

THE GUARDIAN

November 2013



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U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Stephany D. Richards



Senior Airman Zac Sidders and Staff Sgt. Nick Sanborn, 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron loadmasters, relax on the ramp of a C-130H Hercules after a long day of cargo hauling at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, Sep, 28, 2013. Over the month of September, 774th EAS aircrews flew 137 sorties transporting 707 passengers, 224 pallets with a total cargo weight of almost 553 tons from Forward Operating Base Sharana. The FOB was officially transferred to the Afghan government Oct 1. Sanborn, a Vacaville, Calif. native, is deployed from Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. and Sidders, hailing from Peoria, Ill., is deployed from the Wyoming Air National Guard. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Ben Bloker)

Commander's Corner

Attitude and Effort



by Maj. Thomas Castillo
153rd Force Support Squadron
commander

The great Vince Lombardi reminds us, "The difference between a successful person, and the other, is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will."

As fiscal uncertainty continues, there will be impacts on our economy, national security and how the U.S. postures itself in the world. If sequester continues, there will be consequences that will impact our training to maintain and equip our forces. We must stay optimistic to find innovative and creative ways of conducting business to meet the demanding needs of our

national defense.

Attitude and effort are two things that are in your control. Attitude is usually settled in our ways of thinking or feeling, which is typically reflected in an individual's behavior (from the Coach's Perspective, Southeast Psych, 24 July, 2013). I would like to think it is also promoting the value of giving your best efforts, while bringing a positive fair minded approach to everything you do.

Effort can be very contagious, especially for team leaders if you want your team to be motivated to make every effort to be the example.

When both are in line with each other to achieve the total team concept of working together, amazing things can be accomplished.

Today we are facing some of the nation's most confusing times as the wheels continue to turn on budget uncertainties, furloughs, mission reductions and training opportunities. It is important to model and encourage attitude to give your best efforts while meeting mission demands.

The question is how does this play into each and every one of you in the Wyoming Military Department? Here's how.

You are in the most advanced and diverse military operations in support of both Air and Army National Guard's mission that entails first responders to local state and national disasters throughout the country. In addition, we have positioned ourselves to be viable for the future with the addition of the 30th Active Associate and our presence of our Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System.

Furthermore, let's not forget the strong relationship we have with our brothers and sisters at the Wyoming Army National Guard and their dedication and continued support to make the WyMD the best combined state National Guard in the country, not to mention the top notch facilities and advanced training center at Camp Guernsey.

With everything we do above and beyond day-to-day, the word is spreading about the Wyoming Air National Guard members at the National Guard Bureau level and the active-duty Air Force, being the best Air National Guard in the country.

Now is the time to get on board and take full advantage

Continued on page 9...



The 153rd Airlift Wing at work

Senior Airman Zac Sidders, 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron C-130 Hercules loadmaster, spots for traffic while reversing out of a parking spot at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, Sept. 28, 2013. This mission marked a retrograde milestone as the 774th EAS transported the last cargo from Forward Operating Base Sharana, Paktika province, Afghanistan, before the base is transferred to the Afghan Ministry of Defense. Sidders, a Peoria, Ill., native, is deployed from the Wyoming Air National Guard. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Ben Bloker)



Army 101st Airborne Division Soldiers make their way to a 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron C-130 Hercules cargo plane at Forward Operating Base Salerno, Khost province, Afghanistan, Sept. 23, 2013. The 19th Movement Control Team, a small squadron of Air Force surface movement controllers and aerial porters, have the herculean task of overseeing the vast majority of retrograde operations at FOB Salerno. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Ben Bloker)



Senior Airman Zac Sidders, 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron C-130 Hercules loadmaster, grabs tie down chain devices to for a 10,000 pound fork-lift at Forward Operating Base Sharana, Paktika Province, Afghanistan, Sept. 28, 2013. This mission marked a retrograde milestone as the 774th EAS transported the last cargo from FOB Sharana before the base is transferred to the Afghan Ministry of Defense. Sidders, a Peoria, Ill., native, is deployed from the Wyoming Air National Guard. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Ben Bloker)



Wyoming Military Department pulls together during shutdown

by 1st Lt. Megan Hoffmann
Public Affairs Specialist

The Wyoming Military Department found itself knee-deep in another government mandated furlough to begin the fiscal year. As angst and uncertainty continue to grow, members of the Wyoming Military Department (WyMD) may be asking how they are in this quandary again, and what the future might hold.

On Oct. 1, the WyMD had to again furlough a sizeable portion of its force as all Department of Defense commands, staffs and agencies were directed to execute an immediate shutdown. On that day, federal employees of the WyMD put out of office replies on their emails, set-up their voicemails to say they would be out of office for an unknown, possibly extended amount of time, packed up any belongings that needing be taken home, and walked out the front door, not knowing when they might return. Three short days later, Gov. Matt Mead had to furlough 103 federally-funded state employees because of the federal government's inability to commit to fund-

ing the federal portion of those salaries.

When all was said and done, the WyMD had to furlough more than 400 state and military employees, leaving only state-funded employees, contract personnel and Active Guard and Reserve military members at work.

However, just as quickly as circumstances turned bad, the situation started to improve as federal technicians were called back to work on Oct. 7-less than a week after receiving their furlough notices. This call-back was executed due to a close DOD analysis of the "Pay our Military Act," which stated specific provisions relating to the authority to bring back certain employees whose role and responsibilities fit into very specific categories, classifying them as "excepted." In the WyMD, 433 employees were classified as "exempt" and were given the green-light to return to work. However, federally-funded state employees who were finally called back to work on Oct. 21, did not fall

into this exempted status and were at home for weeks without pay. At this point, there is no way to forecast what decisions will be made in regards to retroactive pay for these employees.

In the immediate aftermath of all this, Maj. Gen. Luke Reiner, the adjutant general for Wyoming, said to members of the WyMD when talking about the government shutdown and the effects of impending furloughs, "we remain a team and I want to check in with each and every one of you to ensure that the services we offer have helped you to the maximum extent possible."

Help they did. On Oct. 9th and 10th, the WyMD hosted spaghetti dinners at Camp Guernsey and the Wyoming Air National Guard dining facility in Cheyenne, as a way to check in with furloughed employees, answer their questions, and present a united front to tell our employees that we will get through these difficult circumstances together, just as we always have. At both events service providers from the Department of Workforce Services, the State Department and the Servicemen, Family, Employer, Readiness Support Team (S-FERST,) were on-hand to answer questions and provide information on resources available to help out those in need.

These efforts were both noticed and appreciated by many employees in the WyMD. "I have always been conscious of financial spending and income, and that is helping me to handle this situation as best as I can. However, not everyone

is as fortunate as I am and the effects of this will be extremely hard on many people," said Mike Harte, a firefighting driver/operator with the Wyoming Air National Guard. "Despite everything, the Air National Guard has been my rock and my professional identity is rooted there. I can't say enough good things about Air National Guard command and upper-echelon officers and the daily phone calls they made to give me updates and check-in with me while I was furloughed. Communication from the top of the organization down was phenomenal and command made the best of an unfortunate situation."

As Gen. Reiner said, we are one team, in one fight. However, one member of the team (federally-funded state employees) is hurting, and hurting badly. Knowing Gen. Reiner, as the leader of this organization, and his staff, are working on trying to find solutions, helps to ease the effects we are facing."

Resiliency has always been one of the traits that has proven to define this nation's military. We have learned, through trial, tribulation and err, there is always a light at the end of the tunnel. However, some tunnels are longer than others, with smaller lights at the end. The trick is not to judge the distance of the tunnel, or the strength of the light at the end, but continue to keep walking forward with your head held-high and your eyes open. "Keep on keepin' on," as some might say. 🇺🇸

“It’s A Cactus Christmas”

2013 Annual Wing Christmas Party

Date: Saturday, Dec. 7
Time: Cocktails- 5 p.m. Dinner- 6 p.m.
Where: Terry Bison Ranch
Menu: Baby back ribs or grilled chicken
 Vegetarian meal available upon request

Individual tickets: Enlisted \$30.00 / Officer \$35.00
 Table tickets available for \$250.00 per table of eight

POCs: Capt. Marilyn Burden 307-772-6288
 1st Lt. Anthony Munoz 307-772-6045
 2nd Lt. Carly Rivera 307-772-6171
 2nd Lt. Randi Carpenter 307-772-6013
 Master Sgt. Jennifer Yack 307-772-6394



OSAY Banquet

Are you skilled in public speaking? Are you terrified of public speaking but would like an opportunity to improve? Or are you just looking for an excellent bullet on your next performance report? Well here’s your chance. The First Sergeant’s Council will be holding auditions for two narrators for the upcoming Outstanding Soldier and Airman of the Year Banquet being held in January. Not so great at public Speaking? The council is also looking for 18 volunteers for the Fallen Comrades presentation. If you are interested in auditioning or just volunteering please contact Master Sgt. Diana Fast at 307-275-6226 or Diana.fast@crmcwy.org. Auditions will be held during December unit training assembly.

Commander’s Corner Continued

of what it is like being on the best team in the country is all about. Your attitude and continued efforts will create a mountain of opportunity for yourself and your teammates.

In other words, don’t expect to reap vast rewards from disinterested attitudes and a lack of work effort, but be the person who is willing to be the first one to get there and the last one to leave, who makes the extra effort to get it right, who learns the job and takes advantage of the experience to pursue excellence and who gets ahead.

One solution will be to start the process of working on each of our own attitude and effort to achieve a total team concept. Here is one final message to leave you with on working with the best individuals in the National Guard.

“Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.”
 -Vince Lombardi. 🐾

Airman and Family Readiness Program

Holiday Happenings

Operation Guardian Angel

Operation Guardian Angel provides anonymous gift giving, allowing children the opportunity to enjoy a gift they would otherwise not see because their family may be currently experiencing financial or other unfortunate difficulties.

Recommendation forms have been distributed to unit commanders, first sergeants and supervisors. Please contact these individuals in your unit if you think you may require such assistance. Those wishing to sponsor Angels please contact Denise Rampolla at 307-772-6063 or denise.rampolla@ang.af.mil for more information.

Annual Basket and Craft Silent Auction

Looking for that special something for those on your holiday list? Look no further. The Annual Basket and Craft Silent Auction benefiting Airman and Family Readiness Programs at the unit and wing level will take place Nov. 2, 7:30 a.m. -3 p.m. and Nov. 3, 7:30 a.m. - noon in the operations building first floor hallway. Please contact your unit key spouse for more details.

Children’s Holiday Party

The 153rd AW Children’s Holiday Party and Lunch with Santa will take place Dec. 14 at the dining facility from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tickets are available for \$6 a person (tickets are required for each parent and each child). Please contact Denise Rampolla at 307-772-6063 or denise.rampolla@ang.af.mil for more information.



WyAng Traditional Jobs

AFSC Job Title Closing Date

X4N000	Air Crew Aerospace Medical Services Manager, E-9 (187AES)	6 Nov.
3D071	Knowledge Operations Craftsman, E-7 (JFHQ)	Open Until Filled
3M071	Services Craftsman, E-7(153FSS)	Open Until Filled
3N0X1	Public Affairs Craftsman, E-7 (JFHQ)	Open Until Filled
3S071	Personnel Craftsman, E-6 (JFHQ)	Open Until Filled
3S091	Personnel Superintendent, E-8 (JFHQ)	Open Until Filled
3S000	Joint Staff, Chief Enlisted Manager, E-9 (JFHQ)	Open Until Filled
8F000	First Sergeant, E-7 (Varied Units)	Open Until Filled
17D4B	Chief Communication Officer, O-5 (JFHQ)	Open Until Filled
21R4	Director of Logistics, O-4 (JFHQ)	Open Until Filled
38P3	Director, 153AW Equal Opportunity (153AW)	Open Until Filled
44M3	Internist, O-5 (153MDG)	Open Until Filled
48R3	Residency Trained Flight Surgeon, O-5 (153MDG)	Open Until Filled
48R3	General Medical Officer, Flight Surgeon, O-5 (187AS)	Open Until Filled

please visit link for detailed traditional jobs listing

<http://wyomilitary.wyo.gov/Employment>

please visit link for full-time jobs listing

<http://wyomilitary.wyo.gov/Employment/air-full-time-employment>

All applications must be submitted by the closing date listed on the advertisement to
 Master Sgt. Denise Hondel
 153 AW/FSS • 217 Dell Range Blvd. • Cheyenne, WY 82009-3320
 307-772-6457

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.

Job announcements must be sent directly to FSS, not to the Public Affairs Office. The format must include, Position Title, Grade, Officer/Enlisted (both), other special qualifications. The requested announcement may be sent to Master Sgt. Denise Hondel or Tech. Sgt. Victoria Lopez for submission. Questions on posting job announcements may be directed to Master Sgt. Denise Hondel.

We Salute

Promotions

Maj. Michael Knipper
 Tech. Sgt. Nicholas Lafollette
 Senior Airman Jake Duda
 Senior Airman Kyle Herzfeld
 Senior Airman Katie Lovato

Retirements

Staff Sgt. Christopher Ostrander