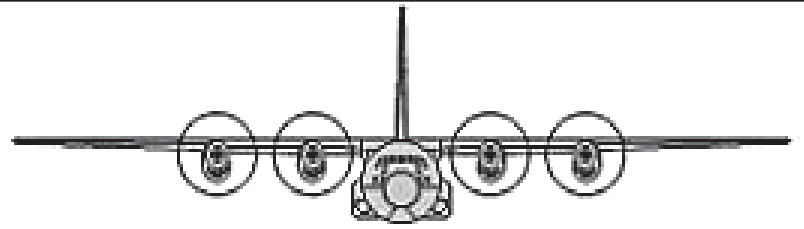


The 914th Airlift Wing

NIAGARA

FRONTIERSMAN



NOVEMBER 2008

NIAGARA FALLS AIR RESERVE STATION

VOL 45, NO 10

Mass enlistment Ceremony at Niagara Falls



Photos and story on page 3

Commanders Column

By Maj. Mark Crisafulli
914th LRSCommander

November marks my 21st anniversary in the US Air Force. Sixteen years of that time has been spent here at Niagara Falls in various roles. As a new squadron commander, I look back on all those years here remembering all of the people who I have worked with. So many have come and gone, a few have been here through the whole time, but all in some way have had an impact in my life unlike anything that occurs in the civilian world.

The characteristic of the Niagara Falls Airman that has impressed me most over the years has always been the ability to come together and get the job done, no matter what the obstacles. Time and time again we see this evident in our wings' ability to deploy and perform in an outstanding manner during war, contingency operations, exercises or inspections. In all of these successful ventures, the capability of the men and women of the 914 AW to work as a team has played a critical role. We have all seen or heard of examples of units that do not act as a team, and the results of that deficit almost always results in less than spectacular outcomes. In our line of work this can be disastrous.

With that in mind, I challenge newcomers to the wing and seasoned 914th airmen alike to constantly examine your motivations. Why are you making the decision you are making or taking the action you are taking? Who will the outcome benefit? Will it help or hurt the team or mission accomplishment? Personal goals are important to our careers. However, the outcome can be greatly enhanced when those goals are pursued in tandem and consideration to the success of the wing or unit and not just the next promotion or award.



This UTA, many groups will get the opportunity to work and compete as teams in the skills challenge and to enjoy each other's company during the Combat Dining In. Have fun with these events and take this chance to strengthen your teams!

COMBAT DINING IN



Welcome to the Combat Dining In
Saturday, 1 November
@ 1700 Hangar 707

DINNER PROMPTLY @ 1830
THOU SHALL NOT BE LATE

Attire: Any military uniform, past present or future.
Tickets- Officer: \$10 Enlisted: \$5
More info: Contact Capt. Al Knapp Ext. 2124



NIAGARA FRONTIERSMAN
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Wing Commander
Col. Reinhard L. Schmidt

Editor
Airman 1st Class Andrew J. Caya

Public Affairs Staff
Master Sgt. Peter J. Borys
Tech. Sgt. Kevin L. Nichols
Tech. Sgt. Christopher K. Boswell
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Visit us on the web at
www.niagara.afrc.af.mil

914 AW HOTLINE

Global Address under: Niagara Falls
IAP AW Hotline

The Hotline will be used for problems, issues, suggestions and or ideas that have a wing-wide impact. All senders will remain anonymous and issues having wing-wide impact will be addressed in Commander's Call or future additions of this paper unless requested otherwise.

Unique enlistment at the falls

Story by Master Sgt. Peter Borys
 Photos by Mr. Mike Harvey

There was a mass enlistment of approximately 30 men and women recently that took place in a unique setting. The enlistees were joined by family, friends and fellow unit members of the 914th Airlift Wing. The environment for this event included the 914th color guard, aboard one of the famous “Maid of the Mist” tour boats and of course the World famous Niagara Falls as the backdrop.

Federal law requires everyone who enlists or re-enlists in the Armed Forces of the United States to take the enlistment oath. The oath of enlistment into the United States Armed Forces is administered by any commissioned officer to any person enlisting or re-enlisting for a term of service into any branch of the military.

The oath is traditionally performed in front of the United States and other flags, such as the state flag, military branch flag, or unit guidon. Dating back to the Revolutionary War, the Continental Congress established different oaths for the enlisted men of the Continental Army. The first oath was voted into law on 14 June 1775 as part of the act creating the Continental Army.

The first oath under the Constitution was approved by an Act of Congress 29 September 1789. It applied to all commissioned officers, noncommissioned officers and privates in the service of the United States. It came in two parts, the first of which read: “*I, (Individual’s name), do solemnly swear or affirm (as the case may be) that I will support the constitution of the United States.*” The second part read: “*I, (Individual’s name), do solemnly swear or affirm (as the case may be) to bear true allegiance to the United States of America, and to serve them honestly and faithfully, against all their enemies or opposers whatsoever, and to observe and obey the orders of the President of the United States of America, and the orders of the officers appointed over me.*” The next section of that chapter specified that “the said troops shall be governed by the rules and articles of war, which have been established by the United States in Congress assembled, or by such rules and articles of war as may hereafter by law be established.”

The 1789 enlistment oath was changed in 1960, by amendment, to



Title 10, with the amendment (and current wording) becoming effective in 1962. Typically, the oath is administered by a junior officer, and on special events, such as this, it can be given by commanders and generals. The officer swearing in the group was 914th Airlift Wing Commander, Col. Reinhard Schmidt.

“I’m extremely proud to be administering the oath to these fine men and women who have taken a step forward and are answering the call to serve their nation,” he said. “They will join the ranks of other Citizen Airmen who are the finest, highly trained, and motivated fighting force in the world. We also appreciate the continued support from their families, the community, and employers in Western New York,” added the Colonel.

Senior Master Sgt. Pasquale Muoio, 914th Airlift Wing senior recruiter said his office plans to do another mass enlistment again next October.

Above: Base Honor Guard pose for photos with American Falls in the background. Left: New recruit (center) AIC Jose Rivera poses with family members and Col. Schmidt for that memorable moment.



Local Wood Carver Group Shows Their Appreciation for Wounded Vets

Story and photos by
Master Sgt. Peter Borys

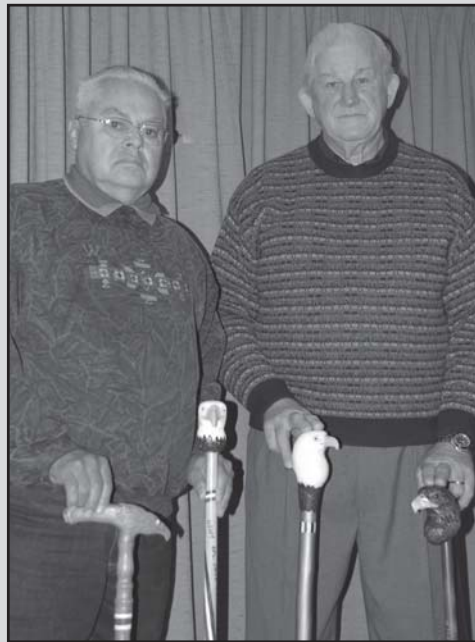
They've been doing this since 2005: creating some of the most beautiful hand crafted wood carvings anywhere. They are not for sale, but are instead created as a labor of love to show their appreciation to local wounded veterans free of charge.

The Rainbow Carvers of Lewiston/Niagara Falls, N.Y. are a small group of about 20 individuals; some are vets from WWII and Viet Nam, and some are not. One thing they all have in common, though, is their talent for carving beautiful designs out of wood, and their appreciation for veterans.

Retired New York Air National Guard Master Sgt. Ron Kurek and retired Air Force Technical Sgt. Ron Kraft are just two of the members who volunteer their time to create free of charge eagle head canes to any veteran who was wounded during war – including those wounded in Afghanistan and Iraq. The canes are all handcrafted out of the available Basswood from old shovel handles and branches, and are then transformed into works of art. “We use what is available to us” said Ron Kurek. To make them more personal, many of the canes have the name, rank, branch of service, unit, and the date and location of the incident inscribed on them.

“I saw an article in a magazine about 2 ½ to 3 years ago

about a group of carvers from Oklahoma doing this very same thing. It was starting to get very big across the country, so I made a few contacts inquiring how our group could get involved,” said Kraft. “The trouble was



“We’ve had vets proudly place them up on their mantle above their fireplace”

-Tech Sgt. (Ret.) Ron Kraft

finding out who needed them and how to distribute them,” added Ron Kurek. It was recommended to us to keep it within the state. “That’s when we approached the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and spoke with the commander to see if they could help us in spreading the word,” said Kurek.

The carvings are all done at the senior’s center in Lewiston. The canes are meant as a symbolic

gesture for the wounded veterans sacrifice, but can be put to practical use as well. “We’ve had vets proudly place them up on their mantle above their fireplace,” stressed Kraft.

When possible, the Rainbow Carvers present the handcrafted cane to the wounded vet in person. The group is looking to expand by bringing in new members. If you would like to help by donating your time or materials, the group meets once on Thursday mornings at 0900 hours at the Lewiston Senior Center. If you know a wounded vet that is deserving of this symbolic gesture, please call Ron Kraft at 716-695-7638 or Ron Kurek at 716-791-3187. Proof of Purple Heart decoration is required.



NIAGARA FALLS AIR FORCE HONOR GUARD

To Honor with Dignity

Honor, honesty, fairness, and integrity. These are big words that are not taken lightly by the members of the Niagara Falls Honor Guard.

The Air Force Reserve Command has established an Active Guard Reserve (AGR) position here at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to deal with the growing number of deceased Air Force veterans in Western New York. The Greatest Generation WW II veterans are now passing on at an accelerating rate, as are veterans of the Korean and Vietnam conflict.

In response to these deaths, Congress passed a law mandating that all deceased military members be eligible to receive military honors at their funerals. The Niagara Falls Honor Guard is ready to insure that these honors are provided with dignity and precision.

The honor guard performs more than 200 details a year, to include military, colors, and flag folding ceremonies. The Honor Guard is looking for Air Force members who will commit for one year and assist up to two days a month and come on orders to perform these ceremonies.

Each member will go through a 5 day class and be issued an Honor Guard ceremonial uniform. For more information, please go to our Web Page, <http://www.914services.com/honor/> or call Master Sgt. Jon Saunders at 716-236-3182.



The Chaplains' Corner

“Remembering ...”

By Chaplain Captain Jim Bastian

November is a month of remembering. In the Catholic tradition November begins with a holy day of obligation – All Saints Day. It is a celebration to remember those that have been outstanding in faith. The next day, November 2nd, we remember the rest of us, the poor souls on “All Souls Day.” A prayer that I pray after my dinner meal is “May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.” I am usually in a grateful condition being that my immediate needs were just met, so I like to remember those that could use a boost into heaven. I remember my Dad explaining it very simply “We help those that can’t help themselves anymore.” Plainly, he continued, “They need our help.” I like to help, and it takes the beautiful human gift of memory. Is there someone you could/should remember in prayer?

Later in the month our nation commemorates a sacred day on November 11th, Veteran’s Day. Maybe you can find a service near where you live to remember all veteran’s, living and deceased. We are in debt to those who have served our country. As a member of Erie County American Legion I will play TAPS on my trumpet and offer prayers at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo. Please remember to notice and thank a veteran.

Thanksgiving Day is a remembrance of the first autumn harvest in the “new” land. And you might pray “Bless us, O Lord, for these your gifts, which we are about to receive, from your bounty ... Amen!” The bounty of the Earth may remind you of God’s abundance and the gifts we are invited to share. May you gather with family and friends; and remember the ones who are away from home, perhaps over-seas, perhaps alone or in harm’s way. May God bless and protect them as we remember their sacrifice.
Shalom (peace),
Chaplain (Fr. Jim) Bastian



Chaplain, Captain Jim Bastian



Niagara Hosts Civic Leader Tour



Early in October many of the 914th Airlift Wing’s group commanders took Western New York civic leaders to Georgia. The trip included a tour of Dobbins Air Force Base, and Lockheed Martin factory where both the 914th Airmen and civic leaders had the opportunity to see how the tools are made to help complete the Air Force mission. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Joseph McKee)

ONE NAME-ONE MEMBER-ONE FORCE!

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- Forgot your password? Call 877-786-2372.

Go to Get1Now.us! See a complete list of awards today!



Around Niagara...



Senior Master Sgt. Stephen Trosterud (left) and Major Dwight Meese (center) are the first customers at the new 914th media center located in building 206. Far right is Mr. Mike Harvey, a Lockheed Martin multimedia contractor. The new center will be handling all passport photos and other type of media requests. Any requests for services require an AF form 833 located on the AF Portal, 914th Page, Photos & graphics Link. Once completed, e-mail to Mr. Mike Harvey and Master Sgt. Peter Borys 914th Public Affairs. Please have all requests for UTA support in no later than 48hrs.prior to the training weekend. The hours of operation are Mon-Fri including UTAs 0715-1600hrs. For more information call ext. 2345. Photo by Master Sgt. Peter Borys

Niagara to Host Civilian Job Fair



The fair will invite local businesses on base to recruit our members, their spouses and adult children who are looking for civilian work. The fair will be held on Saturday of the January UTA. Everyone attending should have a Resumé available to speak to employers. Employers anticipate conducting some interviews on the spot. For any questions call or write to Col. Mark Murphy mark.murphy@niagarafalls.af.mil or Command Chief Steven Larwood at Steven.larwood@niagarafalls.af.mil.



The 914th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron's 30-year reunion dinner party was held at the Falcon Club here recently. Over 150 people attended, including guest speaker Brig. Gen. Wade Farris (pictured above) and many who served in the unit past and present.



Heimbuck, Katelyn R.

Indelicato, Maegen M.

Promotions



Diel, Matthew S. Lindstrom, Julianna

Dudek, Joseph D. Nedimyer, Andrew S.

Gensler, Tara L. Wallick, Zachary C.



Gage, Richard W.

Kester, Peter D.

Nunez, Anthony J.

Schlueter, Derek A.



Fijalkowski, Arthur

Reid, Victor D. Jr.

Unit Vacancies

The Webpage for viewing job announcements and applying is located at <https://ww2.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb/> (for current federal AF employees) or www.afrc.af.mil/jobs (for ART positions). All external applicants need to apply through USA Jobs at www.usajobs.opm.gov <<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>> .

The rules for applying for civil service positions can be complicated or confusing, so if you or someone you know is interested, they should contact

the Civilian Personnel Office at 236-2218 or 2205

WING:

Admin Support Asst (ART), GS-

303-05 (Public Affairs)

Budget Analyst, GS-560-11

Drug Demand Reduction Specialist,

GS-301-09

OPERATIONS:

Aircraft Loadmaster (Instructor) (ART), GS-2185-09

MISSION SUPPORT GROUP:

Firefighter , GS-0081-06/07 (several positions)

Environmental Engineer, YD-0819-02

Police Officer, GS-0083-05

Training Technician, GS-1702-05

Automotive Equipment Dispatcher, GS-2151-05

Recreation Assistant, GS-0189-04

Facilities Services Asst, GS-1603-07

Civil Engineer, YD-810-02

Accounting Tech, GS-525-05

Human Resources Specialist, YA-201-02

MAINTENANCE SQUADRON:

Aircraft Mechanic (ART), WG-8852-10

Logistics Environmental Specialist, GS-301-09

Aircraft Mechanic Supv (ART), WS-8852-09

Aircraft Engine Mechanic Supv (ART), WS-8602-09

Electronic Integrated Systems Mech (ART), WG-2610-12

Spotlight



Name: Everett M. Myrick

Unit: 914 LRS

Job Title: Knowledge Operations Management

Time in service: 13 years

Time at NFARS: 5 years

Hometown: Buffalo, New York

Favorite Sports: Football, hockey, bowling

Hobbies: Time with family, fishing, camping

Favorite TDY: I would have to say Kessler AFB for Information Management-Tech School training which is now called Knowledge Operations Management. I enjoyed this because of the interaction with civilian and military personal. Being prior service from the Army, the experience being initiated into the Air Force community was very exciting.