

# Connecticut Guardian

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## Camp Rowland Moves into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

CAPT. LOU MARTINEZ  
PRESS OFFICER, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH

Camp Rowland in Niantic has come a long way from its days as an 88-acre tent camp. The camp was established March 16, 1881 when an act was passed authorizing the purchase of the 88-acre parcel. It was first used as a recruiting site, then a hospitalization site during the Spanish American War of 1898. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Camp Rowland became the yearly training site for Connecticut's coastal artillery unit. Known today as Camp Rowland, the post traditionally takes its name from the incumbent governor.

Over the years, the camp has had several facelifts. After 37 years in the Connecticut Guard, soldiers like Training Site Support Detachment (TSSD) Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mike Gurnack have noticed the changes.

"I remember in the 60's using coal to keep warm. Some buildings are not here anymore." Camp Rowland is moving into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Today, Camp Rowland is on its way to becoming the premier National Guard installation in the country.

It already has a state of the art Engagement Skills Trainer used by Guardsmen, Reservists, State Police, FBI and various federal law enforcement agencies to improve marksmanship and provide computer-generated realistic training scenarios. The



An artist's rendering of the Col. Robert Nett Leadership Hall to be built at Camp Rowland. (Photo by Spec. Elvis Braga, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)

camp also has its own troop medical clinic, PX, distance learning center and fitness center. The latest additions and upgrades to the facility are obvious when walking or driving around the post.

For instance, the camp has a new building to house

and National Guardsmen. The ribbon cutting for Building 32 was held in December of 2000 and the facility has housed hundreds of soldiers, airmen and retirees since its opening.

Near the parade field are two new training

See CAMP ROWLAND p. 15

## Thirty-Two Years of Serving Soldiers

MAJ. SCOTT WILSON  
STATE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Thirty-two years, seven months. How is it possible to capture the essence of the experiences – the trials, triumphs, failures, and the challenges – encompassed in a military career of such a span? Further, how is it possible to pen a short biography that does justice to that service?

If your subject is Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen L. Primett, the task seems difficult. Self-effacing to the point of fault, he is loath to discuss his accomplishments, always crediting his leaders, mentors or soldiers.

"Every award and decoration I have, I have because somebody mentored and supported me. There is not a mission I accomplished that wasn't the result of a great support base. You can't get too inflated with yourself or what you have done...I started with a 7 1/4 inch cap, and I'm happy to say I'll be leaving with a 7 1/8 inch – I'm minus a little hair," Primett observes.

But if you listen carefully, you find it is not that complicated to capture the essence of his career...because he has kept it simple. Primett credits just a few touchstone principals with guiding him: Listen...Do What is Right and Fair...and Always Consider the Soldiers.

Primett's father, a submariner, retired from the Navy in 1956 and settled in the Groton/Mystic area, where Primett grew up. He graduated from Robert E. Fitch Senior High School on June 17, 1970, and enlisted in the Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG) on June 19.

"I was working for National Auto Parts as a senior in high school. Vietnam was in full swing. I knew my parents didn't have the money to send me to college, and figured military service was coming one way or the other, so I decided to take my chances and get my commitment over with." He expected his service would be six years in length.

See PRIMETT p. 25

## Camp Rowland Invaded!

SGT. 1ST CLASS DEBBI NEWTON  
STATE SENIOR PA NCO

Connecticut's military training facility in Niantic was invaded by and successfully taken over by children eager to learn and brimming over with school spirit.

The children, 350 of them, are students at the Lillie B. Haynes Elementary School in East Lyme, and they brought along their faculty and staff when they descended upon Camp Rowland in late May. Their school building is now being demolished and the students will be moving into another building in the fall, but thanks to an agreement with the Connecticut National Guard, the staff and students have a place to call home for the remainder of the current school year.

"We've been preparing the students all year for this move," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jack Reynolds. "The children are all very excited. Some are sad to see their school building being torn down, but we've all come to understand that the spirit of our school is not the building. The spirit of our school is us. Our students. Our faculty. Our staff. We take that spirit with us where ever we go."

See SCHOOL p. 28



Students from the Lillie B. Haynes Elementary School in East Lyme wave American flags during ceremonies welcoming them to Camp Rowland. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)

# UP FRONT WITH THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

## Looking Forward To AT

MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM A. CUGNO  
ADJUTANT GENERAL



With June comes the traditional start of the Annual Training cycle for the Connecticut National Guard. Safety and responsibility are year-round concerns that receive special attention now.

Annual training is a time when we all need to keep a sharp watch on safety and responsibility. The heat, ticks and operation of heavy equipment are just some of things we all need to look out for. Our soldiers and airmen may be traveling a great distance to attend annual training, or operating equipment they do not normally use in course of their civilian employment. These are safety concerns.

Unit leaders must look at and take into consideration safety, and risk assessment in all aspects of annual training. First-line leaders must enforce the safety policies of the unit commander. Commanders need to stress safety and insist the unit not take unnecessary risks.

We all know the usual things to look out for during AT: dehydration, lack of sleep, utilization of ground guides, wearing seat belts, using and

maintaining the proper safety equipment such as helmets, hearing protection, eye protection and so on.

The most important aspect of safety that is commonly overlooked is knowing your soldiers and airmen. Look after each other. We have to know our people and know what to look for.

One of the great things about the Connecticut Guard, is that since September 11, 2001 with all the deployments to Bosnia, Southwest Asia, Afghanistan, Utah for the Winter Olympics, Airport Security, we have not had any major incidents and I thank the leadership for that. Your attention to detail to the soldier and airmen has paid off with outstanding results. Let's not lose that vision, that attention to detail during these annual training months.

During this annual training, our two engineer battalions will again be hard at work at Camp Rowland and Stone's Ranch continuing Task Force Husky. This year several states, including Colorado, Delaware, Texas and South Dakota will assist the 242nd Engineer Battalion, the

192nd Engineer Battalion and the 103rd Fighter Wing with on-going projects. This five-phase Husky project begins now and runs through the end of August. Some of the missions will consist of road upgrades on Stone's Ranch as well as construction of a MOUT facility. These projects are preparing the Connecticut Guard for the future. I would invite everyone to stop and visit Camp Rowland and Stone's Ranch to see these projects.

As you can see, we have a lot on our plate, but remember AT safety and responsibility for your soldiers and airmen is everyone's job. Do it and do it well, and we all come home safely.

Let me also congratulate our State's Safety Council, chaired by Brig. Gen. Zembrzusi, along with key members, Col. Al Rubino and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Vini Rinaldo (our State Safety Officer). All members remain "in front" of the issues and are providing a comprehensive detailed review of commander's plans. It's working, stay with it. Safety deals with our most precious resource – our members. It is our highest priority.



SERGEANT MAJOR  
RAYMOND P. ZASTAURAY

As most of you may know by now, I have been selected to replace Command Sgt. Maj. Steve Primett, as the new state command sergeant major, now that Steve has decided to retire. I know I join all of you in wishing he and his wife Jo well, as they start a new chapter in their lives together. I hope to see as many of you as possible at Steve's retirement party on Aug. 31 in Groton.

Steve left some pretty big shoes to fill, and I'm sure he felt the same way about the shoes Command Sgt. Maj. Tony Savino left for him before that. But Steve came in and made this office his own, and I intend to do the same. Tony and Steve both made huge contributions to the Guard through this office, and I hope to follow their lead.

I first entered the service in November of 1969 and have served in various capacities in the National Guard for the past 32 years. Among the positions I have held are Fire Direction Center section sergeant and Platoon Sergeant for Combat Support Company, 2nd Battalion, 102nd Infantry, Recruiter, Recruiting and Retention Area NCOIC and, most recently, Recruiting and Retention Sergeant Major since November of 1999. I completed the Battle Skills course at NGPEC, Camp Robinson, Arkansas in 1989 and am a 1997 graduate of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA).

I have been an active advocate for the young soldier and potential National Guard recruit for many years and have spent a great deal of my time in the field visiting with our young soldiers. I visit every BTOC class that goes through

Camp Rowland, and I have been in the field for the Young Leaders Program, ROTC and JROTC programs, and many of the other youth-oriented events run by the Recruiting and Retention Command and the Connecticut Army National. Before Steve went on terminal leave, he and I spent time out the field visiting units, talking to soldiers and going over much of what kept Steve so busy over the past few years. I am hoping to make this as smooth a transition as possible.

Three of my main goals as I begin my journey as the state's senior noncommissioned officer are AT safety; making sure units know that Pre-IET soldiers must attend drills and establishing NCOOP for E-3s and E-4s to help them prepare for PLDC.

AT safety is everybody's concern, and we have all been around long enough to know what to watch for... heat casualties, exhaustion from long hours and hard work, not knowing how to properly handle heavy equipment, lack of water, ticks and so forth. Let's keep our soldiers safe and healthy during this AT cycle. Get to know your soldiers. If they have problems at home or on their civilian jobs, it could affect their level of concentration on their Guard jobs, and that could cause injury to fellow soldiers.

There has been some confusion as to whether pre-basic training soldiers have to attend drills prior to shipping. The answer is yes, all NPS soldiers must attend drills prior to shipping to Basic Training. We must hold these new soldiers accountable to drilling with their assigned units. Having an effective Sponsorship Program ensures our new soldiers are formally integrated into the unit. A good Sponsorship Program enables our new soldiers to become involved in

and feel as though they are an important component in the unit's activities. I encourage all NCOs and FLLs to take care of all our new soldiers. The skills our new soldiers learn at drills puts them that much farther ahead of their counterparts (Active Duty Army and USAR soldiers), when they attend Basic Training. Many times our Army National Guard soldiers are selected as Honor Graduates because of the lessons learned at their unit prior to shipping.

I am also a strong advocate of preparing our young soldiers for anything, and preparing them well. That is why I want to see NCOOP established for our privates first class and specialists who are getting ready to go off to Primary Leadership Development Courses. These soldiers need to be well-prepared in physical fitness training, height and weight standards and land navigation skills, among other things. It is unacceptable for soldiers to be sent back to Connecticut from PLDC because they failed a PT test, did not meet height/weight standards, or could not navigate in the woods using a compass, map and protractor.

First sergeants, platoon sergeants and First Line Leaders must train and prepare our young soldiers well, so they will develop into good NCOs and even better Senior NCOs that train and prepare their young soldiers well. It becomes a vicious cycle, and we, as soldiers, mentors and citizens, as well as the National Guard as a whole, will be better off for it.

I look forward to working with all of you throughout my tenure as Connecticut's State Command Sergeant Major, welcome your input and thank you in advance for all of your hard work.

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# CSM Lever Visits Connecticut, Talks with Guardsmen

STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI  
65<sup>TH</sup> PCH

With recent changes in the world, and some alterations to the responsibilities of the U.S. military, National Guard members need to continue focusing on the mission, and all U.S. citizens need to increase situational awareness.

Those were some words of advice from the top noncommissioned officer in the National Guard as he visited Connecticut Guard members at Camp Rowland in Niantic.

Prior to speaking to graduates of Advanced Noncommissioned Officer School and Basic Noncommissioned Officer School, Command Sergeant Major of the Army National Guard, Command Sgt. Maj. A. Frank Lever III toured the base, speaking with students in various classes.

He offered plenty of advice to his fellow NCOs, especially those who are getting set to take on increased leadership roles. He praised members of the Guard nationwide for all they've done since the attacks. He also offered his praise for none other than the young Americans from the so-called "Generation X era," based upon the job those members have done with the military during these times.

"In all my travels, I talk to thousands of young soldiers who have dropped out of college to serve their country – to volunteer, to protect. And they've done it and performed well," Lever said.

For a man who travels throughout the world constantly, visiting the soldiers in his service branch, one experience stands out in his mind.

"I ran into a young man in the Philadelphia airport who dropped out of his second year of medical school to stand guard in an airport," Lever said. He adds that this reflects very positively on a generation that some skeptics thought would not be up to the task.

He also mentioned the role that more experienced soldiers have done in getting the "Generation X'ers" ready for the serious challenges of a new type of war.

"We can pat ourselves on the back. As senior NCOs we've done our job," he said.

But, there's plenty more to be done, and the challenges will continue to be in front of the NCO corps.



Command Sgt. Maj. A. Frank Lever, the senior NCO of the Army National Guard, spends time answering questions from Basic NCO Course students at Camp Rowland. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski, 65th PCH)



Command Sgt. Maj. A. Frank Lever visits with members of the Basic Training Orientation Class at Camp Rowland recently. Lever discussed the importance of learning well with the newest soldiers of the CTARNG as they get prepared to head off to basic training. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski, 65th PCH)

"What I've challenged the senior NCO corps to do is to concentrate on having their soldiers prepared. We can't just concentrate on training readiness. We have to concentrate on soldier readiness. This is a long list: clothing records, training records, financial records, dental records," Lever said. "It's important to remember that if a soldier is deployed, and worried about his or her spouse or family, then that soldier cannot focus on the mission.

"I think we have failed as NCOs, to have that in-depth knowledge about our soldiers. We excel in training, but we lack in soldier readiness. This deployment has awakened me to that," he said.

He said that email is an excellent way for senior NCOs to get the message to their fellow soldiers. "I think we have some capabilities that a young NCO can take advantage of. An NCO can send out a form and blast it out to everyone. Or, an NCO can do a little newsletter (for the respective unit)."

He guessed that between 70-80 percent of the Guard members probably have Internet access. Within an hour, he asked a BNOC class how many of them have the Internet. Between 79-80 percent of the students raised their hands.

He was asked about whether or not it will help the average Guard member to pay more attention to the news of the world because of the potential danger of terrorists attacking us right where we live.

"I think the average U.S. citizen needs to be more situationally aware. We've been attacked on our own soil. We have to be aware. Am I, as a National Guardsman, a target?" he asked, shrugging his shoulders for emphasis "I don't know! But, I can't not think that I am. And, oh by the way, does that make my family a target?"

The National Guard's top NCO offers some

basic guidelines, especially for the young leaders in uniform.

"Be trained and ready to do, not only your MOS skills, but your leadership skills. Be flexible! You're going to have to respond quicker. To the young leaders, get to know everything about your soldiers. That could save your lives on the battlefield."

It seems no matter what the discussion is, Lever loves to get back to sharing ideas for leaders.

A South Carolina native, he learned plenty of leadership skills at the Citadel, where he earned a bachelor's degree in political science in 1969. Rather than take his commission, he enlisted in the South Carolina National Guard as an enlisted soldier. In just over 30 years, he rose through the ranks all the way to the top enlisted position, as state command sergeant major. His Army experience is deep, as is his civilian experience. Among the high-level state government positions he held in South Carolina was deputy commissioner of the department of youth services. He also successfully founded and owned two businesses.

Regardless of all that impressive experience, it seems that serving as the National Guard's top enlisted advisor is his niche. While visiting Connecticut's classrooms, he made sure he visited every class he could, quickly trying to learn as much as he could about the students and offering them advice.

The largest class he visited was that of Basic Training Orientation Class, allowing him to give advice to citizens who will soon become citizen-soldiers.

"Basic training is a piece of cake. The one thing that will get you through is a positive attitude," he told the recruits. He also encouraged all of them to get in the best

physical shape possible prior to leaving.

Although he joked a bit with the prospective trainees, he also reminded them that their commitment to serve is a serious one that should not be taken lightly.

"If you don't want to go to war, don't go to basic training. This is not just getting a college education. You have to be a good soldier. You have to be a good citizen, as well.

Make yourselves proud. Make your units proud. And make your parents proud. Thank you for joining. This is a sacrifice."

He let them know some statistics that seemed to surprise them. At the time of his Connecticut visit, 31,000 Guard members nationwide, or about 10 percent of the force, were deployed.

Later, he offered some perspective on any changes being made to the National Guard in the wake of the Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> attacks.

"The most important thing is the National Guard is ready and capable to perform a myriad of missions – some of those even outside of the regular mission – airport security, border patrol, force protection at active component installations," he said.

"Secondly, the abilities of our NCO corps – all of the missions have tested and challenged the role of the NCO. We've seen our soldiers and young leaders do a really outstanding job.

"All of us got surprised. Who would have ever thought that we would deploy American soldiers as force protection on our own soil," Lever said.

"That's going to have to be decided by the senior officials," he said when asked how the mission of the Guard will be altered based upon the new type of threat. "I do think we'll see a slight shift... nothing too dramatic. Let's look at the airport and border mission. How much time did we need to train... two days?"

He also spoke of the history of the National Guard, saying that basically the past has met the future.

"Since 1636, our role has been to defend our community. Right here in Connecticut, those were farm towns – very small in nature. They were there to defend the community. Now, 366 years later, we find ourselves somewhat in the same place."

"We have just begun a new chapter in the history of the National Guard and the U.S. military, as a whole.

"But I think it's critical not to lose sight that we are a dual mission military. We have to continue focusing on our federal mission – our wartime mission. Likewise, we've got to be ready to respond to those missions within the states."

Lever finished his Connecticut visit by delivering the keynote address at the graduation of the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, as well as the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course. A true leader, he delivered the separate speeches moving around amongst the crowd with a wireless lavalier microphone.

# Unified Command Plan Changes Transparent, but Important

JIM GARAMONE  
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON – Just because the changes in the Unified Command Plan will be “transparent” to most service members doesn’t mean they’re not important.

The changes are revolutionary and will better enable the American military to perform its missions around the globe and at home, said Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in April. The president signed the plan April 30, and it will go into effect Oct. 1.

The biggest change is at home. The plan establishes the U.S. Northern Command. The command, to be stood up Oct. 1 also, will be responsible for military support to the defense of the United States. “It will be the homeland defense command for the United States,” said Navy Capt. Doug McClain, a Joint Staff officer who worked on the UCP.

NORTHCOM’s area of operations will include the United States, Canada, Mexico, parts of the Caribbean and the contiguous waters in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans up to 500 miles off the North American coastline.

The command will be a “one-stop-shopping” point for military support in case of an attack on the United States. McClain offered the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics experience as an example of the type of support Northern Command would provide. The lead federal agency at the Olympics was the Secret Service. DoD established Joint Task Force – Olympics to provide military support. All calls for military support – such as combat air patrols, equipment, logistics and security personnel – channeled through the JTF.

Similarly, if the United States were attacked, all requests for military support would channel through Northern Command. President Bush has selected current U.S. Space Command commander Air Force Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart as the new commander in chief, or “Cinc.” The general also commands the North American Aerospace Defense Command – a joint venture with Canada to defend North America. In his new job, Eberhart will command the U.S. element to NORAD as well as Northern Command. He will not retain command of SPACECOM.

The responsibilities now held by Joint Task Force – Civil Support and Joint Task Force – Homeland Security will migrate to Northern Command also, McClain said. These JTFs, now part of U.S. Joint Forces Command, think of the unthinkable. Task force planners work out what military help would be needed in the event of an attack on the United States.

NORTHCOM will work with interagency groups on the federal, state and local level. The command will establish and maintain

these links so all parties will be familiar with each other and the capabilities of the various agencies.

Northern Command will be a combatant command just as any other, McClain said. “(The commander of Northern Command) has all the authority that Title 10 (of the U.S. Code) gives to any combatant commander to execute the mission he’s given,” McClain said.

McClain said the NORTHCOM commander is the same as his counterparts at the U.S. Pacific or Central commands. “The difference is, the missions are different,” he said. “But the chain of command is the same as with any other combatant commander. He will take his direction from the president, through the defense secretary with advice and direction from the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.”

Northern Command will be in the same situation as the other combatant commands. It will receive military forces as required. According to the Unified Command Plan, Joint Forces Command, headquartered in Norfolk, Va., retains its role as the force provider to the combatant Cincs. “One of the things that will occur with the stand-up of Northern Command is that it will allow Joint Forces Command to focus on experimentation and transformation, which is their meat and potatoes mission,” McClain said.

The JFCOM commander is currently also NATO’s Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic. McClain said that the UCP change will divest the JFCOM commander of responsibilities for Supreme Allied Command, Atlantic. “It is up to NATO to determine a replacement for the current arrangement,” he said.

Another change in the Unified Command Plan adds Russia and the Caucasus nations to the U.S. European Command’s area of responsibility. In the past Russia was under the purview of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. “It normalizes the relation that a combatant commander has with a country’s military leadership as if it was any other country in his area of responsibility,” McClain said.

“This does not eliminate the ability of Russia to go directly to the chairman or to the leadership of this country. What it does in the military structure is give Russia the ability to go to a local commander and work agreements that are beneficial to both sides.”

Alaska falls under Northern Command for homeland security purposes, but forces based in the state look to Pacific Command. Also forces on the U.S. West Coast – the Army’s I Corps at Fort Lewis, Wash., the 3rd Fleet in San Diego and the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton, Calif. – will continue under PACOM.

“Just because the forces assigned to Pacific

Command reside outside the area of responsibility doesn’t have anything to do with their assignment or what they are doing,” McClain said. This carries on the practice of forces in the United States being under the Central or Special Operations commands.

The Unified Command Plan also adjusts the borders for U.S. Southern Command. “The No. 1 requirement was to give U.S. Northern Command enough sea space and airspace around the continental United States so that the command could defend in depth,” McClain said.

However, Cuba is 90 miles south of the Florida Keys, and this required a special arrangement. “Cuba will fall inside U.S. Northern Command’s area of responsibility,” McClain said. “But we didn’t want to overburden the new command. For the time being, the responsibility for Cuba will remain with U.S. Southern Command.”

Other changes will be studied, McClain said. Joint Staff personnel are looking at possibly merging U.S. Strategic and Space commands. Also, planners are studying merging U.S. Northern and Southern commands.



## Army Birthday Message 2002

For 227 years now, Soldiers have defended freedom. And again today, Soldiers are fighting on behalf of the American people as we prosecute the war on terrorism. So as we celebrate our Army’s Birthday and reflect on our great institution, a simple truth arises: there is no greater profession than the Profession of Arms, and no greater job than ours—serving on point for our Nation. Thanks to American Soldiers, freedom’s light shines as a beacon throughout the world.

The Army has courageously fought our country’s wars and served honorably in peace for over two and a quarter centuries. We can all be justifiably proud of The Army’s achievements—a distinguished history of service to the Nation. From our victories in the American Revolution through the trial of our Civil War, from the trenches of World War I to the beaches of Normandy and the island battles in the Pacific of World War II, from the frozen mountains of Korea to the sweltering paddies of Vietnam, from Grenada and Panama to the sands of Kuwait and Iraq, and now on the plains and in the mountains of Afghanistan, Soldiers have marched at the van of democracy and the cause of liberty.

**Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Chief of Staff**

And throughout that history of service, the key to The Army’s success is our flexibility and willingness to change, to meet the world as it is—without altering the core competencies that make The Army the best fighting force in the world. You are the best Army in the world. As we forge ahead to gain irreversible momentum in our Transformation, you will continue to be respected by allies, feared by our enemies, and honored and esteemed by the American people. Your courage, dedication to duty and selfless service to the Nation are the hallmarks of the Soldiers of the United States Army.

We will never be able to tell you enough how very proud we are of you, how everyone we meet offers their thanks for what you do and their prayers for your safety and well-being. So we are honored to join you in celebrating the birthday of the most powerful land force the world has ever known. Thank you for your service, for your sacrifices, and for your abiding devotion to something greater than self.

God bless each and every one of you and your families, God bless our magnificent Army, and God bless America.

**Thomas E. White, Secretary of the Army**

## Ferris Named Logistics Plans Officer of the Year for the ANG

SENIOR AIRMAN JULIE BRAGG  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS JOURNEYMEN, 103<sup>rd</sup> FIGHTER WING

"The singularly distinctive accomplishments of Capt. Ferris reflect great credit upon himself, the Air National Guard, and the United States Air Force," said Col. Dan Scace, commander, 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, Connecticut Air National Guard. The leadership, dedication, vision and direction displayed by Capt. Wayne B. Ferris has been recognized and honored with the award of Logistics Plans Officer of the Year for the Air National Guard for 2001.

Ferris played a major part in the success of the Aerospace Expeditionary Forces (AEF) rotation in Southwest Asia (SWA) during the fall of 2001. As the lead planner for six Air National Guard fighter units, he provided exemplary knowledge and support of deployment guidance. He created an ANG Benchmark AEF Reporting Tool Instruction, which ensured successful installation reporting guidance with regard to managing AEF Unit Type Codes (UTCs). Ferris composed and published AEF Deployment Country Handbooks for each deployment area. He also worked collaboratively with the 103<sup>rd</sup> Communications Flight to develop an unprecedented Lead Wing AEF website, which provided all participating wings with



Capt. Wayne B. Ferris, plans officer, 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, passes out information as he briefs 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing members on details of their May deployment to Southwest Asia. (Photo by Capt. George Worrall, 103<sup>rd</sup> FW PAO)

standardized deployment planning tools.

While coordinating the AEF rotation for more than 500 ANG troops, Ferris simultaneously facilitated the deployment of more than 600 Army National Guardsmen (ARNG) supporting U.N. Stabilizing Forces (SFOR) in the Bosnian

Area of Operations. Additionally, he conducted the first AEF aviation package swap-out in SWA during the onset of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"The Guard represents the best in America," said Ferris. "The Guard is citizen soldiers, free soldiers, who, when called to action,

seek not territory, but rather the enemy in its heartland only for the freedom of others. It is the Guard, ensuring defense of the homeland, that can mobilize and deploy in a set time. It is the Guard, which can muster and lead, and defend and fight. It is the Guard that represents the soul of our people, and the safety and existence of our society."

Ferris has served as the Logistics Plans Officer for the 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing for the past three years. He has served 14 years in the Air National Guard, and four years of previous active duty service in the United States Air Force. Ferris holds a bachelor's degree in both International Relations and Political Science. Reflecting on what he has learned from fellow Guardsmen and mentors, Ferris quoted Wing Commander Col. Daniel Scace on achieving the virtue of leadership.

"It takes critical independent thought and active participation in what is going on in your world. Add accurate perception and a yen to improve things in your world and that is leadership. You show leadership by your willingness to do things, your huge desire to be involved in things, and your way you stick up for what's right in your world. Keep it up and don't ever think you're there."

## Gonzalez Receives Prestigious 2001 National Image Award

STAFF SGT. STEPHEN H. MCKAY  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST, 103<sup>rd</sup> FIGHTER WING

"I always do my best at any job... I work hard because it's my nature not because I'm looking for awards," said Master Sgt. Frank Gonzalez, guidance and control technician, 103<sup>rd</sup> Maintenance Squadron, who is better known as "Frankie" to his co-workers in the Avionics Section.

Gonzalez will receive his award at the National IMAGE Training Conference and Convention, "Salute to Hispanics in the Military" awards banquet, to be held at Bally's Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada in June.

Gonzalez has served on the Connecticut Hispanic Heritage Committee since its inception in 1992. A community based organization; its goal is to promote the accomplishments and achievements of Hispanic Americans in service to their country. As co-chairman and most recently chairman of the annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration Committee, he organized a world-class event recognizing the many contributions Hispanic citizens have made to the nation and its Armed Forces. He has gone on to implement and resource a recognition program for local Hispanic youth honoring them for outstanding academic achievement and involvement in community activities. Active in his local community, he serves as a coach for the local YMCA basketball program and is a member of the Bible Study Baptist Church in Manchester, Conn. He also works as an assistant coach for his local midget football league.

"Frank is very proud of his heritage and does lots to support the Hispanic community," said Senior Master Sgt. Gerald Sledge, mission system section chief, 103<sup>rd</sup> Maintenance Squadron. "He works very hard here in the shop and is

extremely dedicated to the unit. He really does go above and beyond."

Gonzalez has a long and distinguished history with the Air Force. Born in Manhattan, N.Y. 48 years ago, he moved to Puerto Rico at the age of three and lived on

the island until he joined the Air Force at the age of 25. Originally stationed at George AFB, Victorville, Calif. as a weapons systems specialist working on F-4 Wild Weasels, Gonzalez also served a remote tour at Keflavik, Iceland where he loaded munitions on F-15 aircraft. He eventually ended up back in the states at Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C. where he finished his tour with the regular Air Force. In 1989 he moved to Connecticut and joined the Flying Yankees 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, Connecticut Air National Guard.

In 1998, after 15 years of combined weapons loading, Gonzalez decided to seek a new path and cross trained into the Avionics Section as a Guidance and Control Technician.

"I was looking for a new and stimulating challenge and really enjoy working in the Avionics Section," said Gonzalez.

Gonzalez and his wife Teresa, along with two children, Frankie age 15, and Maricarmen age nine, live in Manchester. A strong supporter of the community, he has been instrumental in Puerto Rican public affairs and the development of the first public monument honoring the Puerto Rican community and its contribution to the development of the United States. The 4,000-pound Puerto Rican Family Monument is scheduled to be installed at Bushnell Park in Hartford later this year.



Master Sgt. Frank Gonzalez, guidance and control technician, 103<sup>rd</sup> Maintenance Squadron, testing avionics equipment in the avionics section at Bradley Air National Guard base. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Stephen H. McKay, PA Specialist, 103<sup>rd</sup> FW)

# American Soldiers and Students Make Bosnian

SGT. CHERI PRIESTINO  
382<sup>nd</sup> MPAD, SFOR 10

It's called a teachable moment. That is a point in the lesson where the teacher deviates from the planned curriculum to take advantage of an opportunity for real-life learning. These are three stories about teachable moments and making connections.

## The Teacher

At North Haven Middle School, in North Haven, Conn., a teacher was called to active duty to serve a National Guard deployment in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The health and physical education teacher used his pre-deployment time to teach his 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders about Bosnia. He told them about the people, the country, and the war. He taught them what he knew.

A few months into his deployment, the teacher, Staff Sgt. Brent Heidenis, at that point serving as a traffic management coordinator, with Headquarters and Supply Company, 143<sup>rd</sup> Logistical Task Force, got the opportunity to go home on leave. While he was home, Heidenis visited his students and spent the day telling them about his experiences. He told them about the refugee camps and the poverty.

Heidenis told the students that the children in Bosnia said it was cool to be smart in

school, because it led to opportunities and a better future. He told his students not to take things for granted, because these students had so little. At the end of the day, Heidenis returned home, but his message remained.

Echoing through the hallways, students reflected on other students, 5,000 miles away who were hoping for a better future. The echoes got stronger and became ideas, and the ideas became action. The North Haven Middle School Student Council decided to make a difference. The North Haven students wanted to make a connection to the lives of these other students. So they held a fundraiser. Several weeks later, Heidenis received a package of pens, pencils, paper, crayons, and other school supplies in the mail.

## The Students

The Southington High School and Southington Elementary School have a mentoring program, in which 9<sup>th</sup> graders from the high school are paired up with elementary school students. The program is called Big Friend/Little Friend. While the expectation is for the younger children to learn from the high school students, sometimes the learning goes much further.

It seems that some classes were studying Bosnia through the letters from one of the parents, a soldier deployed with the National Guard. Capt. Michael Sposato is



Soldiers of the 143<sup>rd</sup> Forward Support Battalion work with children from Pvrva Osnovna while deployed to Bosnia as part of SFOR 10. (Photo by Capt. Michael Sposato, 143<sup>rd</sup> FSB)

a physician's assistant with Company B, 143<sup>rd</sup> Logistical Task Force. Sposato wrote notes to his son, Justin, about his experiences in Bosnia.

In one note, Sposato talked about a visit to a refugee housing area in Visca, during which he handed out 400 pens, pencils, and erasers that had been donated by a friend from home. He also

talked about giving away his only pen.

"I was mobbed. It took me about 45 minutes to hand them all out. The kids loved it."

The 9<sup>th</sup> graders mentoring the younger children heard those stories and decided that they wanted to help. One young person in particular, Jackie Kalita, set out to put a plan into action. She collected donations and sent a package with more school supplies to Sposato.

In the accompanying note, she explained: "It's hard to believe that they hardly have pencils and paper when we have tons."

Kalita's package contained pencils, paper, and even a pencil sharpener, so the students could keep their pencils sharp.

## The Book

It began simply enough. Two teachers, Nicole Wroy and Cristen Susong, from Franklin Middle School in Reisterstown, MD, had their students write letters to deployed soldiers. Two hundred letters later, Susong took the exercise a step further. Her students were reading a new book about Bosnia and she wanted to help them make a connection to the country and the war.

The book is described as Sarajevo's Anne Frank. *Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Sarajevo*, chronicles the events in a young girl's life from September 1991 through October 1993. Zlata, a Croatian girl living in Sarajevo, was a 10-year-old, preoccupied with piano and tennis lessons and all things American, when she began keeping her journal. Soon, however, her childhood world ended as the bombs fell and the snipers killed her friends. Her



Staff Sgt. Brent Heidenis, Headquarters and Supply Company, 143<sup>rd</sup> Logistical Task Force (143<sup>rd</sup> FSB, CTARNG), mentors two students from Pvrva Osnovna. (Photo by Capt. Michael Sposato, 143<sup>rd</sup> FSB)

# Connection During SFOR 10 Deployment

new life consisted of United Nations food packages, rationed electronically and constant bombings.

“My students read Zlata’s diary in January and learned all about the area, the war, and the effects the war had on the children of Bosnia and Herzegovina,” said Susong. “They were very moved and alarmed to see how war has affected the children in that area.”

As soon as her students progressed through the book, Susong contacted 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Raymond Arpin, of F Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 224<sup>th</sup> Aviation, about connecting her class with students in Bosnia. Arpin agreed to help and soon the letters arrived. The students wrote about their lives, their likes and dislikes, and asked the Bosnian children to write back to describe likes and dislikes, and how their lives were affected by the war. Susong included a letter to the Bosnian teacher, explaining the project and asking for the students to respond.

Once the letters arrived, Arpin turned them over to Spc. William Fannin, also with F Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 224<sup>th</sup> Aviation. Fannin took the letters from Susong’s students and passed them on to the school director, who will pass them on to an English teacher for translation, after which the students will receive the letters and write responses. Once the responses are translated back into English, the letters with travel back to Franklin Middle School, where Susong’s students will be anxiously awaiting.

“I really think it is important for students to become more culturally aware,” says Susong. “It is one thing to read a book about Zlata and quite another to receive a personal letter from someone living in a different culture. Whatever responses we get, I am sure my students will have a better understanding of what life is like for students in another part of the world.”

## The School

Prva Osnova Skola, a school in Zivinice, was the recipient of the supplies and letters from the children in the United States. The school serves 1,200 students in the 1<sup>st</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Croats, Muslims, and Serbs all attend classes together. The large, old building sits amid a neighborhood where drug problems are common.

According to Sposato, there is a limited amount of pens, pencils, and paper, and the halls are poorly lit to conserve energy. But the children are little different from children anywhere. They laugh and smile; they are eager to please and eager to learn.

Sposato and the other soldiers visited the school to teach seventh graders how to be mentors for an anti-drug program the school had adopted from a Tennessee Army National Guard program. They came to deliver a message, but the soldiers brought much more.

Refik Tulumovic, the school director, is thankful for the help and the interest that students from the United States have shown in his school.

Like educators everywhere, he desires the best for his students. With the connections made through the soldiers of SFOR, chances are his students will benefit, as will the students who reached out with generosity and interest from 5,000 miles away.

## The Future

The faculty and staff of Prva Osnovna have not been forgotten now that the soldiers of SFOR 10 have returned to their own families, schools and communities. The project begun by the 143rd FSB and 29th ID soldiers has been viewed as a valuable program by their replacements in SFOR 11 and will be continued.

The soldiers of Connecticut’s 143rd Forward Support Battalion, along with their fellow soldiers from Company B, 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry, went to Bosnia on a peacekeeping mission nearly one year ago and left a precious legacy for the students and staff of a rural school and the soldiers who follow them.

*(Editor’s Note: With the exception of the last two paragraphs, this article was reprinted from the March 8, 2002 issue of the Talon.)*



Soldiers of the 143rd Forward Support Battalion, Connecticut Army National Guard deployed in Bosnia as part of the SFOR 10 rotation volunteered their services as mentors in a local school. Soldiers of SFOR 11 are continuing the project. (Photo by Capt. Michael Sposato, 143rd FSB)



Capt. Michael Sposato and Refik Tulumovic tour the schoolgrounds. (Photo courtesy of Capt. Sposato, 143rd FSB)



Spec. Daniel Grenier, Company B, 143rd Logistical Task Force (143rd FSB, CTARNG), works with two students from Prva Osnovna, a local school in Bosnia. (Photo by Capt. Michael Sposato, 143rd FSB)



The students and faculty of Prva Osnovna along with the soldiers who delivered aid to the impoverished school. (Photo by Capt. Michael Sposato, 143rd FSB)

## Job Fair Held to Help Reclassify Members of the 192<sup>nd</sup> FA

SPEC. VIVIAN RODRIGUEZ  
65<sup>th</sup> PRESS CAMP

Members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 192<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery (FA) attended a job fair at Camp Rowland to be reclassified into new units. The FA unit will be deactivated as of Sept. 1, 2003; simultaneously, the 192<sup>nd</sup> Chemical Battalion will be stood up. Other units new to the state include the 103<sup>rd</sup> Chemical Company in Naugatuck, 135<sup>th</sup> Military Police in Norwich, and the 1048<sup>th</sup> Truck Company in Stratford. This transition is part of the Operation Bold Move, which kicked off two years ago.

The artillerymen went through the reclassification workshop to help them choose a new job specialty and unit. The workshop was divided into nine stations to provide the smoothest transition possible for these soldiers. The members of the 192<sup>nd</sup> FA were first briefed on the transition and given an overview of the process prior to the reclassification workshop. At Station 2 they received employment counseling. At this station the members were provided with guidance by career counselors who made sure they were heading in the right reclassification direction based on their qualifications and the job requirements of what might be their gaining unit. The soldiers were provided with informational videos that allowed them to view the mission and tasks of the new units in depth. Soldiers were not limited to just those units; some were offered the opportunity to attend Officer Candidate School or Warrant Officer programs. Counseled members would then went to Station 3 where they selected the job of their choice and paperwork was started assigning them to their new unit.

"The focus (of the job fair) was not only the retention of these soldiers and their careers, but to have the unit reformed by the next month as well as being able to provide efficient training within the coming year," said Maj. Shawn Karvelis, State Mobilization Officer.

Once a soldier had selected and been assigned a new job, he proceeded to the training station, where he was given the dates and location of his gaining unit's next drill.

Some of the members needed a security clearance for their new jobs, and moved to the security station where, once again, paperwork was started for the security clearance process. The next two steps in the reclassification process were ensuring that every soldier was set up for Army Knowledge Online and that the soldier's supply records were up to date and they had everything they need.

The final process in this workshop was quality control where all paperwork was checked and verified to ensure that each soldier had gone through every station necessary and was suitably taken care of.

"Retention is a challenge, but we are putting forth 100 percent effort to keep our soldiers," said Lt. Col. Francis Vahle, commander of 192<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery. "The process is working out very well. We have full state support to make this happen and momentum and morale are high."

"They are making sure you understand and that you are taken care of," said Pfc. Freddy Kyermeh of the 192<sup>nd</sup> FA, who will be joining the new chemical unit. He hopes that his new chemical unit is not too different from his old unit.

In the month to follow these soldiers will be going to their new unit and will operate in their new chain of command. During their first drill with their new units, they will undergo team-building exercises at Stones Ranch, Niantic.

"The reclassification workshop has told me all I needed to know," said Pvt. Jeremiah Brown, who feels the transition is going pretty well and will be transferring into the 135<sup>th</sup> MP unit.



Members of the 1st Battalion, 192<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery are provided with guidance and are advised by career counselors during a Job Fair to help them choose new units and military specialties. Their current unit is being deactivated. (Photo by Spec. Marian Rosado, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)



Career counselors review paperwork and answer questions the soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 192<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery have during a Job Fair to help them choose new job specialties and units. (Photo by Spec. Marian Rosado, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)



## Connecticut National Guard Receives Award for Bridge Project

The Connecticut National Guard recently received an award from the City of Danbury and the State Department of Environmental Protection for its part in the "Greenway Parks" project.

Connecticut National Guard engineers took part in the project through the Rails to Trails program and built a Pedestrian Bridge over the Still River in Danbury. The award was presented to Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the adjutant general, for the Guard's role in supporting environmental and community initiatives such as Rails to Trails and the Greenway parks program.

Gov. John Rowland made the presentation during ceremonies held in Danbury on May 16. Also receiving awards were the Still River Alliance and the City and Land Trust of Southbury.

Pictured are Gov. John Rowland and Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the adjutant general.

(Photo by Maj. John Whitford, State PAO)

# Continuing with Life Despite New Realities...One Airman's Story

MAJ. SCOTT WILSON  
STATE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Many would agree that, for most Americans, life after the tragic events of September 11<sup>th</sup> is relatively stable. Sure, there are still reminders – airport security, continuing media coverage of the war against terror, and tattered flags flying on cars. While none of us will ever forget what happened, the ‘day-to-day’ is somewhat normal. That causes us to forget that, for many Connecticut Air and Army Guardsmen, the original call to duty has not ended.

Master Sgt. Daniel Coppinger, a lieutenant with the West Hartford Police Department, knew it was not an ‘accident’ when the first plane struck the tower on September 11<sup>th</sup>. His experience and training as the Installation Physical Security Superintendent for the 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing in East Granby lead him to that conclusion. He immediately went to the headquarters of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Security Forces and began a journey that continues to this day.

Coppinger, a 1986 graduate of Simsbury High School, holds a bachelor’s degree in Public Policy and Government from Eastern Connecticut State University. During his sophomore year of college, he made a change in his life.

“I was bored,” Coppinger explains. “I needed to challenge myself more. I had friends who were in the ROTC (Reserve Officer’s Training Program), and I thought



Master Sgt. Daniel Coppinger  
(Photo by Maj. Scott Wilson, State Public Information Officer)

what they were doing was cool and challenging. Besides, I felt it was an honor to serve my country.” Upon graduation, Coppinger joined the Air National Guard as a fire team member with the 103<sup>rd</sup>. He progressed through the ranks, as he did with the West Hartford Police force, where today he is the S.W.A.T team commander.

Coppinger and his wife, Lori, also a lieutenant with the West Hartford Police Department, were like many young couples

before September 11<sup>th</sup>. Actively engaged in establishing their family foundation, they entered into the adoption process and also were in the process of buying a home. Then ‘the event’ occurred, and Coppinger’s unit activated. Today, instead of bemoaning his situation, Coppinger is quick to point out that, “Life goes on. Sure, there have been hardships, but I’ve seen other soldiers with harder situations giving it their all, and that motivates me. The command is really

supportive, and my wife supports what I’m doing 100 percent. I’ve been able to keep up with what’s going on with my S.W.A.T. team and the department, and complete the mission for the 103<sup>rd</sup>. I am thankful.” Coppinger also notes that the activation made the 103<sup>rd</sup> a stronger unit.

“I’ve never seen the unit as strong as it is now. This activation, and some of the deployments that resulted from it, really brought all of us together. The unit completed a lot of work and is really able to focus on its core mission. Our readiness is high.”

Despite the fact that most of our day-to-day lives seem normalized, all of us know our world is not the same. Many struggle with how to combat an enduring intrusion into our security. We need look no further than some of our fellow Guardsmen for a lead, though. In fact, life does go on, and it bears rewards for those that work hard and are patient. The Coppinger’s, affected to this day more than most, are fighting the intrusion by continuing with their lives. Coppinger’s son, Daniel Chan Coppinger, arrived from the Pusan area of South Korea on April 1, and the Coppingers are now proud homeowners. They are the model that should provide all of us an answer to our quandary: America’s families may have to deal with new realities, but they continue on strongly and proudly.

# C.C.A.F. Graduates 13 in Ceremonies Held at Bradley ANG Base

CAPT. GEORGE WORRALL  
103<sup>rd</sup> FW PAO

Thirteen Flying Yankees were honored during a Community College of the Air Force (C.C.A.F.) commencement ceremony, held at the Bradley Air National Guard Base on Sunday, May 5, 2002. The graduates recently earned their associates of applied science degrees in 11 different major concentrations. Two individuals received their second C.C.A.F. degree during the ceremony.

This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the C.C.A.F. Each year the C.C.A.F. graduates more than 11,000 students. Since its establishment in 1972, the C.C.A.F., the largest community college in the world, has awarded nearly 217,000 degrees in more than 60 technical areas.

“These graduates represent today’s Air Force,” said Colonel Dan Scace, commander, 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing. “This is not your father’s or mother’s Air Force. In this high-tech precision force, education is something that is important and is something we value and support.”

The keynote speaker at the ceremony, William J. Pizzuto, Ph.D., executive director of tri-campus administration at the University of Connecticut, is a strong



Seven of the thirteen new Community College of the Air Force graduates take a moment to pose for a group photo with their degrees after the graduation ceremony on May 4. (Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Paul F. Braudis Jr., 103 CF)

supporter of Connecticut Air and Army National Guard students. In December 2001, Pizzuto visited Connecticut Army National Guard troops deployed in Bosnia.

“Society values you now even more because you have something that many people may never get the chance to experience. That experience is a college

education and ownership of a degree,” said Pizzuto to the C.C.A.F. graduates.

In his comments, Pizzuto urged the graduates to continue with their education. “Learning is lifelong. And quality education and training are what makes this country stand above the rest and remain the greatest in the world.”

- Graduates & Degree Conferred:
- Master Sgt. Ivan D. Anglero  
Personnel Administration
  - Senior Airman Christopher D. Coutu  
Avionics Systems Technology
  - Tech. Sgt. Jeanne E. Daigneau  
Audiovisual Production Services
  - Staff Sgt. Abby S. Gardner  
Allied Health Sciences
  - Master Sgt. Jorge J. Gonzalez  
Criminal Justice
  - Master Sgt. Dan L. Gregoire  
Electronic Systems Technology
  - Staff Sgt. John M. Hollis, Jr.  
Maintenance Production Management
  - Tech. Sgt. Robert J. Long  
Avionic Systems Technology
  - Tech. Sgt. Scott E. McIntosh  
Allied Health Services &  
Bioenvironmental Engineering Tech.
  - Senior Airman Kevin M. Ruel  
Information Management
  - Staff Sgt. Robert T. Schumann II  
Ecological Controls
  - Master Sgt. Judith L. Wajda  
Electronic Systems Technology
  - Master Sgt. Lyvirn O. Wallace  
Construction Technology

# The Beret Is Here To Stay: Wearing it Right Shows Your Pride in the Uniform

MAJ. JOHN WHITFORD  
STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

It has been nearly a year since the Army donned the new black beret. It can be said that it is a deceptively simple but, hard hat to wear. The beret, unlike the garrison cap that it replaced, isn't your average put-on-and-go chapeau.

Many of us need help in the proper wear and care for the beret. Ideally, you need a mirror, maybe two, so you can see yourself from the side. Also helpful are observers, your buddies or your leadership, such as your squad leaders, to tell you if the beret is crooked, too high, too low, or not dented in properly.

Proper beret alignment is now a concern for everyone in the Army. Now that mostly everyone has berets, there's no excuse for not wearing them. Wearing them properly is easier said than done.

The flash needs to be centered over the left eye. For most people, the simple way to check this is to place the palm of your left hand over your left eye, and if the center three fingers on your hand are centered on the flash, the flash is centered over the eye. For most people, placing the knot directly on the back of the head will also help with centering of the flash, although some slight adjustments may need to be made.

The bottom edge of the beret must be worn

level and one inch above the eyebrow. A simple trick to check this is to take your index and middle fingers placed side by side and put them between the eyebrow and the bottom of the beret. For most people, this will give you the one inch measurement needed.

The bottom edge of the beret must be worn so that it is level all the way around the head and horizontal to the ground. Proper fitting of the beret and tying of the cord should help insure this. There is no easy trick to checking to make sure the beret edge is straight and level other than looking in the mirror or using the buddy system.

Once you have placed the beret and made all necessary adjustments for a proper fit, you tie off the cord using a non-slip knot. Cut off any excess cording and tuck the knot into the band of the beret or up under the edge. The person behind you should not be able to see the knot. Some people like melt the ends of the cord before tucking the knot in so as to ensure the knot stays tied and to prevent fraying of the cord edges. If you do this, be careful not to burn the beret.

The dip on the right side of the head should reach at least the top of the ear, but no further down than the middle of the ear. If your beret does not extend far enough down, or too far down, you may have the wrong size. See your supply sergeant about getting a properly fitting beret.

Female soldiers also need to pay attention to the style of their hair. Hair must still be pulled up above the bottom edge of the color, but must also be kept low enough in the back so as not to interfere with the proper wearing of the beret. Hair may not be tuck up under the back of the beret. And no hair can be sticking out from under the front of the beret, either. Bands must be pulled back off the forehead or pushed to the side.

There's more to this simple piece of headwear than meets the eye. Specifically, the right eye, next to which the beret's distinctive dip, swoops down. To make that dip look correct, the beret has to be soaked and shaped. Once you have executed these and other maneuvers, there's no guarantee the beret will fit everybody the way it's suppose to because no beret look exactly the same on any soldier. If your head is round, it will fit one way and if a person has long narrow face, it'll fit another way.

The bottom line is that the beret is here to stay. All need to be concerned about the proper fit and wear of the beret. Rules for wearing the beret are laid out in paragraph 26.3 C-D in Army Regulation 670-1. Instructions for properly wearing the beret can be found at <http://www.dtic.mil/soldiers/HotTopics/spring01.pdf>.

## Senate Confirms New ANG Director

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The Senate confirmed Maj. Gen. Daniel James III on May 14 as the next director of the Air National Guard. He will be promoted to the rank of lieutenant general.

He replaces Maj. Gen. Paul A. Weaver Jr., who has retired.

James will be responsible for formulating, developing and coordinating all policies, plans and programs affecting the more than 104,000 Air National Guardsmen in more than 1,841 units throughout the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands.

He will be the first Air National Guard officer to hold the rank of lieutenant general while serving as director. The position of director was elevated to the grade lieutenant general in August 1999 as part of the 2000 Defense Authorization Act and reflects the increased role of the Air National Guard as part of the total Air Force.

## Negotiated Technician Agreement Signed

MAJ. BARBARA LUHN  
HRO

The Negotiated Agreement between the Adjutant General of Connecticut and the Association of Civilian Technicians (ACT) was signed on May 7, 2002, during a formal signing in the adjutant general's conference room. This contract will remain in effect for three years from the date of signing.

The Negotiated Agreement affects all employees in bargaining unit positions. The Association of Civilian Technicians (ACT) is responsible for representing all bargaining unit employees. ACT is made up of the Flying Yankee Chapter and the Connecticut Army Chapter. This is the only Union that is recognized by the Connecticut National Guard.

The contract has been sent to the Department of Defense for review and approval. Once Connecticut has received an approved contract, the HRO will go throughout the state and teach the contract changes.

Some areas that have changes are Merit Promotion, Performance Appraisal System, Discipline, Reduction in Force and Technician Work Attire.

### Guide to Wearing the Beret

- Ensure the beret is the correct size. Soldiers should typically wear berets the same sizes as their SDU caps.
- Don the beret so that the edge binding (headband) is one inch above the eyebrows and fits straight across the forehead. The beret should be form-fitting across the head.
- Center the flash and the stiffener above the left eye.
- Pull the excess material down to the right side so that it touches the right ear but does not extend below the middle of the ear.
- Tighten or loosen the adjusting ribbon for a secure fit.
- Tie the adjusting ribbon into a non-slip knot and cut off the ends.
- Tuck the ribbon knot inside the edge binding at the back of the beret.

**All headgear must be carried when not worn. It may not be hung from the belt or stored inside uniform pockets.**

**CORRECT WEAR**






Edge binding one inch above eyebrows and straight across forehead. Center ribbon and flash between the two ears.

Form-fitting across the head. Edge binding straight across. Adjusting ribbon knot tucked inside edge binding.

Excess material pulled down between the top and middle of right ear. Form-fitting across the head.

**INCORRECT WEAR**





Edge binding not straight across. Center ribbon and flash not between the top and middle of right ear.

Edge binding not straight across. Adjusting ribbon knot exposed.

Adjusting ribbon knot tightened to secure fit. Excess fabric in front.

**Hair** may not be poked into the beret, nor should it extend below the bottom edge of the front of the headgear or below the bottom edge of the back collar.

# 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineers Train Despite the Weather

SPEC. JOSEPH WALLER  
65<sup>th</sup> PCH

The 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion visited Stone's Ranch Military Reservation to conduct springtime training on Saturday, May 18 in preparation for their upcoming annual training period. One of the most demanding engineering tasks the Guard members were being tested on was breaching obstacles, but the biggest obstacle they overcame on their weekend drill may have been the weather.

The heavy rain started the night before, and only intensified as the morning went on. Strong winds whipped the cold precipitation into the faces of the engineers, as they pounded stakes, set up concertina wire and responded to the operation orders of their mission-related scenarios. Many of the engineers wore plastic over their heavy, protective gloves to keep them as dry as possible while working with the razor-sharp wire.

Spring can be cool and damp at the southeastern Connecticut training area, but with temperatures staying below 40 degrees for much of the weekend, it was uncharacteristically cold for a May drill. Still, the soldiers of the 242<sup>nd</sup> conducted their lanes training, which included such combat engineering tasks as breaching and creating obstacles.

These tasks left the soldiers cold, wet and tired, but during their after-action review, Capt. Paul Thompson, an evaluator, told the troops, "You kept your morale up, you did a good job, and these are rough conditions.

The lesson here is the pre-combat inspections and bringing everything you need."

Another task the battalion maneuvered through was creating a defensive fighting position for an M-1 Abrams tank. The task was done using some of the battalion's heavy equipment in a dirt field near the training area's landing strip.

"This is good combat training. For the last two years we've been doing a lot of humanitarian and construction missions, but we are here to train in a tactical scenario," said 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Eric Hoover, a platoon leader in the 242<sup>nd</sup> and an evaluator for this task.

Up the hill from the fighting position exercise, on the eastern side of Stone's Ranch, some members of Company C of the 242<sup>nd</sup> were performing a real-world mission on one of the Stone's Ranch roadways, as part of the battalion's ongoing road-improvement efforts at the training area. Using a Small Emplacement Excavator (SEE) vehicle, the engineers were installing a silt fence to prevent runoff into the area wetland.

The weekend work was being done in support of the 242<sup>nd</sup>'s annual training mission, completing a project that has been a part of the battalion's mission for the last 10 years. With only 1,500 feet of road left to construct, the engineers expect to complete the long-term assignment soon.

Given the amount of rain the engineers had to endure over the weekend, and with their 15-day annual training period just about a month away, the May weekend was a good choice to work on that aspect of the project.



Pvt. 2 Sean Mason, Pvt. 2 James Garvin and Spec. Jason Krouch prepare a wire obstacle as part of combat engineer lanes training at Stone's Ranch. (Photo by Spec. Jeffrey Austin, 65th PCH)



Members of the 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion worked on perfecting their combat skills despite heavy rains recently at Stone's Ranch Military Reservation. Constructing a wire obstacle is one of several tasks engineers are required to master. (Photo by Spec. Jeffrey Austin, 65th PCH)



Many road improvement projects are under way at Stone's Ranch. (Photo by Spec. Jeffrey Austin, 65th PCH)



Cpl. Jeffrey Holt, an equipment operator with the 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion, uses a single Engine excavator (SEE) to create a trench to prevent road silt runoff. (Photo by Spec. Jeffrey Austin, 65th PCH)



Bad weather weather and driving rains would not deter the enemy in combat, nor did it deter the soldiers of the 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion during a recent training weekend at Stone's Ranch. These engineers work to construct a wire obstacle. (Photo by Spec. Jeffrey Austin, 65th PCH)

# Teens Are All That They Can Be in Guard

EDITH ZELDES  
MIDDLETOWN PRESS CORRESPONDENT

EAST HAMPTON – They are all friends, they are all graduating seniors at East Hampton High School, and they have all joined the Connecticut Army National Guard. They are Brandi Ann Darmanin, Jennifer Ann Harris, and Alicia Marie Valli.

They all decided to go and listen to Sergeant First Class Tommy J. LaPointe, career counselor with the Connecticut Army National Guard, when he addressed their school on the merits of the Guard — and their interest was kindled from then on.

“Originally joining came as a total shock,” Darmanin says. “I wasn’t planning it. But I was the first to join.”

“When the recruiter was at school, the subject of the Guard became interesting to me,” Harris says. “I was surprised I actually went through with joining, though, because I always avoided any physical activity.”

“I first encountered the Guard when I met SFC LaPointe in July at our town’s Old Home Day,” Valli adds. “I later met him again and he asked me to bring some of my friends as possible candidates. I wanted to join, but I wasn’t sure when.”

“When I first interview an applicant, I make sure they meet the health and academic standards,” LaPointe says. “Then they take a written aptitude test. These three young women are all of outstanding character, good, honest people.”

According to their scores on the test, each was assigned to the post they were most



East Hampton High School friends, Jennifer Ann Harris, Brandi Ann Darmanin and Alicia Marie Valli have all joined the Connecticut Army National Guard together. (Photo courtesy the CTARNG Recruiting and Retention Command)

sued for. Darmanin was placed as an automated logistics specialist, member of the Headquarters Detachment Engineer Battalion, New London National Armory. Harris was to become a motor transport operator with the 1048 Medium Truck Company, also at the New London Armory; and Valli’s assignment was as an Avionics Mechanic at the Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot, Groton Airport.

Harris, as part of a transportation unit, will be driving trucks and transporting people and equipment. Valli, as an avionics mechanic, will keep helicopter radios in good repair. After Basic Training, she and the others will then attend Advanced Individual Training, attending classes to prepare for their post.

In the meantime, Darmanin, Harris and Valli attend the required drill one weekend a month, that includes basic soldiering skills, including how to set up field equipment, marching, lessons, etc. “Sometimes we stay overnight, usually sleeping in a building, and sometimes we go home overnight,” Darmanin says. There is also the additional commitment of two weeks each summer.

The three seniors begin their school day at 7:30 a.m. and finish classes at 2:15 p.m. Darmanin holds down a job from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Carousel Day Care Center, East Hampton; Harris has appeared in acting roles with the Ague Spring Players Community Theater, East Hampton/Haddam Neck, and been an active member of the Girl Scouts since kindergarten — last year reaching the

highest rank of Senior Girl Scout.

Valli has been on her school’s basketball and softball teams; plays alto saxophone with the school marching band and tenor sax with their concert band, as well as participating as second in command to the fife sergeant with the East Hampton 3<sup>rd</sup> Connecticut Regiment of Fife and Drum. Valli has also reached the rank of Senior Girl Scout. She formerly belonged to the 4-H, and is a member of her hometown Police Explorers.

“Alicia Marie Valli qualifies for an entry-level promotion to Private 2<sup>nd</sup> Class due in large part for her community involvement, patriotism and leadership potential,” LaPointe says.

“I think it’s cool to be in the Guard,” Darmanin comments. “It’s interesting, I’m learning a lot more, and meeting more people, traveling, and seeing the country. My folks couldn’t be happier.”

“The 100-percent college tuition waiver (to all state colleges, universities and community-technical colleges) helps a lot,” Harris adds. “I’m now waiting for replies to my college applications.”

“I’m looking to go to Eastern Connecticut State University after my first year of training,” Valli continues, “Brandi, Jen and I enlisted with the Guard for ‘6 by 2,’ active six years and inactive two years, but you may be called up during those two years if you’re needed. But we can all go to college while we still simultaneously attend drill.”

(Editor’s Note: This article was reprinted with permission from the Middletown Press.)

## Split Training Option Company Graduates Twenty-Nine Soldiers

MAJ. JOHN R. WHITFORD  
STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

On Sunday May 5, 2002, the third graduation of the Split Training Option Company was held at Camp Rowland. Twenty-nine soldiers graduated from the program conducted by the Recruiting and Retention Command.

Mandated by the Chief of Staff of the United States Army, the Split Training Option Company (STOC) began in October 1999. The purpose of this program is to prepare soldiers both mentally and physically for the challenges of Advanced Individual Training (AIT).

During the last eight months, STOC soldiers received three phases of training designed to maintain the skills and knowledge they received in Basic Training.

The first phase is the orientation phase. This phase is an introduction to the history and traditions of the Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG), and

provides an in-depth examination of the benefits available to each Guard member. These benefits include pay and entitlements, commissary/Post Exchange (PX) privileges, space available air travel, re-enlistment and educational benefits.

The second phase is the sustainment phase. This phase is both a review and an expansion of the soldier’s current individual knowledge.



The graduates of the 2002 Split Training Option Company. (Photo by Spec. Jeffrey Austin, 65th PCH)

The third phase is the AIT preparation phase. This phase is designed to test the soldier’s knowledge to include communication, land navigation, survival, weapons, nuclear biological chemical (NBC) skills, the Army Physical Fitness Test and command inspection by the commander of the Split Training Option Company.

Spec. Felix Del Greco from Company B, 1<sup>st</sup>

Battalion, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, was the guest speaker for this year’s event. Del Greco was a graduate from the first STOC class held by the Connecticut National Guard in 2000. Del Greco recently returned from a deployment in Bosnia in support of the Stabilization Force 10 (SFOR) rotation. His unit handled post security in Tuzla.

“To finally use the training that I’ve had in the National Guard, it gave me a great deal of pride,” Del Greco told the graduates. “My first sergeant used to say that we are all proud of you. Now it’s time for you to be proud of yourselves.”

Pfc. Roberto Adams of Company A, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry was awarded the Army Achievement Medal. Adams was selected as the “Soldier of the Cycle,” for his outstanding leadership ability and technical expertise throughout the course of the program.

The third STOC class began in October 2001 and concluded on May 5, 2002.

# Connecticut Military Department News

## General Charles P. Graham: Touched By Tragedy

Pfc. HOWARD MILLER  
TROOP HISTORIAN, 1<sup>st</sup> Co. GHG

(Fourth in a series of profiles of the Adjutants-General of Connecticut)

Charles Parmele Graham was born the son of George W. Graham in Utica New York, on June 6, 1839. In 1857 the family moved to Middletown, Conn., where Charles studied dentistry and established a practice. On Nov. 5, 1859 he married Julia Bacon and they had three children.

On Dec. 8, 1871, at the age of 32, he enlisted in Company H, Second Regiment, Connecticut National Guard. His rise through the ranks was rapid. One month after joining, he became first sergeant and eight months later, first lieutenant. On April 21, 1873 he became captain. On Sept. 3, 1875 he became major and on July 15, 1878 was elected colonel of the regiment. On Jan. 28, 1885 he was promoted to brigadier general.

At 4:50 in the morning of Feb. 18, 1889, Hartford's Park Central Hotel was destroyed by a boiler explosion and fire. The four-story brick structure, located on the corner of High and Allyn Streets was leveled. More than 25 people lost their lives and many more were injured. Among the dead were Graham's daughter Nellie, her husband Louis H. Bronson, and their infant daughter. National Guardsmen were called to the scene and helped recover the victims. According to the *Hartford Daily Times*, a small body was brought out for Gen. Graham to identify.



Gen. Charles P. Graham

"He managed with great emotion to say: 'If you find a little garnet ring on her finger it is proof the little one is my granddaughter.' An examination revealed the 'little garnet ring.'"

During his service in the National Guard, Graham was looked upon as an able and efficient officer and a good disciplinarian. However, in 1890 during a controversy over the use of Hartford's First Regiment Armory for public polo matches, Graham was opposed to such use and came in conflict with the State military hierarchy and Governor Morgan Bulkeley. On Mar. 1, 1890 Brig. Gen. Graham and several other commissioned officers were relieved of their commands and given honorable discharges by Governor

Bulkeley. The Senate of 1891 restored Graham to his position, but he was again removed by Bulkeley. In 1893 he petitioned the Senate for reinstatement and a favorable report was made by a special committee, but the Senate, by one vote, failed to restore him.

In 1893 Graham became one of the original dental commissioners of the state and in 1895 served as president of the State Dental Society. He carried on a successful dental practice in Middletown for forty-five years.

When Governor O. Vincent Coffin came to office in 1895, he appointed Graham adjutant general on Jan. 9. Graham served in that position until his retirement on Jan. 9, 1897. While there were no significant changes to the Guard during his two years as adjutant general, there were some new programs and innovations. In 1896, C.N.G. officers were issued the new .38 Colt double-action revolver. That same year, the annual encampment was visited by U.S. Army Commander, Maj. Gen. Nelson A. Miles.

During the 1900 National Guard summer encampment in Niantic, Graham suffered a partial sunstroke from which he never fully recovered. He suffered painful intermittent headaches until the end of his life.

In the years following his retirement from the military, his health and spirits continued to deteriorate. On Nov. 1, 1904, his wife found him dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head in their Broad Street home in Middletown. A note written in his hand made reference to "business troubles." Graham was buried in Middletown's Indian Hill Cemetery.

## Governor Declares State Of Emergency

MAJ. JOHN WHITFORD  
STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Governor John G. Rowland was notified that an emergency was declared at the Millstone Power Station in Waterford, Connecticut. Appropriate state and federal emergency management officials were notified and the state Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated at the state armory in Hartford. Town officials and local emergency operations centers in each of the towns within ten miles of the plant were also notified of the emergency situation.

Based on the continuing emergency, Rowland declared that a state of civil preparedness emergency existed. By declaring a state of emergency, the governor had taken control of all aspects of civil preparedness forces and functions in the state. The governor's proclamation of emergency directed state agencies to make extraordinary use of state resources to respond to the situation. State resources and response actions were coordinated through the State Office of Emergency Management (OEM) in Hartford.

**All this was just an exercise.** On May 1, 2002, the OEM was being evaluated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on this mock exercise. Thirty-four FEMA evaluators were at 28 locations May 1 while the officials dealt with the scenario, involving a ruptured steam generator at the Millstone Power Station.

Working alongside members of the OEM were other state and federal agencies at the state emergency operations center. These agencies included the Departments of Public Health, Public Safety, Environmental Protection, Transportation, Agriculture, Military and Consumer Protection. The United States Coast Guard, the American Red Cross and representatives from Millstone Power Station were also on hand.

This mock exercise dealt with issues pertaining to evacuation orders and procedures, school evacuation procedures, pet care, park closures, reception center information of host communities and sheltering. Information about these precautions can be found on pages 2 and 3 of the Yellow Pages in the telephone directories for towns surrounding the Millstone Plant. Also, the telephone book has a lot of pertinent information pertaining to public safety.

"If you take this business of public safety seriously, every issue is important no matter where it falls," said John T. Wiltse, director of the Office of Emergency Management.

## Horse Guard Mounts Up to 'Say Nay' to Drugs

Pfc. HOWARD MILLER  
TROOP HISTORIAN, 1<sup>st</sup> Co. GHG

Troopers of the First Company Governor's Horse Guard have been visiting Connecticut schools as part of the troop's "Say Nay to Drugs" Program. The program is coordinated by Pfc. Mark Bernier, a Bristol police officer.

"Say Nay" is a successful offshoot of the DARE campaign to prevent youngsters from experimenting with drugs and alcohol. In-school classes are combined with visits by Troopers and horses to make a positive impact on students who may be at risk to developing unhealthy habits due to peer pressure.

Schools in New Britain, Avon, Bristol, Madison and Wallingford have been visited by troopers and horses who give brief talks and riding demonstrations. They volunteer their time and efforts to help inspire youngsters to turn away from drugs. On May



Pfc. Mark Bernier and Geoffrey prepare to talk to a class of students in Wallingford during a "Say Nay to Drugs" visit on May 10. (Photo courtesy of the 1<sup>st</sup> Co., GHG)

10, troopers Gary Boucher, Ken Manzer, Howard Miller, Karen Morelli and Neal Palmese accompanied Bernier to visit two schools in Wallingford.

"It takes a lot of work to get the horses ready, loaded, and transported to the schools, but the excitement in the faces of the kids when they get to up close to our horses is great to see, said Manzer. "The idea that we are having a positive influence on the lives of the next generation is very gratifying."

In July, a week-long day camp allows students the opportunity to groom and ride Troop horses,

while learning lessons about self-discipline and positive role models. At the end of past camps, the students have received graduation certificates from Horse Guard Commandant Maj. Richard Belliveau and Lt. Gen. William A. Cugno. For further information on the program, contact the First Company Governor's Horse Guards at (860) 673-3525 [www.govhorseguard.org](http://www.govhorseguard.org)





# CAMP ROWLAND MASTER PLAN

A CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD CAMPUS  
CONNECTICUT ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

## NIANTIC, CONNECTICUT

From p.1

shelters built by members of the Air Force and soldiers from TSSD. There is also a new front gate under construction just off of Smith Street that will become the primary entrance into Camp Rowland. The main gate features a brick façade and a guardhouse for the military police or other security personnel on duty.

Camp Rowland is on a 10-year master plan. (See pages 14-15.) The blue shades on the master plan are the proposed buildings structures for the camp. Funding is already in for Col. Robert Nett Leadership Hall. This new leadership hall will replace several buildings that have already been torn down in purpose. The facility will have a meeting room ideal for a commander's call or unit briefing, a small kitchen, storage rooms for equipment and two offices. At a price tag of \$1.6 million, the 4,712 square foot building should be completed by summer 2003. Col. Robert Nett Leadership Hall is building number 60 on the Camp Rowland Master Plan. The building is named after Connecticut's own Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient, Col. Robert P. Nett.

Nett, who was born in New Haven and now lives in Georgia, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions while serving as a first lieutenant with the U.S. Army, Company E, 305<sup>th</sup> 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, near Cognon, Leyte, Philippine Islands. On December 14, 1944, Nett lead his men against a reinforced Japanese battalion. Nett fought at close range; hand to hand combat. Using his rifle and bayonet Nett killed seven Japanese soldiers. Despite successive wounds, Nett continued forward and assured the capture of the objective. Col. Robert Nett Leadership Hall will go up where the old flagpole stood on the western edge of the parade field.

One of the biggest projects the Connecticut National Guard is trying to get funding for is the proposed Military Leadership Regiment.

"At \$20 million, the academy will be the largest military construction project in the state of Connecticut," said Maj. Gerald Lukowski, Facility Management Officer. The Military Leadership Regiment will take up 92,700 square feet and will serve as a learning/training center. It will have an auditorium, administrative space for instructors and leadership regiments and sleeping quarters for students.

"We have already received \$1.8 million for the design," said Lukowski. "We are competing with 1,500 other projects across the country for congressional appropriations." The expansion of Camp Rowland doesn't end with the Military Leadership Regiment. FMO is looking to build a new post headquarters, a two-story housing unit, a training and conference center, a post maintenance building and a new PX.

"The master plan and environmental assessment were completed and approved in fall 2001. Now it is a matter of building as funding comes in," said Lukowski.

As Camp Rowland moves into the future, post Sgt. Maj. Gregory Grasso believes Camp Rowland is going to be a state-of-the-art camp that will exceed other camps across the country.

"This is going to be an active post 365 days a year. You can expect the use of Camp Rowland will escalate," said Grasso.

One Army Reservist training on the post summed up Camp Rowland's good fortune.

"When you come to Camp Rowland, from the outside it is very deceiving, but it's what's inside that opens your eyes."

| BUILDING KEY                    |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| EXISTING BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES |   |
| NEW#                            | DESCRIPTION                             |
| 1                               | TAG QUARTERS                            |
| 10                              | GUARD HOUSE                             |
| 14                              | TRAINING SHELTER #2                     |
| 20                              | LATHES                                  |
| 21                              | TRAINING SUPPORT BUILDING               |
| 22                              | TRAINING SHELTER #1                     |
| 23                              | BOG                                     |
| 24                              | POINT                                   |
| 32                              | QUARTERS BUILDING                       |
| 33                              | FITNESS CENTER                          |
| 34                              | MORALE, WELFARE AND RECREATION (M.W.R.) |
| 40                              | BN HEADQUARTERS                         |
| 41                              | 160 PERSON BARRACKS                     |
| 42                              | 160 PERSON BARRACKS                     |
| 43                              | 300 PERSON BARRACKS                     |
| 44                              | 300 PERSON BARRACKS                     |
| 45                              | F.A.T.S. BUILDING                       |
| 46                              | F.A.T.S. TRAINING SHELTER               |
| 50                              | POST DISPENSARY                         |
| HWS1                            | HAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE                 |
| G2B                             | GAZEBO                                  |
| FUEL                            | FUEL POINT                              |
| PROPOSED BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES |   |
| NEW#                            | DESCRIPTION                             |
| 11                              | POST HEADQUARTERS                       |
|                                 | PROVOST MARCHALL (L/70 DET)             |
| 12                              | ACADEMY                                 |
| 30                              | TRAINING/CONFERENCE CENTER              |
| 31                              | LODGE                                   |
| 51                              | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING                 |
| 52                              | POST MAINTENANCE                        |
| 53                              | POST EXCHANGE                           |
| 54                              | CARETAKER'S RESIDENCE                   |
| 60                              | CLASSROOM/TRAINING SUPPORT BUILDING     |
| OSTAN                           | GRANDSTANDS - 1,281 SEATS               |
| BRAMP                           | BOAT RAMP                               |
| OSDOCK                          | OBSERVATION DOCK                        |
| -                               | FLAG POLES                              |

- EXISTING BUILDINGS
- PROPOSED BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES
- GRASS/SAND AREAS



## NGACT: A Message From the President: 'If You Build it... They Will Come'

SGT. MAJ. (RET.) JOSEPH AMATRUDA

This message, taken from an old baseball movie, will be the mantra for our new executive board. If we build a good association, we won't need to run any membership drives. Our prospective members will be asking to join.

How do we build a better association? We've already started with a new and improved executive board. The additions we made this year will only strengthen the board and give us some new direction. But a new executive board alone will not cure all the ills of NGACT. We need to improve communications with our members. We need to provide more and improved services. We need to expand our working groups with new committee members. We need your help!!!

Over the past few years, all of the NGACT committees have fallen into and disrepair. We need to build them up and getting them running again. We need your support. I've listed below some of the NGACT committees, along with a brief description of their responsibilities. If you have the time, desire, and talents to help, please get in contact with one of the executive board members and volunteer.

All committees will submit a written report to the executive board on a quarterly basis. The board will review these reports and offer suggestions on improving services to our membership. The reports will also be used in our quarterly newsletter to keep the membership involved and knowledgeable of the breadth and scope of NGACT's projects.

First and foremost is the Fund Raising Committee chaired by our treasurer, Dave Fecso and our Air Guard Officer, Wayne Ferris.

Presently, we receive about 80 percent of our funding through the sale of life insurance underwritten by the Militia Insurance Trust. This is not healthy. We need to diversify. I would like to see this committee look into alternative fund raising; things like an annual raffle, bus trips and the sale of merchandise like our golf shirts, belt buckles, caps and mugs. This can be done through our web site and our quarterly newsletter. The idea of corporate membership and/or sponsorship must also be explored.

I would also like to see our office, in the Hartford Armory, manned on a daily basis. This can be arranged through a Volunteer Committee. The fact that we must maintain a database of more than 4,700 members makes this an imperative. Daily manning would also provide us the opportunity to answer any questions immediately instead of having to wait from two to five days for an answer. If

there are any retirees who would like to assist in this project, please contact me personally.

Our Legislative Committee, chaired by Sabrina Gilfurt of the Air Guard, must become more active in advocating legislation that is beneficial to all Guard members, active, retired or discharged. Sabrina has a good start on this, having recently returned, with fellow executive board member Debbi Newton, from a Legislative Workshop sponsored by EANGUS in Washington, D.C. She has already made contact with most of the staffs of our Congress and Senate people.

Vin O'Neill chairs our Scholarship Committee. This committee must also become more proactive. We only had 18 applications for our scholarships last year. I'm sure that we have thousands of college students in the Guard. Are they not interested in scholarships, or are we not publicizing it enough?

Debbi Newton, chairman of our Public Affairs Committee has been doing a fabulous job of keeping our name in the *Connecticut Guardian*. She has now taken on the additional task of publishing an NGACT Quarterly Newsletter, *The Nutmeg Guardian*. This young lady needs a lot of help in writing and editing articles and laying out the newsletter.

Joe Danao, NGACT President Elect and chairman of our Awards Committee, will be looking into new and innovative ways to award individuals and corporations. Every time we present an award, we make a new friend.

Claire Potier, who has been chairing our EANGUS Committee for many years continues to do an admirable job. Claire will concentrate her efforts on a closer liaison with the national organization. We need to explore the possibilities of using some of the services that EANGUS provides.

Bob Pernell has been covering NGAUS and continues to be the catalyst for a superior relationship with this national organization. He manages the NGAUS dues collection and the Annual NGAUS Conference. He will be tasked to improve this relationship and explore new avenues of cooperation with NGAUS.

Joe Danao and I will continue to work towards more corporate members and sponsors to increase our cash flow. A stronger working relationship with the corporate community can only enhance their posture and our lobbying efforts.

Bill Cusack, NGACT secretary, will be asked to work with all of the company sized units in the Connecticut National

Guard, Army and Air, to set up unit representatives. These unit reps will be used to further the message of NGACT and to bring unit concerns to the executive board.

Paul Therrien, our Army Guard Officer Representative, will be asked to look at Automation and Technology. With a database of more than 4,700 members, and twelve different data items on each member, we must be assured that we are on the cutting edge of security and technology.

Mike Straite, our Army Guard Enlisted Member, will be asked to look at new and innovative ways to attract membership, both in the state association, EANGUS and NGAUS.

We are presently talking to an Air Guard officer who has expressed a desire to handle our web page. Although the web page does the job that it was intended to do, we can make it easier to navigate and more presentable.

Our Retirees Committee, headed by Ray Veilleux, will continue to address the concerns of our retiree community. We will continue to lobby for state income tax exemption for military retirement and any

other bills that will benefit our retirees.

Finally, Barbara Luhn, our Air Guard Officer Representative, will head up our Volunteer Committee. In addition to finding retirees to man the association office, she will also be in charge of finding volunteers for all of our other committees and any ad hoc projects we may take on.

There will be other one-time committee requirements, i.e. the Golf Tournament, Annual Conference, Military Ball, Family Program, etc. We will try to publicize these requirements well in advance to optimize the volunteers needed.

As you can see, there is plenty to do and only a minimum of volunteer help. We ask you to consider becoming involved. If you have the time, desire and talent, please call our office at 860-247-5000 or contact me through e-mail at joseph.amatruda@snet.net. I will personally return your call within three days.

I am very excited and look forward to the next two years with this talented executive board. I truly think we can make an impact for the betterment of the Connecticut National Guard. I only ask for your support in volunteering to assist.

### Connecticut's National Guard & Militia Units

Present

## Family Day 2002



## Welcome Home

Join us for a Welcome Home Celebration for all soldiers and airmen who were deployed around the world this past year

Saturday, August 17, 2002 11 a.m.  
Camp Rowland, Niantic, Connecticut

Connecticut Army and Air National Guard  
Governor's Foot and Horse Guard

## Guard Voices

### Happy Father's Day, Dad: A Daughter's Gift to an Airman

SENIOR AIRMAN SABRINA L. WIGGETT  
103RD MEDICAL SQUADRON

This is a brief story about my father, John Wiggett (Master Sgt. John J. Wiggett Jr., 103rd Fighter Wing). For those of you who do not know him, he is a master sergeant who works over in Operations.

When I was little, my father used to bring me to the 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing to see what he did and where he worked. He took me around the hangar, introduced me to everyone in sight and educated me on all the parts of the A-10. What he couldn't tell me, he would have someone else answer my questions. Then he let me sit in the A-10, "wow what a thrill," I thought. But then I had to get out, because he caught me trying to pull the ejection pin. Ha ha, I was a clever little girl. Then he took me into Maintenance Operations Center where he worked. He told me all about his job and let me hang out with him at work.

When the Big E time came and he was tasked to work it, he asked me if I wanted to help him out. He even gave me one of his shirts to wear; I got a skirt and a pair of black shoes. Of course the hat was too big, but I didn't care. I was helping my dad pass out information about the Connecticut Air Guard and I got in the Big E for free!

Well, I won't keep boring you so I'll skip a few years. Suddenly I am 17 and a Suffield High School graduate. I had no direction and it was my father and my sister that sat me down and told me I should join the guard. My sister told me it was a great experience that I would need to go to basic training to understand. My father's dream was always



Three Air National Guard members of the Wiggett family who spent the morning of Memorial Day 1998 together marching in the Suffield parade pose for a picture, from left then Tech. Sgt. John J. Wiggett Jr., now a master sergeant, 103rd Fighter Wing, Airman 1st Class Tara Wiggett, now separated, and Senior Airman Sabrina L. Wiggett, 103rd Medical Squadron. (Photo courtesy of the Wiggett Family)

to have his daughters follow in his footsteps.

So I had a meeting with (recruiters) Master Sgt. Tony D'Angelis and Staff Sgt. Lynn Baligrocki. I saw a few videotapes and said, "Ok, sign me up." It was hard to leave my family, but I had to.

My father wrote to me all the time to see how I was, sent me pictures, and since I was gone for Christmas, he sent me the best gift, GOODIES! Brownies never tasted better. I knew what my sister and my father were talking about the day I graduated. What a feeling ... like you are on top of the world. Then I went to technical school. My father and I stayed in touch by mail, phone and even email.

More people on the base sent me letters. Sgt.

Paine even sent me a coupon book he made to give to my instructors as a joke. The coupons were funny like 'Coupon to sleep past 5 a.m., coupon for no PT,' etc. The day before I graduated technical school at Lackland Air Force Base, my father said he had a surprise for me when I got home.

Well, I had a surprise for him too, I got a tattoo! He was so cool about it, though I thought he would freak. When I got off the plane that next day, my sister and my father were waiting for me in their blues at the end of the hall. I thought that was it, they were the only ones picking me up until I opened the door past the metal detector and saw all my friends, closest relatives. Once I was done hugging everyone he told me my surprise, opening

day at Yankee stadium. Yes! He knew I loved the Yankees. We froze cause it was so cold, but it was a blast.

As the years went on, he stayed by me, encouraged me to go to school, and always told me how proud he was of me. For a year, I joined him in a bowling league and he gave me pointers and encouragement even when I threw gutters. Then I went to another school and got Distinguished Graduate; I've never seen him smile so big. I could see the pride in his eyes. He should be giving himself a pat on the back, because he always taught me that you can do anything you put your mind to and that I was always going to succeed in life cause I have a big heart and great spirit.

For his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday I wrote him a poem and put it on a plaque for him. We had a big party for him, and I read it to him in front of everyone he works with. I could see how much it touched him, and everyone else in the room for that matter.

My father is always there for me if I need a shoulder to cry on, someone to laugh with, or even if I just need money (ha).

Seriously though, I have not been the best of daughters, but no matter what, he always stood by me and that's why I love him so much. Whoever gets an opportunity, please stop by Operations, shake his hand for being a great dad, and check out the plaque that hangs proudly in his office.

Happy Father's Day, Dad! If you are reading this now, this one is for you. I appreciate and love you more than you'll ever know. Thanks for everything.

### Remembering a Month at Ground Zero: A Chaplain's Story

CHAPLAIN (LT. COL.) JOHN C. NODOP  
WING CHAPLAIN, 103RD FIGHTER WING

It is said 'no one who sees a disaster is untouched by it.' So true, so true. We all saw the attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 and we were all touched by it.

I saw it up close and personal, from September 20th to October 20th while assigned to the New York Air National Guard's Critical Incident Stress Management Team called CISM. In these next few lines I hope to paint a picture in words of what it was like to spend a month at Ground Zero.

Our CISM team consisted of nine officers and senior enlisted from the 109th Airlift Wing, New York Air National Guard. We divided into a day team, where I served, and a night team with each team subdivided into buddy pairs. My 'buddy' was an aero-medivac nurse and we walked the entire site daily, talking to Guard members, police, firemen, recovery workers, volunteers, and the public. As each Guard unit left the site, we conducted CISM debriefings designed to organize and vent their thoughts, feelings and images of the massive disaster they guarded, saw and smelled. All debriefings were strictly confidential, which quickly earned the teams a

good reputation throughout the site as "safe" people. Nine people who would listen to anyone's story, give a supportive reply and keep the trust between the speaker and ourselves. Thanks to our reputation, we were sought out by the tired Guard members, spirit-wounded police and firefighters, frustrated fire chiefs and police captains, federal agents, volunteers and crane operators. When our month ended, we had listened to more than 2,000 stories.

At the latest count (April), 2,825 people died at Ground Zero, 969 human remains have been identified, and more than 20,000 body parts have been discovered. When I was there we were convinced the death toll would total over 6,000. Human remains were discovered almost daily, and sometimes five or more times a day.

Specially trained dogs would climb the pile (as it was called) as their handlers watched the dog's every move. The dogs were never wrong. When a dog caught the scent it would lay down and not move until the firemen and workers found the remains. Once I saw a dog lay motionless until the workers dug ten feet down in the pile by hand and found a fireman. After covering the remains on the litter with an American flag, the remains would be carried to the morgue. There it would be numbered,

logged and, after a solemn committal service was rendered, the medical examiner would identify the remains for transport to the medical examiner's facility. Each fireman and police officer recovered was given a solemn honors procession to the ambulance and a motorcycle escort. Working in the mortuary, I participated in more than forty such honors.

Ground Zero was not only a massive five-story 16-acre grave, but also a crime scene. Each shovel full of dust and truckload of grotesquely twisted steel was evidence that needed to be inventoried and tracked. The tracking was painstakingly done 24-hours-a-day by the Guard. No one entered the site, nor left it, without a National Guard security check. Guardsmen worked 12-hour shifts, then were bused to Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn, or ferried to Governor's Island to sleep twelve to a room on cots. They called it field conditions.

Ground Zero was the gathering place for the best talent America has to offer. Teams from every corner of America worked without a day off to bring closure for the parades of flower carrying families. Who kept that assembly working day and night? An army of volunteers provided non-stop hot meals,

clothing, personal hygiene needs, on site medical care, including eye surgery when dust found a way inside your goggles. Even massage therapists, free phone calls, e-mails, washing stations, and a complete mobile veterinary clinic (remember the dogs?) were on site.

One private restaurant spent \$50,000 of the owner's money serving complete dinners to all uniformed personnel. I was waited on by a grounded airline flight attendant who had a story to tell of her own. Had that army of volunteers not been there, the entire site would have closed down 24 hours after it began. Surrounding it all were letters and drawings from school children everywhere, papering every wall and covering every table. Soon nobody read the letters since it is hard to enjoy your meal with tears in your eyes.

Did I mention the public? They came shoulder to shoulder as close to the perimeter fence as the Guard members would politely allow. Against the noise of the cranes and trucks, they stood as silent as the cemetery pile in front of them. Some tried to sneak a picture but none were allowed. They gave us Guard members a one-sentence message, "We're glad you're here."



## Legal Affairs: *Types of Military Discharges Explained*

CAPT. TIMOTHY TOMCHO  
JAG OFFICE

Although awards, decorations, letters of commendation and other forms of personal recognition are important indications of the character of a soldier's military service, the single most important indication of the characterization of a soldier's military service is the type of discharge. Discharge characterization is key to unlocking veteran benefits, including veteran preference points used by the federal government in hiring deliberations. Others will consider your discharge characterization as a determinant of your potential value. For example, employers view discharge characterization as a means to measure the value of an applicant's professional potential. Receiving an honorable discharge should be the end result of every soldier's military service, especially since not receiving an honorable discharge can have a lasting adverse effect on a person.

Most National Guard soldiers will receive one of three types of characterization of discharge upon separation: Honorable, General (under honorable conditions), or Under Other Than Honorable Conditions. Characterization at separation will be based upon the quality of the soldier's service, including the reason for separation. The quality of service will be determined in accordance with standards of acceptable personal conduct and performance of duty for military personnel as found in the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), Connecticut Code of Military Justice (CCMJ), Army regulations, and the time-honored customs and traditions of the Army.

The reasons for separation, including the

specific circumstances that form the basis for the separation, shall be considered on the issue of characterization. As a general matter, characterization will be based on a pattern of behavior rather than an isolated incident. There are circumstances, however, in which the conduct or performance of duty reflected by a single incident, provides the basis for characterization. Due consideration will be given to the soldier's age, length of service, grade, aptitude, physical and mental condition and the standards of acceptable conduct and performance of duty.

Leaders of soldiers must make every effort to ensure that soldiers are aware of the negative consequences of receiving other than an honorable characterization of service.

Many soldiers possess the false impression that an unfavorable characterization of service can be easily re-characterized by petitioning the Army Discharge Review Board (ADRB). This is not true. Soldiers should avoid the type of conduct that warrants an unfavorable characterization of service on discharge, rather than trying to have their characterization upgraded by the ADRB.

**Honorable.** An honorable characterization is appropriate when the quality of the soldier's service generally has met the standards of acceptable conduct and performance of duty for Army personnel, or is otherwise so meritorious that any other characterization would be clearly inappropriate. An honorable characterization may only be awarded a soldier upon completion of his or her service obligation, or where required under specific reasons for separation, unless an uncharacterized description is warranted. A soldier may be

discharged before expiration of the service obligation with an honorable discharge in limited cases, subject to the discretion of the approval authority.

**General, (under honorable conditions).** If a soldier's service has been honest and faithful, it is appropriate to characterize that service as under honorable conditions. Characterization of service as general (under honorable conditions) is warranted when significant negative aspects of the soldier's conduct or performance of duty outweighs positive aspects of the soldier's military record. When authorized, a characterization of under honorable conditions is awarded to a soldier whose military record is satisfactory but not sufficiently meritorious to warrant an honorable discharge. A characterization of under honorable conditions may be issued only when the reason for the soldier's separation specifically allows such characterization. It will not be issued to soldiers upon separation for expiration of their service obligation.

**Under other than honorable conditions.** Service may be characterized as under other than honorable conditions only when discharge is for misconduct, fraudulent entry, homosexual conduct, unsatisfactory participation, or security reasons, and under the following circumstances:

(1) When the reason for discharge is based upon a pattern of behavior, or one or more acts or omissions, that constitutes a significant departure from the conduct expected of soldiers. Examples of factors that may be considered include the following:

(a) Use of force or violence to produce serious bodily injury or death.

(b) Abuse of position of trust.

(c) Disregard by a superior of customary superior-subordinate relationships.

(d) Acts or omissions that endanger the security of the United States or the health and welfare of other soldiers.

(e) Deliberate acts or omissions that seriously endanger the health and safety of other persons.

(2) A discharge where service is characterized as under other than honorable conditions will be directed only by a general officer in command who has a judge advocate or legal advisor available to the command.

(3) No soldier will be discharged under Army Regulation 135-178, "Enlisted Separations," with service characterized as under other than honorable conditions unless he or she is afforded the right to present his or her case before an administrative separation board. The soldier will be afforded the advice and assistance of counsel. Such discharge must be supported by approved board findings, and an approved board recommendation for discharge under other than honorable conditions.

(4) As an exception to (3) above, a discharge with service characterized as under other than honorable conditions may be issued without board action if the soldier waives his or her right to board action.

The characterization of service upon separation is of great significance to the soldier. It must accurately reflect the nature of service performed. Eligibility for veterans' benefits provided by law, eligibility for reentry into the military service, and acceptability for employment in the civilian community may be affected by the service characterization.

### TGIF – The Guard Is Family: *What's Ahead for Your Summer Vacation?*

KIM HOFFMAN  
STATE FAMILY PROGRAM MANAGER

It's hard to believe that summer is here already! But it is and if you haven't made your summer vacation plans yet... it's not too late! Here are some ideas to help you plan a great summer for you and your family....

Your Information, Tickets and Tours (ITT) Office at the Sub Base has loads of tickets available to military families at discounted rates! Six Flags New England in Agawam or Six Flags/Great Adventure in New Jersey, Mystic Seaport and Aquarium, Bronx Zoo, local movie theaters and Disney World are just a few of the many places you can visit for less than regular gate admission if you buy your tickets through ITT at the Sub Base. For your convenience, ITT offers the option of charging tickets by phone and mailing them to your home. Give them a call at (860) 694-3238 or stop by their office on your next trip to the Sub Base.

Need a place to stay? Have you tried the Armed Forces Vacation Club? Resort Condominiums International (RCI) offers military members and their families a 7-night stay at any vacant property they own, anywhere in the world, for just \$234 a week! Several Guard families that have used this benefit in places like Smuggler's Notch, Vermont, Hershey, Pennsylvania and Disney World have told our office that the properties are great and the reservation process was very simple! Visit their web site – [www.afvclub.com](http://www.afvclub.com) and view the properties and search for availability at the same time. It's well worth the money and the time.

On those hot, steamy summer days in July and August – when you don't feel like making dinner – visit one of Home Town Buffet's locations in Connecticut. All 6 Home Town Buffet locations in Connecticut will be saluting military families this summer with their "Children Eat Free" program. During July and August, any National Guard member or spouse that shows their military

I.D. and pays for an adult meal will be entitled to 2 free children's meals (11 years and under). Just another reason to make sure that your spouse has a valid military i.d. card!

Lastly, make sure you don't miss Family Day 2002 on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>! This year's event will be bigger and better than our last outing in 2000. Our major sponsor this year is Frankie's Hot Dogs who will be donating meals for Connecticut National Guard spouses and dependents. In addition, there will be loads of children's activities, unit hospitality areas, free parking, free gifts and more! Mark your calendar and make sure you don't miss the National Guard's unofficial close of our busy summer season!

For more information on any of the above listed activities and events, call your Family Program Office at 1-800-858-2677.

## WARNING ORDER

**Summer Youth Camp  
June 26 to June 30  
Camp Rowland, Niantic**

**Family Program Readiness  
Conference  
June 28 to June 30  
Camp Rowland, Niantic**

**For more information or to  
register, call the Connecticut  
National Guard Family  
Program Office at  
(860) 878-6723**

# Connecticut National Guard Golf League Makes a Comeback

MAJ. SCOTT WILSON  
STATE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

"They say golf is like life, but don't believe them. It's more complicated than that." Gardner Dickinson

Back in 1997, some members of the Connecticut National Guard were sitting around talking. Some of them remembered that, in years past, the Guard had leagues so that members could engage in friendly competition. One of the leagues involved the often lauded, but seldom-mastered pastime called golf. They decided to resurrect the golf league, and in doing so, have perpetuated the legacy of frustration offered by one of the most simplistic of games.

After all, as Mark Twain said, "Golf is a good walk spoiled." Nevertheless, to those gripped in its claws, it is a sublimely paradoxical diversion from the everyday. Just ask any of the 'recent' founding fathers of the Connecticut National Guard Golf League, including Chief Warrant Officer 2 John Godburn, Capt. (Ret.) Joe Mayer, Maj. Ralph Hedenberg, and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jim Lozinski.

As Godburn, a Nicklaus clubs wielding, "mid-eighties" player will tell you, "I enjoy golf because of the mental challenge. Unlike many sports, golf is not as physically demanding, but it can drain you mentally. You try to understand why your swing works one day, and not the next...and you can't figure it out." Author Colin Bowles offers an answer to this commonly encountered dilemma:

*"The fundamental problem with golf is that every so often, no matter how lacking you may be in the essential virtues required of a steady player, the odds are that one day you will hit the ball straight, hard, and out of sight. This is the essential frustration of this excruciating sport. For when you've done it once, you make the fundamental error of asking yourself why you can't do this all the time. The answer to this question is simple: the first time was a fluke."*

The Connecticut National Guard Golf League plays every Thursday afternoon at Keney Park Golf Club in Hartford. The increase in golf's popularity (sometimes known as the "Tiger Affect") is mirrored in the league's increase in membership over the past five years. Its original twelve members now number twenty-eight, and each year applications for membership outnumber available slots. The number of slots is limited due to the increase in the overall number of leagues playing at Keney Park, but Godburn explains that opportunities do come up.

"We usually have a need for substitute players - not everyone can make it every week. And when the league begins each April, we give past substitutes first shot at available openings."

The league is divided into fourteen two-person teams, each rotating to play a different team each week. In September, the top four teams compete for bragging rights as league champions. Current members hail not only from the Guard, but also from the ranks of retirees, family members and some postal workers.

In addition to the league, a yearly tournament open to all Guard personnel, family members, and friends is held at Keney Park. The tournament is a direct descendent of the league, with proceeds benefiting the Connecticut Children's Medical Center Pediatric-Cardiac Department, and the NGACT Scholarship Fund. This year, the tournament is on Friday September 6th.

For more information on the Connecticut National Guard Golf League, or the upcoming NGACT Open tournament, contact Mr. John Godburn at 860-524-4808.

*"There are three ways of learning golf: by study, which is the most wearisome; by imitation, which is the most fallacious; and by experience, which is the most bitter."* Robert Browning



Andy Tower of the Connecticut Military Department Looks down the fairway before taking a shot. (Photo by Maj. Scott Wilson, State Public Information Officer)



Sgt. 1st Class James McDonald, STARC, CTARNG, concentrates on getting out of the rough. (Photo by Maj. Scott Wilson, State Public Information Officer)



Master Sgt. Joseph Chamberlain contemplates his putt before taking the shot during a recent outing of the Connecticut National Guard Golf League. (Photo by Maj. Scott Wilson, State Public Information Officer and avid golfer)



## 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NGACT OPEN



*All proceeds to benefit the Connecticut Children's Medical Center under the NGACT Scholarship Fund*

DATE: Friday  
6 September 2002

LOCATION: Keney Golf Course  
Hartford, CT

TIME: 11:00 am Shotgun Start

COST: \$90.00 person  
(\$25.00 driver only)

FORMAT: Four (4)  
Person Scramble

**Tournament Day Schedule**

|             |                              |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| 9:00-10:45  | Registration, Coffee, Donuts |
| 10:45-11:00 | Depart for starting holes    |
| 11:00       | Shotgun start                |
| 4:00-5:00   | \$0/50 Putting Contest       |
| 5:00        | Barbecue, Awards, Raffle     |

**Tournament Includes:**

- > 18 Holes with cart<
- > Hot dog & drink at the turn<
- > Barbecue to follow golf (beer, wine, soda)<
- > Awards, prizes and raffle<
- > \$10,000 Hole in One contest<
- > Closest to the Pin contest<
- > Long drive contest<
- > 50/50 contest<

For questions or more information contact: Dan Nerkan (860) 524-4938 Chris Hawkins (860) 524-4814  
John Godburn (860) 524-4808 James Howard (860) 493-2749

Return to NLT 16 Aug 02: NGACT Open, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3795  
(Make checks payable to NGACT)

|         |         |            |            |
|---------|---------|------------|------------|
| NAME    | ADDRESS | HOME PHONE | WORK PHONE |
| 1 _____ | _____   | _____      | _____      |
| 2 _____ | _____   | _____      | _____      |
| 3 _____ | _____   | _____      | _____      |
| 4 _____ | _____   | _____      | _____      |

**CHAPLAIN'S  
CORNER**

## The Ten Commandments For TV Viewing

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) DAVID C. NUTT

I went to the store the other day to do some window shopping for TVs. Our old television is acting up and I think soon it will be no more than an oversized door stop. The variety now is staggering as is the screen size, picture options and techno gizmos that go with the new TV's. The remote controls for these new video marvels come with manuals that require two years in a technical school and a degree in engineering...and that's just to turn the set on! Some of these marvels have no visible on/off switches at all. And among the ones that did, I noticed a disturbing trend. It was no longer an on/off switch but a one-word command: POWER. That's what it's all about isn't it?

Don't get me wrong I love TV. It is the invention of the decade but the one thing that bothers me about it is television is a one way conversation: it has all the "power." The only choice we get to make as viewers is the channel. So how do we, as responsible, sane adults control the cathode ray creature in our homes that spews out every kind of program 24 hours a day seven days a week? How do we hold our TV's and TV viewing accountable? I lift up for you and your family a simple guideline

The Ten Commandments For TV Viewing

I. Let TV expand and enlarge your world

views. Do not watch programs that offer only sensationalist or alarmist viewpoints.

II. Establish limits on how much TV (hours per week) your family watches (parents too!).

III. Read your TV guide, local listing in the paper and PLAN your viewing.

IV. Develop family guidelines for selecting programs

V. Make TV viewing an interactive event. Ask questions of each other about the program. Compare the standards of the program to what you learn in church. How do they differ or how are they the same?

VI. QUESTION ALL MEDIA. (Not just TV.) Remember: TV is a powerful medium but it's primary purpose is to sell you a product, not entertain or enlighten you.

VII. Do not hesitate to reject programming that violates your values.

VIII. Do not hesitate to uplift programming that reinforces your values

IX. Recognize stereotypes (good and bad).

X. Always explore your culture and compare it to a Godly standard.

Finally, remember that as human beings we are not called to lock ourselves away from the world but to go out and change the world. The only "power" you need you can find in the real world with God. Have a blessed summer!

## In Defense of Connecticut's Children: Role Models

CAPT. ANNE-MARIE GARCIA  
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION ADMINISTRATOR

Helping children and teenagers stay away from drugs, friends who use drugs and local people who sell drugs, is a very important job. Parents and other close relatives play the biggest role in keeping children drug free.

Because children usually follow their family's example, children are likely to stay away from drugs if their parents do not use them and have an anti-drug attitude. Parents can also control children's access to drugs and drug users by monitoring their activities, behavior and friendships. Anti-drug programs for youth in the school and community support parents' efforts at home. They are particularly necessary in neighborhoods where children see drug use and sales on the street and can be targets for dealers even when they are very young.

The best drug prevention education requires the participation and cooperation of families, schools, religious institutions and community groups, with support from the media. Sometimes parents operate the programs, but even those managed by schools and community agencies usually involve parents in decision-making and use parent volunteers for a wide variety of tasks. There are many things that families can do, both at home and with other community members, to help keep their children drug free. Here are some suggestions:

### Youth Drug Prevention Programs

Enroll your children in an anti-drug program run by the school or a local organization or church. Get involved in the program's operation. Make sure it focuses on building positive skills that will help your child resist their own desires and pressures from peers and dealers, to experiment with drugs. Effective programs do the following: Present information about the physical, mental and emotional effects of all types of drugs, the difficulty of recovering from addictions and explain why drug use does not relieve stress and other negative emotions or enhance personal attractiveness. Develop social skills, such as clear communication, responsiveness and empathy. Build self-esteem. Develop skills to control impulses and anger. Teach nonviolent conflict resolution strategies.

### Drug Prevention at Home

Be clear about the values and behavior you expect from your children. But don't set

expectations so high that the children can't possibly meet them, because that can cause stresses that can lead to drug use. Give your children a sense of belonging in the family to protect them from feelings of alienation that can lead to involvement with gangs and other anti-social groups.

If family members are using drugs, seek help for them, both for their own recovery and to find out how to best deal with children in the home who observe the use. If your children are in recovery, support them by attending family programs and changing behaviors that might encourage a relapse.

Organize or participate in a hot line for information sharing and to deal with crises. Work with community and religious leaders to provide a safe place for youth to go after school, on weekends and whenever no family members are at home. Staff the center with people who can organize sports and other activities and provide educational enrichment and help with homework. Seek donations of equipment, food, computers and books. Organize events and parties to ensure that youth have a safe place to have a good time.

Offer to chaperon at school and community events and games and to help keep children drug and alcohol free. Be a volunteer school monitor to help keep all areas drug free. Be a "neighborhood watcher" to ensure students' safe and hassle-free travel to school. Children who feel loved, supported and protected by their family are less likely to join gangs or experiment with drugs or other dangerous behavior. They also need to have good values and high expectations clearly communicated to them.

In order to keep children safe, parents may have to face the fact that drugs are a local problem and any involvement can make a difference in keeping kids drug free and safe in their environment.

The Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program conducts several Drug Free Leadership Events throughout the school year and summer months, all of our programs are conducted in partnership with educational institutions and community organizations, find out if your school or group would like to get involved, contact Capt. Anne-Marie Garcia or Master Sgt. Melisa Lata at 860-493-2724.



## Bravo Company

### 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry

### Military Ball



Bravo Company 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry requests the pleasure of your company at a Military Ball, Saturday, the 29<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2002 at The Radisson Hotel, Cromwell, CT.

The purpose is to celebrate the success over the past year and to share thanks to the soldiers, families and friends that endured the various challenges of military service.

An open bar accompanied by a Cheese and Fruit display will be available during a cocktail hour beginning at 1800hrs.

Dinner will be served at 1900hrs. with a cash bar available followed by an evening of music and dancing.

Attire is military dress - white shirt, black bow tie.

Rooms will be available for reservation at special rate of \$79.00 each for those who would like to stay. Please contact the Radisson directly at 860/685-2000 by 30 May 2002.

Please RSVP to 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Roy by 15 June 2002.

Hope to see you there!

\*-----\*

Dinner Selection:

|                   |           |   |          |
|-------------------|-----------|---|----------|
| Chicken Terrienne | x \$45.00 | = | \$ _____ |
| Filet Mignon      | x \$65.00 | = | \$ _____ |
| Total Enclosed    |           | = | \$ _____ |

Soldier's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Robert Roy and mail them to:  
Robert Roy  
Manchester Army  
Manchester, CT 06040

### \*\*\*Employment Opportunities\*\*\*

#### Army And Air National Guard Traditional Guardsmen Needed

For Summer Job Opportunities In The Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program

Dates: 13 May - 30 Sep 2002

Please Call CPT Anne-Marie Garcia Or MSgt Melisa Lata @860-493-2724

# Armed Forces Day Luncheon Draws Many to Remember 9/11

MAJ. JOHN WHITFORD  
STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

The 52<sup>nd</sup> Armed Forces Day luncheon was held on Friday May 17, 2002 at the Aqua Turf in Southington. The Connecticut Army National Guard hosted this year's event. The guest speaker was Mr. Al Terzi who serves as a news anchor for WFSB Channel 3 in Hartford.

Terzi touched on how the media has impacted the military and the public since the events of September 11, 2001. A military veteran, Terzi served more than seven years of active duty with the U. S. Air Force intelligence operations as a Chinese and Korean linguist. He was also a part-time radio deejay in Korea and Taiwan for the Armed Forces Network.

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jolene Emerson of the Recruiting and Retention Command was the 2002 Connecticut Army National Guard Honor Person. Emmerson was

recognized for exceeding all expectations in her assigned Recruiting, Retention and Attrition Management areas and is the first female soldier in the Connecticut Army National Guard to complete the Rappel Master Course.

Senior Master Sgt. Albert Parent of the 103d Fighter Wing (FW) was the 2002 Connecticut Air National Guard Honor Person. He is one of the most respected and sought after avionics experts in the country from major command (MAJCOM) representatives to contractors developing new test equipment.

New special lapel pins were given to those who attended. The special pin commemorates the Pentagon tragedy. Commissioned by the Secretary of Defense, the pewter pin bears the likeness of the Pentagon, watched over by an eagle blanketed by the American Flag. The words, *United In Memory September 11, 2001* are inscribed around the pin's edge.



Owen McDonald, a retired Guardsman, leads the 1st Company Governor's Foot Guard into the Aqua Turf to start the Armed Forces Day Luncheon.



Senior Master Sgt. Albert Parent of the 103rd Fighter Wing receives a plaque from Al Terzi commemorating his selection as the Air Guard Honor Person of the Year.



Sgt. 1st Class Jolene Emerson of the Recruiting and Retention Command was chosen as the Army National Guard Honor Person of the Year. Also pictured are Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, adjutant general, and Al Terzi.

Photos by  
Capt. Lou Martinez,  
65th PCH and  
Maj. Scott Wilson,  
State Public  
Information Officer

## HELP WANTED

The 169th Leadership Regiment has part time opportunities for qualified instructors and TACs, E-7 thru O-3. Certification classes start soon.

Contact Capt. Evon at (860) 691-4219 for more information.

## ESGR: Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Employment Protection Also Applies To Scheduled Drills!

LT. COL. (RET.) HARRY RITSON  
ESGR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

While most people recognize the importance of the employment protection provision of the Uniformed Services

Employment & Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) as applied to Guard Personnel and Reservists activated for longer periods of service, USERRA is also very precise in outlining your protection at regular scheduled drills and

AT. Surprisingly, our Ombudsman relates that by far the bulk of his calls and involvement revolve around these issues. Employers seem to be very supportive of the longer tours of duty, and, in fact, many have gone beyond the Act's provisions in terms of support – making up the difference in pay, etc. What they almost uniformly complain about is lack of timely notice of scheduled drills, annual training

dates and when annual training is extended. All of that is easily rectified!

Your rights are strong, and, at the same time, reasonable for your employer. Basically, you cannot be: discriminated against in hiring, training or promotion because of your service in the Guard; denied time off for Guard Training; required to use your vacation time to cover service periods.

On the other hand, they also have some reasonable rights: You must give your employer advance written or oral notifications of your duty schedule and all changes.

(The easiest way is to give your employer a copy of your training schedule and AT notice as soon as you receive it)

You must report back to work at the end of your training within the guidelines of USERRA. (Usually, after Multiple-Drills or AT you are granted an eight hour rest period from

the end of your service, but then you must report to work at the next regularly scheduled work start).

Communication is the key here, and it can alleviate most of the problems. Employers have the responsibility of keeping the business running while you are gone, and the earliest notification of your training obviously helps them plan and make appropriate arrangements to cover your absence.

If, per chance, you do run into employment difficulties there are three sources for information or mediation. First, is your Commanding Officer. Secondly, contact your Mission One Briefer whose name is posted on the ESGR Poster on your bulletin board. Third, you can also contact Tom Langlais our Ombudsman. His number is (860) 283-4222.

## Education Essentials: Explaining the Tuition Assistance Programs

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. PAUL L. DRAPER  
CTARNG EDUCATION SERVICES OFFICER

It is good to be back home from Bosnia-Herzegovina. I want to thank all of my fellow Guard members for all of their support before, during and after our deployment to a hostile fire zone directly after the attack on the World Trade Center. We of Bravo Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry could not have successfully completed our mission without your help, Thank You.

Now that I am back and starting to get into the swing of things again, I wanted to outline what our Education Service Office can do to help you and your soldiers in accomplishing civilian educational goals.

Col. Steven D. Anderson wrote an outstanding article last month outlining the importance of education to include some of the benefits that we as CTARNG soldiers have available to us. The Education Services Office has many diverse programs that can benefit all Connecticut Army National Guard soldiers. If I were to mention all of them in one article, there would not be room in *The Guardian* for anything else. The following information only outlines the tuition waiver and tuition assistance programs. The following issues of *The Guardian* will cover more of the educational opportunities we at the CTARNG Education Service Office can offer.

**100 Percent Tuition Waiver Program:** Any active member of the Connecticut National Guard in good standing, is entitled to a 100 percent waiver of the tuition costs at any Connecticut state (public) university, community-technical college or regional vocational-technical school. The waiver of costs applies only to tuition for individuals enrolled or accepted for admission (matriculation) to state institutions on a full-time or part-time basis in an undergraduate degree-granting program. To utilize the tuition waiver, Guard members must be full-time, matriculated students at one of the four state universities (full-time study is defined as 12 credit hours or more per semester); full-time or part-time matriculated students at the University of Connecticut or any one of the community-technical colleges; or full-time, matriculated students in an adult

apprentice or extension program, for which "tuition" is charged, at state regional vocational-technical schools. A Guard member is qualified for the tuition waiver if he or she meets the eligibility requirements stated in State Regulation 621-1. To apply for a tuition waiver, a qualified member must apply for admission to one of the state institutions. Once a soldier is accepted for admission to a state institution, they must complete Sections 1, 2, and 3 of Connecticut National Guard Form MDCT 1-95-R. Once the soldier's unit has assembled all tuition waiver applications for the entire unit, the unit will forward all applications to the Educational Services Office using MDCT Form 1-97-R, Tuition Waiver Transmittal Form.

**Army National Guard Federal Tuition Assistance (ARNG FTA):** To receive ARNG FTA, ARNG soldiers must have completed Phase I (basic training) of Initial Active Duty for Training (IADT) and be in good standing in an active drilling/traditional soldier (part-time) status. AGR soldiers are not eligible to receive ARNG FTA but are eligible to receive TA through their local active duty, Army Education Office. The point-of-contact at Fort Devens for AGR soldiers is the Education Services Specialist at DSN 256-2354 or Commercial (978) 796-2354. Traditional Soldiers. Seventy-five percent up to \$187.50 per semester hour (SH) or \$125 per quarter hour (QH), up to \$3,500 maximum per soldier, per fiscal year. Rates may be used towards traditional classroom learning or vocational-technical training. When applying the rate cap, first apply the 75 percent rule and then the maximum rate to determine the authorized TA amount. For example: A three credit course at \$150 per SH.  $\$150 \times 75\% = \$112.50$ .  $\$112.50 \times 3 = \$337.50$  authorized for ARNG FTA. A three credit course at \$300 per SH.  $\$300 \times 75\% = \$225$ .  $\$187.50 \times 3 = \$562.50$  authorized for ARNG FTA (the \$187.50 SH cap was applied).

The ARNG FTA Program is primarily an 'Up Front' program. Under this program, the ARNG makes a payment directly to the college/institution for the ARNG's portion of the soldier/civilian's tuition cost. If a soldier requests Tuition Assistance and

does not take the class, the Education Service Office needs to be notified immediately, so this can free up money for other soldiers who need it. A soldier who voluntarily withdraws from a class more than four weeks into the semester will be responsible for the bill.

Soldiers shall make available or provide a certified true copy of their student grade report upon completion of course(s) for which TA has been obligated. Tuition Assistance funds will be recouped, from the soldier, for a failing grade, incomplete courses, or courses from which soldiers voluntarily withdraw, unless there are extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances are situations in which soldiers do not have control. Upon receipt of invoice from the school, payment will be made.

Soldiers who wish to apply for ARNG TA must fill out a DA Form 2171 and turn it in to their units for their commanders signature. The units will then forward the form to the Education Services Office for final approval. Original DA Form 2171 will be accepted, with original signatures and original dates. Funds are limited, and will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. This program focuses on undergraduate studies and funding for those courses will be the priority. Soldiers

**DANTES Distance Learning Program:** Has the same qualification requirements and monetary benefits as the ARNG FTA. This program provides a wide range of education opportunities for Guard members who are unable to attend a classroom due to work and family commitments. All distance-learning degrees are regionally or nationally accredited and are offered by institutions throughout the United States.

Programs include certificate, associate, bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees, in addition to a wide variety of trade school and vocational technical programs. Institutions use an array of low- to high-tech delivery choices aimed at individual students worldwide.

Although textbooks, pen, paper, and videos continue to be the workhorse of distance

learning, advances in technology allow a variety of fast and efficient delivery systems. Many schools use email to submit and receive course lessons and papers or to communicate directly with instructors or admission offices. Others rely on computers for class interaction among students. Some use the Internet to deliver instruction on-line, and several rely on satellite or cable delivery methods.

Tuition Assistance is provided Up-Front at the time of registration for courses requiring completion within a 6 month time frame. TA is reimbursed for courses longer than 6 months. To apply for the program soldiers must submit a DA Form 2171 with "DISTANCE LEARNING" annotated in the top margin and in the course location block. Plus submit a DANTES Distance Learning Enrollment Form prior to the start of each distance-learning course. An Up-Front TA Authorization Form must also be submitted for courses qualifying for Up-Front TA payment (six months in length or less)

Tuition Assistance funding for distance learning courses is guaranteed for all Guard members. Funds supporting the program are sent to DANTES directly from National Guard Bureau and are held separately from the ARNG FTA budget that is used by the Education Services Office staff to fund traditional classroom courses at accredited institutions.

I hope this article has helped you understand and motivate you and your fellow soldiers to take advantage of the great programs we at the Education Services Office provide. Our mission is to improve the strength and readiness of the Connecticut Army National Guard by supporting the voluntary civilian education needs of our soldiers. We can only accomplish this mission if you the soldier know what programs we have and help us help you. Please contact Staff Sgt. Linda Patnoad or myself (1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Paul Draper) at (860) 524-4816/4820 or better yet, e-mail us at [education@ct.ngb.army.mil](mailto:education@ct.ngb.army.mil) to answer any education questions. I look forward to working with you to achieve your civilian educational goals.



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# Inside OCS: New Responsibilities, New Growth

OC ALICE SYLVESTER  
OCS CLASS 47

Throughout my 13-year tenure of military service, I have held officers in high regard. I have encountered many types with different personalities. Some I considered to be good leaders, and others I felt could improve upon the "be, know, and do" aspect of a leader. I have always had the opinion that not everyone was meant to be an officer.

I knew very little about OCS before going to the Regional Training Institute (RTI). The little I knew stemmed from rare opportunities to briefly see prior OCS classes while working at Camp Rowland. Sometimes I chuckled at the familiar faces of soldiers I knew. It was sort of comical to see some of my associates perform in such a regimented manner in the dining facility. I never imagined that one day I would be one of those soldiers.

The big day came when my dreams of what I wanted my life to be like in the Army led me to consider OCS. I had no idea what to expect. I just knew that I wanted to make a difference. As a senior NCO, I have tackled Basic Noncommissioned Officer's Course (BNCOC) and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer's Course (ANCO), but OCS has given me a new

meaning of military leadership. As one of the oldest candidates in Class 47, and a senior NCO, my biggest fear was keeping up with the younger soldiers and fitting in. Oh brother! Did I fit in?

Phase I was a great experience. I had more fun than any candidate did in the program. The key to my success was motivation and simply maintaining a positive attitude. I found that if I kept a high state of motivation and did what was required, the Training Assessment and Counseling Officers (TAC's) would see that I not only had good leadership skills, but I could motivate others as well. This allowed them to pay more attention to others that might need their guidance more.

I remember the day that my "daughter" Matilda was born in Phase I. One morning as we were engaged in physical training (PT), I was highly motivated as usual, and decided to "mouth-off" to show it. We were getting smoked! We did push-ups, sit-ups and flutter kicks, and I was steadily shouting, "You can't smoke a rock!" From that day, I was made to carry a rock, chosen by one of the TAC Officers. I had to name her, clothe her, give her a face, bath her every day and she was to be in formation on time every day.

Everyone thought it was hilarious. Needless to say, Matilda Magilacoti was the highlight of Phase I.

OCS has truly made a difference in my military career. Every weekend has had its unique and rewarding challenges. It has enhanced my career and personal life. I have learned a new meaning of leadership and how teamwork and motivation carries you through the most adverse of situations. OCS has given me a foundation to spring from and reach for the proverbial sky. I now have the confidence and tools to go out there and be the best leader that I can be. I am now able to lead soldiers in an effective manner and be a great example and role model. With the eight troop leading procedures, and knowledgeable TAC Officers and NCO's from which to learn, how can I not succeed?

During OCS, TAC Officers induce stress to determine how you perform in adverse conditions. Situations in which you are placed help to determine how you make decisions while under pressure. Don't take it personally. Remember; keep an open mind, be motivated, maintain a positive attitude and a will to succeed. You might just surprise yourself with what you can accomplish.

# Military Academy/ NCO School Staff Hold Reunion

COMMAND SGT. MAJ. (RET.) ANTHONY V. SAVINO

On Friday, May 10, 2002, a reunion of the current and former members of the staff and faculty of the Connecticut Army National Guard Military Academy/NCO School was held at Camp Rowland.

Approximately 25 individuals attended the reunion. There was ample opportunity to reminisce and share stories about the school. A steak and all-the fixings cookout was one of the highlights of the night. After the cookout, a short meeting was held to discuss attracting more former faculty members to attend and to disseminate information. More stories followed throughout the evening. Some attendees stayed overnight at Camp Rowland followed by breakfast at a local establishment in Niantic.

Some of the attendees included the former NCO School Commandants, Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Anthony V. Savino, Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Fred S. McDonald and Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Mullen.

This reunion was established approximately six years ago spearheaded by Sgt. Maj. George L. Brown, Master Sgt. John Butler and Master Sgt. (Ret.) Gary Espelin. Each year some new members attend.

The reunion is always held on the Friday evening before Mother's Day. The reunion committee is looking for names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of former staff and faculty members. If anyone is interested in the reunion, please contact Master Sgt. (Ret) Gary Espelin at [neomsg@aol.com](mailto:neomsg@aol.com).

## 102<sup>nd</sup> Army Band Announces Summer Concert Series

The 102<sup>nd</sup> Army Band of the Connecticut Army National Guard has announced its Summer Concert Schedule for 2002. All concerts are free and open to the public. The band has grown in numbers and talent over the years and concert segments include patriotic/military music, features by the jazz band and vocal accompaniments by members of the band.

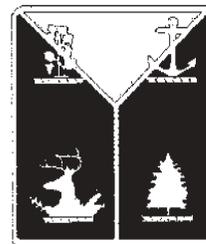
The schedule is as follows:

|         |                                    |                |
|---------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| July 14 | Montville Town Hall, Montville     | 6 to 7:30 p.m. |
| July 15 | Veteran's Memorial Park, Watertown | 7 to 8:30 p.m. |
| July 16 | Levitt Pavilion, Westport          | 8 to 9:30 p.m. |
| July 17 | Brodie Park, New Hartford          | 6:30 to 8 p.m. |
| July 18 | Town Green, Deep River             | 6:30 to 8 p.m. |
| July 19 | Town Hall, West Hartford           | 12 to 1 p.m.   |
| July 22 | Lebanon Green, Lebanon             | 7 to 8:30 p.m. |
| July 23 | Senior Center Green, Portland      | 7 to 8:30 p.m. |
| July 24 | Manchester Band Shell, Manchester  | 7 to 9 p.m.    |

### WARNING ORDER

### State Military Department Regimental Dining-In

All Connecticut active and retired Guard and Militia officers are invited.



Thursday November 7, 2002  
Aqua Turf, Southington  
Hosted by the 143<sup>rd</sup> Area Support Group

Don't miss this opportunity to share in a time-honored tradition and an evening of comradeship. Mark your calendar now and watch for more information to follow.

## Closing the Back Door: The Need is Now More Than Ever Before to Sell the Guard

SENIOR MASTER SGT. BRIAN J. BAGLEY  
RECRUITING AND RETENTION SUPERINTENDENT, HQ  
CTANG

The term Stop Loss has become a familiar phrase which significantly impacted the way recruiting and retention conduct business. Since shortly after September 11 the military has been in stop loss to one extent or another. This means that while we were still recruiting to fill positions, individuals could not leave the military. As a result, staffing levels exceeding authorized giving a robust total end strength. Unfortunately, this is all about to end. With the latest release of skills from the Air National Guard stop loss guidance only about 35 percent of all Air Force Specialty Codes are part of stop loss. This also means that 65 percent of specialties are allowed to separate.

The bottom line is that due to stop loss the rosy picture we see today is artificial. In recruiting we are making great strides to bring in new members. We owe much of our success to those of you who step up to the plate and talk about the Guard for us.

We are now beginning a new phase focused on retention. A phase that primarily relies on the efforts of commanders, first sergeants and supervisors. Now the need is even greater than before for all of us to discuss the expectations we have of our subordinates and their expectations of the Guard. We need to understand the interests our members have and their reasons for joining. We need to understand how we fit into their picture of the Guard and, once we do this, we can help them. Each commander, first sergeant and supervisor needs to pay

special attention to helping each of their members achieve the goals and expectation that reflect the value we add to our members' lives. These are difficult times and as the saying goes "difficult times sometimes call for drastic measures." Fortunately for us these measures are not too drastic.

We simply need to pay a little more attention to our people, since together they take care of us. I understand that we are constantly asking for assistance and I am asking for just a little more. We now need each leader to focus on our members who are approaching a retention decision now or the next couple of years. We need to learn their intentions and make a concentrated effort to retain them. We also need leaders to communicate the information about those who do choose to separate. The more advanced notice recruiting has of a vacancy, the more likely that we can prevent a critical shortage. You have all been a great part of our success in recruiting and I am sure you will be equally successful in this retention effort.

### Join the Connecticut Air



Contact a Recruiter by email at  
recruiter@ctbrad.ang.af.mil

## AUSA to Celebrate the U.S. Army's 227<sup>th</sup> Birthday

The Connecticut Chapter, Association of the United States Army will celebrate the Army's 227<sup>th</sup> Birthday and Flag Day at a general membership meeting to be held on Friday, June 14, 2002. The meeting will be held at the Officers' Club of Connecticut, State Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

The topic for the evening will be an overview of the Connecticut Army National Guard Deployments to Bosnia-Herzegovina. Guest speakers will be Lt. Col. Michael Casey,

Commander, 143<sup>rd</sup> Forward Support Battalion and Capt. Robert Brafford, Commander, Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry.

A cocktail reception will be held at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting will start at 6:15 p.m. Dress for the meeting will be casual or duty uniform. There will be a \$15.00 registration fee. RSVP by June 7 is requested by calling Mrs. Elaine Krauss at 203-797-5869. Flyers are also available at the Manchester Armory, the Waterbury Armory, the Hartford Armory and the Officers' Club.

## For Safety's Sake: Centralized Parking in Effect at Camp Rowland

Effective Tuesday, May 28, 2002 centralized parking will be in effect for Camp Rowland from Monday to Friday each week. POV and military vehicle parking will be limited to the Military Parking Lot nearest the entrance to post. Projected end date will be on or about the 21<sup>st</sup> of June. *Changes apply only to the work week, weekends will remain unaffected.*

Perimeter Road and First Street will be closed to all traffic during this time, exceptions are: school buses, state maintenance vehicles, and by special permission from Lt. Col. Kowal or Capt. Boski at TSSD.

Changes are in effect to accommodate the students and staff of the Haynes

Elementary School (East Lyme) who are now without a permanent building of their own. Approximately 380 students and 90 staff will be utilizing the CTARNG facilities on Camp Rowland for their daily operations until the beginning of their summer vacation.

Due to the large number of classrooms required by the Haynes School the majority of building issue will not be accomplished until after 1600 on Fridays... this includes the OCS classrooms, and 10-series.

Strict standards of conduct must be enforced should you be on post during the week. The children are between the grades of kindergarten and 5<sup>th</sup> grade.



## Thrift Savings Plan and Designating Life Insurance Beneficiaries Priorities for HRO

### TSP Open Season is May 15 to July 31

Open season is here, so take advantage of the increases for federal employees: Twelve percent is the maximum contribution for FERS employees for 2002. Seven percent is the maximum contribution for CSRS employees for 2002. To increase your contributions or make changes you need to fill out TSP-1 Form. This is the Technician Election Form.

Seven percent is the maximum contribution for military members. If you are not contributing you need to fill out TSP-U-1. This is the Military Election Form.

All forms can be down loaded from the TSP web site - [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov)

### Elective deferral limit is \$11,000.00 for 2002

If you are already enrolled in TSP, your participant statement will be mailed by the end of May.

### Change in TSP Open Season Dates

After the close of the above open season - the open season dates will change to *October 15th through December 31st.*

This will also be the season when contribution limits increase. FERS employees may contribute up to 13% and CSRS employees may contribute up to eight percent. The HRO will send out more information, as this Open Season gets closer.

### Thrift Savings Plan Participants' Tax Credit

Employees may be eligible for a new tax credit. If you participate in the TSP during the tax years 2002 through 2006, your tax credit may be as much as \$2,000 on your Federal income tax return.

This is called the Saver's Tax Credit and it is available for participants who earn a certain income. For more information about this tax credit, you should consult with your tax advisor or refer to Internal Revenue Service Publication 553, Highlights of 2001 Tax Changes.

### Designate Beneficiary for Life Insurance

If you have this form - there has been a

change. You are now required to submit a new designation form **whenever** one of the beneficiaries has a change of address.

The reason for the change is because the Office of Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance continues to have difficulty locating beneficiaries because of outdated addresses.

This new procedure will encourage enrollees to review their designation and to make changes when their situations change. Situations that require changing your beneficiaries are marriage, divorce, death, and birth of a child. Please come to the HRO and review your beneficiary designations or call Kathie Riccio at (860) 878-6735.

# Primett Bids a Fond Farewell to the Guard and Friends

From p.1

Upon completion of Basic Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) at Fort Rucker, Alabama, he became a UH-1 Helicopter Crew Chief/Door Gunner/Mechanic.

"We thought about Vietnam during door gunner training – it wasn't known if members of the Guard would be called to active duty. Some were, and as chance would have it, I was not." Primett remembers that his training gave him one of many "firsts" delivered over the course of his military service. "I'd never flown in a plane before, let alone a helicopter. I threw up in my helmet the first time around."

Upon completion of his training, now "Spec 4" Primett was assigned to the 1109<sup>th</sup> Transportation Aircraft Repair Shop (TARS) in Groton, which is now the 1109<sup>th</sup> AVCRAD (Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot).

"I was really fortunate in my career with the AVCRAD. I held every rank there is to hold there, from Spec 4 all the way to sergeant major." During that time, his MOS (Military Occupational Specialty) underwent frequent changes and additions – from UH-1 mechanic to attack helicopter repair, to Chinook flight engineer, to Blackhawk supervisor, and even to C7 "Caribou" fixed wing mechanic. A full time technician until 1982, Primett then transitioned to Active Guard-Reserve (AGR) status, and became the unit's assistant operations sergeant and training NCO.

"Like I said, I thought my service would last six years – but I just really ended up enjoying what I was doing, and enjoying soldiers, so I stayed."

In March 1995, Primett replaced Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Savino as the fourth CTARNG command sergeant major. But it was a prior position that really captured his heart and taught him what being an NCO was about.

"I never envisioned becoming a sergeant major. My goal was to be a first sergeant. And after becoming one, it was the toughest job to give up – ask my successor, I'm sure he would tell you it took me a full year to give it up." He attributes his passion for that position to the proximity it gave him to soldiers.

"I've always drawn all my strength and enthusiasm from soldiers. I've also been a thief of all their better attributes, which has made me a better soldier. As a first sergeant, you are given the frequent opportunity to impact and interact with the soldiers – you know what they are talking about and what is going on. You are a part of every 'soldier' decision the organization makes. I loved it, and to this day I admire and have learned something from every soldier I ever served with."



Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen L. Primett

A lengthy military career affords an individual the opportunity to see evolution and change, and today Primett fondly reflects on the great changes he has seen in the CTARNG.

"Going to a new promotion system (NCOPS) was outstanding. It created a lot of opportunities for soldiers to advance based on ability, performance and potential. Soldiers today are so smart, and so fit – it has been an honor watching so many soldiers become officers through our OCS program. The infrastructure changes at Camp Rowland and Stone's Ranch are amazing, and really enhance our ability to train and prepare soldiers. And specific to the aviation community, the introduction of the UH-60 Blackhawk and the CH-47 Chinook are huge force multipliers. They are force modernization aircraft that will sustain us well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century."

Primett is looking forward to more time with his family in retirement.

"The military sometimes causes you to sacrifice some of your family time, so I'm looking forward to making up for that." Primett and his wife, Jo (the former Jo Ann Aspinwall), have been married for thirty-one years and were high school sweethearts. They have two sons: Brett, their oldest, and his wife Jessica, have two children, Tyler and Morgan; Bryan, their youngest, is an Elementary Education/Special Education teacher.

"Who would have thought that an aircraft mechanic could put his children through college? That's one of the many things this job has given me," Primett notes. Others include visits to several different countries, opportunities, Primett observes, "I would never have had if I wasn't in the military."

Primett, a fifty-year-old, soon to be retired, grandfather who "will find a new job and not know what color socks go with what pants," now envisions taking his leadership experiences to the civilian world.

"You have got to listen, always," Primett explains. "I certainly don't have all the answers, but I know I can find them, so I listen and understand what is being said. That allows me to provide the information needed. It also allows you to make decisions – if you listen to a soldier - really listen - the soldier will recognize that, and if you have to say 'no' to something, the soldier will know you listened and did everything you could to get to what is fair and right." Which is another of Primett's leadership touchstones. "If a soldier stands in front of you, you need to see only the uniform. There is an individual there, too, but as a leader of soldiers you

must be fair and equitable to all. If you keep the playing field level, it offers greater opportunities for everyone in the unit."

Primett eagerly anticipates the next chapter in his life.

"I don't view this as an end. It is just the closing of a chapter in my life. I won't miss the job, and I will move on, but I will miss all the great people that have touched me throughout my service. I'm proud to say that I can look in the mirror with both eyes open – because I've strived to always do what was right and what was fair for the soldiers."

**Retirement Dinner**

Groton Motor Inn  
Groton, Connecticut  
Rooms Available Upon Request

Cocktails 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner 7:00 p.m.

**\$45 per person**  
Includes meal, tax, and gift

Attire  
Military: Dress Blues  
Class A with bow tie

State Command Sergeant Major  
**CSM Stephen L. Primett**  
August 31, 2002

For more information contact:  
SGM Joseph Sevigny (860)524-4834 or  
1SG John Carragher (860)524-4951

Or via e-mail:  
joseph.sevigny@ct.ngb.army.mil or  
john.carragher@ct.ngb.army.mil

Please Detach and Return by August 19, 2002

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:  
"Primett Retirement"  
c/o 1SG John Carragher  
ATTN: CTNG-MS  
360 Broad Street  
Hartford, CT 06105-3795

Meal Choices:  
(Indicate number of each meal)

London Broil  
Stuffed Chicken  
Baked Scrod

Make all checks payable to: Primett Retirement

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## Retirees' Voice: TRICARE Dental Plan Available to All Retirees

The TRICARE Retiree Dental (TRDP) Program—the only dental benefits program authorized by the government for Uniformed Services retirees—recently moved into its fourth year. The TRDP, which is administered by Delta Dental Plan of California in partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense, offers affordable dental benefits to retirees of the uniformed services and their family members throughout the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, Canada and the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

More than 600,000 people are currently enrolled in the TRDP, which allows subscribers to obtain covered services from any licensed dentist within the service area

and to further limit their out-of-pocket costs when using any one of about 25,000 DeltaSelect USA Network dentists.

In October 2000, the TRDP added coverage for cast crowns, bridges, full and partial dentures, orthodontia and dental accidents to its basic package of preventive and restorative services. These changes make the TRDP one of the most complete and competitively priced dental plans available outside of a traditional, employer-sponsored program.

Those interested in more information about the TRDP, including eligibility and enrollment, may visit the TRDP web site at [www.ddpdelta.org](http://www.ddpdelta.org) or call toll-free 1 (888) 838-8737. Important note: Gray Area Retirees (and some of their family members) are eligible, regardless of age.

## Veterans Targeted For Scam

When separating from the military, soldiers are now being told not to file their DD214 with the Local County Courthouse. They are being told to safeguard their personal information against credit fraud.

Once the DD214 is filed at a local Courthouse, it becomes public record. Many of the courthouses put this information online. A safe-deposit box is now the recommendation, along with your other important papers.

There were between 600,000 to 700,000 cases of identity theft reported by the Federal

Trade Commission in 2000. This is the fastest growing crime today. Many victims don't find out that their personal information has been stolen until they try to get a loan or buy a house.

The victims suffer because the burden of proof is on them. This is a serious problem with soldiers because everything is tied to their social security number. The Transition Center is no longer placing social security numbers on discharge and retirement certificates to help guard against this problem.

## Federal Jobs Available

### GENERAL CLERICAL

USAJOBS Control No. IV0167 FC  
Salary Range: \$23,189 - \$30,142 Annual Series and Grade: GS-0303-04  
Department of the Navy, Navy Field Offices, Groton, Conn. Announcement No. DE-GRO-01-0583-AMEND(2)-NR (Must be on application) For information, contact Tina Reif at (215) 408-5260

### MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST

USAJOBS Control No. ID9179 FO  
Salary Range: \$40,603 Annual Series and Grade: GS-0644-09  
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Administration, West Haven, Conn. Announcement No. 2-243-WH (Must be on application) For information, contact Paula Artis at (203) 932-5711 Ext 2392

### NURSING ASSISTANT

USAJOBS Control No. IC4584 FO  
Salary Range: \$26,200 Annual Series and Grade: GS-0621-05  
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Administration, West Haven, Conn. Announcement No. 2-176-WH (Must be on application) For information, contact George Layman at (781) 687-2314

### PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

USAJOBS Control No. IC4618 FO  
Salary Range: \$23,417 - \$26,200 Annual Series and Grade: GS-0661-04/05  
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Administration, West Haven, Conn. Announcement No. 2-178-WH (Must be on application) For information, contact George Layman at (781) 687-2314

### PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

USAJOBS Control No. IC4622 FO  
Salary Range: \$29,204 Annual Series and Grade: GS-0661-06  
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Administration, West Haven, Conn. Announcement No. 2-179-WH (Must be on application) For information, contact George Layman at (781) 687-2314

### RESEARCH CHEMIST

USAJOBS Control No. TQ7564 FC  
Salary Range: \$47,341 - \$61,538 Series and Grade: GS-1320-11  
Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Milford, Conn. Announcement No. E-NMF-FR-02254.SDT (Must be on application) For information, contact Sharon Turner at (757) 441-3837

### OFFICE AUTOMATION ASSISTANT

USAJOBS Control No. VP2124 FO  
Salary Range: \$23,189 - \$25,945 Annual Series and Grade: GS-0326-04/05  
Department of Defense, Defense Contract Audit Agency, Hartford, Conn., Bedford, Mass. and surrounding Mass. Announcement No. PH-NF-143674 (Must be on application) For information, contact Vacancy Information Desk at (215) 861-3074

### CLINICAL NURSE

USAJOBS Control No. BY4769 FC  
Salary Range: \$  
Series and Grade: GS-0610-09/09  
Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons/Federal Prison System, Various locations in the Northeast US  
Announcement No. 01-NER-CN09 (Must be on application) For information, contact Marcy Sandum, HRS at (215) 521-7364

### CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR

USAJOBS Control No. XA0561 FO  
Salary Range: \$33,254 - \$52,305 Annual Series and Grade: GS-1102-09/11  
Department of Defense, Defense Contract Management Agency, East Hartford, Conn., Windsor Locks, Conn., Stratford, Conn. Announcement No. DCMDE-01-1102SR (Must be on application) For information, contact DLA DEU TEAM at (614) 692-0200

### PROCUREMENT TECHNICIAN (OFFICE AUTOMATION)

USAJOBS Control No. XA0583  
Salary Range: \$21,947 - \$31,798 Annual Series and Grade: GS-1106-05/06  
Department of Defense, Defense Contract Management Agency, Stratford, Conn., Indianapolis, Ind., Fort Wayne, Ind. Announcement No. DCMDE-01-118492-006 (Must be on application) For information, contact DLA DEU TEAM at (614) 692-0200

### PROCUREMENT TECHNICIAN (OFFICE AUTOMATION)

USAJOBS Control No. XA0593 FO  
Salary Range: \$21,947 - \$31,798 Annual Series and Grade: GS-1106-05/06  
Department of Defense, Defense Contract Management Agency, Andover, Mass., Needham, Mass., East Hartford, Conn. Announcement No. DCMDE-01-118492-006 (Must be on application) For information, contact DLA DEU TEAM at (614) 692-0200

### INDUSTRIAL SPECIALIST

USAJOBS Control No. XA0709 FO  
Salary Range: \$33,254 - \$52,305 Annual Series and Grade: GS-1150-09/11  
Department of Defense, Defense Contract Management Agency, Stratford, Conn., Indianapolis, Ind. Announcement No. DCMDE-01-118500SR (Must be on application) For information, contact DLA DEU TEAM at (614) 692-0200

### CHAPLAIN

USAJOBS Control No. IA6128 FO  
Salary Range: \$45,285 Annual Series and Grade: GS-0060-11/12  
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Administration, United States  
Announcement No. BESE A1 (Must be on Application) For information, contact John Batten at (757) 728-7062

For more federal job postings, visit the USAJOBS website.

## Retirees Picnic - 2002

August 21<sup>st</sup>  
1200-1700

Camp Rowland, Niantic CT

Bring a guest!

Active Duty Welcome!

Pass the word!

Meet old friends!



Raffle Prizes!

Lots of Food,  
Beer & Soda!

Live Music!

Card Games!

Come Join the Fun!  
Mark your calendar!

Detach and return to COL(Ret) Bob Kelly

2002 Retirees Picnic Cost: \$18.00/person by July 19th  
\$20.00/person after July 19th

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_  Army  Air  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Return with payment:  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ COL (Ret) Bob Kelly  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ 214 Church Street  
Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Wethersfield, CT 06109  
1-800-529-6851

I would like to volunteer

Make Check payable to: **NGACT**

## *Connecticut National Guard Fulltime Employment Opportunities*

The following are Connecticut Army and Air Guard Technician openings. For a copy of the Technician vacancy Announcement, see your technician/military supervisor or call Master Sgt. Kevin Salisbury at (860) 878-6739

Note: Outdate Closing dates indicate that applications are currently under consideration. Individuals interested in applying for the position are encouraged to do so and may receive an interview, if qualified, and no one else has been previously selected. Several additional job postings are available on the Connecticut National Guard Website.

### Army National Guard Technician Vacancies

| Position Title                             | Unit      | Pay Grade | Closing Date |
|--|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Aircraft Mechanic (2 positions)            | AVCRAD    | WG-10     | 4/11/2002    |
| Aircraft Inspector                         | AVCRAD    | WG-12     | 4/15/2002    |
| Heavy Mobile Equipment Repairer            | OMS 2     | WG-09     | 4/18/2002    |
| Computer Specialist                        | USPFO     | GS-12     | 5/2/2002     |
| Military Personnel Technician (Indefinite) | HHD STARC | GS-07     | 5/10/2002    |
| Aircraft Mechanic (Indefinite)             | AASF      | WG-11     | 5/16/2002    |
| Plans and Operations Officer               | G-3       | GS-11     | 5/24/2002    |
| Supply Technician                          | AVCRAD    | GS-05     | 6/19/2002    |
| Maintenance Manager                        | SMO       | GS-12     | 6/24/2002    |

### Air National Guard Technician Vacancies

| Position Title                        | Unit           | Pay Grade | Closing date |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------|
| Supply Technician - Indefinite        | 103 FW, LOG    | GS-07     | 5/7/2002     |
| Secretary (OA) (Indef)                | 103 FW, ACS    | GS-05     | 5/30/2002    |
| Aircraft Ordnance Systems Mechanic    | 103 FW, LOG    | WG-10     | 6/3/2002     |
| Health System Technician              | 103 FW Support | GS-09     | 6/3/2002     |
| Supervisory Info. Tech. Specialist    | 103 FW, CF     | GS-12     | 6/7/2002     |
| Military Personnel Technician, Indef. | 103 FW, MSF    | GS-06     | 6/20/2002    |
| Transportation Assistant              | 103 FW, OPS    | GS-07     | 6/21/2002    |
| Supply Technician                     | 103 FW, LOG    | GS-07     | 6/26/2002    |

Listed below are current openings in the Connecticut National Guard AGR program. For a copy of the Military Tour Vacancy Announcement, see your supervisor or call Sgt. 1st Class Jacqueline Thomas at (860) 878-6729.

Note: Several additional job postings are available on the Connecticut National Guard Website.

### Army National Guard AGR Vacancies

| Position Title       | Unit               | Rank    | Area of Consideration |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Production Recruiter | R&R Command, STARC | SFC/E-7 | Open Statewide        |

### Air National Guard AGR Vacancies

| Position Title                     | Unit            | Rank       | Area of Consideration |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Aircraft Mechanic                  | 103 FW, LOG     | TSGT       | On Board AGR Only     |
| Management Analyst                 | 103 FW, LOG     | MSGT/SSGT  | Open Air              |
| Health Systems Technician          | 103 FW, Support | MSGT       | On Board AGR Only     |
| Transportation Assistant           | 103 FW, OPS     | MSGT       | On Board AGR Only     |
| Supervisory Info. Tech. Specialist | 103 FW, Support | MSGT/CMSGT | On Board AGR Only     |
| Supply Technician                  | 103 FW          | TSGT       | On Board AGR Only     |

The complete listing of both Technician and AGR vacancies and job descriptions can also be accessed by going to the Connecticut National Guard website at [www.ct.ngb.army.mil](http://www.ct.ngb.army.mil)

## Coming Events

### June

#### June 15

CT AVCRAD Annual Tag Sale  
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
139 Tower Ave., Groton/New London Airport

#### June 26-30

8th Annual Youth Summer Camp  
Camp Rowland

#### June 29

Company B 1/102nd Infantry Military Ball

### July

#### July 4

Independence Day

#### July 21

143rd FSB Dinner Dance

#### July 27

OCS Class 47 Commissioning Ceremony

### August

#### August 17

Family Day

#### August 21

Retirees' Picnic

#### August 31

Command Sgt. Maj. Primett's Retirement Party

## In the Next CG

Hawgsmoke Competition

Task Force Husky Kicks Off for 2002

Guardsmen Leave Federal Airports

Space and Aviation Day

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month previous to publication.

# School Invades Camp Rowland with Flag Waving Youngsters

From p. 1

Last year, the East Lyme School system began its search for a place to house the kindergarten through fifth grade students while asbestos was being removed from their current building. Originally, the contractors had wanted to remove the asbestos during the summer of 2001 and demolish the building in the summer of 2002, but parents did not like the idea of their young children being in a school where there was a potential danger from construction. It was decided that the work could all be done in one summer if the students and staff could be moved into another building for three to four weeks at the end of the school year.

Reynolds approached East Lyme First Selectman Wayne Frazer about an alternative site. Frazer contacted Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the adjutant general of the Connecticut National Guard about the possibility of using Camp Rowland. An agreement was struck, and the 350 children and nearly 100 staff members took over Camp Rowland at the end of May.

"We are very pleased," said Reynolds. "We lucked out with this facility. The children are very excited and I think the teachers are really psyched.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn more about the military and what you do, especially after the events of the past year. The cooperation between the school, the town and the National Guard has been very good. This is a win-win situation for everyone involved."

While at Camp Rowland, the students will be undergoing normal school day schedules, including such classes as art, gym and music.

They will be using all of the old World War I buildings as classrooms, the same ones used by the Officer Candidate School and the



Students from the Lillie B. Haynes Elementary School in Niantic sit waving their American flags at the beginning of a ceremony welcoming them to Camp Rowland. The students will be using the military training site in Niantic for classes through the end of the school year while their current building is being demolished. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)

Noncommissioned Officer Education System. They will also be using several of the newer buildings for instruction and assemblies.

On their first day at Camp Rowland, they used the large pavilion near the bay for a welcome ceremony sponsored by the National Guard.

Sgt. Snuffy, an eight-foot inflatable soldier

was there to greet the children as they arrived, and quickly became the hit of the day.

The Family Support Program provided goody bags for each classroom, including gifts such as American flags, camouflage sunglasses and pencils. There was also cookies and juice available for all students and staff at the end of the ceremony.



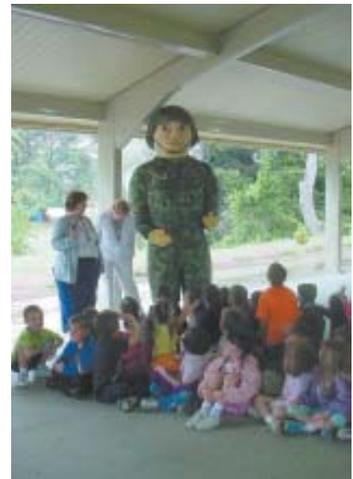
Students are greeted by their teachers as they get off the buses at the NCO Hallowed Ground. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Sr. PA NCO)



Patriotic, flag-waving students sing a song expressing their thanks to the National Guard. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Sr. PA NCO)



Lillie B. Haynes Elementary School students await the start of a ceremony in their honor. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Sr. PA NCO)



Sgt. Snuffy meets and greets an admiring public at Camp Rowland's pavilion. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Sr. PA NCO)



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