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THE COYOTE LOG

190th ARW celebrates the holidays in style

By Tech. Sgt. Emily Alley
190th Public Affairs

Capt. Jack Sparrow was one of several captains at Forbes Field during the December UTA, but he wasn't wearing ABUs. He, a clown, and a road runner- the Topeka hockey team mascot- were among dozens of characters, volunteers and vendors that greeted Airmen and guests at the 2011 Wing holiday party.

The families were also visited by St. Nick himself. "Santa was very friendly, Mrs. Clause was beautiful," said Capt. Janet Peterson, Chief of Intelligence at the 190th Air Refueling Wing, after she stepped off the stage to visit them.

More than 500 Airmen and family members braved a cold, wet day to enjoy the party. There were activities like free massages, video game tournaments and face painting, as well as many activities for younger children. Holiday snacks, drinks and entertainment from a local dance academy and Girl Scout troop helped keep the holiday spirit high.

"I love the holiday party," said Master Sgt. Lucretia Williams, from the Civil Engineering Squadron. "My kids are grown up, so I bring my grandchildren." Williams' grandson, A.J., asked Santa for a remote control airplane.

This year's party was supported by two local JROTC detachments from Topeka High and Topeka West High Schools. The more than two dozen teenagers provided assistance from serving food and running video game tournaments, to helping keep young children safe on the inflatable obstacle courses.

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See Holiday Party

The Oath of Office: More than just words

By Lt. Col. Mark Green
Commander, 190th Civil Engineering Squadron

One of the honors I perform as a commissioned officer is delivering the Oath of Office during enlistments and reenlistments into the Kansas Air National Guard. For me, it is one of the most rewarding activities I perform and one that I take very seriously.

For the most part, in Civil Engineering, we have always tried to have one of our officers perform the ceremony. It is a time that we can start the individual off on the right track, look them in their eyes, and conclude with a good handshake. It is also an opportunity to speak with those family members and friends in attendance, thank them for their efforts to date and reassure them that our "newest" member will be treated well and welcomed.

It gives us a chance to visit about what to expect, how annual training and deployments occur, and answer any of their questions and concerns. If they bring a younger sibling to the event I typically ascertain their age and, based on the response, give them a timeline to come back and see us.

As I deliver the oath I am always reminded about the uniqueness of the National Guard and in particular how our oath is distinct from the other 54 states and territories and certainly from our active duty counterparts. Let's look more closely:

I, state your name. So far so good.

Do solemnly swear. Now we are getting serious. The *American Heritage Dictionary* indicates one meaning of solemnly is "of impressive and serious nature" and the word "swear" is synonymous with vow.

That I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the state of Kansas. A couple things happen here – our roles are being defined and we commit ourselves to the defense of the nation as well as align ourselves with the ideas of the founding fathers.

We also now start to set the distinction between active duty and Guard, in that we also commit and align with Kansas and in essence become the state militia.

Against all enemies foreign and domestic. The previous sentence sets our roles and this sentence tells us the who. I like to take this one step further, especially as it relates to our state response to disasters and use a loose definition of enemies to not only include combatants but to also include our "natural disaster" enemies that can leave similar affects to the populations we serve.

That I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same. This portion provides a deeper level of commitment to our duties, and that the combined dictionary meanings of bear, faith, and allegiance are indicative of an unquestioning loyalty and support towards the Constitution we have sworn to defend.

And that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the Governor of Kansas. This continues to set the distinction between being a title 10 vs. title 32 asset and establishes our commander and chief dependent upon the situation.

This is an extremely important issue as our status determines what lawful actions we can perform. Some of us are aware of the Posse Comitatus Act of 1878 that was passed with the intent of removing the Army from domestic law enforcement. It was in response to the post Civil War occupation of the southern states primarily to enforce polices of the reconstruction era. The act applies to Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marines including their reserve components, but it does not apply to the Coast Guard or the National Guard.

As a Guardsman responding to disasters in Kansas or CONUS we are typically in either state active duty or title 32 and controlled by the respective governor. In international responses and COCOM support we are in title 10 status and are a federal asset. These differences are important to understand and leverage for the use of the National Guard in homeland defense – we are flexible!

And the orders of the officers appointed over me according to law and regulations. This provides the authority to the officers you serve – most often we are in an environment where collaboration can occur to set the next best course – this line reminds us that there are occasions that an order will be given, and we have made a promise to follow, without hesitation or question.

So help me God. This last sentence has some small variations in meaning – the ones I share are "on my honor" and "I swear what I am saying is true", indicating that the entire oath will be upheld and reflective of my inner core – can't ask for more than that!

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On the cover:
Members of the 190th ARW and their families enjoy the annual holiday party during the December UTA.
(photos by Master Sgt. Allen Pickert and Tech. Sgt. Mandy Johnson. Graphic design by SSgt. Jake Meyer)

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Happy 375th birthday to the National Guard

The origin of the nation's state National Guard organizations sprang from the forming of militia in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in the early 17th century.

The Massachusetts colony was founded in 1630. At that time, more than 5,000 men, women, and children had made the two-month voyage to the New World, leaving the relative comfort and safety of England behind in an effort to break free of religious intolerance, and to manage their communities the way they saw fit.

In doing so, their actions tread new ground in the country that would become the United States of America.

The military organization we know today as the National Guard came into existence with a direct declaration on Dec. 13, 1636, when the Massachusetts General Court in Salem established that all able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60 were required to join the militia.

The outposts were austere, and the colony relied upon male pioneers to provide food, shelter, and defensive protection. Even with all available hands working, this was difficult. Worse, the nearby Pequot Indian tribe proved a restless and unpredictable neighbor, leaving the Massachusetts colonists vulnerable to guerilla-style attacks that could decimate the fledgling settlements. In an environment rife with disease, poor sanitation, and harsh weather conditions, all able-bodied members of the Massachusetts colony pulled together out of necessity.

Self-sufficiency proved instrumental. In the New World, hiring mercenary fighters in the European tradition to ward off Indian attacks would be impossible. Governing and policing the settlement would have to be left to the colonists themselves.

The militia system of self defense proved successful. Soon after the militia was established in Massachusetts, the entire New England region defended itself against the aggression of the Pequot nation. Other colonies such as Connecticut and Rhode Island mustered militia units, and succeeded in forcing the Pequots to capitulate in 1638. Ultimately, the militia enlisted from the many small villages proved a strong component in building confidence for the settlement as a whole.

Other colonial settlements in North America such as those in Florida, Virginia, and New Mexico utilized military protection to allow settlers safe passage and defend against aggressors, but Massachusetts proved to be the first to have its government establish and raise a militia of continuous service. That legal precedent and record of service has remained continuous and unbroken, no matter the change in each unit's function as a part of the militia or National Guard. This distinction qualifies it as the birthplace of the militia in the United States.

Much has changed since 1636, but one thing has not: the National Guard still consists of citizen-Soldiers and Airmen providing assistance during natural disasters, training regularly to uphold high standards of readiness, and deploying to far-away countries to protect the United States' national interests.

Although America's growth and expansion has made it a large military force around the world, the National Guard remains a community cornerstone -- just as it did when it was born on Dec. 13, 1636.

Holiday party - cont.

"The dedication and hard work of the JROTC cadets afforded our members the opportunity to enjoy the party," said Adrienne Dickey, Airman and Family Readiness Program Manager and the event's planner. In past events, almost all volunteers working at the party had been 190th members or their families, which meant they couldn't enjoy the party to its fullest.

Many of this year's activities were designed for younger children, said Dickey. She chose activities designed to appeal to children, while next year's event will be more directed to adult Airmen and their spouses. This was Dickey's first year to plan the wing's holiday party and she said she'd received compliments for how well it went. She's confident she set the bar well…for her first event.

'Operation Coyote Claus' enjoys a successful first year

By Tech. Sgt. Emily Alley
190th Public Affairs

Three families from the 190th had a Christmas dinner and presents because of the generosity of other wing members and the community.

"I was really happy to be a part of it," said Airman 1st Class Sarah Marsh, who helped coordinate the program. "It's one thing to give, but these were people who needed it, deserved it, and they appreciated it."

The names of the families are kept anonymous, but are members of the Wing who have experienced challenges over the past year such as unemployment and medical problems.

Many areas within the 190th adopt families independent from the Wing, but Ms. Adrienne Dickey, Airman and Family Programs Coordinator, organized Coyote Claus because she was inundated with requests for families to sponsor. She chose the name to reflect generosity.

"Santa represents the idea of giving, so 'Coyote Claus' represents the generous spirit of the 190th," said Dickey.

It was not just members of the 190th, however, who supported the families. Outside organizations approached Dickey requesting to sponsor a military family for the holidays. Many groups, such as the American Legion, VFW, Osage City Middle School and even a plastic surgeon contacted her.

Aurora Plastic and Hand Surgery of Lee's Summit, Missouri, donated nearly $1400 worth of gifts, groceries and a holiday meal to the program. Lt. Col. Eric Shoenberg of the 190th Medical Group, works for the surgeon's office and was instrumental in connecting the office with the 190th and Operation Coyote Claus.

Families were given other gifts and groceries, as well as practical items like toothbrushes and toothpaste. When Dickey and Marsh went shopping for the items many of the stores even offered them discounts. Children were given sets of clothes and socks.

"We hit every area. It wasn't just for kids, there were things for adults. They got family games, they got towels if that's what they needed," said Dickey.

She also collected food for the families, such as potatoes, pies, vegetables, ham and a turkey. Each family received a $100 gift certificate to a grocery store, also. With the two meats and gift certificate, Dickey hoped the families had leftovers and supplies to last after their Christmas dinners were over.

She was impressed with the generosity that made Coyote Claus possible.

"What's been most rewarding is seeing how much this was appreciated. It's nice to see, not tears of frustration, but tears of joy."

NGB announces peer-to-peer counseling service

The National Guard unveiled its Vets4Warriors service members' counseling program at a Capitol Hill ceremony Dec. 13.

Vets4Warriors is a toll-free, peer-to-peer counseling hotline that provides Guard members and Reserve component members with the ability to speak with counselors on the phone or online.

The counselors are former service members who can provide a wide variety of tools to help today's service members.

The hotline enables members of any Reserve component to call the center 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to discuss with a peer counselor any issues, challenges or problems they may have.

Having a program dedicated to strictly anonymous, peer-to-peer counseling is a key step in letting people know there's no stigma in asking for help.

Once the service member reaches out to Vets4Warriors, the counselor will try to match them to any of the resources available.

The helpline is staffed with people selected for their counseling skills who are willing to share their backgrounds and experiences to help service members resolve their problems more effectively.

Vets4Warriors is not a suicide prevention hotline, nor is it intended to provide clinical behavioral health services.

To learn more about Vets4Warriors, or to speak with a counselor, service and family members can call the Vets4Warriors toll-free hotline at 1-855-VET-TALK (838-8255) or go to the Vets4Warriors website www.vets4warriors.com.

1-855-838-8255 (1-855-VET-TALK)
www.vets4warriors.com

190th Airmen of the Year

Airman Category: Senior Airman Morgan Burns
127th Weather Flight

NCO Category: Tech. Sgt. Brian Dodds
190th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

SNCO Category: Senior Master Sgt. Doug Copeland
190th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

First Sgt. Category: Master Sgt. Troy Abel
190th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Caught on film

Nearly 100 cadets from the Civil Air Patrol board one of two 190th KC-135s for an orientation flight. The cadets represented 11 states while attending a winter encampment in Salina. *(photos by SGT Michael Mathewson)*

—Portrait of an Airman

Airman First Class Terence Gallagher

Organization: 190th Medical Group

Job Title: Medical Logistics Technician

Main Responsibilities: Ensure medical personnel have the proper supplies needed to carry out the mission.

Education: Premedical student at the University of Kansas.

Military Experience: 1½ years as a Medical Logistics Tech at the 190th ARW.

Hobbies/Activities: Riding my motorcycle, golfing and watching football on Sundays.

Goals/Ambitions: I want to earn my degree in Biochemistry from KU continuing on into medical school and earn commission.

Most Memorable 190th Moment: Being involved in the October mass casualty exercise and getting to interact with others I hadn't had a chance to before the exercise.

— Security Forces return from Afghanistan deployment

By Tech. Sgt. Emily Alley
190th Public Affairs

A group of deployed Security Forces members safely returned from Afghanistan in mid-October.

The 18 Airmen provided security at Bagram Airfield and their responsibilities included supervising the automated security system, guarding gates and runways and responding to incidents.

Originally, their tasking would have taken them off-base. They began training for outside-the-wire missions. During predeployment training, however, the group was re-tasked to secure Bagram Airfield.

"Everyone wants outside the wire adventures," said Master Sergeant Mark Peterson, who said some of his Airmen were disappointed to have a change in mission. "But they maintained a good attitude and that goes a long way."

Staff Sergeant Brian Beatty still got the chance to put his training to use while on a routine patrol on the runway at Bagram. He was driving when there was a sudden rocket attack. A rocket exploded about 20 feet from his vehicle and hit an aircraft. Beatty pulled his truck around and gave emergency medical treatment to another staff sergeant by pulling a tourniquet on his gashed leg and dressing his neck wound.

Beatty said the staff sergeant had just been promoted that day. They found his new rank had fallen off his uniform and was lying, covered in blood, on the ground. With Beatty's help, the staff sergeant was able to get quick medical treatment and was doing fine.

"He didn't hesitate," said Master Sergeant Brett Higginbotham, the senior enlisted security forces member on the deployment, of Beatty's performance during the deployment. "It's the type of thing I'd expect from any of them, we did stellar work."

Higginbotham explained that in Afghanistan, particularly in the security forces career field, accidents and disciplinary actions can be common. However, none of the members of the 190th ARW Security Forces Squadron were hurt or reprimanded.

"No one got in trouble. We had professionalism, we stayed motivated and did phenomenal work," Higginbotham added. "To come out without anybody getting hurt, I couldn't be happier."

The deployment was not what they had originally planned on, but it was a job well done.

COYOTE BRICK

Show your unit pride by purchasing an engraved brick to create a walkway around the B-57 or KC-135 displays at the Kansas National Guard Museum. Bricks are $20 and available from the First Sergeant Council.

For Your Information

Promotions

SENIOR AIRMAN
Jordan A. Hunt, MDG
Elizabeth J. Pollard, LRS
Randall J. Lord, AMXS
Michael G. Deever, AMXS
Nicholas E. Coffman, AMXS

STAFF SERGEANT
Jeremiah N. Sutton, MDG
Brian W. Roberts, MDG

MASTER SERGEANT
Dustin M. Ward, LRS

FIRST LIEUTENANT
Derek M. Craig, 117 ARS

CAPTAIN
Leslie J. Bolz, 190 OG
William D. Thomas, 117 ARS

Church Services

All services are in building 662, third floor next to the Starbase classroom on Sundays of the UTA.

Protestant @ 8 a.m.
Church of Latter Day Saints @ 11 a.m.
Catholic confession @ 1:30 p.m.
Catholic mass @ 1:45 p.m.

New Dining Facility Schedule

The following list is the Dining Facility meal schedule for units assigned to the 190th ARW & JFHQ:

1030 - MXG (B)/MDG
1100 - CE/CF/WF
1130 - LRS, OG
1200 - MXG (A)/JFHQ
1230 - Wing HQ/SFS/MSG

Appointments/Enlistments

AB Justin L. Petrei, SF
Enlistment/Assignment Date: November 17

AB Ryan Reyes, SFS
Enlistment/Assignment Date: October 27

AB Isaac Remboldt, AMXS
Enlistment/Assignment Date: November 9

A1C Sarah A. Coffey, LRS
Enlistment/Assignment Date: November 8

A1C Robert P. Brady, FSS
Enlistment/Assignment Date: November 14

A1C Joshua A. Davis, MXS
Enlistment/Assignment Date: October 27

A1C Fabian C. Medrano, MXS
Enlistment/Assignment Date: November 5

SrA Trent N. Tidwell, MXS
Enlistment/Assignment Date: November 9

TSG Seth L. Davis, JFHQ
Enlistment/Assignment Date: October 24

Master Sgt. Opening

Wing Safety has an immediate opening for a Ground/Weapons Safety NCO for all interested traditional E-7s, E-6s or immediately promotable E-5s that meet the following entry-level requirements:

- Prior qualification at the 5-skill level (3-skill level if no 5 level exists) in any AFSC
- Normal color vision as defined in AFI 48-143 Medical Examination and Standards
- Qualification to operate a government vehicle according to AFI 24-301, Vehicle Operations.
- Ability to speak distinctly
- Ability to write effectively
- ASVAB General score of 55 or higher

Please submit a RIP from vMPF, your most recent passing fitness test and a resume and cover letter to the Wing Safety Office, or email them to dena.swisher@ang.af.mil, no later than 1500 January 12, 2012.

There will be a Wing Commander's Call at 0800 on Saturday, March 3, in Building 662. All families and retired members are invited to attend.

Retirements

Col Kathryn Hulse, JFHQ
Retirement Date: November 1, 2011

MSgt. Michael Molter, MSG
Retirement Date: November 11, 2011

Coyote Grill
January UTA Menu

Saturday, January 7
Chicken cordon bleu, spaghetti with sauce, mashed potatoes, carrots, rolls, vegetable soup, pizza, chocolate cake, cookies, salad bar and fruit.

Sunday, January 8
Burritos, enchiladas, rice, beans, corn, green beans, rolls, vegetable soup, pizzas, chocolate cake, cookies, salad bar and fruit.

Wear it or Walk!
Please wear your seat belts at all times! It is not only an Air Force and DOD directive – it's Kansas law.

The Coyote Log
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To The Coyote Family of:

Moving? Don't forget to update your address:
Military Members: visit vMPF to update your address.
Retirees & Civilians: email 190ARW.PA.CoyoteLog@ang.af.mil. Please allow 2-3 months for updates to reflect on your log.