyer
190th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

Gaming can be a lot of fun, but it also has its pitfalls, a lesson I learned when hackers hijacked my Xbox Live account. In just a few minutes, hackers had my personal information and credit card information.

They would later charge more than \$150 to my credit card for video games. I reacted as soon as I read the email that stated my Xbox Live email had been changed. In trying to stop the hijacking, I locked my Microsoft accounts, deactivated my credit card and signed up for fraud protection. After a week, I had everything back under my control.

I always thought I kept my information secure and struggled to figure out how they took control of my accounts. About a month ago, I discovered how they did it. The hacker never hacked. The perpetrator simply called the Microsoft help desk and pretended to be me. The hacker only had one piece of information, my very public screen name. Microsoft gave out everything. Microsoft isn’t the only company to be exploited like this. Apple, Amazon and other major companies have also been attacked in the same manner.



The way the fraud works is the criminal sets up a help ticket with the company’s website. After an hour or so, they call claiming they were disconnected with the highest cleared employee. They give the ticket number that they created on the website earlier. After being verified as the user, they proceed to change the email and password of the account through the customer service representative.

There are a few ways to protect from this kind of attack, which aren’t common knowledge. Create an email that is only used to receive notifications and attach it as a secondary email to accounts. If possible, attach a phone number to the account. This allows companies to identify you easier and makes it harder for fraud.

And be wary of free software applications, most commonly knowns as apps. Remember: if something is free, then you are the product.

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Preparing our organization for change in an uncertain time

By Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli
Adjutant General

“The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking.” – Albert Einstein

Most of us resist change, but in today’s environment we must learn to embrace it and determine how to work with it, not against it. In 2012, we saw a number of changes that will affect our organization greatly in 2013.



Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli

On the military side of the organization, the drawdown of troops in Iraq and Afghanistan came to fruition, bringing us to some of our lowest deployment numbers in several years. We currently have approximately 130 Soldiers and Airman deployed for overseas operations. This change presents a number of opportunities for our organization and our troops. We are now focused on resetting our force, that is, on preparing and training individuals on new equipment, potentially for new missions,

and assisting them in the transition back to an era of more balanced deployment cycles. We have been anticipating these changes and have positioned ourselves well.

The Kansas Guard has focused on improving the quality of our force by putting an emphasis on individual and unit readiness across the board. We have also taken decisive action to ensure our Guard members adhere to the high standards that come with the uniform. While much has been done in this regard, much more still needs to be done and requires constant attention of our leaders at all levels to continue with that improvement.

Our willingness to look for new opportunities and our determination to be our best are the types of efforts that help us stand out from other organizations. I believe these factors played a significant role in our 190th Air Refueling Wing being named as a potential recipient for the new KC-46 tanker.

On the emergency management side of the agency, we recently completed a rigorous accreditation process in which we were measured in 64 areas, considered to be the gold standard within the emergency management profession. We met 101 of 104 objectives and expect to meet the remaining objectives soon and receive this accreditation in 2013. Attaining this accreditation is a voluntary

It’s time to think winter safety

By Chief Warrant Officer 4 Marvin Terhune
Safety Office

It is easy to get caught up in the rush of things with all of the high-tech gadgets that are out there now. With “smart phones” and “smart cars” that have everything displayed on the dash, it is a wonder that we can find our way anymore without a GPS tracking our every move.

With all of the new gadgets that take our attention away from the road, it is imperative that we focus on controlling our vehicle. In the aviation profession, there are a pilot and co-pilot. One flies and controls the aircraft and the other navigates and talks on the radio. This would be a good lesson for us while driving. Let your passenger navigate and read the map, look at their phone navigation app or watch the GPS as you drive.

I have developed the habit that, if my phone rings while I am driving, I hand it to



Chief Warrant Officer 4 Marvin Terhune

my wife. If I am by myself, I do not answer until I have stopped.

It seems we have become a multitask society. My daughter usually calls while she is driving to the store. She has a hands-free device in her car, so I can speak to my granddaughters at the same time. She knows a lecture is coming every time that she does this because I want her to focus on the road and not on a conversation with me. I must be getting old because I know from experience that I do not have the same focus on driving if I am talking on the phone.

If someone is a passenger in your car and you are having a conversation, they know the driving conditions and what is going on with the traffic, stop lights, turning, etc. Your passenger knows when to pause the conversation and when it is safe to continue. If you are on the phone the concentration needed to follow the conversation may be that little extra that would have prevented an accident.

Everyone is different, so my message would be to adjust to the conditions and give your attention to the main task at hand when operating a vehicle.

I hope you enjoyed the holidays and look forward to the new year!

Be safe!

Kansas Corps is growing

By Chief Warrant Officer 5 Hector Vasquez
State Command Chief Warrant Officer

Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. What a great gift for the families and friends of the 170th Maintenance Company. The 170th returned home from a deployment right before Christmas. For the men and women who are currently deployed, you are not forgotten and you are in our thoughts and prayers and hope you and your families have a safe start to the new year. As one year closes and a new begins, I would like to thank everyone for your support and assistance improving the Kansas Warrant Officer Corps. This coming year, we should see our largest growth of warrant officers. We are cur-



Command Chief Warrant Officer 5 Hector Vasquez

rently at 78 percent and could see the two numbers turned around to 87 percent strength to a possibility of 90 percent. We still have a lot of work to do and again thanks to everyone who brought in leads and suggestions to improve the Kansas Warrant Officer Corps!

The 2013 Warrant Officer School Regional Training Institute class will start with a pre-WOCS zero phase class in March and then Phase II begins in April. Another change that has been implemented is the Federal Recognition Board. Our new Senior Regular Army Advisor asked that when we have a federal recognition board for warrant officers, the board will be comprised of, at a minimum, the Senior Regular Army Advisor, the command chief warrant officer and a senior warrant officer. The senior warrant officer will most likely hold a military occupation specialty within the same branch as the Soldier boarding for federal recognition. The SRAA requests personnel that will be in attendance include the warrant officer strength manager, the Sol-

(Continued on Page 19)

The one thing that appears certain in 2013 is change. Change always come with challenges, but it also brings opportunities.

process state and local emergency management organizations can pursue to demonstrate capabilities compared to national standards. It requires showing how day-to-day operations work and how disaster response and recovery operations are managed. Currently, just over half of the states have been accredited through this process. We are confident we will soon be added to the list.

On the homeland security front, we have recently worked very closely with the seven regional homeland security councils in the state to develop a comprehensive strategy. This effort encourages local input and control, regionalized resourcing and long-term sustainability of core capabilities. Additionally, we are developing new strategies and tools which will assist homeland security professionals in Kansas to identify and link with currently unused resources and valuable skill sets across the state.

Despite the many changes anticipated in our organizations’ future, primarily due to budgetary reductions expected at the federal level, we remain committed to assist the public to prepare for and recover from disasters. We will continue to urge individual preparedness efforts and to coordinate

our response and recovery closely with partner agencies and our National Guard troops as needed.

We remain committed to supporting the needs of our troops and their families and our veterans. Recently, we worked with the Kansas Department of Commerce, Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs, Kansas Board of Regents and several sister agencies to develop a one-stop virtual shop where veterans can look for employment, benefits and educational opportunities in Kansas. More details can be found at <http://kcva.ks.gov/kanvet>.

We also worked with the U.S. Veterans Affairs Department and the University of Kansas to develop a telemedicine program for our troops. This new collaboration will improve mental and health care accessibility for Kansas veterans. It started as a pilot program in 2011 with just a few sites. The program allows veterans to receive care from their VA providers by going to a participating local private clinic or community hospital where the on-site medical staff can connect to the VA physician via video technology and address health issues.

The one thing that appears certain in 2013 is change. Change always come with challenges, but it also brings opportunities. If we embrace the change that is coming, recognize the possibilities, and determine to focus our efforts on the betterment of Kansas for our children and grandchildren, then we can successfully move forward to creating opportunities and solutions.

“To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.” – Winston Churchill

Warrior to Warrior Command Chief perspective

By Chief Master Sgt. Patrick Moore
Wing Command Chief
190th Air Refueling Wing

It is truly an honor to serve as wing command chief. I have served alongside many great Kansas Airmen and Soldiers in this great state and nation for nearly 32 years.

I believe it is vital that we have clear and open communication at all levels and that I have a keen understanding of the challenges you face and your expectations of me. I must do my very best to meet those expectations at each and every opportunity. I must also ensure that my objectives are aligned with our wing commander’s priorities as well as those of our leadership at state headquarters.

It is my mission to advise the commander on all enlisted matters, including



Chief Master Sgt. Patrick Moore

all issues affecting the mission and operations, training, utilization, morale, welfare, attitudes, technical and professional development, and the quality of life of all enlisted members in the organization.

The command chief is also the functional manager for our first sergeants. It is my duty to serve as a mentor for company-grade and field-grade commissioned officers, as well as noncommissioned officers and junior enlisted members and to serve as an advisor to unit commanders and senior officers. My job is to ensure the enlisted members understand the commander’s policies, organizational goals and objectives.

The availability of the wing command chief is vital to the success of the position. The 190th command chief is a traditional position and there are many issues that happen on a daily basis and simply will not wait for the next Unit Training Assembly to roll around. For this reason it is important to me and to the mission that I make myself available as much as possible night or day.

I believe that many of us have experi-

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Army National Guard Health and Wellness Facebook Page

By Capt. Amy Blow
Occupational Health Manager

The Army National Guard has developed a Facebook page to provide relevant and accurate health, wellness and fitness information to Army National Guard Soldiers and their families interested in improving themselves.

The page, which can be found at www.facebook.com/ARNGHealth, will be used to promote dialogue on a variety of important health topics, including sleep, activity, nutrition, injury prevention and emotional health.

“In order to maintain a ready and resilient force, we depend on Soldiers who are physically, mentally and emotionally fit,” said Col. Anne Naclerio, Army National Guard chief surgeon. “The Army National Guard is committed to providing our Soldiers and families with resources to achieve and maintain high standards, as

well as avenues to seek out support when they need it.”

Naclerio said launching a Facebook page will reach Soldiers and families where they already spend time and help her office stay in touch with the needs of the Army Guard community. The page is the first step in the development of a comprehensive health promotion effort the Chief Surgeon’s office plans to launch in the spring.

Please take a moment to view the page and scroll through the information our national level leadership has worked hard to provide to us. Soldiers and their families are encouraged to “Like” the Army National Guard Health Facebook page and actively participate by posting comments and photos.

Anyone with Internet access can view this Facebook page. The information and sources cited on the page have been verified as factual and reliable. Now, get to your computer and start learning!

If you have any questions or need clarification of anything seen on the site, you may contact me at the Joint Forces Headquarters, Occupational Health Office for assistance, (785) 274-1362 or amy.b.blow.mil@mail.mil



Capt. Amy Blow



The Army National Guard launched a Facebook page Dec. 11, 2012, to promote health, wellness and fitness for Soldiers and their families. The page can be found at www.facebook.com/ARNGHealth. (Courtesy photo)

Lt. Gen. Clarke confirmed as director of the Air National Guard

National Guard Bureau

Lt. Gen. Stanley E. “Sid” Clarke III, commander of the Continental U.S. North American Aerospace Defense Command Region and 1st Air Force, has been confirmed by the Senate to be the next director of the Air National Guard.

Clarke will replace Lt. Gen. Harry “Bud” Wyatt, who is retiring this January. Wyatt has led the Air National Guard since February 2009.

Clarke said he is eager to take charge of an organization that comprises 106,000 people.

“I look forward to the opportunity to lead the best Air National Guard in our nation’s history,” he said. “The Air National Guard, and the 106,000 men and women who make it work, has served our nation and our communities with great distinction in combat and during numerous domestic crises.”

Wyatt, who intends to retire to his home in Oklahoma, said Clarke is the right person, at the right time.

“Sid has served here at the Pentagon and has a wealth of command and staff experience,” Wyatt observed. “He will help shape and guide the Air Guard as we forge ahead

to the future.”

As Air Guard director, Clarke will be responsible for formulating, developing and coordinating all policies, plans and programs affecting more than 106,000 Air Guard members in more than 88 flying wings and 200 geographically separated units throughout the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands.

Clarke is no stranger to key leadership positions. He has served as the deputy director of the Air National Guard and as the assistant adjutant general for Air for the Alabama Air National Guard. At 1st Air Force, he commanded four direct-reporting units, 10 aligned Air National Guard units, and a large number of active air defense alert sites – including aircraft, air defense artillery, and up to 15,000 active duty, National Guard, Air Force Reserve and civilian personnel.

Clarke is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flight hours, including more than 100 in combat, in the T-38, C-26, A-10 and F-16. Prior to his NORAD assignment, Clarke served as the senior defense official and defense attaché in Turkey. The general was commissioned in 1981 as a distinguished graduate of the ROTC program at the University of Georgia. He has served in various operational and staff assignments including duty as an A-10 and F-16 instructor pilot. He also has commanded a squadron, fighter wing and air expeditionary wing.



Lt. Gen. Stanley E. Clarke

It starts with accountability

By Chief Warrant Officer 4 Sandra Lashley
Equal Employment Manager

You start a new job, you just got promoted, you just got transferred or you just got a new supervisor. Where do you start?

What happens on day one? You had the experience and knowledge identified on your resume to show you qualified for the job. You possess the Military Occupational Skill to qualify for the position. You know the basics but now do they just toss you the keys and say, “Get to work?” Or do you need to know what is expected?

In Bruce Tulgan’s books “It’s Okay to Be the Boss,” and “Not Everyone Gets a Trophy,” you see the basics of where supervisors need to start with their employees. It is up to the supervisor or leader to outline what is expected. They should give you your job expectations, tasks and what the desired results needed to be successful.

As a supervisor, you must ask for feedback to make sure your meaning is clear. Throwing around acronyms and unfamiliar terms can confuse a new employee. The same acronym could mean something completely different depending on the work that is done. An example would be CALL, Computer Assisted Language Learning, but it also stands for the Center for Army Lessons



Chief Warrant Officer 4
Sandra Lashley

Learned. Imagine the confusion that could be generated if someone in the conversation did not ask for clarification of the meaning.

If you are the one being supervised, you need to take careful note of what results you are supposed to produce. It is important to ask questions. You must have clear guidance to be successful. A supervisor may assume you understand because during the meeting you sat nodding your head. All the while you were thinking, “Is he speaking a foreign language?” You must ask questions to ensure you clearly understand what is expected.

Talk to your boss. They are going to hold you accountable for the work they are expecting you to do. Your performance appraisal is going to be much easier if you have had these important conversations throughout the year and you understand what you are responsible to complete. Having essential conversations throughout the year will prevent those tough conversations when things go wrong.

What to look for in conversations with your boss:

1. Clearly spelled-out expectations, guidelines and timetables.
2. The tools and resources to complete the tasks.
3. What decisions are yours to make and what you need to bring to the boss for their guidance.
4. Get feedback on your performance. Ensure you get corrections on the direction you are headed if necessary.
5. Fair recognition for your performance. Remember to always focus on the one factor you can control. That factor is you.

State Chaplain’s Corner

“Personal values matter...”

By Chaplain (Col.) William Jenkins
Kansas National Guard State Chaplain

It was Jan. 5, 1781, when British Brig. Gen. Benedict Arnold achieved his greatest military victory as a British commander. Commanding some 1,600 Loyalist troops, he sailed up the James River, landing in Westover, Va., and moved rapidly toward Richmond. After destroying virtually all arms and military supplies outside Richmond, he chose to avoid Prussian military advisor Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben at Westham and returned to Richmond, burning much of the city.

Until 1779, Arnold was one of the great patriots of the Revolutionary War. He was a hero in 1775, when his leadership helped capture the British garrison of Fort Ticonderoga. He helped foil a British invasion of New York in 1776 at the Battle of Lake Champlain and, in 1777, he was instrumental in the victory at Saratoga, where General John Burgoyne’s army surrendered.

Arnold’s story is a timely one because



Chaplain (Col.)
William D. Jenkins

it is a story about the failure of personal values. The U.S. military has always prided itself on its high moral and ethical standards. Arnold’s failure is a moral and ethical failure—a failure of values.

History paints the picture that Arnold was upset when he did not receive sufficient recognition for his many military achievements. Selfless service is not a new Army value, but it was desperately lacking in Arnold.

In 1779, he made a deal with the British to surrender the U.S. post at West Point in return for a command in the British army as well as a tidy monetary sum. The plan was discovered and Arnold fled to the British, where his identity as a traitor was forever cast.

Arnold died a pauper’s death June 14, 1801, and was buried in his Continental Army uniform at St. Mary’s Church, Middlesex, London. As grievous as his crime against the United States, his greatest crime was against himself. The desire for recognition, fame, power, wealth, etc., swayed his better judgment and cast him forever as synonymous with the word traitor. He compromised the foundation of his value system and lost everything that really mattered.

We live in a time when now more than ever values matter. If you ever think they don’t—just ask Benedict Arnold!

Pro Deo Et Patria...For God and country!

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Kansas Senate confirms Dold as brigadier general



Col. Scott Dold, newly appointed chief of staff, receives confirmation for the rank of brigadier general by the Kansas State Senate Confirmation Committee during a hearing held Nov. 28. Dold was officially pinned brigadier general during a ceremony held Jan. 5 at Nickell Armory, Topeka, Kan.

During his time in the Kansas National Guard, Dold has served as senior legal advisor/judge advocate general to the adjutant general, commander of the 190th Air Refueling Wing’s Mission Support Group and as director of staff for the Kansas Air National Guard. He also commanded the state’s primary weapons of mass destruction military response unit, the 73rd Civil Support Team (CST). During his time as commander, the 73rd CST successfully responded to real world incidents and was repeatedly recognized as the nation’s most proficient team, setting many national records.

As chief of staff of the Kansas National Guard, Dold is the principal executive assistant and advisor to the adjutant general. He manages the National Guard military functions of the joint staff (Army and Air National Guard) and joint military program operations throughout the state. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jessica Barnett, Public Affairs Office)

TriWest presents Kansas National Guard Foundation with check



TriWest Healthcare Alliance presented a check to the Kansas National Guard Foundation Dec. 4 at the State Defense Building, Topeka, Kan. The presentation was held in the Adjutant General’s conference room.

Maj. Gen. Lee Tafaanelli (far right), the adjutant general, and KSNG Foundation board members Maj. Julie Burns (left), retired Maj. Chuck Bredahl (middle right) and retired Command Sgt. Maj. Dale Putman (second from the right), accepted the donation on behalf of the foundation.

“Our friends at TriWest have always been extremely generous in their support of the Kansas National Guard,” said Tafaanelli. “This check will go a long way toward helping with the needs of our Guard families. On their behalf, I offer a heartfelt ‘thank you’ to TriWest for this donation.”

The Kansas National Guard Foundation supports deploying Soldiers, Airmen and their families in a number of ways. Funds donated to the foundation provide financial support for programs including camps for children of Guard members, trainings for family members, as well as the deployment and transitioning home process.

The foundation’s mission statement is to enhance programs to support, educate and train Kansas National Guard military families and Kansas youth from urban and rural communities in the Kansas National Guard mission, deployment, leadership, teamwork and good citizenship.

TriWest Healthcare Alliance partners with the Department of Defense to support the health care needs of 2.7 million members of America’s military family. A Phoenix-based corporation, TriWest is URAC (Utilization Review Accreditation Commission) accredited, without deficiencies, in Networks, Utilization Management, Disease Management and Case Management. TriWest provides access to cost-effective, high-quality health care in the 21-state TRICARE West Region and is the 2007 TRICARE Region of the year. TriWest is a proud Corporate Team Member of America Supports You. Visit www.triwest.com for more information. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jessica Barnett, Public Affairs Office)

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve seeks nominations for Kansas state chair

By Alan C. Barrett
Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

Kansas Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve announces the launch of their formal search for the next state chair of the Kansas Committee. The state chair is an official Department of Defense volunteer position. The state chair will be required to take an oath of office and will be sworn in as the new chair during a formal ceremony in the future. The state chair will serve at the pleasure of the assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs. The position carries a three-year term and the protocol of a military two-star flag officer. The KS ESGR state chair will provide the leadership and vision for a team of more than 80 dedicated volunteers that are spread all across the State of Kansas.

ESGR was established in 1972 to develop and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service. ESGR advocates relevant initiatives, recognizes outstanding support, increases awareness of applicable laws, and resolves conflict between service members and employers. Paramount to ESGR’s mission is encouraging employment of Guardsmen and Reservists who bring integrity, global perspective and proven leadership to the civilian workforce.

Proven leaders who are interested and meet qualifying skills for the state chair position are encouraged to apply. To be considered for selection by the search committee, each interested candidate should submit their nomination package, to include the following items:

1. Biography or resume.

2. A letter stating his/her willingness to accept the position, reason(s) for interest in the serving, and thoughts and plans for leading the Kansas ESGR state field committee.
 3. Other supporting materials, as appropriate (recommendations, photos, etc.).
- Nomination packages must be submitted via U.S. mail no later than Feb. 15 to the KS ESGR search committee chair at the following address: Mr. Alan C. Barrett, Kansas ESGR, 1282 19th Rd NW, Burlington, KS 66839.
- Anyone having any questions regarding the process should call me the search committee chair at 620-364-9626, or email alancbarrett@yahoo.com.
- ESGR operates through a network of thousands of volunteers nationwide and in all state field offices. ESGR conducts volunteer activities, like employer outreach and awards presentations, military education briefs, and mediation. ESGR dedicated volunteers come from all walks of life. They are business executives, military spouses, civic leaders, military personnel, and patriotic citizens. ESGR volunteers seek to improve the employer relations of our brave men and women that place themselves in harm’s way, leave their families, and put their careers on hold as they preserve our way of life.
- As the 1.3 million members of the National Guard and Reserve continue to perform an increasing number of unique missions that require extraordinary actions on the part of everyday citizens, ESGR will continue to be the informational agency for the employers of citizen warriors.

Command Chief perspective

Continued from Page 4

enced a leader in our careers that had many of the qualities that make a great leader but were viewed by those in the organization as someone who was simply not open-minded or who made you feel uncomfortable approaching them when you had a problem or a new idea. I hope to be someone who is easy to talk to. I truly do care about your concerns and will listen to your ideas and suggestions with an open mind.

This is not to say that I will always agree with your viewpoint or side with your position in a conflict or with your proposal for solution. Being agreeable simply means that I will be professional and respectful at all times and that I will encourage you to work through issues and help you to find solutions. I believe that all of these things are at the root of our Air Force core values and should always be followed.

There are several goals that I hope to accomplish over the next few months, including visiting all sections of the organization as well as discussing concerns, obstacles, ideas and solutions with fellow members.

I would also like to get to know unit members on a more personal level and to track your progress along the way. I want to help senior leaders develop our enlisted force. To ensure that I am meeting the expectations of those at state headquarters and the wing, I ask each of you to hold me accountable to the duties and obligations placed me and to tell me when I’m getting off course.

I owe most of my success in life to our organization and am extremely proud to serve with such an amazing group of Airmen and Soldiers in such an outstanding organization.

We represent the one percent of those who serve in the most powerful fighting force the world has ever known. It is important that we work hard to maintain this status each and every day.

Thank you to all who have proudly worn the uniform and to their families for the support we all require to make the mission happen each day.

Demands on military attorneys limit their ability to take cases


Continued from Page 3

have a conflict, does have the time to provide competent representation and the staff judge advocate allows.

Can a judge advocate stay with a case if the service member is relocated to another state?

Yes, so long as the service member re-

mains an eligible client within the meaning of regulations and procedures. For Kansas National Guard clients, this means that the service member remains a member in the Kansas National Guard and/or their family member clients remain dependents in DEERS of a Kansas National Guard service member.



A 24/7 Resource for Military Members, Spouses & Families

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Artillery battery demonstrates Paladin training to public

By Capt. Benjamin Gruver
105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

No worries, nothing to fear, the Paladin with the 155 mm cannon, seen from the backyards of the citizens of Paola, Kan., and from drivers passing by on Hedge Lane, was not actually firing anything.

The artillery piece was on display Nov. 3 for the folks of Paola to get a chance to see it and their local National Guard unit up close during the open house of Battery B, 1st Battalion, 161st Field Artillery.

Static displays, crew served weapons and other military equipment were on display. Residents also had the opportunity to try their luck on a mechanical bull and scale a climbing wall.

“We do the open house to bring in the public, bring in potential recruits and give them an opportunity to see what we do,” said Staff Sgt. Hendrick Rijfkgogel, a member of Btry. B. “They get to see some of our equipment and talk to the Soldiers.”

Rijfkgogel said it helps the unit develop a good relationship with the public.

“If there is a state mission or a disaster or

something like that, those are the people that are going to see us out and about,” said Rijfkgogel.

For Soldiers of the battery, it has been quite a while since they’ve had the opportunity to be involved in their local community, recently returning from deployment to the Horn of Africa.

“When you are gone for a year, the community doesn’t see the armory used as regularly as it used to be,” said Capt. Jeffrey Mann, battery commander, “so they might be wondering what is going on, where did these guys go.”

Mann said the open house helps the battery let the community know that they are back and want to support the community in whatever way they can.

As new commander, Mann explained he is on the lookout for new ways to engage leaders of the Paola community and recently took the time to meet with the guidance counselors of the high school.

“We spoke with them about what we offer the community,” Mann said. “The armory can be used as a testing facility and

we can also offer a [cannon] to shoot for high school football games ... when the home team scores a touchdown.”

Mann wants the community to know that the armory is an available resource to them, but also explained the open house served more than one purpose. For one, recruiters were on hand and two possible leads were secured at the event, but even more important than filling the unit ranks, according to Mann, was the opportunity for training.

The battery stores one of its howitzers at

the armory for the Soldiers to train, something the artillerymen value every minute of.

“This is where the magic happens as far as I’m concerned,” said Rijfkgogel. “Granted, it takes a whole lot of other people to make this thing function, from your maintenance to your fire direction to all your support personnel, but this is ultimately the end result to fire this.”

Many of the recent deployments for field artillery units have been to support mis-

(Continued on Page 9)



Staff Sgt. Jason Bryan, Eudora, a gun chief for Battery B, 1st Battalion, 161st Field Artillery, receives the order to fire and directs his crew to fire as a training scenario during his unit’s open house in Paola, Kan., Nov. 3. The Kansas Army National Guard armory open house, included a rock climbing wall and mechanical bull riding. (Photo by Capt. Benjamin Gruver, 105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

Kansas Guardsmen join FEMA and Army North for exercise

By 2nd Lt. Matthew Lucht
Public Affairs Office

Approximately 65 members of Army North, Federal Emergency Management Agency and National Guard from Kansas and several other surrounding states participated in an exercise Oct. 16-18 in Topeka, Kan., which simulated a series of catastrophic tornadoes touching down throughout Kansas.

“If you have an extremely large disaster,” said Col. Scott Dold, chief of staff for the Kansas National Guard, “where the locals can’t handle it, the Guard can’t handle it and it is much bigger than that, like a Katrina, then active duty forces become part of the equation.”

The exercise consisted of the team training on setting up their command post, coordinating with state and federal partners, processing requests for federal military assistance and commanding simulated federal military units responding to the disaster.

“We are validating our ability to activate, move to where a disaster happened, provide liaison and coordination, and provide Title 10 forces to the state and to FEMA, the federal coordinating officer, to augment and support their response to a disaster,” said Col. Ed Manning, defense coordinating officer.

“This benefits everyone, as it leads to better real life coordination during and after incidents,” said Mike Cappannari, external affairs officer, FEMA Region VII. “The more we work together, the better we work together.”

National Guard commanders have a unique role if a disaster reaches a magnitude where active duty forces are required. Each state appoints a dual status commander to lead the military response effort.

“Col. Dold’s role here is, he is serving as the dual status commander and that is a commander that can command and control both Title 10 and Title 32 forces, both active duty and National Guard,” said Lt. Col. Paul Schneider, director of military support for the Kansas National Guard.

“We don’t want to put the onus on our civilian disaster responders, KDEM, to have to go ‘Who do I ask? Do I ask the active duty guy or do I ask the Guard guy?’ No, go ask the dual status guy and they will get you whatever you need,” said Dold.

Holding multistate exercises tests and improves disaster responses, and increases partnership

“This event is intended to train my unit as a team, but we invited our partners to train with us because these are the people we would be working with in a real disaster,” said Manning. “This integrated training helps ensure a well-coordinated response during an actual disaster.”

Army North, based at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, was involved because the command provides defense support of civil authorities as the Army component of U.S. Northern Command. This unified command is responsible for homeland defense and civil support and is based at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.



Col. Scott Dold, chief of staff of the Kansas National Guard, is briefed by Army North personnel while acting as a dual status commander during a disaster exercise held in Topeka, Kan. Oct. 16-18. As a dual status commander, Dold would control all National Guard and active duty assets if a disaster reached a magnitude where active duty members were needed. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Matthew Lucht, Public Affairs Office)

Dold promoted to brigadier general

Continued from Page 1

tant general. He manages the National Guard military functions of the joint staff Army and Air National Guard and joint military program operations throughout the state.

In this role, Dold manages and directs all joint staff programs that prepare the state for contingency operations in a federal or state emergency including manmade disasters and natural disasters or federal military mobilizations. He is responsible for the integration of the Kansas Army and Air Na-

tional Guard forces for homeland security missions and in support of emergency management response needs.

Dold is responsible for overseeing Kansas National Guard leadership who direct personnel functions, intelligence capabilities, operations, logistics, strategic plans and policy, information technology, training and resource management.

In addition, he is responsible for coordination of intra-staff issues with all divisions of the Adjutant General’s Department.

Retired Stratotanker dedicated

Continued from Page 1

all those dedicated patriots who serve the country. This is dedicated to them.”

“Mike loved aviation and he loved serving in the military,” said Brig. Gen. Keith Lang, former 190th ARW Wing commander, now chief of staff for the Kansas Air National Guard. “Colonel O’Toole was always engaged in the fight ... and a highly decorated leader. I know Colonel O’Toole would be proud to see this aircraft dedicated to the Museum of the Kansas National Guard.”

O’Toole’s military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, the Aerial Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Southwest Asia Services Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Armed Forces

Expeditionary Medal and Kuwait Liberation Medal among many others.

He was inducted into the museum’s Hall of Fame in 2007, following his father, retired Army Col. Donald O’Toole, who was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1991.

The ceremony concluded with the unveiling of a dedication plaque to honor 190th ARW members and O’Toole. It also describes the nearly 50 year history of the aircraft, tail number 57-1429.

The aircraft was delivered to the Air Force July 16, 1958. It made two deployments to Thailand during the Vietnam War.

In 1978, it became one of the first Stratotankers assigned to the 190th Air Refueling Group. It had flown a total of 17,671 hours when it made its final landing at Forbes Field in 2007. The last E model arrived at the museum for permanent display Aug. 22.

Neidhardt retires at 38+ years

Continued from Page 2

Reassigned as the wing executive officer in August 1997, Neidhardt provided executive support to the commander, vice commander and the senior staff. His responsibilities included managing wing-level involvement in areas such as budgeting and financial planning, security, supply acquisitions, protocol, public affairs and the media relations and serving as special projects officer on ad hoc committees.

In January 2007, Neidhardt was selected as commander, 184th Intelligence Support Squadron. The 83-person squadron was responsible for supporting the Distributed Common Ground Station MQ-1 Predator, RQ-4 Global Hawk, and U-2 Dragon Lady intelligence exploitation mission.

In June 2008, he was selected as the director of staff and vice chief of the Joint Staff – Air Component, Joint Forces Headquarters, Kansas Air National Guard in Topeka.

Kansas National Guardsmen win multiple media awards

By Staff Sgt. Jessica Barnett
Public Affairs Office

Kansas Guard members from public affairs units and visual information took home multiple awards in the 2011 National Guard Bureau Media Contest and Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Public Affairs Communications Competition. Each year the National Guard Bureau holds a Guard-wide media contest for public affairs personnel, unit public affairs representatives and Department of Defense/NGB civilians.

Staff Sgt. Mark Hanson, visual information manager and noncommissioned officer in charge of the 35th Infantry Division Public Affairs, earned praise for work judged among the top Army National Guard broadcasters. He was awarded first place for his radio spot production – “Disaster PSA,” and second place for his television spot production – “Kansas Division of Emergency Management Zombie Preparedness PSA.”

Hanson also received first place in the television information program category for “Kansas National Guard Hall of Fame Inductee, CW4 (Ret) Steven D Evans.”

Tech. Sgt. Jake Meyer of the Visual Information Office and 190th Air Refueling AWing Public Affairs also placed in the Air National Guard categories, winning first place in television spot production for “Disaster kit,” first place in radio spot production for “Zombie PSA,” and second place in graphics animation for “Deployments for the KSNG.”

2nd Lt. Matt Lucht, videographer for the Adjutant General’s Department Public Affairs Office and public affairs officer for the 184th Intelligence Wing, received accolades for winning second place in television news report for “161-FA Conducts Field Training at Fort Riley,” and third place in television sports report for a “Friendly Game of Rugby.”

“As a Public Affairs professional, very rarely is it you that is in the spotlight,” said Lucht. “Spreading the word about the Kansas National Guard is what we do and it is nice to be recognized for your work, especially from Maj. Gen. Tafanelli and your PA peers across the nation.”

The videos, graphics and radio clips were judged against hundreds of exceptional multi-media products the NGB Public Affairs Office received from Army and Air Guard units deployed across the world as well as the United States. The winning entrants distinguished themselves for technical excellence, creativity and effectiveness in getting their message out to their audience.

First place winners received plaques; second and third place were given certificates. First-place finishers of the NGB media contest advanced to their respective military service branch’s media competition in early February.

Hanson advanced to the Army-wide Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Public Affairs Communications Competition and received second placed for his television spot production “Zombie Preparedness PSA” and second place for his radio spot production “Disaster PSA.”

Hanson and the Visual Information Office created the zombie video and disaster radio clip for the Kansas Division of Emergency Management as part of their Zombie Preparedness Campaign.

Hanson’s videos were judged against hundreds of outstanding broadcasts that the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs received from Army units in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Korea, Haiti and Hawaii including the United States.

Military journalism can be traced back to the early days of command information during World War I, where hand- and type-written news was spread by couriers to Soldiers in combat zones. The Bureau of Public Relations was then established in February 1941, triggering the development of the Office of the Chief of Information, Department of the Army. Under this new department, the Command Information Division and its mission to prepare and define policies for Army Command Information was developed.

To view Hanson’s “Disaster PSA” radio clip and “Zombie Preparedness” video please go to www.army.mil/klw/11_winners/broadcast_winners.html.



Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, the adjutant general of Kansas, presents Tech. Sgt. Jake Meyer, visual information photographer of the Kansas National Guard, with a plaque awarding him first place for his television spot production “Disaster Kit” in the 2011 Air National Guard Media Contest Sept. 4. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jessica Barnett, Public Affairs Office)

Retired? Keep up with us by email

In an effort to keep our retirees better informed on what is happening in the Adjutant General’s Department, the Public Affairs Office has put together an e-mail distribution list. Individuals on this distribution list will receive agency news releases, death notifications, Guard member retirements, invitations to changes of command, deployment and welcome home ceremonies, etc.

If you would like to be added to the list please e-mail your request to Jane Welch at jane.e.welch1.nfg@mail.mil. Also if you are a retired Guardsmen and are not receiving a free copy of the Plains Guardian at your home or your address has changed, please contact Jane Welch at the Public Affairs Office at 785-274-1190 or jane.e.welch1.nfg@mail.mil to be added to the mailing list.



Honoring our Kansas National Guard retired service members

By Spc. Robert I. Havens
105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The Kansas National Guard recognized its recent retired members and their spouses for their service during the Adjutant General’s Joint Forces Headquarters 2012 Retirement Recognition Dinner at the Ramada Inn in Topeka, Kan., Nov.3.

Honorees included retired Col. Cliff Silsby and wife Susan, retired Col. Jose Davis and wife Jacquelyn, retired Col. Donald Davidson and wife retired Master Sgt. Marcella Davidson, retired Chief Warrant Officer 5 Rosanna Morrow, retired Chief Warrant Officer 5 Ronald Reed and wife Joan, retired Command Sgt. Maj. John Ryan and wife Wanda and retired Command Master Sgt. Danny Walker and wife Jennifer.

Each retiree was awarded a plaque with all of Kansas’ unit crests and the dates of the retiree’s service. Each spouse received a single dark pink rose of appreciation, signifying the sacrifices they have made for the Kansas National Guard.

Davis said he felt the honor was truly his and is proud to have been a part of the Kansas National Guard.

“The recognition and plaques are not important,” said Davis. “Rather, it is the services that I have rendered over the past three decades that has the true gratification.”

Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, the adjutant general of Kansas, thanked the retirees for their contributions of effort and leadership over the years to make the Kansas National Guard a much better place.

Some words of leadership were offered to future and current Guard members on what it takes to have a successful career and how to strengthen the Guard as a whole.

“I would ask that Soldiers remember to do their best out of a sense of service and don’t do anything just for the recognition,” said Morrow. “As long as you are doing the right thing for the right reasons, you will be successful. Success will manifest a sense of pride that will give you satisfaction and the strength to continue.”



Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, the adjutant general of Kansas, recognized retired Chief Warrant Officer 5 Rosanna Morrow and six other Kansas National Guard retirees during the 2012 Joint Forces Headquarters Recognition Dinner held at Ramada Inn, Topeka, Kan., Nov. 4. (Photo by Spc. Robert I. Havens, 105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

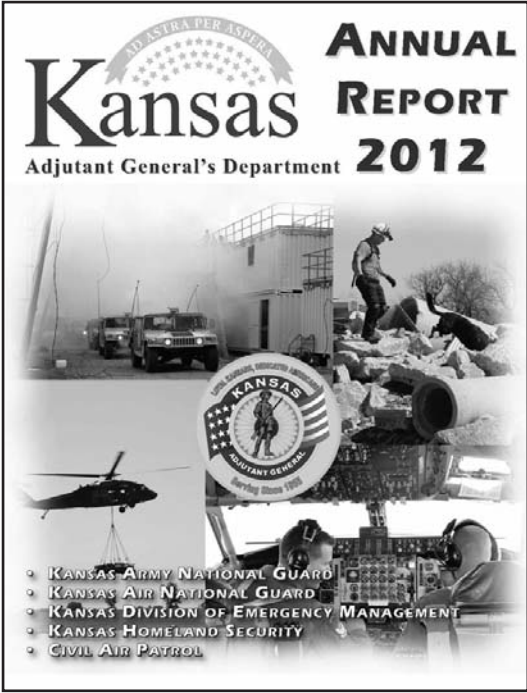
Annual Report is now online

The 2012 Annual Report of the Adjutant General’s Department is now available online. The interactive pdf version of the report can be accessed by clicking the link found on the Adjutant General’s Department new page at <http://kansastag.gov/NGUARD.asp?PageID=202>.

The report, compiled by the Public Affairs Office of the Adjutant General’s department, details the events and activities of the Kansas National Guard, Kansas Division of Emergency Management, Kansas Homeland Security and the Civil Air Patrol over the past year.

Included in the report is an overview of the year’s events, a brief history of the agency, information on deployments and homecomings, fiscal reports, a map showing the location of each National Guard unit within the state and other valuable information, including an overview of emergency management activities for the year.

The report and map are interactive with links from each of the major commands information to its location on the map.



Kansas National Guard Soldiers contend for title of Best Warrior

By Staff Sgt. Jessica Barnett
105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Top Kansas Army National Guard Soldiers from across the state converged at the Great Plains Joint Training Center Salina, Kan., Nov. 1-3 to compete in the 2012 Kansas Army National Guard Best Warrior Competition. Split into two categories, four junior enlisted Soldiers battled for Soldier of the Year and three noncommissioned officers contended for NCO of the Year.

Each competitor was selected to represent their command at the state competition based on their demonstrated performance and potential through a series of competitions conducted at the company/battery, battalion and brigade levels.

All six major commands were presented by competitors in the noncommissioned officer (corporal to sergeant first class) and Soldier (specialist and below), including 35th Infantry Division, 69th Troop Command, 635th Regional Support Group, 287th Sustainment Brigade, 235th Regiment and Joint Forces Headquarters.

The annual event is designed to promote “esprit de corps” throughout the Kansas Army National Guard and recognize the Soldier competitors who demonstrate commitment to the Army values and embody the warrior ethos.

The noncommissioned officers and Soldiers competed in three days of events starting with the Army Physical Fitness Test and height/weight weigh-in, day and night land navigation, and a six mile road march in full combat uniform with a 35 lb backpack and M16 rifle. Day two consisted of testing on 12 warrior tasks, a written essay, a written exam, M16 zero and qualification, an unannounced mystery event and appearance board.

“The competition was both mentally and physically challenging and all competitors performed very well and proudly represented

their respective commands,” said Command Sgt. Maj. James Moberly, senior enlisted of the Kansas Army National Guard.

A recognition ceremony was held day three where Brig. Gen. Eric Peck, assistant adjutant general and commander of the Kansas Army National Guard – Land Component, passed out plaques and congratulated everyone on making it to the state competition before finally announcing the over-all NCO and Soldier of the Year.

Spc. Joshua Joynt, an infantryman of Company A, 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment, took home Soldier of the Year.

“It was a great competition. The other competitors really brought forth and we made each other work.”

*Spc. Joshua Joynt
Company A, 2-137th*

“I was surprised to hear my name called,” said Joynt. “It could have been any of the four of us. It was a great competition. The other competitors really brought forth and we made each other work. I like to believe that the stress that we put on each other with our performances was a great motivating factor. What pushed me along was knowing that they were out there doing the best that they can, so I had to put my best effort in also.”

Sgt. Stephen Levins, a cannon crewmember of Battery B, 1st Battalion, 161st Field Artillery won NCO of the Year.

“Most Soldiers like competition, to compete and try to be the best,” said Levins. “This competition means a lot to me personally. In 2011, I was Soldier of the Year

for Kansas and took second at regional. My goal is to make it past regional and make it to the national competition.”

Levins and Joynt will represent the Kansas Army National Guard at the Na-

tional Guard Bureau Region V regional competition to be held during the spring of 2013 with competitors from seven states representing more than 60,000 assigned enlisted personnel.



Pfc. Travis Warren, a multichannel transmission systems operator-maintainer from 369th Brigade Signal Company, plots grid coordinates on a map at the Day Land Navigation lane as he competes Nov. 1-3 during the 2012 Kansas Army National Guard Best Warrior Competition at the Great Plains Joint Training Center in Salina, Kan. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jessica Barnett, 105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

Artillery battery demonstrates Paladin training to public

Continued from Page 7
sions doing other things, not allowing them to maintain the artillery skills the Army originally trained them for.

“Getting back on the gun after three-and-a-half years and being deployed is definitely preparing me for [annual training],” said Spc. Andrew Kopaczewski, who recently returned from back-to-back deployments. “I don’t want to be that guy who shows up not knowing what to do.”

Kopaczewski enjoyed not only the opportunity to train on the equipment, but also to do it in the setting of the open house. He enjoyed answering questions and letting the public get a close and personal look at one of his favorite things.

“It makes it a fun setting when you open it up to everyone and it is not so strict,” said Kopaczewski. “You can sit and talk and chit-chat and go over stories that you had and just get to know everyone better.”



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Kansas and Missouri Guard rev it up at Kansas Speedway

Continued from Page 1
pers of Orange County, Calif., and the Number 88 Dale Ehhardt Jr. race car.

The National Guard had 15 vehicles on site, including two AH-64 Apache helicopters on display, with Soldiers standing by to answer any questions about the vehicles.

Pfc. Christian McGraw, a helicopter maintenance specialist with Company G, 2nd Battalion, 135th Aviation Regiment (GSAB), from Wichita, Kan., was on the field to answer questions about the UH-60A Black Hawk helicopter on display.

“I like interacting with civilians and telling them about the Franken hawk,” said McGraw. “I wouldn’t fly in any other aircraft to be perfectly honest.”

McGraw calls it a Franken Hawk due to the larger upgraded engines, which were taken from a UH-60L Black Hawk and added on to increase power and mobility in desert environments.

“NASCAR is the perfect event for the

Army to show off its helicopters and vehicles,” he said. “People can hear the race cars’ engines on the track and get to see ours as well.”

Also on display were an M-2 Bradley Fighting Vehicle, a M1A1 Abrams tank and a M109-A6 Paladin howitzer.

The events of the weekend were spotlighted on national television as part of a campaign by the National Guard Bureau to promote awareness of the National Guard.

“We are getting lots of national media attention at this event. Everyone will be watching what we do,” said Staff Sgt. James Hubbard, the marketing and advertising noncommissioned officer for the Recruiting and Retention Battalion, Kansas Army National Guard.

Despite a bit of wind and cold weather thousands of NASCAR fans were able to stop by and see what the Soldiers of the Kansas Army National Guard do, as well as enjoy a few days at the races.



NASCAR fans walk through the National Guard’s display located on the fan walk outside Kansas Speedway, Kansas City, Kan. Oct. 20. The static display on the fan walk was part of the National Guard sponsored pre-race events, Oct. 18 through 21. (Photo by Pfc. Brandon Jacobs, 105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

35th Infantry Division participates in Operation Saber Junction

By Maj. Donovan Christoffer
35th Infantry Division

Troops from the 35th Infantry Division boarded flights to Munich, Germany, Oct. 2. Their ultimate destination: U.S. Army Europe’s Joint Multinational Training Command and Joint Multinational Readiness Center at Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Training Areas, where they joined with nearly 4,500 multi-national troops comprising JMRC Exercise Control, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, and troops from 17 other NATO countries, as well as several U.S. government agencies including the DEA, FBI and others.

“The transportation went smooth,” said Lt. Col. Russell Richardson, the officer in charge of the mission.

The 35th Inf. Div. was invited to Germany just months after having participated in the first corps-level Unified Land Operation Warfighter Exercise in more than a decade, Army’s III Corps Warfighter Exercise, conducted in June 2012 at Fort Hood, Texas.

The 35th Inf. Div. is headquartered in Leavenworth, Kan., and is comprised of Army National Guard units from Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Illinois.

Operation Saber Junction officially started Oct. 7 and was the largest training exercise in Germany in more than two decades, dating back to the well known Return of the Forces to Germany exercises of the 1980s.

The subject matter and scenarios in the exercise are designed to educate and test the troops on the post-Afghanistan training model. The new model tested the troops on lessons learned over the past decade in Iraq and Afghanistan in order to retain the knowledge and experience learned. Combined with other training scenarios, a Full Spectrum Exercise training model known as the Decisive Action Training Environment was conducted.

The enormous amount of troops, their military aircraft and vehicles, combined with the intricate and highly detailed training and evaluation scenarios, required a larger training area than either Hohenfels Training Area or Grafenwoehr Training Area could provide alone. Operation Saber Junction took advantage of an agreement with the German government to utilize over 2,000 square kilometers of villages, farmland and countryside in Germany’s Bavaria region. This extensive area, known as the Maneuver Rights Area, presents a real-world training environment only slightly smaller than Fort Irwin California’s National Training Center.

The combined space for Saber Junction 2012 was used by jets, helicopters, Main Battle



A Stryker rolls through fog early one morning on the German landscape as it participates in Saber Junction 2012 held at U.S. Army Garrison Hohenfels and the Joint Multinational Readiness Center. The exercise involved nearly 4,500 multi-national troops comprising JMRC Exercise Control, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, and troops from 17 other NATO countries, as well as the DEA, FBI and others. (Photo by Maj. Donovan Christoffer, 35th Infantry Division)



1st Sgt. Michael Crist, White Cell noncommissioned officer in charge with the 35th Infantry Division, poses in a German Leopard 2 Battle Tank. The tank was one of many vehicles used in Operation Saber Junction, which 46 Soldiers from the 35th Inf. Div. attended at the U.S. Army Garrison Hohenfels, Germany in October. (Photo by Maj. Donovan Christoffer, 35th Infantry Division)



35th Infantry Division Soldiers Capt. Joseph Brown (left center), day battle captain, and Lt. Col. Russell Richardson (right), higher command deputy operations officer, join multinational service members, such as Lt. Col. Ranie Tomter (left), assistant chief of staff, German-Netherlands Corps, works in the Joint Operations Center as part of international exercise Saber Junction 2012 held at U.S. Army Garrison Hohenfels and the Joint Multinational Readiness Center, Germany in October. (Photo by Maj. Donovan Christoffer, 35th Infantry Division)



Soldiers of the 35th Infantry Division stayed at Albertshof (above) while partaking in Operation Saber Junction 2012 hosted by U.S. Army Europe’s Joint Multinational Training Command and Joint Multinational Readiness Center at Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Training Areas, Germany, Sept. 30 - Oct. 30. The exercise facilitated the U.S. Army’s 2nd Cavalry Regiment as they train with more than 1,800 foreign personnel from 18 partner nations in Unified Land Operations and interoperability. (Photo by Maj. Donovan Christoffer, 35th Infantry Division)

Tanks, Infantry Fighting Vehicles, Stryker Combat Vehicles, and more than 200 wheeled vehicles and 90 tracked vehicles.

The role of the 70th ID was twofold. It provided an integrated higher command for the 2nd Cavalry and it assisted JMRC Exercise Control in controlling the exercise. This combination of duties presented its own set of challenges to the 35th Inf. Div. Soldiers who partnered with troops from the 1st German Netherlands Corps to form the exercise’s higher echelon.

In one role, the 70th Inf. Div. had to provide guidance and information to the 2nd Cavalry. In its other role, the staff had to perform the duties of the higher echelon without divulging what was to happen next in the training and evaluation scenarios to the 2nd Cavalry. The two forces integrated and worked through the “forming, storming and norming” process on the most basic level to form an efficient multi-national team.

“The process of integrating the 35th ID Soldiers with the 1st German Netherland Corps was challenging with the differences of NATO terminology. Both staffs have come together in a very short time and are functioning very well as the 70th ID Tactical Operations Center,” said Richardson.

As the 2nd Cavalry advanced across the Maneuver Rights Area, known as the sovereign nation of Atropia in the exercise, and the battle with the Arianan invasion force intensified, the 35th Inf. Div. troops looked forward to a potential pause in the exercise for an After Action Review and a possible opportunity to spend a few hours exploring the German region of Bavaria. Which includes Munich, Regensburg, and Nuremburg.

The Saber Junction exercise continued through the month of October and the troops of the 35th Inf. Div. troops returned home in early November after a long month of training and cooperation with the 1st German Netherlands Corps.

“There will be many lessons learned by the Soldiers from 35th ID during this exercise. Foremost, the workings of a Multinational Division staff [and] the different terminologies from the different countries and establishing cooperation” said Richardson.

To learn more about U.S. Army Europe Joint Multinational Training Command’s exercise Saber Junction and their newly implemented Decisive Action Training Environment go to <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmQ9AUhWlm91NiGTc-ICl6UxtdOdM-SUG>.

Kansas Air Guardsmen deploy in support of Hurricane Sandy

By 2nd Lt. Matthew Lucht
Public Affairs Office

Among Guard members, it is generally understood if natural disasters occur in the state, their military skills may be needed for disaster response. In November, four members from the 184th Intelligence Wing’s medical group and one member from the 190th Air Refueling Wing were called upon to use their skills for the state of New York’s Hurricane Sandy response.

While National Guard troops from across the country deployed to the East Coast to help take care of the people they serve, these five medical personnel of the Kansas Air National Guard deployed with a mission to look after the health of those troops. The Kansas Guardsmen deployed to New York Nov. 7 and returned home Nov. 18.

“We have a particular skill set,” said Maj. Liane Larson, the mission’s officer in charge, “and it is great that we can come here and use that skill set, something that we train to do on a monthly basis, to come actually use it and help out where it is needed.”

After initially arriving to Camp Smith, N.Y., the Air Guardsmen deployed to temporary forward operating bases within the state.

“We are the Preventative Aerospace Medicine team,” explained Larson a public health officer with the 184th Intelligence Wing. “That team has personnel from bioenvironmental, public health, as well as a physician assistant. We go in and assess the living conditions, the water and safety issues for all the military members there.”

Because deployed conditions may be stressful for troops, the Kansas team monitored how troops adjusted to foods different from what they normally eat and watched for any situations that could lead Soldiers to become ill. They made sure food was properly stored, water supplies were sanitary and living quarters met required standards



(Left to right) Maj. Liane Larson, Capt. Scott Griffin and Tech. Sgt. Melinda Kellogg, members of the 184th Intelligence Wing Medical Group serving on a Prevention Aerospace Medicine team, talk with a New York National Guard member while they inspect and observe the working conditions in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy for deployed Soldiers in New York, Nov. 11. The PAM team is designed to prevent disease and non-battle injuries to deployed personnel. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Matt Lucht, Public Affairs Office)

for the troops. The team conducted 20 site visits, 17 water sample tests, 16 sanitation inspections and delivered more than 100 flu vaccines to approximately 3,000 personnel.

“One of the things that the adjutant general of New York had specifically wanted for the mission was to be sure that all of the troops had been immunized for the season,” said Capt. Simone Culver, physician assistant, 184th IW.

“We are a preventative medicine team, so we are here to make sure that the troops aren’t going to get sick from where they are living and what they are eating, so they can go out and do their job out in the field,”

said Capt. Scott Griffin, bioenvironmental officer, 184th IW.

The team not only inspected where personnel were living, eating and staging from, they also had the opportunity to monitor possible health hazards in the field.

“In this mission, we are going out in the field and we are looking at the work that the individuals are doing and determine what type of personal protective equipment is need,” said Tech. Sgt. Nick Senior, public health technician, 190th Air Refueling Wing. “You know, if they need masks and stuff like that because they are going in to a lot of debris fields. They are working where

there is a potential for contamination from sewage and that kind of stuff.”

The five Kansans were able to see some of the destruction wrought by the storm as they traveled to conduct their daily missions.

“We went out to the (Rockaway, Queens, New York City) and saw firsthand the devastation of the houses that were destroyed,” said Griffin. “We met some people that were cleaning out their houses and gutting them. We saw troops pumping out water out of their basements. The residents were very appreciative of what we’re doing there.”

“You can see the videos and pictures in the news, but it is totally different when you actually see it in real life and just think that somebody’s house is completely gone or all their belongings are ruined,” said Tech Sgt. Melinda Kellogg, bioenvironmental technician, 184th Intelligence Wing.

All members of the team understood how important their mission was and felt fortunate that they were able to use the skills to help out the state of New York.

“It has been awesome to support something that’s bigger than myself, something at a global level,” said Culver. “I am happy to represent the 184th IW and also to represent the state of Kansas. It has just been an awesome experience.”

“It feels great to a part of this great big national event,” agreed Griffin. “We are playing a small role, but it’s good to be a part of it.”

The deployment was requested by the New York National Guard through the Kansas Division of Emergency Management under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, a national disaster relief compact that includes all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands that expedites emergency assistance between states and territories.



Tech. Sgt. Melinda Kellogg, 184th Medical Group and Prevention Aerospace Medicine team, tests the water quality in a portable shower trailer with a New York National Guard Soldier while deployed to New York, Nov. 16. The team deployed in response to Hurricane Sandy to help prevent disease and non-battle injuries to deployed personnel. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Matthew Lucht, Public Affairs Office)



Maj. Liane Larson, 184th Medical Group, and Tech. Sgt. Nick Senior, 190th Medical Group, members of a Prevention Aerospace Medicine team, inspect food containers while deployed to New York Nov. 16 in response to Hurricane Sandy. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Matthew Lucht, Public Affairs Office)



Five medical personnel of the Kansas Air National Guard’s 184th Medical Group and 190th Medical Group deployed to New York in support of Hurricane Sandy relief efforts as a Prevention Aerospace Medicine team to help prevent disease and non-battle injuries to deployed personnel. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Matthew Lucht, Public Affairs Office)



Tech. Sgt. Melinda Kellogg and Capt. Scott Griffin, 184th Medical Group and Prevention Aerospace Medicine team, test water that supplies a forward operating base for service members deployed to New York in support of Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Matthew Lucht, Public Affairs Office)

Kansas assists other states through EMAC process

By Jonathan York
Response and Recovery Branch Director
Kansas Division of Emergency Management

When disaster strikes, Kansas responders answer the call for assistance both in state and across the United States.

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact, a national disaster relief compact that includes all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands, expedites emergency assistance between states and territories, allowing for Kansas to provide assistance as requested to other states.

The Kansas Division of Emergency Management coordinated the deployment of 14 individuals through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact to assist on the devastated East Coast after the landfall of Hurricane Sandy.

A seven-person state Incident Management Team deployed from Kansas Oct. 28 to Reisterstown, Md., to assist officials in the state’s Emergency Operations Center with response to Hurricane Sandy. The team moved to Garrett County Oct. 31 to assist local officials dealing with two feet of snow, road closures and multiple power outages, returning home to Kansas Nov. 6.

Incident Management Teams exist in each of the seven homeland security regions across the states. IMTs are comprised of emergency responders who can support disaster response needs throughout the state and country including planning, logistics, operations, safety and finance/administration. The IMT that deployed to Maryland was made up of members from the Northeast and North Central regions and state employees.

The next request for assistance after Hurricane Sandy came from the state of New York. Kansas met this call for assistance by deploying two Kansas Division of Emergency Management staff to assist the state

of New York in the state emergency operations center in Albany, supporting logistics efforts (coordinating supply needs and routing them where they are needed). Brandt Haehn, planning and mitigation branch director, of Topeka, Kan., and Jacob Gray, state hazard mitigation officer, of Mayetta, Kan., deployed to New York City Oct. 31 through Nov. 15.

National Guard troops and assets can also be requested and deployed through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. One Black Hawk helicopter and nine Soldiers from the Kansas National Guard’s Company G (-), 2nd Battalion, 135th Aviation Regiment (General Support Aviation Battalion), headquartered in Topeka, deployed through EMAC to Denver, Colo., June 9 - 23 to assist firefighters battle the High Park wildfire that raged near Fort Collins.

Five medical personnel of the Kansas Air National Guard deployed to the state of New York Nov. 7 - Nov. 18 with a mission to look after the health of other National Guard Troops deployed to work the hurricane response. Four of the National Guardsmen were from the 184th Intelligence Wing, Wichita, and one from the 190th Air Refueling Wing, Topeka.

“It is critical during an emergency to have trained, experienced staff. EMAC is a mechanism for states to provide these resources at a time when they are needed the most. Not only is the requesting state receiving some of the nation’s best personnel, our state is receiving the benefit of their actual experience which makes our state stronger when we have a similar event,” said Angee Morgan, deputy director of the Kansas Division of Emergency Management. “Disaster response and recovery is handled best at the lowest level possible. EMAC gives communities and states the ability to respond without relying on federal resources.”



Kansas crew members wait their turn to fill their Bambi bucket at a water source while out on mission to help at the High Park fire in Larimer County, Colo., approximately 15 miles west of Fort Collins, June 19, 2012. (Photo by Sgt. Ryan Kohlman, Company G, 2nd-135th General Support Aviation Battalion)

What is the Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools?

By Dr. Bob Hull, director
Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools

The Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools is a collaborative office that assists school districts in fulfilling their mission of providing a safe and prepared learning environment for students and staff. KC-SPS was birthed from a grass roots movement that wanted to know how prepared Kansas schools are in preventing, preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies or situations that threaten schools.

KC-SPS staff believes all educational organizations are vulnerable to threats, hazards and disasters that disrupt normal school operations and have the potential to cascade into a school emergency. However, school safety and preparedness is much more than just a school responsibility. School emergencies can quickly become community emergencies. Likewise, community emergencies can easily become school emergencies.

Recognizing not all schools are equally prepared, resource equipped or trained to respond to school emergencies, KC-SPS is available to bridge those gaps and help find solutions. A focus of KC-SPS is to combine the resources of education, emergency management and first responders when local communities are faced with emergencies and disasters.

In the four years KC-SPS has been in existence, Kansas schools have made great strides in preparedness. Benefits of the program to Kansas schools include:

- All Kansas school districts are eligible members at no cost.
- An annual statewide Safe and Prepared Schools Conference is offered where best practices and lessons learned are shared among schools. It has grown in attendance from 150 to 400.
- Approximately 75 school district teams have undergone training to construct an Emergency Operations Plan specifically for their school district working in collaboration with local emergency management and first responders.
- A multidiscipline advisory group of educators, emergency management and first responders guide the activities of KC-SPS to better meet the needs of schools across the state.
- Seven Kansas School/Community Teams have attended FEMA’s residential course, “Multi-Hazards Emergency

Planning for Schools” at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Md. Four additional school teams are preparing to go in 2013.

- Each year, by gubernatorial proclamation, Kansas promotes a Safe & Prepared Schools Week to raise statewide awareness of the benefits of communities working together to prepare their schools for emergencies.

All of the training, leadership and resources provided by KC-SPS have been accomplished with an annual investment of less than 50 cents per student. We believe this is an excellent return on investment, knowing that during a typical day in Kansas, 20-25 percent of our population is in an educational setting.

We are striving for every Kansas school district to be emergency prepared by:

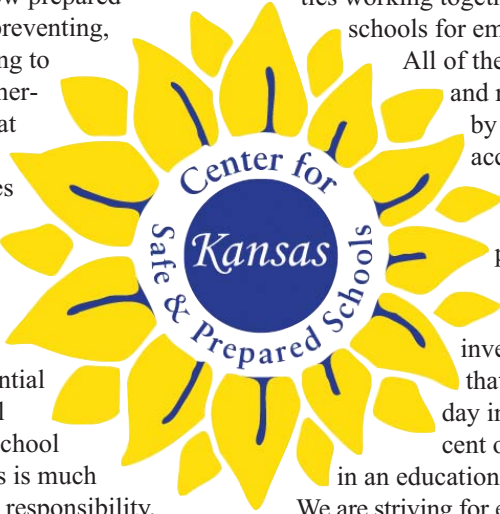
- Forming district and building emergency response teams
- Conducting a hazard assessment of their local school/community
- Creating and implementing a district emergency operations plan and building emergency response plans
- Requiring staff complete prescribed training
- Standardizing school participation in specified drills
- Equipping each building and classroom with “crisis kits”
- Collaborating with local first responders and emergency management

The work of KC-SPS focuses around four main objectives. These are:

1. Become the Kansas clearinghouse for school safety and preparedness
2. Establish and implement training and exercise procedures
3. Coordinate standards and expectations dealing with school safety and preparedness in Kansas
4. Create and deploy a school emergency management resource center

A school resource officer recently made a statement that inspires us to continue the good fight for this critical work:

“Our schools are the most valuable structures in our communities because they possess the most priceless treasures of our society. They should receive the constant attention and protection they deserve. School safety and preparedness should rise to the level of value we place on our children.”



Award created in honor of long-time KDEM employee



Family members of the late Bill Brubaker pose with an award created in his honor in the lobby of the Crisis City administration building. The William C. Brubaker Memorial Award will be presented annually to recognize “an individual, team or organization whose efforts exemplify the passion and dedication that Bill demonstrated for search and rescue in Kansas.” The award was unveiled Oct. 3 at Crisis City during the Kansas Technical Rescue Conference. Brubaker, a long-time employee of the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, was a champion for the construction of Crisis City, a multidiscipline training facility near Salina, and was instrumental in the development of regional Incident Management Teams in the state. Brubaker passed away unexpectedly while deployed to Elwood, Kan., during the Missouri River floods of 2011. Pictured here are (back row, from the left) Denise Brubaker, Brubaker’s widow; his daughter Stephanie Brubaker Morley; and son Will Brubaker. (front row, from the left) Catherine Brubaker Evans, Brubaker’s mother, and his grandson Kaden Morley. (Courtesy photo)



Crisis City adds new emergency response training areas

By Steve Larson
Public Affairs Office

Since its ribbon-cutting ceremony at the rail disaster venue in 2008, Crisis City, the state’s premier multidiscipline training site, has continued to grow and improve its training facilities for fire departments, law enforcement, emergency medical teams and other first responders, as well as military personnel. Currently, in addition to the rail venue, Crisis City, operated by the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, offers an urban village setting, technical rescue tower, collapsed structure, pipeline venue, and a recently added helicopter for rescue and safe egress training.

The newest addition to the Crisis City training line-up is a specially-designed area for search and rescue dogs. The K-9 venue includes a wood rubble pile that simulates the aftermath of a tornado or other natural disaster. It is approximately 60 feet by 60 feet and six to 10 feet high with integrated tunnels for simulated victims to stay until the dogs find them. The dogs can certify on the pile and gain valuable confidence while learning to navigate the different obstacles and debris.

The K-9 training area also has a seesaw,

elevated walking platform with open space planks, pitched walking planks and a moving plank on barrels.

Another new area is the Active Shooter Venue. This area has 22 configurable rooms for room-to-room search. It was designed with opposing and offset doors to teach proper technique when searching. The upper floors are designed with different types of staircases to teach the person to navigate and ascend the stairs to find the suspect.

Plans for future training areas include a Confined Space/Trench Rescue Venue to be constructed in the spring in partnership with the Kansas Pipeline Assoc. This venue will allow first responders to practice confined space rescue, rope rigging and gas monitoring. The exterior of the venue will be for trench shoring and rescue from a soil collapse. This venue will also meet the need for a tornado shelter for the Kansas National Guard shooting range and Crisis City employees and guests.

Crisis City is located eight miles southwest of Salina. It provides state of the art training facilities to all emergency response and support agencies, whether in one of its classrooms or on any of the training ven-

ues. Crisis City is a multi-use, fully functional training complex for local, state, and federal responders, emergency management

professionals, public and private industry safety professionals, and military operations in support of civil authorities.



The new K-9 training venue at Crisis City includes ramps, a seesaw and other obstacles designed to instill confidence in the search and rescue dogs that train there. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jessica Barnett, Public Affairs Office)

KDEM completes first hurdle in accreditation process

By Steve Larson
Public Affairs Office

In December, the Kansas Division of Emergency Management completed the initial assessment toward accreditation through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program with very high marks.

“Our preliminary exit assessment is that our state emergency management program is compliant with 101 out of 104 standards,” said Angee Morgan, deputy KDEM director. “We are optimistic that we may receive full accreditation within the next 30 days.”

EMAP is a voluntary review process for state and local emergency management programs that is a means of demonstrating, through self-assessment, documentation and peer review, that a program meets national standards for emergency management.

KDEM began working toward accreditation early in 2012. KDEM provided documents on every facet of the department detailing how it does business day-to-day and during disasters. These documents were uploaded to a website for EMAP officials to review for compliance with EMAP standards. These standards cover:

- Program Management
- Administration and Finance
- Laws and Authorities
- Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Consequence Analysis

- Hazard Mitigation
 - Prevention
 - Operational Planning
 - Incident Management
 - Resource Management and Logistics
 - Mutual Aid
 - Communications and Warning
 - Operations and Procedures
 - Facilities
 - Training
 - Exercises, Evaluations and Corrective Action
 - Crisis Communications, Public Education and Information
- A final on-site assessment team was in Topeka Dec. 10-14 to review the documentation. Morgan said the assessment was very detailed. During the team’s exit report, inspectors said Kansas had done extremely well. Twenty-nine states are currently fully accredited; one state is conditionally accredited. KDEM has 30 days following the team’s official report to make corrections and receive evaluation on them.
- Morgan said everyone on the KDEM staff had worked hard for a very long time on the EMAP process. She added that several other state agencies who partner with KDEM in emergency management efforts also submitted documentation outlining their roles, plans and procedures.
- “I am extremely proud not only of our KDEM team, but



The Kansas Division of Emergency Management staffs the State Emergency Operations Center in Topeka during the Harveyville tornado response. The Emergency Management Accreditation Program evaluates the state’s emergency management procedures during disasters, as well its daily operations. (Photo by PAO staff)

all who are part of our emergency management program,” said Morgan. “We have a great team in Kansas!”

New system helps manage resources during emergencies

By Richelle Shannonhouse
KDEM Resource Management Planner


In September 2011, the Comprehensive Resource Management and Credentialing System was launched by the Kansas Division of Emergency Management. The project was developed to credential and provide accountability of personnel and equipment during emergencies. To address the need, KDEM created a database using resourceMGR web™ to house resource information. RMW also provides integration between other systems to provide Kansas with a true comprehensive view of resources and capabilities in the state.

Prior to the CRMCS, 60 counties were already utilizing Resource Manager software. KDEM and the CRMCS charter group utilized these initial efforts to build a more robust and accessible system for the entire state. Based on the CRMCS policy, access to manage organizational data can be granted from county down to city level.

In 2011, a training team from KDEM, and Midwest Card and ID Solutions, the system vendor, traveled across the state to provide initial training on RMW. This training included how to input organizational specific into the system and how to print Identification/Credential Cards. Following the initial training, the amount of information in the system has nearly doubled.

After much hard work and coordination with the Emergency Support Function partners, KDEM was able to finalize state level equipment standards. The definitions and

qualifications for this equipment allow for a connection with the state’s GIS mapping system, Kansas-MAP. The integration between Kansas-MAP and RMW creates a powerful tool for initiating mutual aid. After identifying a resource as deployable in RMW, the resource can be found on the map using the “Closest Resource” tool. The search provides location, cost and contact information for deployment.



Brendan Orth (right), Midwest Card and ID Solutions, trains members of the Northeast Incident Management Team on how to track resources through the Comprehensive Management and Credentialing System during an emergency management exercise in Topeka, Sept. 18. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jessica Barnett, Public Affairs Office)

able resources across the state. This allows resources to be identified and deployed more rapidly, potentially saving lives and preventing property damage.

The definitions for state level personnel qualifications are the next goal and should be complete by December 2013. These definitions will be created by discipline specific working groups that were established by the Commission of Emergency Planning and Response in coordination with ESF partners and local representatives. These definitions will provide background information for qualifications to alleviate confusion during mutual aid or Emergency Management Assistance Compact responses.

Other important integration efforts for RMW and the CRMCS project include a connection with the Kansas System for the Early Registration of Volunteers, created and managed by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, which allows for verification of health and medical professionals.

In late 2012, the training team headed back out across the state to provide a second round of training that covered the basics of the system, showcased the improvements and outlined more advanced uses for the system.

The CRMCS project was recommended as a best practice by the Emergency Management Accreditation Process assessment team during an assessment of Kansas’ emergency management program in December 2012. KDEM staff members intend to keep working to further improve the project and will be reaching out to other states to expand its potential.

Topeka Eagle Composite Squadron promotes first cadet/staff sergeant

By CAP Capt. Michael Mathewson
Kansas Wing Public Affairs Officer

The Topeka Eagle Composite Squadron re-established its cadet program in October 2011. In November of that year, Adrian Appelhantz was the first cadet to complete all the tasks required for promotion from cadet/airman basic to cadet/airman and earning the General J.F. Curry award. This year, Thomas Pugh, a Topeka West High School senior and Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Cadet and member of Explorer Post 8, became the first cadet of the original class to meet all requirements for the Wright Brothers award and advancement to the rank of cadet/staff sergeant.



Jim Pugh (left) assists Civil Air Patrol Lt. Col. Michael Madden (right), commander of the Topeka Eagle Composite Squadron, to promote his son, Thomas Pugh, (center) to the rank of cadet/staff sergeant during a CAP drill at Nickell Armory, Topeka, Kan., Sept. 10. (Photo by CAP Capt. Michael Mathewson, Kansas Wing Public Affairs Officer)

The Wright Brothers award is the first of five milestone awards and marks the entry into the cadet noncommissioned officer ranks. The Wright Brothers award is earned following an extensive closed book exam of Civil Air Patrol, Air Force and aerospace knowledge. Pugh also had to demonstrate superior performance in drill and ceremony and physical fitness. Pugh was promoted by Lt. Col. Michael Madden, commander of the Topeka Eagle Composite Squadron, with the assistance of Pugh’s father, Jim Pugh, in Nickell Armory, Topeka, Kan., Sept. 10 “It was a lot of work to make it to this point,” said Pugh. “I am looking forward to being in a position of leadership with the new cadets.” “I am looking for great things from cadet staff sergeant Pugh,” declared Madden. Pugh’s next milestone award will be the Billy Mitchell award. With the Mitchell award comes the rank of cadet/second lieutenant. The armed forces allow Mitchell awardees to enter the enlisted ranks with the rank of private first class. Pugh has not fully mapped out his future, but he is looking at a career with the U.S. Air Force. His major decision is whether to attend college directly out of high school or to go in to the Air Force, thereby gaining practical experience and earning money for college.

Students shared the meaning of being a veteran - sacrifice

By Paul Stewart
Chief reporter

Reprinted with permission from the Kansas Chief of Wathena, Kan. Two Riverside High School seniors who are going into military service upon graduation, were given special recognition Nov. 12 during the annual Veterans Day tribute. Andrew Daugherty and Karson Zeltwanger, who participated in the posting of the colors were cited by Principal Bob Blair. They participated in a nine-week summer training camp, Daugherty in South Carolina and Zeltwanger in Georgia. Upon graduation, they will be assigned for advanced training, Daughtery at Fort Sill, Okla. and Zeltwanger at Fort Gordon, Ga. The main speaker was Duston Hansen, a 1991 graduate of the former Wathena High School and long-time member of the Kansas Army National Guard. Hansen advised that he was mobilized to active duty in Doniphan County during the 1993 flood. In the fall of 2003, he was deployed to Iraq for a year, where he was part of a security mission. In 2006, he went to Afghanistan, where he was assigned as an infantry combat adviser to the Afghan National Army. Last year, he was deployed to the

Kansas teen finds spot on national youth panel

By Jared Brown, president
Kansas National Guard Teen Council

As a member of the Kansas National Guard Teen Council, I have had many great experiences serving the youth of Kansas. Currently, I am serving as the president and have seen personally how the council gives a voice to the youth of our state. Watching how much of an impact the Teen Council has had in Kansas had me wondering if other states had such a program. Imagine my interest when I heard that there was an opening for a National Panel of youth whose job it is to be a voice for all the youth in the National Guard. I am proud to say that I have been appointed to that panel and now serve as the Region Seven representative. Region Seven is composed of Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and of course the great state of Kansas. As a member of the panel, I have the privilege of attending the four quarterly meetings in our nation’s capital, Washington, D.C. The fourth quarter meeting for 2012 was held over the second weekend in December. During this

meeting, I was accompanied by Mary Nesbitt, the State Family Programs director. The meeting was a wealth of knowledge over the programs that the National Guard offers to the youth that have parents who are in the deployment cycle. During the meeting, I was tasked with helping to evaluate the different programs and hearing concerns and comments from fellow representatives on behalf of their regions. Our main focus was on the Yellow Ribbon events, whose primary function is to help service members and their families in the National Guard connect with their local support community before, during and after deployments. We evaluated the program specifically to identify issues with the youth activities and gave suggestions on program improvement. Hopefully, we will see some positive changes implemented in the coming new year. It is with honor that I serve Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, the adjutant general, Command Sgt. Maj. Scott Haworth, the senior enlisted advisor, and the youth of the Kansas National Guard.



Jared Brown, president of Kansas National Guard Teen Council, kneels center front with his Guard Teen Panel peers as they pose for a group photograph in front of Embassy Suites, Washington, D.C., during their fourth quarter meeting. (Photo by Barry McCoy)

169th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion supports Veterans Day celebration

Courtesy story Five members of the 169th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion based in Olathe, Kan., were asked to be a part of two special ceremonies honoring veterans. Their first event at Central Elementary in Olathe, Staff Sgt. Arthur Miller, Spc. Siuonn Chak, Spc. Dustin Wyatt and Pvt. Juanita Estaban, assisted the Boy Scouts with presenting the flag of the United States of America as a token of respect before the school day was brought into full swing. While at the school, students were able to view a variety of military equipment and ask questions, as they were lifted on and off the larger vehicles. Corinth Elementary School in Prairie Village, Kan., hosted a Veterans Day luncheon over the past few years, where students could invite friends and family who are current or former military members to join them. This year the school made some changes. Ann Lilak coordinated an event that included the whole school. Representatives from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines and National Guard spent time eating with the students and getting to know them, then gath-

ered for an afternoon assembly. Soldiers of the 169th CSSB color guard presented the American flag and Kansas State flag. “As we walked into the room the entire audience cheered,” said Miller. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to open the assembly, and then Tom Walker, a retired chief warrant officer with the U.S. Army, gave a presentation. He served as a master Army aviator and an instructor pilot for both airplanes and helicopters, logging over 10,000 flying hours in his career. During his 25 years of service in the Army Reserve, Walker served in Vietnam. He proceeded with a slide show presentation and followed by a question and answer session. To close the assembly, the 169th color guard retired the colors, demonstrating with respect and high regard how to honor our country and those who have defended it. On departure of the program, those in attendance could see the work the school put in to showing their community the love they have for their country and its veterans with all the small American flags that adorned the school grounds and a banner that was hung for all to see.

Horn of Africa. “Next month, with 22 years and nine months of service, I will retire from the Kansas Guard,” he added. In his brief remarks, Hansen described what being a veteran means to him. “I think of sacrifice: whether active duty, the Guard, or as a reservist; of combat or support; of serving four years or 30, of wartime or peacetime. “Sacrifice,” he continued, “means spending days away in training, missing family birthdays and anniversaries, of spending months or years on deployment. “Sacrifice may mean different things, in different ways, to different military service members. But all who’ve put on a military uniform have sacrificed in some way - for something greater than themselves.” In closing, Hansen spoke of words from a Marine Corps veteran. Excerpts included, “You can’t tell a veteran just by looking. Although some may be missing a limb, or have a jagged battle scar, it doesn’t actually show his or her bravery. And always remember the Tomb of the Unknown (Soldier), and the POW-MIAs (Prisoners of War/Missing in Action). Some left as one person, but came back as another. And some didn’t come back at all.” His parting words to the students in the audience: “If you see a veteran, lean over and say Thank You! Believe me,

those two words have a lot more meaning than any medal they may have been awarded.”



Retiring Army National Guardsman Duston Hansen, the Veterans Day speaker, is flanked by Andrew Daugherty and Karson Zeltwanger. The seniors have already participated in summer camp, and upon graduation, will receive advanced training as members of the Army National Guard. (Photo by Paul Stewart, Kansas Chief)

Kansas National Guard Hall of Fame inducts three new members

By Spc. Jessica Haney
105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The Museum of the Kansas National Guard Hall of Fame inducted three new members Nov. 4, 2012, during a ceremony at the Ramada Inn and Convention Center, Topeka, Kan. The three inductees were retired Maj. Gen. Philip B. Finley, retired Col. Robert “Lyn” Smith and retired Command Chief Master Sgt. Roger K. Wilson. Together they have a combined service record with the military of more than 115 years.

Finley, a White City, Kan., native, started his career at Kansas State University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture and was commissioned a second lieutenant in artillery through KSU’s Reserve Officers’ Training Corps.

Through his military career, Finley served multiple leadership roles with the Seventh Infantry Division while on active duty, the 89th Division, 110th Ordnance Battalion, Headquarters and Headquarter Detachment, and State Area Command. Finley served as the adjutant general from 1987 until his retirement in 1990. Finley and his wife, Jackie, have been married for 60 years. They have two children.

“I want to thank all of you for coming to see me inducted in the Hall of Fame,” said Finley. “It makes me humble; it makes me proud.”

Smith, from Wichita, Kan., began his career on the active duty side of the military. His service included a tour in Vietnam with both the 1st

Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and the 1st Battalion, 137th Infantry Division and 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry. Smith received many awards during his more than 39 years of service, including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Purple Heart for combat injuries, the key to the city of Wichita, a Bronze Medal of Outstanding service from the Sedgwick County Sheriff and the Sedg-

wick County Community Enrichment Award. Smith and his wife Patricia have three children and nine grandchildren. “This is one of the most meaningful things I can think of happening to me during my career,” said Smith. “This is such a great honor.” Wilson served more than 40 years in the military. In 1990, he deployed in support of

Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, where he received a Bronze Star for his service. Wilson became the first state command chief master sergeant in 1998, the highest enlisted position in the Kansas Air National Guard. During his time as the state command chief master sergeant, Wilson was responsible for advising commanders and staff on mission effectiveness, professional development, military readiness training, utilization, health and the morale and welfare of the enlisted Airmen of Kansas National Guard. He and his wife, Juanita, live in Topeka, Kan. “It is a great honor and I accept it for every person I’ve ever served with,” said Wilson. The inductees were presented with a certificate of induction to the Hall of Fame, a Minuteman statue and a pin. The criterion to be nominated for induction in to the Hall of Fame is not based on military rank or length of service. Primary consideration is given to those that served in the Kansas National Guard beyond the requirements of their routine duty, through the devotion of the nominee’s own time and energies for the improvement of the organization. Secondary consideration is given to community service that has brought increased respect or appreciation for the Kansas National Guard from citizens in the community. In addition, consideration is given to wartime records and performances during periods of federal service distinctly resulting in credit to the Kansas National Guard.



Retired Maj. Gen. Philip B. Finley accepts a certificate recognizing his induction into the Museum of the Kansas National Guard Hall of Fame from Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, Kansas adjutant general, at the Ramada Inn and Convention Center, Topeka, Kan., Nov. 4. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Hanson, 35th Infantry Division Public Affairs)

New commander for HHC, 169th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion

By Pfc. Brandon Jacobs
105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Capt. Andrew S. Tapley took command of the Kansas Army National Guard’s Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 169th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion during a change of command ceremony Dec. 2 at the National Guard armory in Olathe, Kan.

Capt. Angela M. Gray relinquished command to Tapley during the ceremony. Gray assumed command of HHC, 169th CSSB in 2010 upon her return from deployment in Iraq with the 287th Sustainment Brigade. During her three years in command, Gray guided the unit to earn several awards, including the James F. Rueger achievement award, 2011 Unit of the Year award, 2011 Volunteer of the Year award and the 2011 Family of the Year award.

“Without good Soldiers I would not have made it through,” said Gray. “I had a blast as the HHC commander, even on the days when it wasn’t so fun and those days weren’t that many.”

“Captain Gray did a great job facing several tough challenges during her command,” said Lt. Col. Matthew J. Bedwell, battalion commander of the 169th CSSB. “She excelled in those challenges and developed a tight command team.”

Tapley took command of the HHC, 169th CSSB after serving as the operations officer for the 731st Transportation Company.

“Captain Tapley is an experienced officer with big boots to fill,” said Bedwell. “However, my selection of him indicates faith that he will do a good job.”

Tapley has previous experience with the 169th CSSB, as he served as a chaplain assistant with the unit in 2002.

“I am no stranger to the 169th and have witnessed the progress Captain Gray’s leadership has done,” said Tapley. “I’m grateful for the opportunity to continue leading this progress.”

Capt. Andrew S. Tapley

Tapley enlisted in the Kansas Army National Guard in 2002 as a chaplain assistant with the 169th CSSB in Olathe. He was commissioned in 2004 through the Kansas National Guard Officer Candidate School in Salina, Kan.

Tapley was assigned as the executive officer for the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 35th Infantry Division. He deployed to Louisiana and served in the Emergency Operations Center for Hurricane Katrina. Tapley deployed in 2005 with the 635th Regional Support Group in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as the theater port liaison. He then deployed with the 35th Infantry Division in 2006 as the HHC executive officer and

unit movement officer in support of Kosovo Force 9. Tapley was assigned to the 137th Transportation Company as a platoon leader in 2008. In 2011, Tapley was assigned to the 731st Transportation Company as their operations officer.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in liberal arts from Excelsior College. His military education includes Transportation Officer Basic and Quartermaster Captains Career Course Phase I.

His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Army Overseas Service Ribbon, Kansas National Guard Meritorious Service Ribbon, NATO Non Article 5 Balkans Service Medal, Kosovo Campaign Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Ribbon, National Guard Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Louisiana National Guard State Emergency Duty Service Ribbon and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

Tapley lives in Manhattan. In his full-time position, he is the Kansas Readiness Sustainment Maintenance Site property book officer at Fort Riley, Kan.

Capt. Angela M. Gray

Gray enlisted in the Iowa Army National Guard in 1995 as an automated logistical specialist in 234th Signal Company, Clinton, Iowa. She was commissioned in 2003 through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa.

In 2005, she transferred to the Kansas Army National Guard. She was a maintenance platoon leader in Det. 1, 714th Maintenance Company, Clay Center, Kan. Gray then transferred to Det. 1, 778th Transportation Company (Heavy Equipment Transport) as a maintenance platoon leader and then as the executive officer. She deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 287th Sustainment Brigade in 2008 as the brigade commander’s personal security detachment officer in charge. Upon return from deployment, she took over as the company commander of HHC, 169th CSSB.

She holds a Bachelors of Arts degree in psychology. Her military education includes Ordnance Officer Basic Course and Transportation Captains Career Course.

Her awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with five oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal with one star (second award), Iraq Campaign Medal with campaign star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M device, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Devel-

opment Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Reserves Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Kansas Service Medal, Kansas Emergency Service Ribbon, Contingency Force Pool/Force Support Package Ribbon and the Iowa State Service Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters. Gray lives in Topeka with her sons Martin and John. In her full-time position, she is a maintenance specialist in the Surface Maintenance office at the State Defense Building Complex.



Lt. Col. Matthew J. Bedwell, battalion commander of 169th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, passes the company guidon to Capt. Andrew S. Tapley, incoming commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 169th CSSB, as part of the change of command ceremony held at the Olathe, Kan., armory Dec. 2. (Photo by Pfc. Brandon Jacobs, 105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston’s life a

By Lt. Col. Dave Young
Director of Integrated Initiatives Office
Reprinted from October 1997 Plains Guardian.

One hundred and twenty-one years ago, a 5-foot 4-inch young man from Iola, Kan., was sliding toward the edge of a gorge on the side of a mountain in Death Valley, Calif. Just a moment earlier, his horse had lost its footing on the rocky trail and although he tried as best as he could, the young man and the horse fell to the ground and slid toward certain death.

Just as he was about to go over, the man was able to reach out and grab a small shrub. He didn’t want to move too quickly, but he could see that the small shrub was stressed with his weight. The man slowly and cautiously pulled himself back up to solid ground. While he was composing himself, he looked down at his horse -- 1,000 feet below. Twenty-six-year-old Frederick Funston had just survived one of his many close brushes with death.



Col. Frederick Funston in his 20th Kansas Regiment uniform. Funston was appointed commander of the 20th after Kansas Gov. John W. Leedy heard one of his speeches in support of the Cuban insurgents in their revolution against Spain. (Courtesy photo)

The future major general was born in New Carlisle, Ohio, Nov. 9, 1865, but became a Kansan at the age of two when his family settled in the southeastern Kansas town of Iola. When he was growing up, Funston enjoyed hunting, socializing with his friends and reading from his father’s 600-volume library. During high school, he helped write political speeches for his father, who was a Civil War veteran, state representative, and later, U.S. Congressman.

After being turned down by the U.S. Military Academy at West Point when he flunked both the entrance exam and minimum height requirement, Funston taught at a little rural schoolhouse called Stony Lonesome near Iola. According to historian Thomas W. Crouch, he was forced to “trounce” the school bully, who was larger than Funston, after the student pulled a pistol on the “new little teacher.” The bully was thoroughly “corrected,” but when Funston turned around after the fight, he found that all the students had climbed out the windows in fear of being hurt in the ruckus.

Funston decided to return to high school, where he graduated in 1886. Next, he attended Kansas University, where he became close friends with William Allen White, the man who would later become the famous author and publisher. Funston excelled in Spanish and mathematics and read a great numbers of books on chemistry, botany, economics and other various subjects. However, he did not care a great deal about studying those same subjects in the classroom.

He never graduated from college, but he had several interesting jobs during the later 1870s, including survey work in Western Kansas for the Santa Fe Railroad, railroad ticket collector and a reporter for the Kansas City Journal and the Fort Smith, Ark., Tribune. Crouch states that not long after Funston, who was a staunch Republican, began working for the Tribune, he tired of the newspaper’s pro-Democrat stances and decided to leave.

Unfortunately for his boss, Funston was put in charge of the newspaper when the management was away one time. As soon as his boss left town, Funston pulled all the pro-Democrat articles and editorials and replaced them with pro-Republican articles and scathing letters about the Democrats. Just as he had expected, the city’s Democrats were so mad that they threatened to burn down the newspaper. Funston and the newspaper’s staff grabbed weapons and readied for the attack, but his boss quickly returned after receiving an urgent telegram and fired Funston.

“I was tired of the rotten politics, and tired of the rotten town, and tired of the rotten sheet, and ready to go anyway,” said Funston. “So, I thought I might just as well wake the place up and let ‘em know I was alive before I left.”

Funston’s time as a Santa Fe Railroad ticket collector was no less interesting. Dave Webb, in his book 399 Kansas Characters, explains: “On one trip, a huge drunken cowboy sprawled in the aisle, [laying on his back,] and began shooting holes in the passenger car’s ceiling. The 23-year-old Funston (who weighed just over 100 pounds) burst in, kicked the revolver out of the man’s hand, dragged him to the last car, and dumped him onto the rear platform.” When the train stopped Funston threw the man off, and the angry cowboy grabbed a rock and smashed a window. This made Funston so mad that he chased the man more than a mile down the track, causing the train to be delayed for a half-hour.

“Another cowpoke once got on the train with no ticket. He pulled out a pistol and told Funston, ‘I ride on this.’ Funston walked away saying quietly, ‘That’s good, that’s good,’ and soon reappeared with a rifle. He cocked the weapon, pointed it at the cowboy and said, ‘I came back to punch that ticket.’ The surprised man quickly paid his fare,” Webb writes.

It was at this point that Funston had his adventure with the 1,000 foot gorge. He had left the university, ticket punching and the rest of that life to join a group of U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists in the Dakota Badlands, where he worked as a botanist collecting and studying specimens of native grasses. The scientists apparently liked his work because a year later they requested that he come with them to Death Valley, Calif., where he worked for eight months collecting different flora and fauna and helping the expedition discover 150 new species of plant life. In addition to the gorge incident, Funston survived temperatures up to 140 degrees, terrible storms, and a two-week period where the team had to eat gophers, blackbirds, badgers and chuck-wallies (a foot-long lizard) due to “someone’s inexcusable blundering,” as Funston put it, referring to a failure to send supplies.

It’s clear that Funston loved adventure because he next spent time opening up a new trail in the Yosemite Valley, living with the Panamint Indians in California, and eventually heading to Alaska, where he worked again for the federal government as a botanist. Alaska provided him plenty of rugged living as he traveled 3,000 miles to the Arctic Ocean and back on dogsled and on foot, built and paddled a canoe by himself 1,500 miles down the Yukon River to the sea with hostile natives at one point shooting arrows at him, and again alone, on the banks of the Klondike River, where he endured the winters of 1893 and 1894 with temperatures that dropped to 62 degrees below zero.

After Alaska, Funston traveled to southern Mexico and selected land for a coffee plantation. He returned to Kansas to speak about his adventures and secure money for the plantation, but found that he needed additional funds.

He decided to travel to New York City to get the rest. Once in New York, Funston quickly found out that not only was he not going to be able to raise additional money for his proposed coffee plantation, but that



Portrait of Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston. While a brigadier general, Funston was appointed military governor of the Mexican city of Vera Cruz. Funston was promoted to major general in November 1914 for his successful completion of this mission. (Courtesy photo)

he was quickly running out of money himself. He took a job as deputy comptroller with the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, where he did little other than sign his name in witnessing the execution of new stock and bonds. Three months of this type of work obviously didn’t fit the adventurer and he soon was scanning the horizon for something a little more Funston-like.

During a visit to Madison Square Garden, Funston heard a fiery speech by Civil War General Daniel E. Sickles in support of the Cuban insurgents in their revolution against Spain. The speech so moved Funston that he enlisted as an artillery officer in the Cuban Army even though he had never fired a cannon. He was able to get his hands on a 12-pound Hotchkiss Cannon and an instruction manual and spent several weeks training himself.

Funston’s friend, C. S. Gleed, asked why he was joining this fight and he replied, “For Free Cuba! Cuba must be cleaned up, and I am footloose and I may as well help as anybody else.”

The Iola Register of March 9, 1898, gives this account of his August 1896 departure: “Starting from New York, Funston



Medal of Honor of the style awarded to Col. Frederick Funston for valor during the crossing, under intense fire, of the 400-foot-wide Rio Grande de Pampanga River in the Philippines. (Courtesy photo)

and his party were shadowed by detectives whom they dodged by neat railroad manipulation. They sailed on the Dauntless, making her first trip in a series of daring, blockade running expeditions which made her famous. Caught by a Spanish man-of-war as they neared the Cuban coast, Funston and a companion were turned loose in a row boat two miles from land, while the Dauntless escaped to the open sea.”

Twenty-three months later, the same friend who had asked Funston the question, helped take him off a ship and into the hospital. He weighed 80 pounds, was very sick and was coughing up blood. During his time in Cuba, Funston had fought in 22 individual battles, had 17 horses shot out from under him, rose in rank from lieutenant to lieutenant colonel, fought on some of the same ground as Theodore Roosevelt, Leonard Wood and John J. “Black Jack” Pershing would later fight on, was shot through both lungs and an arm, had a near fatal case of fever/malaria, and finally, in a cavalry charge, had large shards of wood thrust into his hip from the roots of an upturned tree when his horse rolled over.

He knew that the wood shards would require surgery, and asked if he could take leave in the United States for medical treatment. Knowing that Funston would probably not return to Cuba, his request was granted anyway by his commander, Gen. Calixto Garcia. However, Funston was told that he would have to stealthily crawl through the brush to his transportation to avoid the enemy soldiers and the local Cuban officials who did not feel that he should be able to simply leave in the middle of the revolution. Unfortunately, he was captured by a squad of Spaniards who carried him to their headquarters in Havana for interrogation, then execution. Speaking Spanish, Funston told the men that he was an American, tired of the war, trying to get home to the United States. He then managed to do something that saved his life. He got a small piece of paper into his mouth and swallowed it. The piece of paper was his safe-passage pass, written by his commander, verifying that he was a Cuban officer and that he was to be allowed safe passage. If they would have found the passport, he would have been shot on the spot. Fortunately, this bought him time and he was eventually court-martialed by the Spaniards, who decided to release him. This was the beginning of his military career.

After healing, Funston started a second speaking tour but had his plans changed when Kansas Gov. John W. Leedy, after hearing one of Funston’s speeches, appointed him colonel of the 20th Kansas Regiment, a Kansas National Guard unit, May 13, 1898. The 20th was one of four Kansas regiments organized after the United States declared war on Spain in 1898, but now it appeared that it would instead see action in the Philippines fighting an insurrection against the United States led by Emilio Aquinaldo. While the 20th was waiting to get into the war, Spain had signed a peace treaty with the United States giving it possession of Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines. However, many Filipinos followed Aquinaldo in the insurrection against the new “owners” of the Philippines. Pres. William McKinley sent U.S. forces to put down the rebellion.

The designation of “20th” was picked because the “old soldiers” of the state knew that there had been 19 regiments in the Civil War and they wanted this one to be the 20th; Funston agreed with their wishes. While the 20th was being formed in Topeka, Funston had been called to Washington and then to Florida to help plan for the war.

The 20th had been hastily formed and lacked proper military training. They were sent to the Presidio in San Francisco, Calif., where they waited. Many of the Kansans did not have uniforms (including shoes or boots), most were poorly educated and they were quickly ridiculed in the local press.

study in courage and leadership

They were afforded very poor living conditions and were told to set up in a low/wet area. Soldiers started getting pneumonia, measles and spinal meningitis. Only four of 12 companies had any piece of Army “blue” uniform. People from the city of San Francisco came down to gawk at the pitiful soldiers and asked them things like, “Who is your tailor?” just to laugh when the young soldiers would reply with, “We didn’t have none of them things in Kansas.” After comments like this were written in the local papers, local women, feeling sympathy, would bring the Kansans food and clothes. Their pitiful reputation would not last.

It’s reported that Funston bought a book on military tactics and began reading it intently while traveling to San Francisco to join the 20th. His father, who was traveling with him, asked, “What do you know about military tactics, Fred?” The young colonel responded, “Not much, but I am half way through the book and by the time I reach San Francisco, I will have mastered it.”



Emilio Aquinaldo, Filipino rebel leader, was captured in a risky plan developed and executed by Funston. After the capture, Funston returned home a national hero. (Courtesy photo)

When Funston arrived and found his men in poor condition, he immediately started drilling them in maneuvers and shooting practice. He also did his best to improve their living conditions. Due to his leadership and his presence, the Soldiers’ morale skyrocketed.

After five months of intensive training in San Francisco, the 20th Kansas Regiment was sent to the Philippines, where fighting broke out in February 1899. The 20th quickly disproved the predictions of their critics by fighting hard and winning battle after battle. Gen. Arthur MacArthur, father of Douglas MacArthur and commander of Col. Funston, sent the following wire to headquarters during the taking of the city of Caloocan: “KANSAS A MILE ADVANCE OF THE LINE. WILL STOP THEM IF I CAN.” Whether it was bravery, Funston’s leadership, the desire to prove themselves or a combination of all three, the Kansans were reported to be “taking to fighting like ducks take to water.” In 11 months, the 20th took part in 19 battles, won three Medals of Honor, had 34 killed in action and lost an additional 33 due to disease. They had become known as the “Fighting Twentieth.”

The Medals of Honor were earned when privates William Trembley and Edward White swam, under intense fire, the 400-foot-wide Rio Grande de Pampanga River and tied ropes on to the far shore enabling Kansans to follow on towed rafts. Funston was on the first raft across. The Kansans soon had a sizable number of Soldiers strategically placed, attacked the enemy’s entrenched positions and drove them from the strategic location of Calumpit. Trembly, White and Funston were all awarded the Medal of Honor.

Upon their return, the 20th received great praise for the work they had performed. Pres. McKinley wrote, “The American Nation appreciates the devotion and valor of the soldiers and sailors, among its hosts of

brave defenders, the Twentieth Kansas was fortunate in opportunity and heroic in action, and had won a place in the hearts of a grateful people.”

Gov. William Stanley of Kansas said, “The members of the Twentieth Kansas regiment have been volunteer soldiers in an unusual and splendid sense. They enlisted for the Spanish-American War. By the terms of their enlistment their period of service expired when the Spanish-American treaty of peace was signed. Every member of the Twentieth Kansas regiment had a right to lay down arms and demand transportation home when the treaty of peace with Spain was concluded, but the thought of quitting in the face of a fight never entered the mind of a Kansas soldier... Not a man faltered, not a man stood upon his right to quit... The splendid distinction the Twentieth Kansas has won has been won while fighting after the term of enlistment had expired. It is a great regiment. All Kansas is proud of it.”

However, Funston was not done with the Philippines. He personally returned as a brigadier general of the volunteers, and got involved in a unique operation that if it were launched today, would have been carried out by U.S. Army Special Forces. The rebel leader, Emilio Aquinaldo, had finally been located when one of his secret messages was captured. Funston carefully developed a risky plan and then sent it to his boss, Gen. Arthur MacArthur, who approved the plan but said at the launch of the operation, “Funston, this a desperate undertaking. I fear that I shall never see you again.”

Disguised as a prisoner, with 90 loyal Filipinos disguised as rebels, Funston and his team fought through 100 torturous miles of dense jungle to the area near Aquinaldo’s headquarters. Rebel forces were finally encountered near the rebel headquarters, but Funston’s team produced forged documents that fooled the rebels into thinking they were bringing the rebel leader some valuable prisoners. The plan worked so well that Aquinaldo himself sent food and water to Funston’s team, which they were very happy to take. When they reached Aquinaldo’s headquarters, a signal was given, a brief fire-fight ensued, and the rebel leader was captured. Although remnants of the war continued, this struck a major blow to the rebels. Funston returned home a national hero.

Funston was then sent to the Presidio in San Francisco, Calif., as commander of the Department of California, under the division command of Maj. Gen. Adolphus W. Greely. By sheer good or bad luck, Greely was on his way to his daughter’s wedding in Chicago when the unexpected happened. At 5:16 a.m., April 18, 1906, Funston was awakened by a large jolt. It was a big quake, and it had destroyed a large part of the city. Funston saw that the military was going to be needed. He ordered out a majority of the troops from all military installations in the area. Funston organized and directed the Soldiers to patrol against looters, guard banks and other properties, and dynamite buildings to contain the 4-square-mile fire that threatened to engulf the city.

Sometime during the next several hours, Funston sent the following telegram: “Military Secretary, Washington. We are doing all possible to aid residents of San Francisco in present terrible calamity. Many thousands homeless. I shall do everything in my power to render assistance, and trust to War Department to authorize any action I might have to take. Army casualties will be reported later. All important papers saved. We need tents and rations for twenty thousand people. (Signed) Funston.”

Just how bad was the situation that Funston faced? Within two days after the quake, every bank, hotel, and almost every large storeroom and warehouse in the city had been destroyed. Approximately 300,000 people were homeless and hungry.

Four days after the initial quake, the fire

burnt itself out and Funston helped set up efficient local refugee camps, excellent ration systems and a plan for recovery. Although a small group of critics hammered Funston for overstepping his bounds of authority, he was generally heralded as a national hero and as “The man that saved San Francisco.” Some years later, Pres. Woodrow Wilson wrote the following about Funston’s handling of the great quake and fire; “His genius and manhood brought order out of confusion, confidence out of fear and much comfort in distress.”

Funston’s next excitement happened after he was sent back to Kansas at Fort Leavenworth. A “Mr. Dunawald” was upset at Funston and decided to get back at him. Dunawald had apparently been a soldier/criminal who had the misfortune of being on the receiving end of a court-martial sentence delivered by Funston. After serving his time in Alcatraz prison, he traveled to Kansas to get his revenge. The soldier went into Funston’s home and hid in the closet and when he was sure that Funston was asleep, stepped out and started shooting at him. Funston woke, grabbed a pistol under his pillow and returned fire. Neither person was hit by the brief exchange, but the man was later captured.

Funston’s next moment in the spotlight happened during the Mexican Border Conflict of 1914. The 49-year-old combat veteran had been sent to the area to take command of U.S. forces massing on the Texas border. This action was a response by Pres. Woodrow Wilson to the instability caused by the presidency of newly elected Mexican President Victoriano Huerta and the capture of several U.S. Marines. The city of Vera Cruz, Mexico’s chief port of entry, was ordered taken by Wilson after a German merchant ship carrying munitions for Huerta was reported heading for the port. After a brief fight in which 17 Americans and 200 Mexicans were killed, Funston was ordered to take 5,000 troops to the city to relieve the Navy and Marine personnel who had secured the city. He was then appointed military governor of the city.

Allen County Historical Society historian and Funston Museum Curator Michael Anderson writes, “Once in command, Funston

sion in Vera Cruz. Upon returning to the United States, Funston reported on the mission as follows: “The best proof of the conduct of the personnel of this force during the occupation is the fact that it came among a population bitterly hostile, and, in seven months, converted that population into friends to such an extent that our departure was regretted by practically every resident in the occupied city.”

The major general’s final chapter of service happened in 1916, again on the border of Mexico. Revolution, the slaying of unarmed Americans in Mexico, and the raids of Francisco “Pancho” Villa north of the border had increased the tensions between the United States and Mexico. On March 9, 1916, Villa and 1,500 guerrillas attacked the New Mexico town of Columbus, killing 17 Americans. Funston recommended a pursuit of the outlaw, which was approved. However, his orders instructed him to send his subordinate, Brig. Gen. John J. Pershing (who would soon command U.S. forces in World War I), instead of going himself.

“Funston not only supervised and supported Pershing’s ‘Punitive Expedition,’ but also maintained security along the entire length of the Mexican border from the Gulf of Mexico to the California line,” Anderson writes. “Although Pershing gained the headlines, Funston pioneered what was to become a future pattern of high level military command [and oversaw the federalization of 150,000 National Guardsmen]. In addition to Pershing, Funston’s subordinates during this time included Capt. Douglas MacArthur, Lt. George Patton and Lt. Dwight Eisenhower.”

On Feb. 19, 1917, Funston was having dinner with a friends at the St. Anthony Hotel in San Antonio, Texas, close to his headquarters at Fort Sam Houston. He had finished dinner and was listening to the hotel orchestra play the Blue Danube waltzes and said, “You know there is no music as sweet as the old tunes.”

“A moment later there was a sharp intake of breath, the figure relaxed, and the heart that had so often beaten the battle charge for his willing feet... the heart upon whose altars the fires of loyalty to flag and country had burned unceasingly, was still, and the daunt-



Brig. Gen. Frederick Funston mobilized troops from nearby to help San Francisco after the city suffered a 7.8 magnitude earthquake April 18, 1906. During the first few days, Soldiers provided valuable services like patrolling streets to discourage looting and guarding buildings such as the U.S. Mint, post office, and county jail. (Courtesy photo)

built an organized method of administration, set up an efficient ration system and maintained civil order. Funston was an able diplomat when dealing with the local Mexican authorities, and time and again was proficient at keeping his troops out of violent confrontation. Prevented from obtaining war supplies and due to continued internal and external political pressure, Huerta was forced out of the presidency in July and fled to Jamaica.

Vera Cruz was evacuated by American forces on Nov. 23, 1914. Six days earlier, Funston had been promoted to the rank of major general [the highest rank in the U.S. Army at the time] for his successful mis-

less spirit of the greatest and best loved military leader the United States has produced since the Civil War had taken its flight,” said his lifelong friend, Charles F. Scott.

Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston was 51 when he died. The people of Texas showed their sincere gratitude and respect by opening their most sacred shrine, the Alamo, so that he could lie in state there. He was the first person ever so honored. Ten thousand people paid their last respects to him during the three hours of public visitation.

His body was then taken to the San Francisco City Hall Rotunda, where he lay in state for two days. He was buried at the
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Change narrows focus for Joint Forces Headquarters battalion

By Pfc. Anna Laurin
105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Joint Forces Headquarters Kansas is in the process of changing from a Table of Distribution and Allowances (TDA) Battalion to a Support Battalion.

“It’s still under that umbrella of what a TDA is, but it has a more specific role,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Steven Harmon, command sergeant major for Joint Forces Headquarters Support Battalion.

Lt. Col. Tom Barnett, support battalion commander for Joint Forces Headquarters Kansas, described JFHQ before this change as many people working both at a company level and a battalion level instead of dividing tasks accordingly.

“Companies conduct individual training, which comes together like building blocks,” said Command Sgt. Maj. James Moberly, Kansas National Guard - land component command sergeant major. “Like a single block of a pyramid, a company level task would be similar to the battalion level task just on a smaller scale. While a company does a task working with three platoons, the battalion will do and see the overall task with four in-line companies.”

The company’s task would be nested with the battalion task, supporting the battalion. For example a company’s Army Physical Fitness Test supports the battalion task of physical readiness.

“We can separate the work load, get more focus on it and get more purpose behind it. They won’t be distracted, which should speed things up,” said Barnett.

Before this change was implemented, Soldiers working in the administrative department would have to juggle battalion level and company level tasks. Now there will be specific people assigned to each level.

When talking about junior enlisted Soldiers, Harmon said they should not notice a change, but their leaders will have more time to focus on their missions and less on the administrative side.

“Right now we have everybody doing great things independently without the structure in place for them working together,” said Harmon. “With the decreasing resources and increasing tasks for homeland defense, it’s important that we actually do work as a battalion to take care of each other, to support the headquarters.”

“This should make Joint Forces Headquarters more efficient and increase the individual readiness,” said Moberly. “Joint Forces Headquarters needs to set the standard.”

Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston

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Presido in full dress uniform on a hill overlooking the city he had saved.

Had Funston lived, it is of little doubt that he would have continued to achieve great things. He never embraced the sedentary lifestyle and would have continued pursuing the “strenuous life” that his friend Theodore Roosevelt so often spoke about. Secretary of War Newton D. Baker had every intention of naming Funston commander of U.S. forces in World War I, instead of Pershing, had he not died. A less certain, but possible scenario is that he would have been pushed to be the 1920 Republican Presidential candidate. Instead, Leonard Wood ran for this position, but lost to Senator Warren G. Harding.

Funston’s old friend, William Allen White, remembered him by writing, “Only a breath of wind, the flutter of a heart, kept out of Pershing’s place in the World War, one of the most colorful figures in the American Army, from the day of Washington on down. We had a man as dashing as Sheridan, as unique and picturesque as the slow-moving, taciturn Grant, as charming as Jackson, as witty as old Billy Sherman,

[and] as brave as Paul Jones.”

Special thanks to Funston Museum Curator Michael Anderson of the Allen County Historical Society for his generous assistance in helping produce this article.



Frederick Funston’s headstone at San Francisco National Cemetery. (Photo by Linda Carole Mustion)

Warrant Officer Corps grows

Continued from Page 4

dier’s mentor, and at least one representative from officer personnel who will serve as the recorder. I think that this is a good change, to have the applicant’s mentor there as well as the warrant officer strength manager. That way we know when the applicant reports he/she should know what is expected and what it takes in becoming a warrant officer.

Another change that will be implemented the first of the year is a federal recognition board guide. This guide will inform the applicant what to expect when he/she report to a fed rec board. By the time the applicant reports to the board, he/she should understand the process and excel at the board.

During my “Warrant Officer Calls” throughout the state, I have asked about officer evolution reports and I have found out that several warrant officers have been writing their own officer evolution reports. When a warrant officer writes his own officer evolution report, he/she is hurting themselves because I have seen several officer

evolution reports that warrant officers have written for themselves and rated themselves as “meet standards.” Many individuals do not like to “pump themselves up” so they rate themselves as “meet standards.” Unfortunately, when it comes up for promotions where you are competing for a position, theses “meet standards” evaluations hurt the individual when he/she is competing against “superior” and “among the best” ratings. If you are not receiving evaluations from your supervisor, then you have to talk to your supervisor and get this fixed. We have too many supervisors that don’t want to take the time or effort to rate their soldiers properly with meaningful comments on the officer evolution reports. If you’re not getting the support from your supervisor, go to your chain of command and if you still don’t feel that you are getting support then please contact me.

Thanks for your service, what you do to defend this great nation and wishing you and your families the very best in the year to come.

Ceremonies unveil new unit patch for 635th Regional Support Group

By Sgt. Michael H. Mathewson
105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

In a ceremony conducted simultaneously in 16 Kansas National Guard armories Dec. 1, 2012, Soldiers of the 635th Regional Support Group removed their Kansas sunflower patch and replaced it with the new distinctive 635th RSG patch.

The 635th RSG, commanded by Col. John Campbell and Command Sgt. Maj. Ed Boring, is headquartered in Hutchinson, Kan.

The 635th consists of the 1st Battalion, 161st Field Artillery; 2nd Battalion, 130th Field Artillery; 250th Forward Support Company; 1161st Forward Support Company and Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 635th Regional Support Group.

The 635th RSG was formed in 2005 following the reorganization of the 35th Division Artillery. Being a new unit, the 635th did

not have its own distinctive unit crest or shoulder patch. Therefore, the units have been wearing the sunflower patch of the Kansas Army National Guard. The design of the new shoulder patch and crest was the responsibility of the U.S. Army’s Institute of Heraldry. The institute researches the history of the main unit and lineage of the units that have been linked to it. Official approval of the patch was made June 18, 2012; the crest was approved March 29, 2006.

The patch will now be worn on the left shoulder of Soldiers assigned to the 635th RSG and its subordinate units.

“The Soldiers now have a patch that sets them apart from the rest of the state,” said 1st Sgt. Kevin Rieschick, first sergeant of Battery A, 2nd Bn., 130th FA, resident of Pittsburg, Kan. “As a first sergeant, it is great to stand before a unit that has everyone back from deployments.”

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 635th RSG, Hutchinson, hosted the main re-patching ceremony. Soldiers of the 1st Bn., 161st FA conducted their ceremony in Dodge City, Great Bend,

Hutchinson, Kansas City, Kan., Lenexa, Liberal, Newton, Paola, Pratt and Wichita. Soldiers of the 2nd Bn., 130th FA conducted their ceremony in Abilene, Clay Center, Hiawatha, Holton, Kansas City, Marysville and Ottawa.

Battery A, 2nd Bn., 130th FA was called to attention on the drill floor of the Holton armory at 10 a.m. With one of the unit’s M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, as a back drop, the Soldiers watched

the video prepared for the ceremony. After an introduction by Campbell and Boring, the video explained the history and traditions behind shoulder patches and explained the significance of the new 635th RSG patch. Following the video, 1st Lt. Chris Koochel, the executive officer of Btry. A, and resident of Olathe, Kan., removed the sunflower patch from Rieschick and replaced it with the new 635th RSG patch.

Koochel and Rieschick, replaced each platoon sergeant’s patch. The platoon sergeants in turn re-patched the squad leaders, who in turned re-patched every member of their squad. This continued until every member was wearing the new patch.

“It is a great day to be in Alpha and the 635th RSG,” said Koochel. “It is great that we now have a distinctive patch that the Soldiers can be proud to wear.”

Pfc. Josiah Myers, an ammo handler and resupply vehicle driver from Elkhart, Kan., was impressed with the new patch.

The 635th RSG’s new patch is a trapezoidal cloth insignia with a buff and scarlet background and an ultramarine blue border. In the center is a five pointed blue star. The star suggests the command and control aspect of the group with five major elements of logistics-maintenance, supply, transportation, facilities and service. The buff color represents the support units and the scarlet represents the 35th Division Artillery. The blue represents knowledge, power, integrity and seriousness of its ability to command.



Outstanding Airmen of the Year winners announced

By Chief Master Sgt. James Brown
State Command Chief , Kansas Air National Guard

The Kansas Air National Guard 2013 Outstanding Airmen of the Year review board took place in January to select this year’s recipients. The Outstanding Airmen of the Year program seeks to recognize the very best Airmen the state of Kansas has to offer.

The competition this year was fierce. Board members reviewed the leadership, job performance, community involvement and personal achievements of the candidate’s nomination packages from the 184th Intelligence Wing and the 190th Air Refueling Wing.

The following Airmen were selected by Brig. Gen. Bradley Link, assistant adjutant general – Air and commander of the Kansas Air National Guard, as the

2013 award recipients after receiving recommendations from this year’s board members.

- Airman of the Year**
Senior Airman Ashlie Koehn, 184th IW
- Noncommissioned Officer of the Year**
Tech. Sgt. Glenn King, 190th ARW
- Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year**
Senior Master Sgt. Michael Shields, 184th IW
- First Sergeant of the Year**
Master Sgt. Janet Probst, 184th IW
- Honor Guard Member of the Year**
Senior Airman Vincent Casper, 184th IW
- Honor Guard Manager of the Year**
Master Sgt. Jerry Gardinier, 184th IW
- Overall Kansas Airman of the Year**
Tech. Sgt. Glenn King, 190th ARW



PLAINS GUARDIAN

Kansas Guardsman runs 28th Annual Army Ten Miler in D.C.

Washington Report
NGAUS

Two teams of runners representing the National Guard Educational Foundation competed in the 28th Annual Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 21.

The teams, consisting of NGAUS members and staff and other supporters of NGEF, competed in the race's open-mixed division. About 22,000 runners finished the race, which twisted through the streets of the nation's capital and ended at the Pentagon.

The first team, consisting of Maj. Gen. Deborah Ashenhurst, Col. Michael Erwin, Maj. Barbara King, Capt. Sarah Reich, Sgt. Maj. Scott Mayer and Andrew Waldman, took 26th place out of a field of 231 teams.

"Running by our nation's most cherished monuments was so inspirational," said Erwin, director of personnel, Joint Forces Headquarters, Kansas National Guard.

The second NGEF team of Capt. Charlie Brown, Amelia Meyer, Guillermo Galarza and Laurence Temple placed 139th.

"It was fantastic running my first ATM as a member of the NGEF Team," said Meyer, the NGEF archivist at the NGAUS headquarters. "The atmosphere at the race was really fun and supportive, and I think running as a member of the team gave me an extra boost."

The two teams did not just compete for time. Each team member raised money on behalf of NGEF. Those interested in making an additional donation should visit www.ngef.org/ten-miler.

"The day was fantastic," said Luke Guthrie, the NGAUS director of membership, development and marketing. "We are so honored that our members, staff, supporters and friends joined together to run this prestigious race in support of NGEF."

"Thank you to all who supported my run by contributing to the National Guard Educational Foundation," said Erwin.



Col. Mike Erwin runs in the 28th Annual Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 21 representing the National Guard Educational Foundation. (Photo courtesy of www.Marathon-Photos.Com)

Red Cross supports Guard children

By Meghan Spreer

Kansas Capital Area Red Cross Chapter

Red Cross continues to support National Guard and Military Children through grants from Topeka Active 20-30 Club.

The Military Support Group, started in 2010 by Darcy Seitz, Lead Child and Youth coordinator for the Kansas National Guard, gives more than 100 students from seven schools in the Topeka area a chance to come together each month to learn, talk, and support each other during times when they need it most. The groups are a tool to support military children of deployed family members.

"The goal of the program is to create networks of support for the military children and connect them with other military and non-military youth," says Seitz, "Connecting military children with local resources creates community support and enhanced well-being, thus improving the quality of life for the military and their family."

During their short 20-30 minute visits, the students create journals to write thoughts and pictures about their service member, write thank you notes, construct art projects, and use the time to communicate their feelings in a safe environment where they learn about citizenship, appreciation, communication,

heroes, patience and freedom. Kansas National Guard staff, trained Red Cross volunteers, school employees, and counselors all take part in the program.

In 2011, the Kansas Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross worked with the Topeka 20-30 Club to secure a \$5,000 grant to assist the Kansas National Guard to help expand the Military Support Groups by purchasing materials and supplies, training Red Cross volunteers and growing the number of participating schools.

"We are happy to be working together with our military to provide the students with what they truly need," said Jo Ann Long, regional director of development for the American Red Cross, Kansas Capital Area Chapter.

The partnership continues as Red Cross volunteers mentor students during the 2012 school year and students have new supplies to use.

"We are so grateful for the Red Cross," says Tamara Edington, wife of Sgt. 1st Class David Edington, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 169th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, "and we hope to help every child have a positive experience during their time in the groups."



Ryan Delarber, a Child and Youth coordinator with Family Programs, helps kids at Shawnee Heights Elementary, Topeka, Kan., work on their project for the month of October, cards of appreciation and thank you notes to their service member. (Photo by Meghan Spreer, Kansas Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross)

Giving back to the community



Company B, 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment celebrated the holidays Dec. 8 with a Christmas dinner held at the American Legion Thomas Hopkins Post 4, Wichita, Kan.

The event was open to the unit's Soldiers and families. Invitations were also extended to other major influences of the unit such as Brig. Gen. Eric Peck, assistant adjutant general - Army and commander of the Joint Forces Headquarters Kansas-Land Component; Command Sgt. Maj. James Crosby, Joint Forces Headquarters Kansas-Land Component; and Sgt. Maj. Jay Jackson, 35th Infantry Division.

During the ceremony Peck had the privilege of re-enlisting Staff Sgt. Benjamin Walker.

"It is important to have a Christmas dinner," said Capt. John Laurin, commander of Company B. "To come together as a family, brothers in arms, to celebrate another year of service and express gratitude for all that we have."

Company B's Soldiers also used this time to think of others in need. All service members and families were asked to bring in donations of nonperishable food or toys for the Toys for Tots campaign.

"Donating back to Wichita means donating to the public who we interact with on a daily basis and who show tremendous support for us during times we are called to duty," said Staff Sgt. Jason Williamson, training noncommissioned officer. "As a Kansas unit, we are here for this community as Soldiers and citizens, and anything we can give back to the community is great."

At the end of the night more than 130 pounds of donated food were donated and 75 toys collected for Toys for Tots. (Photo by Spc. Anna Laurin, 105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

Soldiers spread Christmas cheer



Tank crewmen Spc. Aaron Williams (left) and Spc. Raymond Hoover (right) along with other Soldiers of Company D, 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment, went to Presbyterian Manor, Flint Hills Nursing Home and Sterling Retirement Center in Emporia, Kan., Dec. 12 to hand out candy canes and greeting cards to facilities' residents.

"It was really cool to talk to and get to know the women and men who live there," said Hoover. "Some of the people who live there haven't had a visitor in a really long time."

The residents greeted the Soldiers with smiles and laughs. One of the residents told Spc. Fredric Smith, an armor crewman, "I love candy canes."

The Soldiers ended the day feeling like they truly had helped to better their community.

"These are people we know. We have friends and family here," said Spc. David McCormack. "We are Guardsmen who chose to serve our community because those are the people we enlisted to protect, serve and help. They're our neighbors, our friends and our families." (Photo by Spc. David McCormack, Company D, 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment)