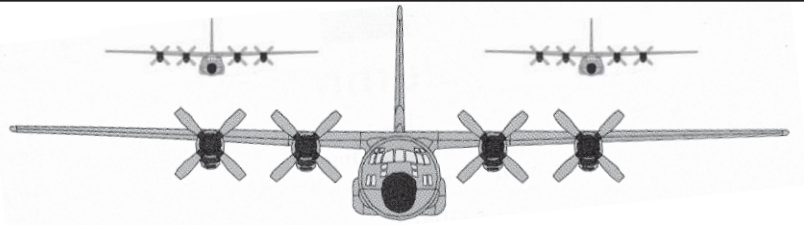


The 914th Airlift Wing

NIAGARA

FRONTIERSMAN



JUNE 2009

NIAGARA FALLS AIR RESERVE STATION

VOL 46, NO 6



Photo by Senior Airman Stephanie Clark

From left: Maj. Patrick Campbell, Mrs. Beth Greaser, Col. Terry Lawrence accepting for Lt.Col. Samuel Bellia, 1st Lt. Gina Pizziconi-Cupples, Tech. Sgt. Marvin Holmes, Senior Master Sgt. Roger Rozon and Tech. Sgt. Victorine Cleaveland, all members of the 914th Airlift Wing, are recipients of the Excellence in Government Awards given May 5, 2009.

914th unit members honored for service

During May's Armed Forces Week, 914th Airlift Wing members earned multiple Excellence In Government Awards at a ceremony held in the Buffalo, NY convention center.

EIG awards are given out once a year to recognize deserving federal government service workers.

The seven unit members who earned awards were Maj. Patrick Campbell, Mrs. Beth Greaser, Lt.Col. Samuel Bellia, 1st Lt. Gina Pizziconi-Cupples,

Tech. Sgt. Marvin Holmes, Senior Master Sgt. Roger Rozon, and Tech. Sgt. Victorine Cleaveland.

"Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station has an extraordinary population of high performing federal government employees," said 1st. Lt. Gina Pizziconi-Cupples, 914th Process Manager. "Our team strength combined with the leadership's dedication to recognizing deserving Airman and unit members affords

Niagara to be highlighted for these awards," she said.

Another unit member expressed pride in her fellow unit members in regards to this award.

"It was an honor to be selected for this award," said Beth Greaser, 914th Operations Group commander secretary. "The people who earned this award, Airman and civilian alike, didn't expect recognition for their effort. They were just doing their duty to complete the Air Force mission."

Chief's column

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

During the first week in May, I had the pleasure of attending the worldwide Command Chief's Conference at Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base in Alabama. This conference was of course hosted by the 15th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Chief Rodney McKinley. As you can imagine, the line up of speakers was simply amazing and truly inspiring. During the speech by the Air Force Chief of Staff, General Norman Schwartz, one message permeated everything that I had heard for the entire week. The general said, "Every Airman is important. The fundamental thing is that everybody counts. No one, no job, no specialty is more important than any other." This has been part of the message that I have been reiterating here throughout my time as your Command Chief. Every position in this wing, from the commander to our youngest Airman fresh out of technical school contributes something to our success and reputation.

The general went on to say, "Fighting two wars is not easy, but today's Airmen are helping the defense team succeed with the full range of capabilities the Air Force has to offer. Do not measure your worth by your proximity to the fight."

Greatness belongs to each of you. From the pilot or maintainer that has deployed a half dozen times, to the port mortuary Airman that has served quietly behind the scenes from Dover AFB, to the Airman in personnel who has made sure that each of these trips was flawlessly executed and every Airman received all of the benefits that they deserved. You all are what make this the greatest Air Force the world has ever known.

Service presents every Airman with limitless possibilities. Anything is possible and anyone can go as far as they want to. You are only limited by your own imagination and level of preparation. I will leave the imagination and goal setting up to each of you and will focus instead on the level of preparation. Specifically, I want to discuss the preparation that you receive from us, your leadership. Leaders at all levels have an obligation to ensure that we do everything within our position and influence to make sure that every Airman has exactly what they need to accomplish the mission and meet their own goals.

To our senior non-commissioned officers, we owe you the responsibility of your positions and the information that goes with it. We cannot withhold information from you and still expect you to perform with excellence. We must trust in your training and experience and let you be the leaders and managers that you have earned the right to be. Knowledge is power and we must give you both for the betterment of yourselves and the team.

To our mid level non-commissioned officers, we owe you the training and exposure to the future leadership that awaits each of you. We need to let you assume responsibility for projects and people as well as the decisions that go with them. We need to let you succeed and at times fail so that you are ready to step up when the time to lead is upon you. If a leadership opportunity finds you unprepared, it is a failure on our part, not yours.

To our youngest and newest Airman, we owe you the education, training and ride of a lifetime. We need to strike a balance between giving you the knowledge you need to work within "the system" and letting you experience your careers as they



Chief Larwood

happen, like we all did. We need to remember that you are growing up in a different Air Force than the one we grew up in and this new Air Force will capitalize on your advanced educations, love of technology and inquisitive natures. We must not be threatened by your enthusiasm but instead feed it and watch it grow.

This is where individual responsibility takes over. Each of you must dedicate yourself to achieving your goals and accomplishing our mission. You must be prepared to work at the next level of responsibility even before that door of opportunity opens for you. Learn all you can about your Air Force, your specialty and about simply being an Airman. Be willing to volunteer for something you have never tried, work outside your comfort zone and even change jobs for career broadening experience. Ensure that you are physically, mentally and spiritually grounded to your principles and our core values. Together, we make an unbeatable team, where excellence is the only acceptable outcome.



THE NIAGARA FRONTIERSMAN

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Senior Airman Andrew Caya...Editor
Senior Airman Stephanie Clark...Photographer
Mr. Michael Harvey...Photographer

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.

On the Cover:
914th members pose with their Excellence in Government awards during Armed Forces Week in early May 2009.

Chaplains corner

By Chaplain (Capt.) Fr. Jim Bastian

“I got bit by a Grizzly Bear...”

Is that a good excuse for missing May’s UTA? The further removed from Thursday, April 30, 2009 at 3:45pm, the larger the tale becomes. ... like dunking over Michael Jordan.

The reality is I was jogging up a basketball court. Nobody within 10 feet of me and I didn’t even have the ball. Suddenly, down went Father Jim. It was an after school faculty pickup game at St. Joe’s. Before the game, while warming up, I said to another teacher that I didn’t want to twist an ankle because of a PT test on Sunday morning. “Someone” was listening, because I didn’t turn my ankle.

I completely tore my achilles tendon. I guess it is a painful way to get out of

a PT test. I “damned” my human weakness (my achilles) for several hours on Friday; I got it out of my system. Then the blessings followed. Blessings? I cancelled commission officer training in July at Maxwell Air Force Base. Blessings?

I cancelled many forthcoming events that I committed to. Blessings? I was told I wouldn’t walk again until sometime in July. Blessings? The pain at times (every 4 hours) seemed unbearable, except for the medicine. Blessings? Yes!

Blessings! I had a wonderful surgeon who re-attached my Achilles. I received great immediate care. And I was shown tremendous love from family and friends. I even got calls and e-mails from the base asking about my condition and offering help. I think we like to think we are independent

and can do whatever we want, whenever we want. That suddenly was not my experience. I needed to ask for help for everything. “Please” and “Thank You” crossed my lips more than usual. There was someone there to love and help me in my time of need. Someone was there to get me water, food and clothing. Thanks be to God, I was not alone. That, for me, was a wonderful lesson learned.

Please, if you are a person of prayer, hoist one up for me. I leave you with some Irish wit: “May those who love you – love you. And those who don’t love you – may the Lord turn their heart. And if He can’t turn their heart – may He turn their ankle so we’ll know them by their limping.” Come July, I hope to be limping, but not because of my lack of love.

Wing career advisor column

By Master Sgt. Michael Haag

914 AW Career Assistance Advisor

Ugh! Did someone just sigh? Is that someone in need of career advice? Do you have a question on your Air Force Reserve career? Are you thinking about getting out because of a concern you can’t resolve? Stop, think and talk to us before you decide. We are your career assistance advisor team.

It is the goal of the career assistance advisor to retain every individual assigned to the 914th Airlift Wing. Each and every member is a valuable asset to our mission and our nation’s defense. We are here to provide guidance on the following items: reserve participation, the incentive program (bonuses for enlisted and now select officer AFSC’s), retraining, reenlisting, assignment options, retirements and much more. The career advisor program has been established to have a wing, group and unit career assistance advisor at each level to assist everyone. Allow me to introduce your career advisor team:

WING

914AW

ADVISOR

MSgt Michael Haag, Bldg 800, Room 108, Comm: (716) 236-2192

GROUP

914MSG

914OG

914MXG

ADVISORS

MSgt Cynthia Brown, Bldg 800, Room 227, Ext: 3442

TSgt Pamela Rickard, Bldg 800, Room 202, Ext: 3370

MSgt Ian McLennan, Bldg 850, Room 213, Ext: 3050

UNIT

914ASTS

914LRS

30APS

914SFS

914CS

914CES

914SVS

914AW/MSG/MSF

914AES

328AS/914OSF/914OG

914AMXS/914MOF/

914MXS/914MXG

PRIMARY/ALTERNATE UNIT CAREERADVISOR

MSgt Eileen Kennedy, Bldg 802, Ext: 6379 (Alt: TSgt S Lissner)

SSgt Chuck Schroeder, Bldg 600 Rm 106, Ext: 2229 (Alt: MSgt Anderson)

TSgt Anthony Arcovio, Bldg 810, Ext: 2062(Alt: TSgt J. Perkins)

TSgt Dorsaneo, Bldg 810, Rm 105, Ext: 2558

TSgt Timothy Gross, Bldg 317, Ext: 2209 (Alt: MSgt J. Williams)

TSgt Wendy Curry, Bldg 425, Room 213, Ext: 2386 (Alt: TSgt S Whitesell)

SMSgt Kathy Schmidt, Bldg 506, Ext: 2074 (Alt: SSgt S. Parson X2069)

MSgt Marty Viggato, Bldg 803, Chapel, Ext: 2097

SMSgt Michael McLaughlin, Bldg 804, Ext: 3153 (Alt: TSgt D. Eifert)

TSgt Kevin Dwyer, Bldg 807, Room 108, Ext: 2171 (TSgt J Wendelin - 2010)

VACANT, Bldg 850, Ext: 2253 (TEMP: MSgt Joann Simon Ext 2271)



Master Sgt. Haag

Local students learn about impact of driver safety



Photos by Senior Airman Stephanie Clark

Over 2,000 high school students from Erie, Niagara and surrounding counties participated in the 14th annual Traffic Safety Program, May 15th here on station. The safety fair is coordinated by the Niagara County Sheriff's Department, the New York State Police and other local law enforcement and emergency agencies, with assistance from the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and Calspan.

914th Aeromedical Staging Squadron receives commander



Col. Patricia Jarmuz assumes command of the 914th Aeromedical Staging Squadron by accepting the guidon from Col. Allan Swartzmiller, commander of the 914th Airlift Wing, during the change of command ceremony here on the May unit training assembly. Col. Jarmuz assumed command from Col. Renata Sierzega. Former 914th Airlift Wing commander Brig. Gen. Wade Farris presided over Col. Sierzega's retirement ceremony. Col. Jarmuz was assigned the temporary ASTS commander last May due to Col. Sierzega's overseas deployment.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Daniel Lanphear

Congressional visit to Niagara Falls ARS



Photo by Staff Sgt. Daniel Lanphear

The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station hosted a visit by Congressman Chris Lee, 26th District, New York in May. The Congressman spoke with wing commanders Col. Allan Swartzmiller of the 914th Airlift Wing, and Col. Patrick Ginavan of the 107th Airlift Wing and other military members.

The visit included a tour of the shared Reserve and Guard facilities, the Army Reserve Center currently under construction, a discussion on future funding for an indoor firing range as well as other projects in support of the ongoing association of the two flying units.

Continuing excellence from the 914th



Photo by Mr. Michael Harvey

Senior Master Sgt. Becky Costello, the senior air reserve technician of the 914th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, has earned Western New York Air Force Reservist of the year. She was recognized at the Armed Forces Ball on May 9th.



Photo by Senior Airman Stephanie Clark

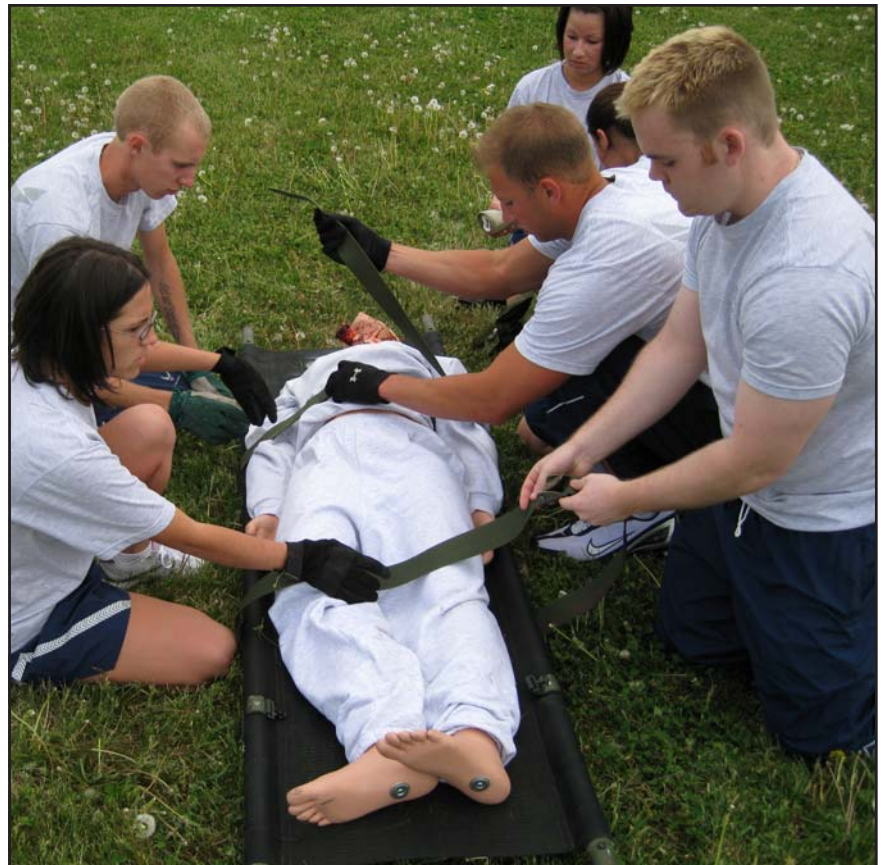
Senior Master Sgt. Roger Rozon, communications and navigation shop chief for the 914th Maintenance Squadron, was nominated as the *Air Force Times* Airman of the Year for 2009.

Fit to fight and trained to save lives



Courtesy Photo

The Aeromedical Staging Squadron recently combined physical fitness training with their two week home station annual tour and Emergency Medical Technician refresher course. After a two mile run with the squadron guidon, they honed their EMT skills during a mass casualty exercise and litter obstacle course. The fitness training was so well received by squadron members that the unit is looking into incorporating physical and medical training during upcoming unit training assemblies. Being fit both physically and mentally is one of the best coping mechanisms while in a stressful environment. The formation runs also helped build morale and foster camaraderie among participating squadron members.



Courtesy Photo

Going abroad after June 1st? What you need:

Like any new regulation change there is bound to be some confusion and this one is no different. If in doubt, visit the web sites below for more specific questions. Below is a simplified explanation of what is required.

On June 1, 2009, U.S. citizens returning home from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean or Bermuda, by land or sea, will be required to present one of the travel documents listed below.

U.S. Passport – This is an internationally recognized travel document that denotes a bearer’s identity and citizenship. It is accepted for travel by air, land and sea, per the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative.

Cost- \$100 (Age 16 & Older) \$85 (Under Age 16)

Validity- 10 years for adults, 5 years for children under age 16

Issued by: U.S. Department of State

U.S. Passport Card – This is a limited-use international travel document valid for entry into the U.S. by land or sea from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean or Bermuda, per the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative. It is not valid for international air travel.

Cost- \$45 (Age 16 & Older)\$35 (Under Age 16)\$20 (If requested with a new or renewed passport)

Validity- 10 years for adults, 5 years for children under age 16

Limitations: Not valid for international air travel

Enhanced Driver’s License – This is a driver’s license that can also be used as a cross-border travel document to enter the U.S. by land and sea. It denotes both identity and citizenship, per the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative.

The following states are issuing this type of WHTI-compliant document: New York, Vermont and Washington.

For information on costs, validity and issuing agencies, visit the appropriate state government website.

Limitations: Not valid for international air travel

Children: Beginning June 1, 2009, U.S. and Canadian citizen children under age 16 arriving by land or sea from contiguous territory may also present an original or copy of his or her birth certificate, a Consular Report of Birth Abroad, a Naturalization Certificate, or a Canadian Citizenship Card.

U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents: Document requirements for Lawful Permanent Residents will not change under WHTI. U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents can continue to use their permanent resident card (Form I-551) or other valid evidence of permanent residence status.

Ferries and Small Boats: Passengers on ferries and small boat operators are processed much like travelers entering the U.S. through a land border. They are required to present one of the travel document that complies with WHTI.

“Closed Loop” Cruises- U.S. citizens who board a cruise ship at a port within the United States, travel only within the Western Hemisphere, and return to the same U.S. port on the same ship may present a government issued photo identification, along with proof of citizenship (an original or copy of his or her birth certificate, a Consular report of Birth Abroad, or a Certificate of Naturalization). Please be aware that you may still be required to present a passport to enter the foreign countries your cruise ship is visiting. Check with your cruise line to ensure you have the appropriate documents.

For more on travel information please visit the website: www.travel.state.gov

New uniform goals: comfortable, functional

The Air Force chief of staff met with Uniform Program Office personnel April 21 for an update on clothing issues Airmen face as they support global mission requirements. Gen. Norton Schwartz said addressing current and near-term uniform needs takes precedence over introducing long-range new initiatives. “It is paramount that we provide fully functional and appropriate uniforms for our Airmen as they carry out our worldwide, joint mission,” General Schwartz said. “It’s critical that we respond to Air Force uniform needs since they affect every Airman, every day – so we need to get it right.”

Changes are in the works for the airman battle uniform. “Too hot” is how many Airmen describe the current ABU. After working with other services and industry textile experts, Air Force officials will field a lighter-weight fabric for the ABU coat. Called the improved airman battle uniform, the ABU coat will be updated with a durable, lighter-weight and more comfortable fabric.

PT uniform getting streamlined

After extensive prototype design testing, the following changes are on track for fielding new PT uniforms in September:

- The improved PT running suit redesign includes a thinner, more flexible fabric to address common complaints about fabric “noise” and streamlines the design by removing the collar hood and shoulder vents. The improved design also reduces bulk by decreasing the amount of fabric in the running jacket mid-section and pants lower leg. Additionally, a new liner includes anti-microbial properties and will shed moisture at a faster rate than the current version.
- Improved PT shorts to be introduced this year feature a softer, more flexible fabric, side-pockets, increased inseam length and redesigned inner liner.
- An improved PT shirt resembles the current short-sleeve shirt but will feature a lighter-weight, higher-performance fabric with moisture wicking properties and odor reduction.
- The Air Force has also authorized optional PT gear for wear. A new long-sleeve T-shirt and sweatshirt are now available for purchase through the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. In addition, optional running shorts will be introduced this summer.

Employment Opportunities

The following are vacancies that we are currently recruiting.

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 have to apply through USA Jobs at 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:

Civilian Pay Technician, GS-544-05 pot. 06
Accounting Tech, GS-525-06 pot 07
Medical Admin Asst (ART), GS-303-05 pot. 07

OPERATIONS:

Admin Support Tech (ART), GS-303-5
Aviation Resources Manager (ART), YA-301-02
Admin Support Asst (temp), GS-303-05

MISSION SUPPORT GROUP:

Firefighter, GS-0081-06/07
Training Technician, GS-1702-05
Logistics Management Specialist (ART), YA-346-02
Police Officer, GS-0083-05
Civil Engineer, YD-810-02
Environmental Engineer, YD-819-02
Contract Specialist, YA-1102-01 pot 02 (Bach. Degree required)
Administrative Support Asst (ART), GS-303-05
Office Automation Clerk, GS-0326-04
Training Tech, ART, GS-1702-05 pot. 07

MAINTENANCE SQUADRON:

Production Controller (ART), GS-1152-09
Electronic Inte. Systems Mech (ART), WG-2610-12
Sheet Metal Mechanic (ART), WG-3806-10
Aircraft Electrician (ART), WG-2892-10

Welcome Newcomers!

Airman 1st Class Anthony Constable, 30 APS
Airman 1st Class Steven Darcangelis, 914 CS
Senior Airman Michael Fine, 30 APS
Airman 1st Class Matthew Johnston, 914 MXS
Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Kasper, 914 AMXS
Senior Airman Scott Lovley, 914 SFS
Airman 1st Class Markeya Lucas-Drisdorn, 914 ASTS
Airman 1st Class Melissa Michael, 914 ASTS
Airman 1st Class Alissa Ricker, 914 LRS
Staff Sgt. Edward York, 914 SFS

Promotions



Master Sergeant

Christopher Laufer, 914 SFS
Ali Muhsen, 914 ASTS

Technical Sergeant

Adam Cornell, 914 AES
Traci Denofa, 914 AW
Abdulfattah Omar, 914 SVS



Staff Sergeant

Erika Fladt, 914 LRS
Brian Kahmke, 914 MXS



Senior Airman

Lauren Becoats, 914 LRS
Casey Busenbark, 30 APS
Gregory Degregorio, 914 MOF
John Pukalo, 30 APS
Justin Pytlak, 30 APS



Airman 1st Class

Lacey Hansen, 914 AES



Farewell

Tech. Sgt. David Antal, 914 MXS
Lt. Col. David Delorenzo, 914 ASTS
Senior Airman Michael Fine, 30 APS
Tech. Sgt. Jason Gilliland, 30 APS
Master Sgt. Duane Jacobs Jr., 30 APS
Senior Master Sgt. George Lebrun, 914 CES
Tech. Sgt. Jamal Mulkey, 914 CES
Senior Master Sgt. Eric Pressley, 914 CES
Airman 1st Class Ralph Risolo, 914 SVS
Staff Sgt. Regina Thomas, 914 MSG
Tech. Sgt. Carl Wolicki, 914 CS

Recruiting the recruiter

Are you looking for a career that's challenging, exciting, and rewarding? Are you looking for a full-time job and the chance to obtain an active duty retirement? How about a way to give back to the community?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then the Air Force Reserve Recruiting Service may be the answer you have been looking for! 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.

Most military members will always remember their recruiter and Basic Military Training Technical Instructors ... the reason is these individuals assisted in getting you where you are today! You too can help young individuals obtain the money, skills, training and education needed to stand above their peers. While assisting your applicants you will be providing the Air Force Reserve with the Airmen of the future!!!

To qualify for an opportunity to obtain a rewarding, full-time position with great pay and outstanding benefits you must be an active member of the Air Force Reserve, have a 5-skill level and passing PT scores.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact Senior Master Sgt. Pat Muoio, 914th Airlift Wing Senior Recruiter, at (716) 236-3033 or stop in to the recruiting office in building 800, room 121.

The U.S. Air Force Reserve: Stationed locally, serving globally.



Photos by Master. Sgt. Marty Viggato

The Niagara Frontiersman is published monthly for unit members like Staff Sgt. Mary McCarthy, chief of customer service and Staff Sgt. David Thomann of 914th Maintenance Fuels Section. Both have recently returned from overseas deployments.

"Today, we need a nation of Minutemen, citizens who are not only prepared to take arms, but citizens who regard the preservation of freedom as the basic purpose of their daily life and who are willing to consciously work and sacrifice for that freedom." — John F. Kennedy



Complaint Numbers

914 AW IG Hotline: (716) 236-3361
AFRC Hotline: (800) 223-1784



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The 914th Airlift Wing

NIAGARA FRONTIERSMAN



Remember When >>>

Can you Identify who is in this photo, where and when it was taken? Submit your answers to the Public Affairs Office at 914awpa@niagarafalls.af.mil
See future editions of the *Niagara Frontiersman* for more nostalgic photos highlighting the rich history of Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.



Congratulations to the Plans Shop and Master Sgt. Cynthia Brown. They correctly guessed all aspects of last month's photo. From left to right, Gwen Wilson, Lucy Burgard, actor Jeff Daniels, Luann Vanpeurseem and Cynthia Brown. This photo was taken in hangar 850 during the 1995 filming of "Fly Away Home."

