

THE GUARDIAN

A Publication of the Wyoming Air National Guard

January 2008

OAY BANQUET

THE 3RD ANNUAL OUTSTANDING AIRMEN OF THE YEAR BANQUET WILL BE HELD THE EVENING OF JAN. 5, 2008.

SPONSORED THIS YEAR BY THE CHIEFS COUNCIL, THIS IMPORTANT EVENT RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING AIRMEN WITHIN THE UNIT WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES AS TOP PERFORMERS DURING 2007.

THIS YEARS EVENT WILL BE HELD AT THE HOLIDAY INN WITH THE SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 5 P.M., FOLLOWED BY A DINNER AND AWARDS PROGRAM AT 6 P.M.

TICKETS ARE \$16 EACH AND MAY BE RESERVED BY CONTACTING CMSGT SUSAN PERKINS, EXT 6478, OR TSGT ANNA BEEMAN EXT 6750, OR UNIT FIRST SERGEANTS.

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS DEC 31.

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Life in the Guard: Working with fire

By Staff Sgt. Rebecca Downey
153rd Airlift Wing

Inside the fence that surrounds the Wyoming Air National Guard and the Cheyenne Regional Airport is where many of us work one weekend a month, diligently focused on our work and training. Many of us never see each other except at commander's call, and even then we never really get to know one another. In realizing this and reevaluating my own job, I began wondering what others were doing during drill.

As I looked around the base and thought about the people I never see, it dawned on me that I have never seen the fire department or those working there. So, I called up Chief Master Sgt. Warren Whitman and asked if I could spend a day with

them, which he graciously accepted and allowed me to do.

There are 30 members in the Wyoming Air National Guard Fire Department who are in constant training. These individuals maintain a wide variety of trucks and equipment to handle aircraft, structural and car emergencies. Even though their primary focus is anything inside the fence, WYANG firemen are called as first responders to any aircraft situation within the state borders. They also respond to car accidents and major structural fires like the one that occurred downtown involving Wyoming Home. There are 25

state firemen who work full time, protecting the base when there isn't drill. Of these individuals, five serve in both the capacity as a guard member and state employee. Whitman is one of them and I had the

LIFE IN THE GUARD COLUMN

opportunity to spend the day with one of the other of these five people, Staff Sgt. Johnny Tafoya.

I caught up with Tafoya as he was gathering together some of the men to go with him off-site to a training facility. The training had a dual purpose. First, it was extra training for the firemen on how to evaluate



Staff Sgt. Johnny Tafoya (in silver) instructs a local EMT class on the importance of proper patient care. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Rebecca Downey, Wyoming Air National Guard)

NEWCOMERS

HQ

Kyle Higgins
James Burghard
Douglas Bare

153 CES

Thomas Strickeland

153 LRS

Kody Klein

153 SVF

David Smith

187 AES

Heidi Kinnison

153 SFS

Tiffany Massengill

153 AMS

Jason Medina

243 ATC

Justin Kurth

PROMOTIONS

153 MXS

Brent Kramer
Staff Sergeant

Jonathon Pearce
Master Sergeant

187 AES

Christopher Konchalski
Senior Airman

Commander's Column: Mind over Matter

General George S. Patton said, "...if you are going to win any battle you have to do one thing. You have to make the mind run the body. Never let the body tell the mind what to do. The body will always give up...but the body is never tired if the mind is not tired... You've always got to make the mind take over and keep going."

Interestingly, not only was Patton one of the most famous and controversial generals in WWII, he was also an Olympian in 1912.

That quote really makes sense to me. The mind is a very powerful thing. If you can't change anything about your circumstance you can always change your mind and have a positive attitude about it. With a positive attitude you can decide how your day, and ultimately your life is going to be, not the other way around.

In the next few months this wing is going to be pushed to the limits as we prepare for and execute the Operational Readiness Inspection.

We must collectively make the decision to have a positive, "can-do" attitude, and keep our minds set on the idea that we

can keep going, we are not tired, we can accomplish whatever the tasks are and then some. Whatever is next, bring it on!

Mindset is a very powerful, if not the MOST powerful indicator of what the outcome will be.

That is true in everyday life as well as in individual events such as a sporting competition, or in our case, the inspection.

We face long days (or nights as the case may be), physical and mental challenges- both in the preparation and actual execution. But, I also know we can and will do well and succeed. We have done it before and we will do it again. I know this Wing and the folks that make it up.

When it comes to the mission, no matter what our area of expertise, or our particular dog in the fight, we are "can-do" people! When the rubber hits the road and things have to get done, we all buckle down, pitch in and "git 'r done". I'm not saying it's going to be easy or fun...but with the



COL. HAROLD REED
COMMANDER
153RD AIRLIFT WING

THE GUARDIAN

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WING COMMANDER
COL. HAROLD REED
WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
LT. TIM LOCKWOOD

WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF
STAFF SGT. REBECCA DOWNEY
STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
DEIDRE FORSTER

THE GUARDIAN, 217 DELL RANGE BLVD., CHEYENNE, WY 82009
(307) 772-5253/5229, 153.PA@WYCHEY.ANG.AF.MIL

FAMILY MORALE CARE PACKAGES AVAILABLE

The Wing Family Readiness Program offers a Family Morale Care Package Program for all military members to help deployed Airmen stay connected to children.

Items such as picture pillowcases and photo buttons, special Air Force bears, disposable cameras, journals, recorder pens, and other items can be provided to children 6 years old and up.

Call 772-6063 for information.



Scholarships available

Applications for the First Command Scholarship and the Warren Spouses Club Scholarship are now being accepted and must be post-marked no later than Feb. 15.

Applicants must be a military dependent of a military sponsor.

The applicant's military sponsor must be of active duty, guard, reserve, retired or deceased status from a United States branch of service and either assigned to F.E. Warren in Active Duty status or a resident of Laramie County.

For more information, visit <http://www.warrenspousesclub.com/welfare.html>.

Over the last four years \$54,000 has been awarded to 50 applicants.

More mind over matter

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right frame of mind you can definitely make it easier rather than harder.

If you can't change your circumstance, change your attitude. Perception is reality, but you can change your perception by changing your mind.

Even Martha Washington said, back in the day (like the late 1700s) "...the greater part of our happiness or misery depends on our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances."

What the mind can conceive the body can achieve.

I read those words every day when I was in high school. That quote was painted over the door of the men's locker room at the Adel High School in Iowa.

My wrestling coach, Dan Hill, would always tell us that if we can believe it we can achieve it. I believe that saying with every fiber of my being. Coach Hill also always said, "If you say you can't you have already decided." I guess that's where my philosophy of not saying "can't" was born.

If you tell me you "can't" do something, whatever it is, what you are really say-

ing is you don't want to do it, or you don't think you can do it. If you don't think you can do something, then you have made up your mind that you cannot do it. It's tough to overcome that once you have set your mind on it.

That just goes to show even more strongly the power of the mind over the body and how important it is that you CHOOSE to have a positive attitude and a "can-do" mind set.

In the words of the Waterboy, "You can do it!", and remember, the bottom line is if you don't mind, it doesn't matter. Let's go and get it done!



Bridger Wheeler, son of Senior Master Sgt. Greg and Amy Wheeler, receives his gift from, and is looking for reindeer owned by, Santa, played by retired Senior Master Sgt. Doniv Feltner, during the annual Children's Holiday Party, sponsored by the 153rd Airlift Wing. (Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Bob Watkins)

153RD AIRLIFT WING FAMILY READINESS PROGRAM CONTACT NUMBERS



153RD AW FAMILY READINESS OFFICE
217 DELL RANGE BLVD.
CHEYENNE, WY 82009

BILL BRECKENRIDGE
STATE FAMILY READINESS COORDINATOR
307.772.5208 OFFICE
307.631.7537 CELL

DENISE RAMPOLLA
153RD AW FAMILY READINESS COORDINATOR
307.772.6063 OFFICE
307.214.2625 CELL

CHAPLAIN DOUG ARENDSEE
STATE CHAPLAIN
307.772.5098 OFFICE

JOBS

INSPECTOR GENERAL VACANCY: Applications are now being accepted for the Inspector General of the 153 AW. This is a traditional position with the authorized rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Applicants must be a commissioned officer at time of selection. Applications must include a cover letter stating interest in the position, a current resume with civilian and military experience/education, a current RIP (VMPF is acceptable), and a current fitness assessment. Send application packages to Tech. Sgt. Denise Hondel, 153AW/MPF, 217 Dell Range Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82009-4799 by **COB 6 January**. Nominating/selection official – Col. Harold Reed.

187th AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION SQUADRON, CHIEF, AFSC X4N000, E-9, This position is open to enlisted members of the Wyoming Air National Guard. This is a traditional position that plans, organizes and manages operations of AE training and deployments. Must have technical knowledge of nursing services, AE operations and flight management, radio operations, medical supply and equipment management. Applicants must have a Class III flight physical, be on flying status, and possess an EMT certification. Applications must include, as a minimum, a cover letter and a current resume with military and civilian education and experience. Please submit packages to Maj. Jeff Williams, 187 AES, 217 Dell Range Blvd, Cheyenne, WY 82009-4799, 772-6195 not later than **COB 3 Feb.** Nominating/selecting official – Lt. Col. Amy Olson, commander, 187 AES.

SUPPLY MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY: Applications are being accepted for the position of Master Sergeant, Supply Management Specialty (AFSC: 2S071). This position is open to all Master Sergeants and promotable Technical Sergeants who currently hold the AFSC, are qualified, or are willing to retrain. Applications must include a cover letter and current resume with civilian and military experience/education and PME completion status. Applications need to be forwarded to Chief Master Sgt. Knight, 153 LGR/Supply and will be accepted until **COB 19 Feb.** Questions can be referred to Chief Master Sgt. Knight at 772-6409.

DEPUTY MISSION SUPPORT GROUP COMMANDER: Applications are now being accepted for the Deputy Commander, 153rd Mission Support Group. This is a traditional position with the authorized rank of lieutenant colonel

(O-5). Applicants must be a commissioned officer at the time of selection and be an O-5 or immediately promotable to O-5.

Applications just include a cover letter stating interest in the position, a current resume with civilian and military experience/education, a current RIP (vMPF is acceptable), and a current fitness assessment. Send application packages to Tech. Sgt. Denise Hondel, 153AW/MPF, 217 Dell Range Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82009-4799 by **COB 1 March**. Nominating/selection official – Col. Debbie Henson.

NCO VACANCY – 153rd MEDICAL GROUP: Applications are being accepted for the position of Public Health Technician, Staff Sergeant, AFSC 4E0X1. This is a traditional NCO position and maximum authorized grade is E5. Organizes and assists in communicable disease prevention and control programs. Controls disease transmission through patient interviews, epidemiological investigations, and patient education. Advises professionals on control measures. Updates and completes associated records and forms. Investigates disease outbreaks. Collects and compiles epidemiological data. Identifies, evaluates and reports trends. Provides administrative oversight to the PIMR program. Gathers data, produces rosters and reports for Primary Care Management Teams, Unit personnel and both medical and line leadership. Provides immunizations policy input to the Population Health Function and produces rosters and reports for healthcare provider teams and line unit personnel. Completion of high school courses in algebra II, physics, chemistry, biology, and English composition is desirable. Please submit packages to Chief Master Sgt. Kristin Maurer, 153 MDG, 217 Dell Range Blvd, Cheyenne, WY 82009-4799, 772-6426 not later than **COB 2 March**. Nominating/selecting official – Lt. Col. Stanley D. Bruntz, commander, 153 MDG.

SENIOR NCO VACANCY – 153rd MEDICAL GROUP: Applications are being accepted for the position of Public Health Craftsman, Master Sergeant, AFSC 4E0X1. This is a traditional NCO position and maximum authorized grade is E7. Organizes and assists in communicable disease prevention and control programs. Controls disease transmission through patient interviews, epidemiological investigations, and patient education. Advises professionals on control measures. Updates and completes associated records and forms. Investigates disease outbreaks. Collects and compiles epidemiological data. Identifies, evaluates and reports

trends. Provides administrative oversight to the PIMR program. Gathers data, produces rosters and reports for Primary Care Management Teams, Unit personnel and both medical and line leadership. Provides immunizations policy input to the Population Health Function and produces rosters and reports for healthcare provider teams and line unit personnel. Completion of high school courses in algebra II, physics, chemistry, biology, and English composition is desirable. Please submit packages to Chief Master Sgt. Kristin Maurer, 153 MDG, 217 Dell Range Blvd, Cheyenne, WY 82009-4799, 772-6426 not later than **COB 2 March**. Nominating/selecting official – Lt. Col. Stanley D. Bruntz, Commander, 153 MDG.

NCO VACANCY – 153rd MEDICAL GROUP: Applications are being accepted for the position of Education and Training Manager, Technical Sergeant, AFSC 3S2X1. This is a traditional NCO position and maximum authorized grade is E6. Conducts education and training (E&T) tasks for medical, medical readiness operations, and support training; education services; curriculum development; and instructor activities. Develops, delivers, and evaluates E&T programs and oversees E&T supervisor activities. Please submit packages to Chief Master Sgt. Kristin Maurer, 153 MDG, 217 Dell Range Blvd, Cheyenne, WY 82009-4799, 772-6426 not later than **COB 2 March**. Nominating/selecting official – Lt. Col. Stanley D. Bruntz, commander, 153 MDG.

OFFICER VACANIES – 153rd MEDICAL GROUP: Applications are now being accepted for two Medical Service Corps Officer (41A1) positions. These positions are both traditional officer positions with a maximum authorized grade of O4. These positions are open to all Wyoming Air National Guard personnel (enlisted and officer) who are able to meet the following minimum requirements of AFMAN 36-2105; possess a graduate degree in health care administration, hospital administration, public administration, business administration or manage-

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The Wyoming Military Department is an equal opportunity employer. Selection for all positions will be made without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor. This applies to ALL vacancies within the Wyoming Military Department.

Why is Diversity Important?

By Chief Master Sgt. James Branom
State Human Resource Advisor
Wyoming Air National Guard

One of the goals of the state and wing human resource advisors is to inform and advise senior leadership on a multitude of diversity issues affecting the Wyoming Air National Guard. To reach this goal we need to ensure we meet and/or exceed training of our personnel on diversity, and do what we can to help the WYANG reach its diversity potential. Diversity, contrary to popular opinion, is NOT about affirmative action, compliance EEO training, or the recognition of just minorities; it is about recognizing the differences and qualities of each and every person who is a member of the WYANG,

DIVERSITY CORNER

and using those differences and qualities to create a cohesive, unified, and interconnected unit where all can share in each other's wisdom and knowledge (mentoring and leadership).

Talented people go where they feel welcome and businesses that have made a commitment to diversity are attracting some of the most talented people in the world. There is a clear connection between effective diversity training and an inclusive culture where each person's values and inputs are understood and truly appreciated. The focus of the WYANG should be to nurture people's diverse values, recognize their strengths and weaknesses, communicate effectively, and most importantly build relationships.

The WYANG needs to create a culture to

ensure our members can learn about each other's talents and recognize the ideas, values and innovations each person brings each and every day to us. The real payoff comes in retention of our members, regardless of race/ethnicity or gender. The benefit will be to retain those talented people who have been working diligently over the past few years and allow them to share their experiences and knowledge with those who are just walking in the door. No matter the rank, the gender, the race, the age, or the education, each person has a voice and each person "brings something to the table".

For more information on diversity, please contact CMSgt Jim Branom, state human resource advisor at james.branom@wychey.ang.af.mil or SMSgt Susan Nagel, wing human resource advisor at susan.nagel@wychey.ang.af.mil.

JOBS CONT

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ment, information systems management, or equivalent and be commissioned before their 47th birthday; take the GRE or GMAT test (unless enrolled in a master's degree program); meet medical requirements in AFI 48-123; and meet ANG security clearance requirements. Application packages must include, but not limited to, the following; (1) cover letter requesting consideration; (2) AF Form 24 (enlisted applicants only); (3) resume to include civilian and military education and experience; (4) college transcripts from an accredited 4 yr college/university (enlisted applicants only); (5) letters of recommendation (optional). Send application packages to Tech. Sgt. Denise Hondel, 153AW/MPF, 217 Dell Range Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82009-4799 no later than **COB 2 March**. Please direct any questions to Chief Maurer at 772-6426. The nominating/selecting official is Lt. Col. Stanley Bruntz, commander, 153 MDG.

FIRST SERGEANT VACANCY – Applications are now being accepted for the First Sergeant position (AFSC 8F000) in the 153 LRS. This Master Sergeant position is open to any enlisted member in the grade of Technical Sergeant who is immediately eligible for promotion IAW ANGI 36-2502 or any Master Sergeant. Applicants must meet all requirements outlined in AFI 36-2113, Chapter 10, meet ASVAB requirements prior to interview, score a minimum of 75 on the



Practice, Practice, Practice... Master Sgt. Steve Sutherland prepares to deliver a strike to a training bag held by Senior Airmen Adam Franzen with a closed mode strike while listening to instructions from Security Forces Training Manager Master Sgt. Doug Rhodes in the background. (Photo by 1st Lt. Tim Lockwood, Wyoming Air National Guard)

fitness assessment, and applicants overall image must exceed standards. Mandatory service commitment is 3 years from the date of assignment for the 8F000 SDI and will not exceed 6 years from the date of the First Sergeant Academy graduation. All applications packages are due to commander, 153 LRS or Wing CCM, Chief Master Sgt. Loftin, by **COB 18 March** and must include a cover letter, resume, RIP, and fitness assessment.

OFFICER APPOINTMENT – NAVIGATOR (C-130): Applications are now being accepted for UNDERGRADU-

ATE NAVIGATOR TRAINING, AFSC 12M3B. This position is located in the 187th Airlift Squadron. Applicants must be able to enter training prior to age 30; qualify on the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test; meet medical requirements in AFI48-123; possess a bachelor's degree or have at least 90 semester hours with a

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Find technician and AGR jobs at:
<http://www.wy.ngb.army.mil/HRO/default.asp>

The Path to a Rewarding Career

By Chief Master Sgt. Lee Villeneuve
243rd Air Traffic Control Squadron

Looking back, my career path was the product of many dedicated Air Force members including traditional guardsmen, Active Duty and even civil service members. These career minded professionals all took a turn steering me along on a rewarding 22+ year adventure. They led me and others by example, each of them pushing me this way or that but always toward my next objective which they had extracted from me during what seemed to be casual conversation. As usual with their type, it was anything but casual. Instead they were cultivating another successor or at the very least a productive individual. I didn't know it at the time but nearly every day I was taught a vital professional or life lesson. When the time came they would hand me off to my next mentor who would take their turn at the wheel.

As a technical sergeant on active duty, I was presented with an opportunity to make a lateral move, doing the same job I had been trained to do with no loss of pay or time in service. After serving over 14 years on Active Duty I joined your elite group the Wyoming Air National Guard (the best life decision that I ever made). What a unique and impressive group of individuals, regardless of rank or job title. While serving on Active Duty I thought I had the "big picture" and would retire there. That big picture I thought I had expanded many times. I went from the fixed or employed base structure to the world of mobile "First In" concepts. That little trip to Baghdad, Iraq to serve as the air traffic control superintendent was a real eye opener and an experience I will always treasure.

Was getting to this point in my life and career just luck? Yes and no! Yes, because I was put into the path of many great mentors. No, because I was taught some key proven elements of success by those who steered me that could benefit anyone who chose to lived by them. Ultimately, your career path starts the day

you raise your hand and swear the oath or the first day on the job in the civilian sector (for National Guard members usually both, what Patriots!). It is simply never too early to start doing things that'll pay off for you later down the road. You'll be a better person for it and become more competitive in any job market.

Foremost, earn the reputation for being honest and always treat others with respect and human dignity. Once people develop trust in your word and deeds, they'll start depending on you, steering you on your path to bigger and better things. Keep an even tempera-

CHIEFS' COUNCIL CORNER

ment, particularly in the work place. An argumentative, fault-finding nature has closed the door to success for many otherwise capable employees.

Step out of your comfort zone and volunteer to do something that your next level of supervision normally handles. Like all of us they are doing more with less and combining job responsibilities. Maintain situational awareness around you. If there is a task that you think you can handle or would like to learn, ask if you can take it over. Look for any problem areas or an area that needs improvement in your work place. Research the current guidance, "step up" and offer a workable solution while encouraging others to do the same. Growth in any business and streamlined procedures always come from fresh ideas and you are the key to their survival, military or civilian.

Learn to listen particularly when accepting a project or when leading a group on a task. I can't emphasize enough the differ-

ence between hearing and understanding, so always ask for clarification. Bring your rough draft or plans and all updates back to the requestor for their review. This alleviates frustration, provides an opportunity for the mentor to impart their knowledge, and keeps both parties on the same page throughout the project. Like you, they took risks and made mistakes along the way to get to where they are today. It is just as important to know what not to do, as to know what to do.

Finally, longevity provides the greatest rewards, such as better pay, work schedules and retirement benefits. I can not believe how fast this 22 years has gone by and each additional year of productivity brings more pay and retirement points.

Keep in mind that many times the grass in the next pasture only appears greener from a distance. Most times when you change careers or jobs you start at the bottom all over again. Realize that your future is your responsibility, your actions determine how far up the ladder you will climb.

Look around and find someone that is successful within your area of interest, see how many of these traits they employ, and then emulate their good habits. I hope that your career path is filled with many exciting experiences and rewards.

Authorized Hotel Information

Holiday Inn

204 W. Fox Farm Rd
(307)-638-4466
\$49.00 Contracted Price

Fairfield Inn

1415 Stillwater Ave
(307)-637-4070
\$46.00 Contracted Price

Plains Hotel

1600 Central Ave
(307)-638-3311
\$52 (single) / \$62 Double

Crow Creek Inn

FE Warren, AFB
(307)-773-1844
Price depends on quarters

Please refer any questions to your Unit Housing Rep or
Base Housing Officer at ext. 6160

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minimum 2.3 GPA; and meet security clearance requirements. This position is open to all applicants that meet the above minimum requirements. For application procedures contact Tech. Sgt. Hondel, 153 MPF, (307)772-6457. For AFOQT info Senior Master Sgt. Helart 153 MPF (307)772-6104. Application packages must include: 1. Cover letter requesting consideration, 2. AF Form 24 (enlisted and civilian applicants only), 3. Resume to include civilian and military education and experience, 4. Official college transcripts (enlisted and civilian applicants only), 5. Two letters of supervisory references, 6. AFOQT scores, 7. Any private flying paperwork. Nominating/Selecting Official: Lt. Col. Lyman, 187AS/CC (307) 772-6360. Send application packages to Tech. Sgt. Denise Hondel, 153AW/MPF, 217 Dell Range Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82009-4799.

TRADITIONAL – MANAGEMENT ANALYST/STANDARDIZATION EVALUATION SPECIALIST: The 153rd Communications Flight is now accepting applications for a Standardization Evaluation Specialist (3C090). This is a traditional position with the authorized rank of Senior Master Sergeant. Applications must include a cover letter, a current resume with civilian and military experience/education, a current RIP (VMPF is acceptable), a current fitness assessment and proof of a current SECRET clearance. Upon selection, the applicant must complete SF 86 for TOP SECRET clearance. Duties and Responsibilities: Evaluates mission effectiveness, using standardized and locally developed evaluation programs and processes. Responsible for the scheduling and accomplishment of managerial, personnel, technical and special evaluations. Collectively evaluates management effectiveness, performance and technical proficiency of assigned personnel, equipment, and systems condition. Coordinates and/or conducts management studies of organization, staffing, work measurement, methods, or procedures. Monitors unit standardization/evaluation programs by ensuring adherence to applicable directives. Responsible for ensuring military duty position standards are established. Defines metrics and measure progress toward accomplishment of unit plans, programs, goals, and objectives. Must possess managerial, leadership, and good communication skills. Direct questions to Chief Master Sgt. Perkins, chief, Stan-Eval 153 CF at 772-6478.

Life in the Guard: Working with fire cont.

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a car crash, stabilize the car and rescue the passengers. The second, a training opportunity for the firemen to show local college students in an emergency medical technician class how to do the fireman's job and rescue the passengers, giving the EMT students hands on experience of what our guys go through. This allows for better teamwork and understanding between the two departments when it comes to a real world situation.

"We train every shift because things change. We mix up the teams so we are all well rounded. Training proves who has the desire to do the job and those who just think it's cool. Training builds confidence in the job and in those you work with. We try to train in scenarios outside the box, because we don't respond to situations in just fair weather and ideal surroundings," said Tafoya, who also serves as an EMT at Cheyenne Regional Medical Center. "For instance, I have been to the desert on rotations. There is no formal training time over there. As we were unloading, the people we were replacing were loading up. You just jump in and go on the run. We are the first in and the last out. We were constantly 'cleaning house' and on alert. We worked shifts in the firehouse, 24 hours on and 24 hours off. I was on call at the medical tent which means I had no time off."

When asked if he rescued anyone over there, his reply was quiet and simply, "Yes. Unfortunately, due to circumstances I cannot expand on the situations. We know our job and we are damn good at it." When asked if anyone here has had to rescue him, he smiled and said, "Not yet, but I know if it came to it, they are very capable of taking care of me. During training they learn to 'rescue' me, or someone my size."



Staff Sgts. (L-R) Justin Dykes, Johnny Tafoya and Caleb Kamarad demonstrate to the class the proper teamwork positions in stabilizing a car (Photo by Staff Sgt. Rebecca Downey, Wyoming Air National Guard)

"Ever since first grade I have always wanted to do this. As I got older I learned how much I enjoy helping people on the medical side too. My brother Paul was already in the guard as a fireman, and after 9/11 I said, where do I sign? Through the guard, the training, the war, and being an EMT, I have the jobs on both sides of the house and I love what I do," said Tafoya. "The greatest personal reward about these jobs is knowing you are going to work to help people on their worst day."

When it is all said and done, they come up and give you a hug and thank you. The support from my family is crucial; otherwise I wouldn't be doing this. I need to have a solid foundation to build upon. Since I have that at home with my wife and kids, I can do what I do."

After the few hours I spent out at the training facility with this fireman and the few who went with him, I can see why Whitman chose him to share what the life as firemen is like. It was refreshing to see someone work well with others and have no qualms about sharing that knowledge so others understand their job better. Always eager for training opportunities to be the best at what they do, because they are protecting us in ways we never really see on a daily basis.

PASS & REGISTRATION SECURITY CLEARANCES

In order to register a vehicle with the 153 SFS Pass & Registration, you must have your military ID (dependents need their ID), vehicle registration and current proof of insurance. Civilian employees without a military ID must have a Wyoming Military Department Employee ID.

Due to a change in the DoD vehicle registration database, we now need to have a copy of the vehicle registration for each of your vehicles registered with us, before we can update registrations on your vehicles.

In accordance with AFI 31-204, AIR FORCE MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC SUPERVISION, "a person need not own the vehicle to register it; however, they must have a lease agreement, power of attorney, or notarized statement from the owner of the vehicle granting them permission to use the vehicle and specifying the inclusive use dates."

As a reminder, Pass & Registration's hours are 0700-1630 Monday through Friday (including Fridays before UTAs). UTA hours: Saturday 0830-1630 and Sunday 0800-1600.

Address all Pass & ID questions to Master Sgt. Nate Cook at 772-6192.

The 153rd Security Forces Squadron Personnel Security office is open Monday-Friday 0700-1630, Phoenix Fridays prior to UTAs, and on UTAs from 0700 – 1530 for assistance with security clearances. First preference will be given to new members who live out of town. Please address all security clearance questions to Mr. Dave Smith at 772-6145.

CLINIC INFO

Physical Health Assessments (PHA) are conducted Saturday of the UTA, 0830-1130 and once per quarter, we will offer Friday PHAs, 0830 - 1130 (Dec., March, June, and Sept. drills).

The 30 AS Flight Surgeon Office is now open 0700-0900 every duty day.

Please contact your unit health monitor to set up your PHA appointments. Immunizations are given in the Clinic on Fridays (quarterly) and Saturdays of drill weekend and during weekday duty hours between the hours of 0700-0900.

REMEMBER, the member MUST be on status (UTA/AT/PM) to be eligible for the

vaccination. Personnel who will be attending school, TDY, or out-processing for any other reason, MUST out-process on Saturday of drill.

The clinic is open Sunday of drill from 0800-1000 hours for administrative purposes only, but this does not include out-processing.

Health Promotion classes, Fitness and Cholesterol, have now been combined and will be held at 0900 in the mezzanine, Saturday of drill. You will be scheduled through your unit health monitor following failure of Fit Test or through the clinic, following abnormal test results receipt. If you have any questions please call ext. 6329, 6251, or 6426.

ITEMS OF NOTE

COMMANDERS' CALL – Commanders' Call for all group commanders, squadron commanders, and first sergeants on Saturday mornings of UTA is from 0630 – 0700.

CHAPEL SERVICE – Held from 0730-0800 on UTA Sunday. The non-denominational service is held in the civil engineering classroom.

**WYOMING AIR NATIONAL GUARD
217 DELL RANGE BLVD.
CHEYENNE, WY 82009**