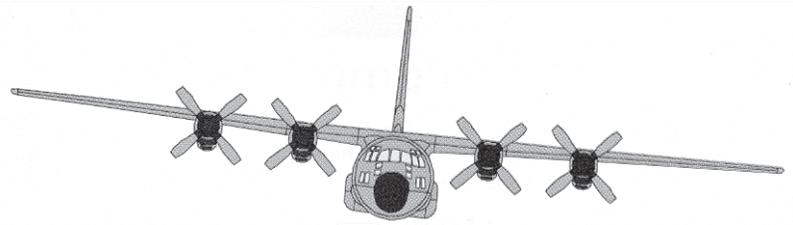


The 914th Airlift Wing

NIAGARA

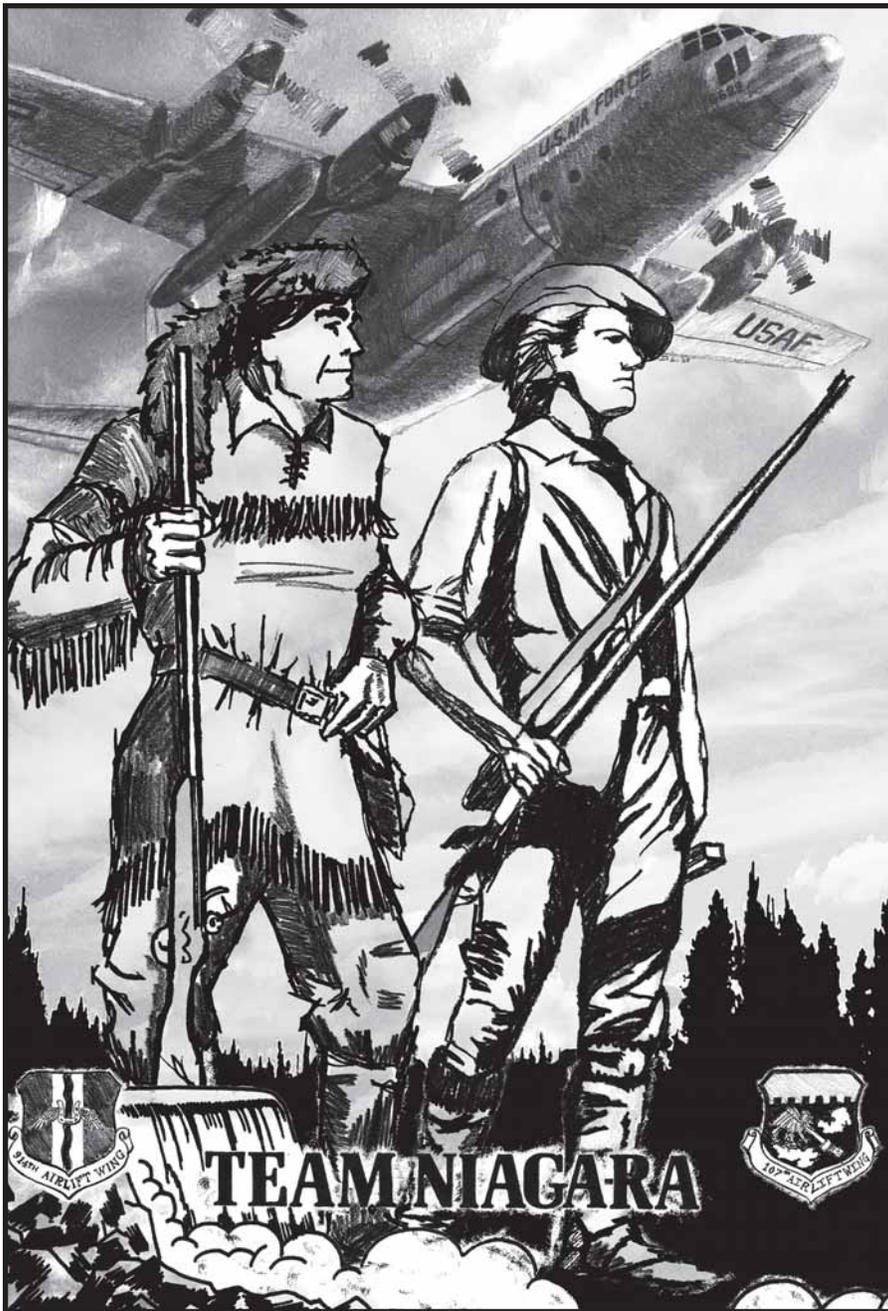
FRONTIERSMAN



JUNE 2008

NIAGARA FALLS AIR RESERVE STATION

VOL 45, NO 6



A new chapter begins for Niagara

This hand-sketched artwork (left) portrays the unity between the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, N.Y. The Frontiersman on the left represents the 914th Airlift Wing (AFRC) and the Minuteman on the right represents the 107th Airlift Wing (NYANG). Standing over Niagara Falls, they symbolize Citizen Airmen united in defense of our nation. The C-130 represents the units' combined combat flying mission and this artwork commemorates the first ever Reserve/Guard C-130 association. (Artwork by Staff Sgt. Dan Lanphear)

Team Niagara selects new tailflash

A new tailflash (pictured below) has been selected to be emblazoned on twelve C-130 H2 aircraft to be assigned to Niagara Falls ARS. A contest to create the new tailflash was initiated by Col. Reinhard Schmidt, 914th Airlift Wing commander, to signify both the arrival of the new aircraft fleet, and the association between the Air Force Reserve's 914th Airlift Wing and the New York Air National Guard's 107th Airlift Wing, also based at NFARS. The aircraft will be flown and maintained by both wings in an unprecedented cooperative relationship. Staff Sgt. Dan Lanphear of the 914th Airlift Wing designed the winning tailflash entry, which was jointly selected by Colonel Schmidt and Colonel Patrick Ginavan, 107th Airlift Wing commander, from more than 135 entries. The contest was open to all base personnel.





NIAGARA FRONTIERSMAN

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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.

You put the Airman in our "Airman's Creed"

By Chief Master Sgt. Steven Larwood
914th Airlift Wing Command Chief

As you were getting ready to come to work this morning and you made that last check in the mirror, who looked back at you? Did you see a Senior Airman, a Tech. Sgt., a First Sergeant, a Major, a Chief or even a Colonel? Hopefully what you saw was an "American Airman" a professional, brimming with pride and confidence in their ability and purpose.

A little more than a year ago, General Mosley and Chief McKinley unveiled our new "Airman's Creed" because they saw a negative trend taking shape throughout our Air Force. This identity crisis, as it was called, found us referring to ourselves by our Air Force specialties instead of by our calling to serve as "Airmen" in the United States Air Force. Why is that? Are we not all Airmen? Or is it because we really don't know what that means? If you are asking yourself those questions, let me offer a few suggestions.

As an Airman, you take an oath of enlistment or commissioning, and are entrusted with the greatest calling; protecting our nation and way of life. Answering that call cannot happen without truthfulness and honesty. Because of our unique profession, we simply can't afford to live and work dishonestly. Dishonesty breeds mistrust, and mistrust erodes our ability to perform the mission.

Being an Airman, you willingly sacrifice yourself for the benefit of the team, and that must happen at all levels of our organization. Performing as a team requires a "less of me and more of us" mindset. We all have to give more than what is expected. It's amazing how much we can achieve when it doesn't matter who gets the credit. We must remember that each and every "Airman" in this organization has something to offer and is vital to our success.

Being an Airman, we care passionately about our fellow Airmen. We often underestimate the power of a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment and even a harsh criticism when it is warranted. We all have the potential to turn a life or career around by simply caring for our fellow Airmen.

As an Airman, we are all accountable for our actions. They not only reflect on us individually, they affect everyone in our organization. We are each responsible for upholding the standards in our profession of arms and must create an "I am responsible" culture in which every Airman can thrive. Even if you can't prevent something bad from happening, you can control your attitude and actions in your response to it.

The words in our "Airman's Creed" signify why we have all chosen to serve as Airmen in our nation's Air Force. They connect us to the brave men and women that have gone before us. They define who we are and what we stand for. They serve as a reminder to our fellow Airmen that we are a team and that excellence is the only acceptable outcome.

So I challenge you to define yourself by your "Airmanship." Take the time to read and learn your "Airman's Creed" and I'm confident you will quickly see that you are already living it by your service.



Wing to sponsor job and benefits fair

Have you always wanted to work in services but never had a chance to talk to anyone about it? Always wondered what it took to work on the flightline? Just finished a nursing degree and want to serve as an officer? At a dead end as an overage and want more? Or are you trying to figure out if TRICARE is good for your family? Well you are in luck. The 914th Airlift Wing is sponsoring a job and benefits fair on Saturday, June 7 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the base gym. The fair will help members of the wing explore job opportunities within the unit while providing information on a wide variety of available benefits.

Each unit will provide a representative to speak about jobs available within their organizations. Personnel specialists and career advisors will discuss cross training and provide career guidance. Printed checklists detailing officer and enlisted promotion criteria will also be available. Additionally, experts will discuss the

deserving Airman commissioning program and a list of all wing officer and enlisted vacancies will be available.

Nine colleges and universities will be present to provide information and applications regarding their programs. Representatives from the Veterans Administration (VA), TRICARE, USAA Insurance, Erie County Department of Veterans Affairs and Serviceman's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) will also be available to answer your questions. Professional organizations such as the Reserve Officer Association and Sergeants and Air Force Associations will be on-hand to provide information. Spouses and family members are welcome.

If interested in full-time employment at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, civilian personnel will be present to discuss openings and application procedures.

There is something for everyone at the fair, so stop on over and learn what is available.

Niagara marketing director receives command honors



Mr. Jerry Slipko, Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station marketing director, has been selected as the 2008 Air Force Reserve Command Services Manager of the Year.

This award is based upon leadership and job performance as well as base and community involvement. Mr. Slipko was particularly praised for his involvement with the tremendously successful Thunder of Niagara Airshow and his coordination with various marketing promotions associated with this event.

This is not the first such award for Mr. Slipko. He has received this honor a total of five times, but at different grade levels.

He has worked on the base for more than 13 years and has been in the services organization the whole time in a marketing position.

Although he said it is quite an honor to receive this award, Mr. Slipko commented; "I could not have won this award without the support of my marketing staff."

He will now compete at the Air Force level against other active duty bases. (Photo by Mr. Michael Harvey)



AFRC First Sergeant of the Year

Master Sgt. Jeff Gray updates squadron announcements in preparation for the upcoming May unit training assembly. As a first sergeant for nearly four years, Sergeant Gray was named Air Force Reserve Command's First Sergeant of the Year for 2007. While deployed to Afghanistan in 2006 and 2007, Sergeant Gray held responsibility for more than 1000 Airmen. Currently, he serves as the first sergeant of the 328th Airlift Squadron at Niagara Falls ARS. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Dan Lanphear)



Traffic safety program features side impact crash

The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in conjunction with local fire and law enforcement agencies recently completed the 13th annual Traffic Safety Program. More than four thousand students each year participate in this program geared at educating high school seniors on the dangers of drinking and driving. A victim's impact panel, video presentations and displays, as well as hands-on activities gave students the opportunity to see first hand the affect of drinking and driving. A 30 mph side impact crash (pictured above) featuring fire and police response culminated this event. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Kevin Nichols)

Recruit the Recruiter

Are you looking for a career that's challenging, exciting, and rewarding? Are you looking for a way to give back to the community? If so, then the Air Force Reserve Recruiting Service may be your answer. You may qualify to be a member of the United States Air Force Reserve Recruiting Team if you are motivated to excel and perform above the status quo. As a recruiter, you have the opportunity to help shape the Air Force Reserve. Your personal standards must be higher for a number of reasons; and most importantly, you will be an Air Force Reserve Representative. Remember, first impressions are lasting impressions.

For more information please contact Senior Master Sgt. Tom Zwelling at 236-3033.

headquarters air force services presents

tops in blue
world tour '08

deja vu

Celebrating
55 Years
of Entertainment

All military, civilians, retirees, contractors and family are invited to the FREE Tops in Blue performance at the Seneca Niagara Casino on Thursday, 21 Aug at 8 p.m. Reserved seating is limited to 350 with military i.d. upon entrance to the show. Once the reserved seating limit is met, grass seating is available, please bring a lawn chair. No ticket required, but please RSVP to the 914th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office at 236-2136 or courtney.donahue@niagarafalls.af.mil

USAF SERVICES
Contact Support & Community Services

SGLI news from the Department of Veterans Affairs: premium rate decrease

By Tech. Sgt. Karen Humphrey
914th Mission Support Flight

Servicemember's Group Life Insurance is now more affordable than ever. Effective July 1, the SGLI premiums will decrease from 7 cents to 6.5 cents per \$1,000 in coverage per month. With the increased demands the war on terrorism has placed on our military members, the decreased cost of coverage is welcomed news. The decrease in premium results in the monthly savings of \$2 a month for a servicemember with the maximum coverage of \$400,000 dropping from \$29 to \$27 a month. (This monthly premium includes an additional \$1 charge for Traumatic Injury Protection coverage (TSGLI), which is mandatory.) The reduction in SGLI rates have been a result of a decrease in non-war related claims and an increase in investment earnings. SGLI is only available in increments of \$50,000.

If you are not already participating at the \$400,000 level of coverage, take a moment to review your family's needs and consider increasing your coverage. Even individuals without a spouse or minor children should consider at least a minimal amount of coverage, to assist surviving family or friends with the cost of final arrangements. The Veterans Affairs Web site has a life insurance needs calculator that can be a handy tool for assessing your life insurance needs. <http://www.insurance.va.gov/sgliSite/calculator/LifeIns101.htm>

If you have questions about your SGLI coverage please stop by Customer Service in building 800 and our staff will assist you. Duty phone extension 2197.

Financial spotlight of the month: BAH recertification

By Tech. Sgt. Daniel DiPasquale
914th Airlift Wing

Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH), an entitlement for all military members to help pay housing costs. BAH is paid to Reservists in an active duty status only.

If you have a dependent, you may have received notice that you have to "recertify your BAH." Financial regulations require that recertification be accomplished on the AF Form 594 every three years for members in a "BAH with dependent" status. By recertifying, you are simply verifying that your dependency status has not changed. You are also required to submit a new AF Form 594 when there is a change in your dependency status. If you're not sure of your BAH status, it's listed on your LES in the "Pay Data" "BAQ Type" block.

For more information, please contact the Military Pay office at ext. 2292 or 3486.

Motorcycle Safety Course

BRC - beginner rider course
ERC - experienced rider course

June 13, 14, 15, 2008 (BRC)
July 19, 2008 (ERC - Saturday)
August 22, 23, 24, 2008 (BRC)
September 19, 20, 21, 2008 (BRC)
October 11, 2008 (ERC - Saturday)

For registration contact the base safety office at ext. 2140/1/2/3.