



# 129th Rescue Wing's March Rescue e-Gram

908 Lives Saved

*These Things We Do...That Others May Live*

## The UCI results are in

by Capt. Alyson M. Teeter

129th Rescue Wing Public Affairs

The 129th Rescue Wing wrapped up its week-long Air Combat Command Unit Compliance Inspection here Feb. 9, with a majority of wing sections receiving satisfactory results.

There is no overarching pass or fail grade for ACC UCIs. Instead, critical compliance objectives, or key areas for mission success, were looked at and graded on a "complies," "complies with comments" or "does not comply" scale. According to the UCI report, 91% of the wing's critical compliance objectives were in compliance.

"Overall, the Inspector General team confirmed that the wing is functioning well," said Col. Amos Bagdasarian, 129th Rescue Wing Commander. "There are areas that need improvement and we're focused on resolving these deficiencies."

During the course of the inspection, 55 ACC IG team members met with unit personnel to discuss how their areas operate. The IG team used ACC and Air National Guard staff-approved Compliance and Standardization Requirements Lists to verify the unit's compliance with public law, executive orders, and higher headquarters directives, according to the UCI report.

If a divergence from the applicable standards was noted by an inspector, they didn't just write a big red X in the "does not comply" category.

"The IG team's goal was to validate and also educate," Colonel Bagdasarian said. "Inspectors offered solutions to help resolve discrepancies and improve processes."

This was the first ACC UCI for the 129th since it transferred from Air Force Special Operations Command in 2006.

"I want to thank everyone for their hard work and many hours spent preparing for the inspection," Colonel Bagdasarian said. "I'm also proud of your professionalism displayed during the inspection - the IG team appreciated everyone's helpful demeanor and positive attitude."

Teams and personnel recognized for superior performance are as follows:

Intelligence Team, 129th OSF

Travel Pay Team, 129th RQW

Capt Timothy J. Barber, 130th RQS

2nd Lt. Johnathon E. McCashland, 129th RQS

Senior Master Sgt. Neal B. Crisman, 129th FSF

Senior Master Sgt. Darryl B. Dyson, 129th LRS

Master Sgt. Fred M. Baluyot, Jr., 129th LRS

Master Sgt. Ronald S. Blancas, 129th FSF  
Master Sgt. Marc A. Brouillard, 129th FSF  
Master Sgt. Ruben Cortez, 129th LRS  
Master Sgt. Kkoby D. Griffin, 129th CEF  
Master Sgt. Adriana Herrera, 129th RQW  
Master Sgt. Michael P. Kenny, 131 RQS  
Master Sgt. Thau Long, 129th LRS  
Master Sgt. Shawn A. McGrath, 131st RQS  
Master Sgt. Anthony J. Quartaro, 129th MXS  
Master Sgt. Miguel F. Toro, 130th RQS  
Tech Sgt. Maricela G. Davis, 129th SFS  
Tech Sgt. David A. Gaudreau II, 129th AMXS  
Tech Sgt. Christopher M. Hernandez, 129th CF  
Tech Sgt. Gregory A. Hicks, 129th LRS  
Tech Sgt. Geoffrey W. Lewis, 129th LRS  
Tech Sgt. Emmanuel Matsamura, Jr., 129th OSF  
Tech Sgt. Megan L. Metzger, 129th FSF  
Tech Sgt. Douglas J. Montgomery, 129th SFS  
Tech Sgt. Heidi J. Quartaro, 130th RQS  
Tech Sgt. Luigge Romanillo, 131st RQS  
Tech Sgt. Rachel M. Velasco, 129th FSF  
Staff Sgt. Steven M. Bjerk, 129th LRS  
Staff Sgt. Gregorio T. Enriquez IV, 129th LRS  
Staff Sgt. Joseph Valdivia, 129th LRS  
Staff Sgt. Leslie Zapata, 129th OSF  
Senior Airman Alana R. Groshong, 129th CEF  
Senior Airman Michael S. Joslin, 129th LRS  
Senior Airman Hong T. Zhou, 129th LRS  
Airman 1st Class Silvino R. Reyes, 129th LRS  
Ms. Karen A. Carr, 129th LRS

## The legacy you leave is the live you lead

Commentary by Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Underwood  
129th Rescue Wing Human Resources Advisor



*Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Underwood is the 129th Rescue Wing's Human Resources Advisor. The HRA promotes opportunities for all Air Guard members to maximize their potential for success without regard to cultural differences. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Ray Aquino)*

We are continuing to 'Push the Flywheel' by taking a look at legacy in March. When I think of legacy, someone like Pat Summit, head coach of the Tennessee Lady Vols basketball team comes to mind. She is the all-time winningest coach in NCAA basketball history (men or women in any division) and one of only three collegiate coaches with 1,000 victories.

The thread that ties Pat Summit together with other people who left legacies are their level of contribution to their respective fields of work or to other aspects of society, and the recognition they received for reaching those feats. They left it better than they found it. It is important to know that they earned the recognition that they received and left a legacy for us to follow.

Senior Master Sgt. Jennifer M. Reecy, the human resource advisor with the 114th Fighter Wing, South Dakota Air National Guard, describes legacy as "my distinctive contribution -- it reflects my commitment to leaving the Air National Guard better each day because I am here. I will leave a tradition of honor and a legacy of valor! Today, I will 'earn this'."

March is also National Women's History Month and there have been many women in our country who have made significant contributions to society, or legacies, that we all will continue to proudly follow such as:

- In 1853, Antoinette Blackwell becomes the first American woman to be ordained a minister in a recognized denomination (Congregational).
- In 1872, Victoria Claflin Woodhull becomes the first woman presidential candidate in the United States.
- In 1873, Ellen Swallow Richards, the first woman to be admitted to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, earns her B.S. degree. She becomes the first female professional chemist in the U.S.
- In 1885 Sarah E. Goode becomes the first African-American woman to receive a patent, for a bed that folded up into a cabinet. Goode, who owned a furniture store in Chicago, intended the bed to be used in apartments.
- In 1916 Jeannette Rankin, of Montana, is the first woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.
- In 1922 Rebecca Felton, of Georgia, is appointed to the U.S. Senate to fill a temporary vacancy. The first woman senator, she serves for only two days.
- In 1926 American Gertrude Ederle becomes the first woman to swim across the English Channel.
- In 1932 Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic, traveling from Harbor Grace, Newfoundland, to Ireland in approximately 15 hours.
- In 1953 Jerrie Cobb is the first woman in the U.S. to undergo astronaut testing. NASA, however, cancels the women's program in 1963. It is not until 1983 that an American woman gets sent into space.
- In 1969 Shirley Chisholm, of New York, becomes the first African-American woman in Congress. Her motto is, "Unbought and unbossed." She served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 14 years.
- In 1981 Sandra Day O'Connor is appointed by President Reagan to the Supreme Court, making her its first woman justice.

- In 1983 Dr. Sally K. Ride becomes the first American woman to be sent into space.
- In 2008, Hillary Clinton wins the New Hampshire Democratic presidential primary, becoming the first woman in U.S. history to win a presidential primary contest. Sarah Palin, governor of Alaska, becomes the first woman to run for vice president on the Republican ticket.
- And, in 2010 Brigadier General Mary Kight becomes the First Female Adjutant General of the State of California as well the Nation's First African American Female Adjutant General.

As we continue to push the flywheel and "raise the bar" that the Air National Guard Office of Cultural Leadership and Development has set for us, interweave these points on your agendas for all meetings and monthly roll-calls:

- The legacy you leave is the life you lead. You just never know whose life you might touch. What you do know is that you can make a difference. You can leave this world better than you found it. Your legacy is a result of determined doing.
- Legacy is inspired leadership that unites all comrades in arms, rooted in the fundamental and enduring values of integrity, service and excellence.
- Legacy comes from the idea that everyone, regardless of rank or position, can make a difference.

Flywheel Challenge: Ask yourself "What did I do today to push on the flywheel?"

- My Legacy... I stand on the shoulders of those who have come before me -- Each day, do I remind myself to be worthy of the sacrifice and to "Earn This!"?
- Am I selfless in my devotion to our Country and the mission of the Air National Guard?
- In leaving a legacy, you must consider where you have been, where you are now and where you are going. Where are you on your journey from success to significance on your quest to leave a lasting legacy?

## County employer receives ESGR Patriot award



*Chris Bidinost (center), supervising probation officer with the Santa Clara County Juvenile Probation Department's Alternative Placement Academy, was awarded the Department of Defense's National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's Patriot Award during a ceremony in San Jose Feb. 24 by employee Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Underwood (left), 129th Rescue Wing's human resource advisor and Lt. Col. Pete Sobrino (right), 129th executive officer. (Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Kim Ramirez)*

A Santa Clara County employer of a 129th Rescue Wing Airman based here received the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's Patriot Award during a ceremony in San Jose Feb. 24.

Chris Bidinost, supervising probation officer with the Santa Clara County Juvenile Probation Department's Alternative Placement Academy, was nominated by Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Underwood, the 129th Rescue Wing's human resource advisor, through the Department of Defense's National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

Sergeant Underwood has worked for Mr. Bidinost as APA's senior military instructor for seven years while also reporting for duty as a traditional Guardsman at the 129th RQW.

"The military has been the backbone of the Alternative Placement Academy," Mr. Bidinost said. "I've been working with Sergeant Underwood since 2003. We're thankful to have had him for this long."

Mr. Bidinost received a Department of Defense Certificate of Appreciation and a Patriot lapel pin nationally recognizing his support of National Guard employee Sergeant Underwood.

"Chris has been a big supporter of youth programs and the National Guard," Sergeant Underwood said. "I'm proud to say his award came through."

All members of the National Guard and Reserve are eligible to nominate their employers for the Patriot award at <http://esgr.org/about.asp>.

"It is my pleasure to help recognize such an understanding and accommodating employer of one of our Airmen," said Col. Amos Bagdasarian, 129th Rescue Wing commander. "Employer support is essential to our mission, allowing Airmen to leave their everyday lives to serve their nation as National Guardsmen."

## Recruiters receive remarkable recognition

by Airman 1st Class Jessica Green  
129<sup>th</sup> Rescue Wing Public Affairs



*The 129th Rescue Wing's recruiting team receives the California Air National Guard's 2009 Recruiting Office of the Year award from Maj. Gen. Dennis G. Lucas (left), the California Air National Guard Commander and Brig. Gen. Mary Kight (right), the California National Guard Adjutant General. (Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. David J. Loeffler)*

As the 129th Rescue Wing's recruiting team reflects on last year's success of being named the California Air National Guard Recruiting Office of the Year for bringing in more than 180 new Airmen to the unit, they're already receiving awards this year.

The recruiting team received National Guard Bureau awards for the most critical accessions and highest average accessions for the first quarter of fiscal year 2010.

"The recruiters are doing a great job, compared to where we were when pretty much all of us first got here," said Master Sgt. Michael Vargas, the 129th recruiting office supervisor. "My goal is for us to be where everyone else in the State of California, until we get there I'm going to keep pushing them harder and harder."

The maintenance group currently has the most job openings at the 129th RQW. Every month more than 50 percent of the applicants brought into the 129th RQW go into a maintenance career field, Sergeant Vargas said.

"Without people working on our aircraft it's difficult to keep them in the air and doing our job," said Sergeant Vargas. "Our focus right now is what we call precision recruiting. It's all about finding the right person at the right time for the right career field."

The most common request recruiters at the 129th RQW get from applicants is "I want to be a PJ" or "how can I become a pilot?" when statistically only about 5 percent of PJ applicants actually make it past the test. After explaining more options to the applicants the recruiters prescreen and qualify them for careers that are best for both the applicant and the unit, said Tech. Sgt. Khamson Manisisaket, part of the 129th RQW recruiting team.

Contrary to popular belief, recruiters are in fact out for their applicants' best interest, they aren't paid on commission, and are by far the first people a new recruit should trust and always turn to for help.

"Sometimes the hardest thing is making the applicant see what you're trying to explain to them," Sergeant Vargas said. "It's hard to convince those people that we're going to take care of them, how marketable their career field will be in the civilian world, and what their job will be like."

Dealing with parents is usually always a challenge for recruiters as well because they have this conception about what the military is like because they only know what they've seen on television or in movies so they think their child is going to be sent to Iraq within a few months and never come back, said Sergeant Vargas.

"Unfortunately people often look at the military as a last resort," said former active duty recruiter Tech. Sgt. Rick Williams, part of the 129th RQW recruiting team. "When everything else they've tried in life fails then they consider joining the military, like they're losing. Really, they're winning, they're just viewing it wrong."

An advantage for ANG recruiters is having the unit right around the corner, so applicants can visit the base, get introduced to the people they would be working with, and physically show them what it is they are going to be doing, Sergeant Williams said.

"We try to explain that we're like the part time version of the Air Force, the hometown version. You won't be sent off to North Dakota for the next six years. You're here at home," he said. "It keeps us very honest because we'll be seeing our recruits at drill for the next couple of years so we want them to be happy. It's definitely more of a family approach."

Being such a tight knit unit, the 129th RQW's Airmen take pride in the unit, look after their fellow wingmen, and share the benefits and opportunities of the Guard to one another, said Tech. Sgt. Radek Ciesielski, a recruiter with the 129th RQW since 2009 and recipient of the Recruiter Recognition Award for enlisting 10 applicants in one month.

"One of my applicants enlisted into our maintenance unit and told his mother about the enlistment age change and a week later she enlisted into the Medical Group. Now they're in student flight together preparing to go to basic training," he said.

With new recruits from places like Jamaica, Bulgaria, Ukraine, India, Vietnam and even Belize, the 129th RQW's Airmen are extremely diverse.

"I've brought in around 32 applicants since becoming a recruiter, all with extremely different stories," said Sergeant Ciesielski.

Once a month the 129th RQW recruiting team attends big events like professional and college football games, local air shows, job fairs and high school visits. Recruiters are there to speak with interested applicants, set up appointments and represent and promote the ANG, said Sergeant Ciesielski.

"I think recruiting is the weirdest job because it's like farming, you have to plant seeds," Sergeant Williams said. "When first speaking to students at high school or college events they don't make a decision at that moment whether or not they want to join the military. They'll go home and think about it for two, three or maybe even six months before we ever hear from them. The information seeds you plant now will bear fruit later."

If you're interested in speaking with a recruiter about joining the Air National Guard or would like more information please contact:

**129th Recruiting Office**

284 Moffett Blvd. Ste A  
Mountain View, CA 94043  
650-603-9571

1-800-821-2433

1-800-TO-GO-ANG

FAX: 650-603-9437

[129rqw.recruiters@ang.af.mil](mailto:129rqw.recruiters@ang.af.mil)

[www.goang.com](http://www.goang.com)

**Master Sgt. Michael Vargas**

*Recruiting Office Supervisor*

650-603-9542

[Michael.vargas@ang.af.mil](mailto:Michael.vargas@ang.af.mil)

**Tech. Sgt. Radek "Ski" Ciesielski**

*Recruiter*

650-603-9570

[Radoslaw.ciesielski@ang.af.mil](mailto:Radoslaw.ciesielski@ang.af.mil)

**Tech Sgt. Khamstone "Mani" Manisisaket**

*Recruiter*

650-603-9570

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**Tech Sgt. Paul "Rick" Williams**

*Recruiter*

650-603-9487

[Paul.williams.7@ang.af.mil](mailto:Paul.williams.7@ang.af.mil)

## PORTRAIT OF A PROFESSIONAL: MARCH 2010

Portrait of a Professional is a monthly profile of an outstanding Staff Sgt. and below. Staff Sgt. Douglas Quayle, 130th Rescue Squadron flight engineer, is featured as this month's Portrait of a Professional.



*Staff Sgt. Dough Quayle, 130th Rescue Squadron flight engineer, is this month's Portrait of a Professional. (Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Dan Kacir)*

### **What motivated you to enlist in the AF?**

I finished my time with the Army, didn't want to reenlist with the Army, however I wanted to continue serving. So I was active duty Army, then Army National Guard when I had just gotten back from a year long deployment when I interviewed for a job in the Air Force rescue community that I couldn't turn down. There are not many opportunities you can have in the National Guard to serve in an honorable mission like ours here at the 129th. I'm proud to be able to tell my son what I do.

### **How has being an Airman changed your outlook on life?**

It's made a big difference. Being in the military has taught me the importance of duty and responsibility. I've been in situations where my being less than responsible, or lazy, in the civilian world wouldn't be so critical. However in the military I have been in several instances while deployed down range that my inaction could have ended the lives of others. I've witnessed inaction of others, and it's taught me the value of the discipline the military has imparted.

### **What's the most important lesson you've learned in the military?**

I had an incident when I was in the desert when another individual made a critical mistake that could have cost the lives of an air crew. My discipline and my integrity would not allow me to let that mistake go unchecked. It was a very difficult situation and the individual ended up losing his career out of it but because of that, we were sure that the mistake was not going to get someone killed. As far as a lesson learned, it's not about keeping people happy and it's not about taking the easy path. Sometimes hard decisions have to be made and the bottom line is you have to support the mission and the personnel that you're with.

### **If you could deploy anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

If I could deploy anywhere, I would deploy where ever the fight is today. My little brother is a green beret with the Army and where he and anyone like him is out fighting the fight, where ever they need me to be is where I would want to go. Because of the mission that we have, if they need us we need to be where they can get us. We need to be their 911 call.

### **If you could choose any AF job, which would it be? Why?**

I started as an infantryman, mortar transport operator, avionic flight system repair, avionic radar navigation flight test technician all in the Army, and now, being a flight engineer for the C-130P I think I have the greatest enlisted job there is in the Air Force.

### **What is your job in the civilian world?**

I'm a self employed electrical contractor.

### **What would people be surprised to know about you?**

I'm a pretty good cook, and I play guitar.

### **What are your hobbies?**

I'm really into sport aviation, including aerobatic flying. I fly light tail draggers and I'm working on a rotary wing addition, a helicopter add-on rating. I fly out of Livermore because my father is an instructor there. I'm also hoping to pick up my light sport instructor rating this year to be an instructor as well.



## 1st Sergeant Spotlight: Maintenance welcomes new first sergeant

by Airman 1st Class Jessica Green

129<sup>th</sup> Rescue Wing Public Affairs



*Master Sgt. Anja O'Neil, the new 129th Maintenance Group first sergeant, proudly celebrates her son, Airman 1st Class Jordan Grimes' graduation from Basic Military Training Feb. 5, 2010 at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. (Photo courtesy of Master Sgt. Anja O'Neil)*

An avionics technician with the 129th Rescue Wing here was recently selected to serve as the first sergeant for the 129th Maintenance Squadron.

Master Sgt. Anja O'Neil, the new 129th MXS first sergeant, has been assigned to carry out the responsibility, accountability, and discipline of a first sergeant after graduating from First Sergeant Academy at Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, Ala., November 2009.

First sergeant is not a rank, but a special duty held by a senior enlisted member who reports directly to the unit commander and is responsible for the morale, welfare, and conduct of all the enlisted members in their squadron.

Sergeant O'Neil joined the California Air National Guard after serving 12 years on active duty. With a short break in service the full time mother of five and part-time business owner in her home state of Washington, decided to return to the military in a smaller capacity.

"Once I separated from active duty I missed being in the military," she said. "I chose Moffett because of its incredible mission. I've never worked in rescue, I have some fire background, but nothing quite like the 129th."

After being in the military for 23 years, Sergeant O'Neil discovered that she was a better leader than she thought she could ever be.

"I was always a maintenance troop. I always enjoyed working on the aircraft and didn't think of myself as much of a people person," she said. "After attending training for information management I realized that I'm just as good at taking care of people as I am taking care of planes."

After graduating from the First Sergeant Academy, which Sergeant O'Neil believed to be the best military school she's attended in her Air Force career, Sergeant O'Neil is now ready to represent and support Airmen within the 129 MXS and extend a helping hand to all Airmen at the 129 RQW.

"I always knew what I wanted to do for my squadron, not always how I wanted to do it," she said. "After attending the academy, being able to discuss issues with fellow first sergeants and paying special attention to those who have a maintenance background has truly given me a huge toolbox of skills that empowered me to go back to my command with an idea of what I want to see done for my Airmen."

Focusing on the dissemination of information from leadership to Airmen, Sergeant O'Neil is hoping to bridge the gap in her chain of command in both directions.

"After becoming a first sergeant, I really began to notice that important things didn't get communicated in a timely manner," she said. "The flow of information wasn't dependable or very consistent."

Encouraging all Airmen with ideas, complaints, complements, or even constructive criticism to speak up, Sergeant O'Neil is enthusiastic about ensuring Airmen morale and readiness is at its peak.

"Everyone has an important perspective and opinion about how things are done," said Sergeant O'Neil. "Every input and can make a difference, they need to be communicated to supervisors and continued up the chain of command."

Beyond overall morale and readiness issues, Sergeant O'Neil strongly emphasizes the idea of Airmen focusing on their education and succeeding in their career. Completing professional military education is by far the most important part of making yourself competitive for promotion, she said.

"I'm still a part-time student two semesters away from receiving my bachelor's degree and I can't stress enough that I wish I had finished it sooner in my career," said Sergeant O'Neil. "Too many people are not ready for promotion because they didn't think they would be in that position, don't ever think that the next grade, or the next position is unattainable."

## ***March UTA News & Notes***

This is a compilation of news bits Airmen and families can use to prepare for the upcoming UTA weekend.

### **WELCOME NEW 129TH MEMBERS!**

Tech. Sgt. Justin Daniel Shook, 131st RQS  
Staff Sgt. Garreth Alvarez, 129th MXS  
Senior Airman Linda Hooks, 129th LRS  
Airman 1st Class Alexander Betetta, 129th MXS  
Airman 1st Class Jabraun Copleand, 129th MXS  
Airman 1st Class Eryn Donnely, 129th OPS  
Airman 1st Class Leon Ewart, 129th LRS  
Airman 1st Class Kevin Lau, 129th MXS  
Airman 1st Class Scott Lykke, 129th MXS  
Airman 1st Class Cursenda Patino, 129th MXS  
Airman 1st Class Nevin Pavithran, 129th MXS  
Airman 1st Class Michael Soriano, 129th MXS

### **CONGRATULATIONS! THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE RECENTLY PROMOTED TO THEIR CURRENT RANK.**

Staff Sgt. Adam Vanhaaster, 131st RQS  
Staff Sgt. Byron Estrada, 129th CF  
Staff Sgt. Nicole Mancillas, 129th CF  
Staff Sgt. Angelo Reyes, 129th MXS  
Staff Sgt. Nicholas Reyes, 129th MXS

### **WE WISH THE FOLLOWING RETIRED, SEPARATED AND TRASFERRED MEMBERS WELL AND THANK THEM FOR THEIR SERVICE AT THE 129TH.**

Capt. Haley Gilbertvalencia, 129th MXG  
1st Lt. Hans Jagow, 130th RQS  
Master Sgt. Elmer Labugen, 129th MXG  
Tech. Sgt. John Golos, 129th LRS  
Tech. Sgt. Joney Culpepper, 149th CBCS  
Tech. Sgt. Brock Woodward, 129th RQS  
Tech. Sgt. William Todd, 129th MSF  
Tech. Sgt. Aaron Houghton, 129th MOF  
Staff Sgt. Jessica Beall, 129th MXS  
Staff Sgt. Avinesh Raman, 149 CBCS  
Staff Sgt. Kang Ahn, 129th AMXS  
Staff Sgt. Vihn Taylor, 129th SFS  
Staff Sgt. Brian Bachman, 129th RQW  
Staff Sgt. Thomas Beall, 129th AMXS  
Staff Sgt. Mark Elledge, 129th MSS  
Staff Sgt. Joseph Machado, 131st RQS  
Senior Airman Gary Palmero, 129th MOF  
Airman 1st Class Grant Martinez, 129th SFS  
Airman Kurt Ponce, 129th St Flt

## **2010 UTA SCHEDULE**

March 6-7      August 7-8  
April 10-11    September 11-12  
May 1-2        October 2-3  
June 5-6       November 6-7  
July 10-11     December 4-5

## **RELIGIOUS SERVICES SCHEDULE**

Services take place every Sunday morning of UTA drill weekend in Building 650  
Catholic Mass: 10:15-10:45  
Non-denominational services: 11:00 - 11:30

## **129TH RQW PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Mar 7, 2010 (Sunday of UTA drill weekend at 1200hrs in Bldg 653, Security Forces Classroom)

## **FAMILY READINESS POST IT**

In this issue, Carolann Wunderin, the Airmen and Family Readiness Program Manager, provides valuable information from Sesame Street's Talk, Listen and Connect Series, a limited promotion for FREE Admission to military members and their families, a showcase about the Year of the Air Force Family at Beale AFB and our featured Volunteer of the Month. To view the newsletter please visit

<http://www.129rqw.ang.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-100302-059.pdf>

## **129TH ALUMNI HERITAGE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

Congratulations to the following recipients of the 129th Alumni Heritage Association 2009 scholarship.

- Senior Airman Jamie Enea, 129th SFS, will be receiving the SMSgt Delluchi Scholarship
- Senior Airman Jamieson Prevoznak, 131st RQS will be receiving the Gen Santos Scholarship
- Airman 1st Class Kayla Sather, 129th MDG, will be receiving the Col Lina Ruppel Scholarship
- Airman 1st Class Mathew Webster, 129th SFS, will be receiving the Col Kenney Scholarship

Each recipient will receive \$1,000 from the 129th AHA. The scholarships will be presented at the annual AHA Old Timer's Luncheon on Wednesday, Mar. 24, 11:30 a.m., at the Loyal Order of Moose Hall, 20835 Rutledge Rd., Castro Valley.

## **CA NATIONAL GUARD EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AWARD PROGRAM**

The Education Assistance Award Program is still accepting applications for the 2009-2010 academic year. The application period for the 2010-2011 academic year will open April 15, 2010. Start working on your education plans now! For more information, including frequently asked questions, go to [www.calguard.ca.gov/education](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/education). Feel free to contact Katrina Beck at 916-854-4255 or [katrina.beck@us.army.mil](mailto:katrina.beck@us.army.mil) with any questions or concerns.

## **2009 CA ANG YEAR IN REVIEW**

Hot off the presses is the annual California Air National Guard Year in Review booklet. This booklet is the commanders annual summary of the highlights for each wing and the CA ANG as a whole. It is the "one stop shop" document highlighting all of our accomplishments. You can download the electronic version here:

<http://www.129rqw.ang.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-100302-052.pdf>. Print copies will be available April UTA.

## **ABOVE AND BEYOND**

Master Sgt. Michael Kenny, a survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialist with the 129th Rescue Wing was featured in February's issue of "Above & Beyond". This monthly publication captures and highlights the accomplishments of our National Guardsmen to senior leadership, public affairs officers at all levels, and the general public. To view the article, please visit <http://www.129rqw.ang.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-100302-055.pdf>.

## **WOMEN'S MILITARY HISTORY MONTH**

Celebrate the 2nd Women's Military History week Saturday, March 20, 2010, 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. The "Ladies Day" celebration will be held at Twin Towers United Methodist Church, 1411 Oak Street, Alameda at the corner of Central Avenue and Oak Street parking garage. The keynote speaker slated to address the celebration is Brig. Gen. Charlotte L. Miller, California National Guard assistant adjutant general, Army Division. The guest of honor is Capt. Mary Jennings, HH-60G Pave Hawk pilot with the 129th Rescue Squadron and Purple Heart recipient. The celebration will include resource sharing and professional networking, reading of the Governor's proclamation of "Women's Military History Week" and the 10th District American Legion Color Guard. Uniform of the day or appropriate civilian attire is recommended. Please bring a piece of memorabilia from your service years, as they will be displayed for the celebration. RSVP by March 7, 2010 by calling 510-748-6881, registering online at [www.twintowersumc.org](http://www.twintowersumc.org) or email [celebrate\\_military\\_women@twintowersums.org](mailto:celebrate_military_women@twintowersums.org).

## **STRONG BONDS PROGRAM SINGLE SOLDIER/AIRMEN WEEKEND RETREAT**

March 20-21 the Strong Bond Program is holding a singles retreat at the Rancho Cordova Marriot Hotel. The Strong Bonds Single Soldier/Airmen Program is designed to help you establish relationship goals and gain essential skills to help you make a good choice prior to picking a partner for life. To register please visit <http://www.prestoregister.com/cgi-bin/order.pl?ref=Readyfamilies&fm=2>. For more information visit <http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies/Pages/default.aspx> or call June Sato at 916-361-4957.

## **STRONG BONDS PROGRAM MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT RETREAT**

June 12-13, the Strong Bonds Program is holding a marriage enrichment class at the Rancho Cordova Marriot Hotel. Strong Bonds Marriage Enrichment is recommended for deployment cycle support, both pre/post deployment, and comes in as a critical skill set for reintegration. It's also considered a viable skill-building tool for developing resiliency in couples. Whether you've celebrated one anniversary or twenty, as a Guard couple you can anticipate more excitement and expect more challenges than the average civilian couple. Long separations, frequent relocations, and the stress of deployment can subject military marriages to extreme hardship. Register online at [http://www.prestoregister.com/cgi-bin/order.pl?ref= Readyfamilies&fm=2](http://www.prestoregister.com/cgi-bin/order.pl?ref=Readyfamilies&fm=2). For more information visit <http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies/Pages/default.aspx> or call June Sato at 916-361-4957

## **FREE ADMISSION TO CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE**

From February 1st through March 15th, 2010, the Academy is saluting those who serve their country and community in their everyday lives – Firefighters, police officers, military personnel, and teachers will receive free admission to the California Academy of Sciences located at 55 Music Concourse Drive in San Francisco. The Academy is the only place on the planet with an aquarium, a planetarium, a natural history museum, and a 4-story rainforest all under one roof. It's a stunning architectural achievement with hundreds of unique exhibits and nearly 40,000 live animals. To participate, individuals must show proof of occupation and a valid ID at the ticket window. This discount applies to one individual admission only and cannot be combined with other offers. For more information call 415-379-8000 or visit <http://www.calacademy.org/visit/>

## **CIRQUE DU SOLEIL'S OVO IS TOURING SAN JOSE**

Cirque du Soleil is proud to welcome members of the military with a discount of 10% on non peak week day performances. To select this offer, click the military discount when you purchase tickets at [www.cirquedusoleil.com/SJ](http://www.cirquedusoleil.com/SJ). OVO will premiere February 4 under the blue-and-yellow Grand Chapiteau at San Jose at Taylor Street Bridge. OVO is a headlong rush into a colorful ecosystem teeming with life, where insects work, eat, crawl, flutter, play, fight and look for love in a non-stop riot of energy and movement.

### **908 Lives Saved**

*These Things We Do...That Others May Live*

Find these and other stories on the 129th Rescue Wing Web site -- <http://www.129rqw.ang.af.mil>. The 129th is also on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/129RQW](http://www.facebook.com/129RQW), Twitter at [www.twitter.com/129RQW](http://www.twitter.com/129RQW), YouTube at [www.youtube.com/129thRescueWing](http://www.youtube.com/129thRescueWing) and Delicious at [www.delicious.com/129RQWPA](http://www.delicious.com/129RQWPA).

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