

# The **COYOTE LOG**

Volume 50, Number 6

March 2008

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30th Anniversary of the KC-135 at Forbes

Dining Out Tradition

Medical Group Wins National Award

Spatz Winner for Overall Outstanding ANG Flying Unit

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Winner



# — Thanks for the memories ...

By **Col. Gregg Burden**  
190<sup>th</sup> ARW Commander



This is tough. For the past few weeks I've been trying to formulate an article that effectively conveys my thoughts and feelings about the 190th and my military career. I've started literally dozens of stories but nothing seems to convey the message that I want to send. The Air National Guard and all of you have been my family and home and such a big part of my life for so long, it makes all of this hard to put down in words.

I'll start by saying THANK YOU!!! to everyone who has been or is associated with this great organization. From the moment I joined this unit, my family and I have been welcomed and cared for.

I'll never forget the outstanding help and generosity we received from this unit when my wife went in for gall bladder surgery just a short time after joining. I sensed at the time that this organization was going to be special but I didn't realize just how special at the time.

Years later this organization wrapped their arms around me again when we discovered our son, Jonathan, had diabetes. I was the new Operations Group Commander and riding an emotional roller coaster when everyone reached out to help.

Over the years I've witnessed the amazing generosity of this unit to support those in need....the families of Sam Waldman, Mike O'Toole, Karl Pruett, and many, many others. This commitment to people is what makes this unit so strong.

I need to say THANK YOU!!! again for providing me such wonderful career opportunities. Since the day I joined this unit, I've been challenged with new jobs, projects, PME, and training that have opened my eyes and mind to new ideas and ways of doing business.

People have mentored me along the way and guided me through an amazing career path that I never imagined possible. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would or could be a Support Group Commander. When Lt Col Terry Fritz was selected for Air War College in residence, I was named interim Support Group Commander. I was perfectly happy in the safety office but someone with vision saw this as a growth opportunity in my career progression.

I've been challenged over and over as I moved into the Operations Group Commander position, to the Logistics Group Commander, and now as Wing Commander. I've had the opportunity to work all over this base and work with tremendously talented people. Every job has been a great opportunity and I've thoroughly enjoyed every one.

More than anything, I need to THANK YOU!!! for all the great memories and wonderful friendships that I have developed over the 17 years I've been associated with this unit.

From my first TDY to Bitburg, Germany, to blowing up an engine departing Okinawa, multiple tours supporting Northern Watch, roughing it in Pisa, Italy and southern France, the redeployment from Turkey to England to support the Kosovo Campaign, to drinking beer and eating reindeer steaks with friends in Norway, all of you have made my time with the

190th such a wonderful experience.

As I leave this great organization I will take with me amazing stories and friendships but my hope is that I leave behind enduring programs, strong leadership, and an adaptable workforce capable of confronting the challenges that lay ahead.

I firmly believe we have developed into the best tanker unit in the Air National Guard and probably the best unit in the Air National Guard. All of us have a lot to be proud of but I challenge all of you to continue the hard work and effort in order to sustain the high levels you have achieved. This unit is truly the "Standard of Excellence" and I proudly salute all of you!

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## **On the cover:**

190th firefighters battle a training blaze while on deployment in Idaho.

*(Photo submitted)*

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# KC-135 marks 30 years at Forbes

**By Master Sgt. Greg Burnetta and  
Master Sgt. Bill Gilliland**

*190<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs / 190th History Office*

March 22, 1978 was a bittersweet day as it marked the beginning of a new era at the 190th Defense Systems Evaluation Group. It was that day the first KC-135A Stratotanker landed at mid morning, with a thunderstorm in the distance, marking the first step in the transition to becoming the 190th Air Refueling Group.

Tanker #60-362 was on loan from the Air Force to be used as a maintenance trainer so that the changeover to the new mission could begin in earnest. After all, Airmen in the shops all over the base had to literally learn their jobs from scratch. Supply had to stock an almost entirely new range of supplies to support the new mission. The difference between the soon to depart B-57's and the incoming KC-135's was dramatic.

Along with the new jet was a change to the Strategic Air Command (SAC). "We went from being part of Aerospace Defense Command (ADC) to being part of SAC, which was a really big change," said Col. Kerry Taylor, one of the few remaining 190th members who was part of the unit at the beginning of the tanker era. "We went from a casual work environment with no inspections to the strictest organization in the Air Force."

Taylor was a crew chief on the propeller driven C-131 housed at Forbes during this transition period. "I left the C-131 and transferred to working on the KC-135 in order to gain jet experience," he said. "My commander said I should work on jets if I wanted to become a pilot." Taylor has been named Vice-Commander of the 190th ARW and will assume that position later this month.

The Kansas Adjutant General at

the time, Maj. Gen. Edward R. Fry, said he was "delighted" at the mission change. "This is what we've been looking for," said Fry. "I think it's time the unit got a new mission. The selection of the 190th to help fill the vital refueling role is an accomplishment to the unit and the people in it."

Col. William S. Mahler, 190th Group Commander at the time of the changeover, was also supportive of the mission change. "I consider this to be the prestige mission in the Air National Guard, one that presents many rewards and corresponding challenges," said Mahler. An editorial in the Topeka Capital Journal several days later titled "On a Mighty Mission" praised the 190th and its new mission.

On May 12, 1978, KC-135A #61-0280 landed at Forbes, on loan from the Air Force. It was this tanker that flew the unit's first operational mission on May 25th with Col. Malher at the controls. The first of the assigned tankers, #57-0495 arrived on June 2, 1978, and by late August, the 190th had its full

complement of eight KC-135As. It was July 8, 1978, that the unit officially became the 190th Air Refueling Group and the 190th Defense Systems Evaluations Group ceased to exist.

March and April were exciting times at the 190th, converting to the KC-135, recruiting almost 200 new members, retraining of the existing Guardsmen, and to make it even more interesting, a new Dining Facility opened in May, a new Fire Station was to be built, and Vehicle Maintenance was getting a new facility also. Remodeling of the hangers was proceeding to accommodate the new tankers, and Security Forces had a new and more exciting mission guarding the new alert mission that the 190th would soon assume.

On April 18, 1978, less than one month after the arrival of the first tanker to the 190th, the last B-57 left the unit. It was transferred to the Vermont Air National Guard, leaving 20 years to the day of the arrival of the first B-57 in Hutchinson.



**Off on a "mighty mission"**

Col. William S. Mahler, 190th Group Commander, steps aboard one of the first KC-135s stationed at Forbes and flown by the 190th.

*(190th ARW Historian archive photo)*

# — Medical Group named ANG's outstanding unit

**By 1st Lt. Joe Blubaugh**  
*190<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs*

The 190th Medical Group has been awarded the 2007 Theodore C. Marrs Award as the outstanding medical unit in the Air National Guard (ANG). The award is presented to the top ANG medical unit for their contributions to the ANG Medical Services. The 190th last won the award in 1984.

Chief Master Sgt. Howard Steanson says the Medical Group has a variety of strengths, but the unique EMEDS mission and the unit's involvement with replacing the Greensburg hospital after a devastating tornado has helped differentiate them from the other 87 medical groups in the ANG.

However, Medical Group leadership is quick to point out that the EMEDS mission is not just their

effort. "We receive an immense amount of support from other members of the 190th," said Lt. Col. Tim Stevens. "The Wing and Civil Engineering are key players in the EMEDS success."

Medical Group Commander Lt. Col. Janet Hanson says the unit's reputation played a significant role in receiving the award. "We are well respected throughout the ANG and are always one of the leaders in medical readiness." Having eight individuals recognized at the national level over the last several years has also elevated the unit's reputation added Hanson.

"We've always known how much hard work we do, but it is nice to be recognized by the Air National Guard," said Hanson. "But it is a base effort and it is great to have the support of the base to help us."



## *Caught on film*



### **Neither rain, nor sleet, nor snow...**

The 190th CE Squadron works to clear the ramp after a January snowstorm dumped seven inches of snow in the Topeka area.

*(Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Rob Bolin)*



Children and adults alike enjoyed their "trip" to Hawaii during Kids Understanding Deployment Operations (KUDOS) at the February UTA.

*(Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mandy Johnson)*

Master Sgt. Tina Perkins has been awarded the 2007 Military Relations Person of the Year award, which recognizes those who contribute substantially to the community.

She was nominated by her commander, Lt. Col. Joel Darbro due to her accomplishment at the 190th.

Perkins has consistently performed well on audits and inspections. She also participated in state disaster relief in Greensburg.

Perkins has also volunteered more than 2,000 hours in the past three years with the YWCA Battered Women's Taskforce. In addition, she regularly works with her son's school as well as participating in a variety of activities, such as food drives.

"It was a neat opportunity, especially meeting the mayor who is a former Marine," Perkins said.

The Military Relations Person of the Year award is presented by the Topeka City Council and rewards one member of each military branch in Topeka as a reward for not only contributing to the state, but to the community.

# State HRA perspective

**By Chief Master Sgt. Phil Mahan**

*State Human Resource Advisor*

I was selected as the new state human resource advisor just two months ago, yet it seems that it could have been a year. The pace at which activities occur in the guard seem to be in high tempo.

Coming from the 190th ARW, the activities of that base are familiar to me. I have been concentrating on providing assistance to 184th HRA, Senior Master Sgt Danny Walker. Due to the mission change at the 184th, many former maintenance and support personnel are looking at a much different career path.

Col. Roebuck has been forward thinking through the development of a plan on retraining and attracting those with technical skills to come on board with their new mission to support our Soldiers and Airmen on the ground in Southwest Asia.

Butler Community College in El Dorado and Andover has National Security Administration (NSA) approval for computer security and forensics training that is critically needed for their new mission. Senior Master Sgt. Walker met with the Associate Dean for Career and Techni-

cal Education recently to help the cause. From here, he will be an important part of the quest to fill many intelligent and computer security slots.

Col. Burden of the 190th has announced his retirement in March, but leaves a legacy of a great plan for the future of the 190th. After the BRAC announcement and subsequent arrival of the KC-135R models, Col. Burden and senior leadership worked with those from the 184th in filling important slots in Topeka.

Moving on to Joint Forces Headquarters, the tempo is no less static than at the Wing level, the future holds some important training. Diversity Champions training initiated at the National Guard level is coming in April. It has not yet been made mandatory training by NGB, but it could be in the future.

Diversity Champions is tied directly to leadership training. I have not personally been in the class, but it is similar to other leadership classes I have had over the years and I believe it will be a tremendous opportunity for our state. Mid level supervisors sometimes do not get all of the leadership training to help prepare

them to become quality senior leaders. I believe the Diversity Champions has a good blend of diversity and leadership components that will strengthen our already strong state.

While seating for the Diversity Champions is limited, I hope that there will be opportunity for some of the personnel of the 184th and 190th to participate. I will soon have a good head count and will then let points of contact at each Wing have an idea of how many can sign up from their respective areas. This Diversity Champion initiative will be held at Nickel Armory, in Topeka, room 115 from April 7 – 9, 2008.

The Virtual Personnel Center-Guard Reserve (vPC-GR) is a secure Web site which enables members of the ANG to access many personnel services from anywhere with Internet access, 24-7. Please register today.



<http://arpc.afrc.af.mil>

1-800-525-0102

Why wait  
in line?

## Moser wins “Gold Badge” Award

**By Staff Sgt. Emily Alley**

*190<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs*

Retention Office Manager Master Sgt. Scott Moser counsels almost a thousand people and manages a budget of several million dollars. It's a hard job, but Moser is officially one of the best in the nation.

Moser recently won the regional Outstanding Rookie Retention Office Manager of the Year award and is now authorized to wear the Gold Badge, an accouterment signifying the award.

“It's tough competition,” Moser said. “I won because the base allowed me to do my job. I get a lot of good backing.”

He contended regionally with nine

other states that entered nominees, including Moser's instructor from his retention office manager's course.

Moser's work with Unit Career Advisors improved unit retention rates, which has kept the 190th ARW fully staffed over the past year and reduced retraining costs. He also created a Retention Office and Unit Career Advisor portal, a comprehensive retention website.

Moser thrives on the ability be creative, and develop programs to encourage unit members to continue to reenlist. His innovation has been emulated by his colleagues.

“We feed off each other,” said Moser. “We share things.”

Moser says that being copied has

been his greatest complement. More than 70 of his peers have begun using programs he developed.



# —Portrait of an Airman

## SENIOR AIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KIEFFER



**Organization:** 190th ARW/LGRVO

**Job Title:** Vehicle operator/dispatcher

**Main Responsibility:** Passenger cargo support and tractor trailer service

**Civilian Career:** Student and swim teacher

**Education:** Sophomore at Washburn University

**Military Experience:** 29 months as a traditional Guardsman with the 190th.

**Goals and Ambitions:** Graduate from college with degree in nursing. Become an officer in Medical Squadron of the 190th ARW.

**Hobbies and Activities:** Swimming, working out, volleyball and watching movies.

**Most Memorable 190th Moment:** Returning to MCI after 6 months in Iraq to see loved ones waiting for me.

## — Dining Out - A military tradition

**By Chief Master Sgt. Chris Noe**  
*190<sup>th</sup> Communications Flight*



It's that time of year again - time for the 190th ARW's Dining Out. We have a lot of new Airmen in the unit and I have been asked a number of times, "What is the Dining Out and why should I go?"

The tradition of the Dining Out started in the 1930's where it began as the Dining In with General H. "Hap" Arnold's wing-dings. The ceremony is a time-honored tradition, and has most often been a formal dinner exclusively for the members of a wing, unit or organization.

A Dining Out, however, is a relatively new twist on this custom, brought about to include spouses and guests, so they can participate as part of the Air Force family. The 190th Dining Out is an occasion for all Airmen, both officers and enlisted, and their spouses to meet socially at a formal military function.

The evening begins with a social hour, where everyone congregates out-

side the banquet room to socialize. The ringing of the chimes signals the end of the social hour and everyone proceeds inside the banquet room to their table to await the arrival of the head table and color guard.

Once the head table is seated, a more formal atmosphere of tradition and respect takes hold and the mess falls under certain codes of conduct. Upon the posting of the colors, a myriad of toasts for appropriate dignitaries and distinguished guests are given. A respectful silence falls over the mess as the final toast is given for the POW/MIA table, recognizing those comrades who cannot join us for the event.

Maintaining formality, but on a lighter note, the grog bowl is introduced in a unique fashion. The history of the grog dates back more than 350 years, which some would say is the age of the ingredients it's made of, and the more unappealing, the better. An infraction of the rules, which can vary from improper wear of the uniform to bringing in an unwelcome drink to the mess, may warrant a trip to the grog bowl for an Airman if a fellow Airman brings the violation to the President's

attention.

However, the sender may be required to accompany the accused if he does not present the infraction in a manner deemed acceptable by the President. The "sending" to the grog bowl could, in itself last a good portion of the evening, but must draw to a close to honor the guest speaker.

The 190th has had the honor of having guest speakers ranging from former astronauts who have walked on the moon, to NCAA football head coaches, to politicians. This year, the mess will have the pleasure of having Kansas Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh as the guest speaker.

As the formal portion of the evening comes to a close, respect and appreciation is given to the guest speaker, the colors are retired and the atmosphere relaxes as the dance begins.

The purpose of the 190th Dining Out is to enhance unit esprit de corps, and allow all in attendance to forge bonds of friendship and better working relations through an atmosphere of good fellowship.

# For Your Information

## Promotions

**MSgt**  
Deanna D. Davis, MOF



**TSgt**  
Anthony G. Harbour, LRS  
James J. Norris, 117th ARS  
Robert D. Ogan, CES  
Matthew R. Wisner, MXS  
Travis J. Schuler, CES  
Elisha M. Smith, HQ



**SSgt**  
Austin J. Breuninger, OSF  
Crystal Y. Crews, MXS  
Renee D. Snyder, CES  
Mindy L. Willis, SFS  
Cale R. Yost, OSF



**SrA**  
Luke A. Broxterman, MXS  
Edward A. Korneman, LRS  
Jamie U. Nishimura, CES  
Christopher S. Wolf, MXS



## 2008 Airmen of the year

**Airman Category:**  
SSgt Stacy Boddington

**NGAKS Outstanding  
Airman of the Year:**  
SSgt Stacy Boddington

**First Sergeant of the Year:**  
SMSgt Tom Hren

**190th ARW Change of  
Command Ceremony:  
8 March 2008  
0900 in Hanger 662**



## Officer Appointments

**Capt**  
Darin E. Coash, MDG  
Kevin Dark, 117th ARS  
Jeremy R. Egly, MDG



**2Lt**  
Darren D. Dixon, MDG



## Retirements

MSgt Michael Lowe, SFS  
Retirement Date: 1 Feb 08

MSgt Stephen Manker, MXS  
Retirement Date: 11 Feb 08

MSgt Dennis Moriaty, LRS  
Retirement Date: 1 Feb 08

## UTA Dining Hall Schedule

The following list below is the Dining Hall Facility meal schedule for units assigned to the 190th Air Refueling Wing and State Headquarters:

**1100:** MXG, LGS, OG, MSF, 117ARS  
**1130:** LGM, HQ, AMXS & MSG  
**1200:** MDG, CES, SFS, MOF, 127WF, JFHQ  
Dining Facility hours of operation are 1100-1300. Please ensure you adhere to the above schedule to minimize wait time.

## Coyote Cafe March 2008 Menu

### Saturday

Chicken fried chicken breast, mashed potatoes and gravy, dinner rolls, salad bar, chocolate and carrot cake

### Sunday

Turkey, roast beef or ham sandwiches, cheese, lettuce, sliced tomato and onion, buttered corn, desert

### Hotel of the Month

#### Ramada Inn

Must check in prior to 1800 hours or your reservation will be canceled.

## Airman's Attic Opening at Forbes

The Airman's Attic is a free exchange of items that Airman are in need of. You can find an Airman's Attic at any active duty installation.

Currently there is a need for maternity uniforms. If you have serviceable maternity uniforms you can assist another airman by dropping them off at Bldg. 2000, to MSgt Terry Martin.

## Enlistments

SSgt Emily M. Breitbach, MXSRS  
Enlistment Date: 4 Jan 08

SSgt Crystal L. Cronley, MDG  
Enlistment Date: 5 Jan 08

SSgt Benjamin D. Fulton, AMXS  
Enlistment Date: 7 Jan 08

SSgt Bridget C. Legrand, SFS  
Enlistment Date: 4 Jan 08

AB Ulric L. Baumgardner, SFS  
Enlistment Date: 4 Jan 08

AB Matthew B. Dillon, AMXS  
Enlistment Date: 17 Jan 08

AB Carmela I. Remboldt, OSF  
Enlistment Date: 15 Jan 08

## 190th Chapel Services

The Base Chapel is located on the 3rd floor of Hangar 662.

Protestant:  
0800 - 0830 Sun

Catholic:  
1345 - 1415 Sun

Latter Day Saints:  
1100 - 1130 Sun



Looking for an opportunity to learn more about the 190th - the past, present and future? PACK is for you!

The 2008 PACK meeting will be held on April 25 - 26, 2008. Friday's event will take place at the Kansas Historical Museum (6425 SW 6th Street) and the Saturday event will take place in the Topeka Holiday Inn.

This organization is (as its name implies - Past & Active Coyotes of Kansas) a group of men and women associated with the 190th. Membership cost for PACK is \$3.00/year. Membership dues are included in the cost for those who attend the weekend activities.



	Single	Couple
Entire weekend	\$35.00	\$60.00
Friday night only	\$20.00	\$25.00
Saturday night only	\$30.00	\$50.00

# Coyote Heritage



March 1978 was a very exciting time at the 190th Defense Systems Evaluation Group. The new Dinning Facility would be open soon, the new Fire Station was also about to open, and Vehicle Maintenance had a new facility. But most importantly, Air Refueling was coming to Forbes Field.

It had been learned late in the summer of 1977 that the Kansas Coyotes would soon have a new mission, one that would be far different from the one that they had for the last few years. More than 200 new positions would be added to the 190th as a part of the new mission.

March 22, 1978 is a milestone in the history of the 190th. It was the day the first tanker landed at Forbes Field as a part of the Kansas Air National Guard. 60-0362 was a KC-135A that was to be used as a trainer for the maintenance troops and would be essential to the changeover from the B-57 that the Kansas Coyotes

had become so familiar with. While this particular tanker would not become part of the group of eight tankers that would make up the roster of 190th jets, it was the first KC-135 to land at Forbes as part of the changeover.

Maintenance needs of the tanker were very different than those of the B-57's. The 190th ground crew were required to have extensive training and testing prior to being able to even recover the new jets once they landed. This training took place on the practice jet so that when the first of the assigned tankers arrived, they could be parked and recovered by the troops that they were assigned to. Most of the Guardsmen of the unit had no experience with the tankers, and this would give them an opportunity to become familiar with the KC-135 before they would have to fix one with lives on the line.



Please record your story and send it to the historian's office at: 190<sup>th</sup> Historian, 5920 SE Coyote Dr., Topeka, KS 66619-5370.



The Coyote Log  
190th ARW Public Affairs  
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Forbes Field (ANG)  
Topeka, KS 66619-5370  
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Topeka Ks

To The Coyote Family of:

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Military Members: visit vMPF to update your address  
Retirees & Civilians: email coyotelog@kstope.ang.af.mil

