



# OUTSTANDING AIRMEN OF THE YEAR 2007

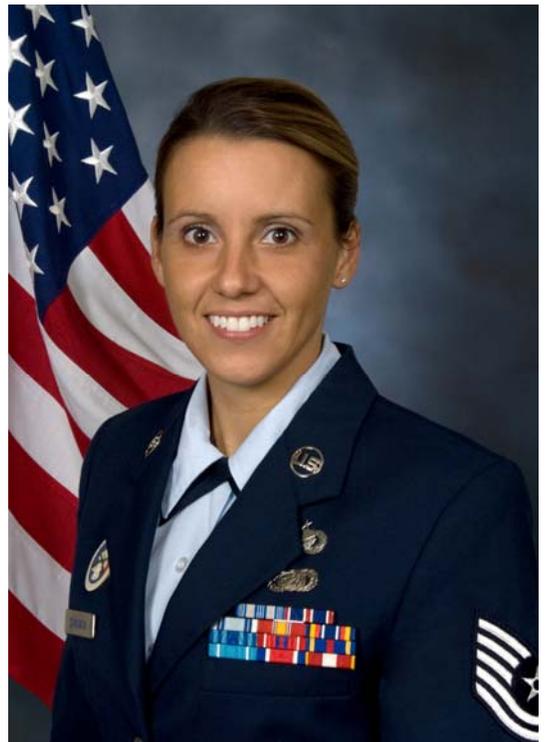


## *NCO OF THE YEAR*

### **TECHNICAL SERGEANT TONYA CAMARATA**

TSgt Tonya Camarata was named the Non Commissioned Officer for the 179<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing and then went on to be selected as the NCO for the entire Ohio Air National Guard for 2007. She has been a member of the 179<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing for seven years. Camarata currently serves as the Education and Training Manager for the 179<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Operations Flight. She is solely responsible for all aspects of training for members of the Maintenance Operations Flight.

Camarata was selected as the Ohio Air National Guard NCO of the Year for a multitude of reasons; all of which were related to her outstanding work performance/results, professionalism, career development and community involvement throughout 2007. Some specific examples include the fact that she was selected by the National Guard Bureau to serve as Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for all Air National Guard (ANG) C-130 Training Managers. She teaches critical training techniques and presents new requirements to field during conferences and workshops; therefore, she was hand selected as team member to rewrite selected ANG regulations, instructions and supplements. Camarata implemented a group-level Academic Achievement Award program, recognizing and rewarding outstanding performance. This program generated an increase in CDC pass rates by 64% and increasing average test scores by 11%; a tremendous milestone as passing CDC's is a requirement for military members to be promoted. Camarata was hand selected by wing leadership to attend U.S. Army Lean Six Sigma business improvement training. She completed the Lean Six Sigma course achieving a score of 94% and gaining coveted 'Black Belt' certification. Camarata was the facilitator of Rapid Improvement Event (RIE) for aircraft Isochronal Inspections; this process reduced the Process Cycle Time on our aircraft from 27.2 days to 10 days, becoming the RIE benchmark for ANG AFSO21 large scale initiatives.



In addition to her position duties, she is a prolific member of the 179th Honor Guard and Color Guard team supporting many local community events. Camarata is an ardent supporter of NCO Academy Graduates Association and the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association. She frequently volunteers at Ontario City Schools, contributing 40 hours as a camp counselor to facilitate a field event. She serves as a member of the 179th Scholarship Golf Tournament Committee; which raised \$6,726 in local scholarship funds in 2007. TSgt Tonya Camarata, without faltering, assumed control of a situation involving a civilian cardiac arrest victim, directing the scene, and in an act of pure altruism, performed CPR on the victim for 20 minutes awaiting arrival of paramedics.