



*Buckeye*

# AIRLIFTER

*Jan / Feb 2013*

*Airmen shine  
once again  
during CUI*



# Congratulations to the 179th Airlift Wing for "Excellent" CUI Rating

By: Capt. Nicole L. Ashcroft, 179AW Chief of Public Affairs

Despite many uncertainties, the men and women of the 179th Airlift Wing have once again shown their tradition of excellence by receiving an overall Consolidated Unit Inspection (CUI) rating of "Excellent" after undergoing six days of thorough compliance inspection by the Air Mobility Command Inspector General.

This inspection is a periodic review of unit's compliance with processes, procedures and regulations in daily operations. The 70-member team of inspectors from units throughout the Air Mobility Command reviewed checklists of several thousand items involving every major office and shop within the wing, primarily evaluating ten Major Graded Areas (MGAs) which included: Manpower, Personnel and Services; Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance; Operations, Plans and Requirements; Logistics, Installations and Mission Support; Information Dominance; Surgeon General; Administration; Acquisition; Public Affairs; and Financial Management.

Each Major Graded Area was graded via a five-tier structure with the potential to be rated either; unsatisfactory, marginal, satisfactory, excellent or outstanding. This resulted in the following 5-tier ratings of the 179th Airlift Wing 10 Major Graded Areas: 4 Excellent and 6 Satisfactory. These combined Major Graded Areas were key contributors for inspectors rating the 179th Airlift Wing as "Excellent" with Air Force requirements.

"The 179th's rating of excellent should reinforce to the citizens of Ohio that the Ohio Air National Guard is a highly effective, nimble and fiscally responsible organization," said Col. Gary A. McCue, Commander, 179th Airlift Wing. "I'm very proud of our Airmen."

Additionally there were three team awards and nine individual performers recognized.

Air Mobility Command (AMC) Inspector General Team Chief, Col. Andrew J. Molnar said, "I think today in Mansfield, Ohio we have front page news. It is truly phenomenal, the excellent grade that you've been awarded

today that was earned at the compliance level." He continued, "Celebrate the day because we didn't give it...you earned it. But your mission is changing and our nation needs you to continue to lead, to adapt and continue that great attitude."

Over the next few months, 179th Airlift Wing members will continue serving at their tradition of excellence level while they transition from C-27J Spartans to C-130's. As reported by Air Force Times, it appears the 179th Airlift Wing will begin receiving eight C-130s this spring/summer.



# 179th AW wife recognized nationally

By: Capt. Nicole L. Ashcroft, 179AW Chief of Public Affairs

Through volunteering countless hours in support of the 179th Airlift Wing and selflessly providing philanthropic support for numerous community organizations, Molly A. McCue has earned national recognition by being selected as the Air National Guard nominee for the 2013 Joan Orr Air Force Spouse of the Year Award.

The award recognizes spouses of military members for their significant contributions to the Air Force. This prestigious award, sponsored by the Air Force Association, honors the late Joan Orr, wife of former Secretary of the Air Force Verne Orr. As the Air National Guard nominee, McCue will compete against an Air Force Active Duty nominee and Air Force Reserve nominee.

As a social worker, McCue, wife of Col. Gary A. McCue, 179th Airlift Wing commander, has built a life providing selfless service to others. Although she doesn't have a military background, becoming part of the 179th Airlift Wing military family was a seamless and natural transition.



"I love my military life. The military is such a great family and I'm happy to be part of it," said McCue.

By using her relationship and organizational skills, McCue revitalized the long dormant 179th Airlift Wing's Officer Spouse's Group. McCue attends wing deployment functions and makes phone calls to families of deployed members to provide support and encouragement for Airmen and their families. Understanding the importance of resiliency, she attends Yellow Ribbon activities to provide additional support for unit members and their families.

"We have a blended family and I work full-time outside of the home. I understand the struggles our military members face when balancing work, family and military," said McCue. "I am honored and proud to provide positive support for our military family."

McCue has been a tremendous 179th Airlift Wing advocate by attending annual National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) conferences, senior leader conferences and actively participating in the spouse programs.

Exemplifying the Air Force Core Values, McCue extends her own helping hand to members of the 179th Airlift Wing and local community. As a committed volunteer at the Richland County Women's Domestic Violence Shelter, she helps provide victims education and resources necessary for intervention and prevention of violence. She also volunteers as a teacher helper/tutor at nearby Bellville Elementary School and is active in "Connections", an organization that raises scholarship and grant funds for needy, deserving students.

"I am honored and humbled to be selected as the Air National Guard nominee," said McCue. "I am proud to stand by my husband and have the opportunity to support my military family."

The Air Force Association will announce the 2013 Joan Orr Air Force Spouse of the Year Award recipient this summer.

# Commander's Insight

By: Col. Gary A. McCue, 179AW Wing Commander

Nearly three years ago, I wrote a Commander's Insight article for this publication. In it I asked the pending questions of the day, "When are we getting our first C-27s? How many are going to get? Will we deploy soon after receiving them?" How ironic we're asking the SAME questions about getting C-130s.

Last year we won three NGAUS awards: best flying unit, best airlift/tanker unit and the safety award. These awards are in our Wing HQ building display case and if you look closely at them, it says nothing about the type aircraft we have on the ramp. That's because it doesn't matter! We won those awards because of our people - YOU.

It's your commitment to team and mission. My commitment is to the unit members and to ensuring you have everything you need to perform the mission. I do my best to take care of these needs and in turn, you take care of the mission. This was proven to the inspection team late February.

Despite the turbulence you have maintained focus on the job, and I'm very impressed. This is called resilience, the same stuff Vivian teaches every Thursday. It works, because I watch you live it day in and day out.

I'll offer two things at this point: We're open and we're flying aircraft. The rest is details. We are thankful, because some units will transition to non-flying missions. This is not a bad thing because there are some incredible emerging missions out there and we'd be proud to embrace them, but our future portends a known quantity. It won't be without stress, but we know what to do.

As of this writing we have not heard when the next aircraft are headed our way. Also, we've not heard about divestiture of the C-27Js. We hope to know soon.

Please thank your Congressional delegation, the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS), the Enlisted Association of the United States (EANGUS), and most importantly, the great citizens of Ohio who made their voices heard in Congress. Without their support, we wouldn't be open for business. I'm extremely proud to be at your side and will continue to keep you updated on the changes as we move forward.

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## Public Affairs Job Opportunities

Are you interested in telling the Air Force story to a global audience? The 179th Airlift Wing has a Public Affairs Specialist and two Broadcast Journalist opportunities available.

As a PA Specialist, you'll be integral in shaping and maintaining the public image of the 179th AW and its members. Learn more at: <http://www.airforce.com/careers/detail/public-affairs-specialist/> Radio and television are important, powerful tools for telling and preserving the 179th Airlift Wing story. Learn more at: <http://www.airforce.com/careers/detail/broadcast-journalist/>

If interested, contact the 179th AW Chief of Public Affairs via email [nicole.ashcroft@ang.af.mil](mailto:nicole.ashcroft@ang.af.mil), 614-336-7077 or cell 419-295-6483.

# Chaplains Corner

## Through the eyes of a father

By: 1st Lt. Randy E. Barlow, 179AW Chaplain

*In my youth I looked upon deployments as a chance for adventure. I longed to face the unknown challenges of foreign lands and to live on the razors edge of excitement. The deserts and the jungles and the bitter cold all served to push me beyond the limits of what I believed I could become. I saw my service as an opportunity rise above whatever limits society might try to impose on a poor kid from a Southern Ohio factory town.*

*With my next deployment approaching fast, my first as a member of the Air Force Chaplain Corps, I am seeing things with a new set of eyes. I am seeing them through the eyes of a father.*

*This time the stakes are much higher. This time our country is at war. This time the distance will separate me from “my boys.” This time failure is not an option. This time my reasons for deploying are larger than a thirst for adventure.*

*It has been said that, “Freedom is a gift we receive from our forefathers and a debt we owe to our children.” My father paid that debt for me. His father paid that debt for him. And so it goes in my family for as many generations as we can trace. My boys will miss their dad for sure. Their dad will try to find some way to say goodbye without shattering their image of him as indestructible.*

*When I look at them I see the future of our country. I see the world becoming a better place because the United States refused to sit idly by while the purveyors of terror attempted to crush the spirit of freedom. I pray that the world they inherit will be a better place because of the Warriors I will be serving in harms way. I pray that the deployments my boys will go on in the future, will be missions of peace and not missions of war. If I look at this deployment through a father’s eyes, six months of separation will be a small price to pay on the debt I owe to my children.*



# Love...

By: 1st Lt. Sarah Ditto, 179AW Chaplain

Anyone who has been to a wedding has probably heard the scriptures about love. Typically, the book First Corinthians is what is quoted due to it being labeled as “The Love Chapter” in the Bible. This chapter strictly deals with love; what love is as well as what love is not. It is the chapter that many turn to when they want to hear about love, which is why it is used so often in weddings.

While these verses are often the most quoted, there is a lot of information in the Bible about love in other books as well. In another area of the Bible, we are told to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:31). This is a verse that we can put into play in our lives no matter where we are or what we are doing.



With that said, the question now becomes, who is your neighbor? Merriam-Webster’s dictionary defines neighbor as “one living or located near another.” So this means that while we are on the base working, out shopping in the mall or even having dinner at a restaurant, we are all coming in contact with our neighbors. Since most of us were taught in school at a young age that neighbor was the person who lived next door to you, this could cause us to adjust our thinking concerning “loving our neighbor.” Our neighbors are always around us and we are interacting with them in every conversation we have.

February is a popular month to talk about love since Valentine’s Day is a widespread holiday celebrated by many on February 14. That is why it is important to discuss love at this time and learn how we can spread love in every area of our lives. We should not just limit sending notes to loved ones on Valentine’s Day; rather we should do it whenever we feel led to let them know what they mean in our lives.

This becomes the challenge for us, how do we live our lives in a way that we can show love to each person that we come in contact with? That is something we all have to answer on our own and for our individual lives. We just need to take the time to search within ourselves and know how we would like to be treated by others, and then start treating others in that manner. In doing this, we become the change that we would like to see in the world.

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## Marriage and Singles Retreats



If you are interested in attending one of the FREE relationship development programs below, email Chaplain David W. Shirley, Maj. your name, contact information, what event(s), preferred location and month (April thru August). Call Chaplain Shirley at 419-571-2523 with questions.

## **Strong Bonds**

Strong Bonds Marriage Enrichment Weekends offer military couples a fun and refreshing time to reconnect with the love of your life! These weekend retreats are conducted at some of the premier hotel and resort locations around the state. It's our way of saying thank you for the sacrifices you and your family make every day.

These events are not intended to be a substitute for marital counseling, nor are they group therapy. Instead, you'll gain practical information based on world class curriculums developed from years of research. As a couple, you'll practice relationship building skills, as well as share intimate moments.

The retreats are designed to strengthen relationships, inspire hope and rekindle marriages. You and your spouse will gain skills that fortify your marriage as you enjoy a time of relaxation, recreation, fellowship, and fun.

Falling in love is easy. Staying in love is an art. While the communication skills learned in PREPR are foundational, the LINKS Program teaches couples the skills they need to nurture a lasting love.

## **PREPR Part 1 and Part 2**

PREPR stands for Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program. PREPR is one of the most comprehensive and well respected marriage enhancement programs in the world. PREPR has proven so effective that it has been featured on "20/20," "48 Hours," and "Oprah".

PREPR is a skills based curriculum designed to help partners say what they need to say, get to the heart of problems, and increase their connection with one another. Couples also learn the secrets of keeping busy lifestyles from crowding-out the fun in your relationship.

PREPR teaches couples effective communication skills and how to avoid the communication danger signs that can lead to marital discord. Couples discover how to express concerns constructively. These communication skills are foundational for every successful marriage.

## **LINKS Program**

The LINKS Program shows couples how to regularly revitalize the dynamic links of their marriage with the Relationship Attachment Model (R.A.M.). This model illustrates how couples grow closer by meeting one another's needs for an open, trusting, and fulfilling relationship.

## **Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage**

Viva La Difference! Gain fresh insight into why men and women see life so differently. In Laugh Your Way, author and teacher Mark Gungor helps couples deal with tough issues in a way that is fun and non-threatening. Laugh Your Way's great content and unique approach has yielded one of the highest success rates in the country.



You will Laugh Your Way through this retreat with Mark Gungor's video based messages. Topics include "The Tale of Two Brains" and "The #1 Key to Incredible Sex". Your presenter will facilitate the weekend, and walk your group through the entire Laugh Your Way experience including the insightful Flag Page program.

## **The 8 Habits of a Successful Marriage**

Based on Stephen R. Covey's No. 1 bestsellers The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People and The 8th Habit. This marriage workshop offers a framework for applying a universal, self-discovery approach that enables couples to communicate about their problems and resolve them successfully.

Participants:

- 1) Clearly define their vision as a family unit
- 2) Build a common sense of purpose, values, and goals
- 3) Learn a process to accomplish family goals
- 4) Discover how to achieve better communication as spouses

## **NEW THIS YEAR: PREPR Part 2**

PREPR Part 2 will be a new event for 2013. PREP Part 2 will build upon the concepts from PREP Part 1 and will add training on Stress & Relaxation, Hidden Issues, and working together as a team toward common goals.

## **Got Your Back for Singles**

A fun, interactive, and relevant curriculum from PREP that focuses on helping individuals to improve understanding and decision-making in their relationships. Learn to replace communication danger signs with strategies for respectful talking and listening.

- . Look at the warning signs of dangerous patterns in relationships.
- . Manage stress and reduce the negative effects of it on their lives, including alcohol abuse.
- . Explore personal needs and expectations and the role that decision-making plays in realizing them.
- . Learn the brain science behind love and how to enjoy making decisions while "in love."
- . Acknowledge the long-term satisfaction possible through healthy choices regarding commitment, including why fatherhood matters.
- . Discuss forgiveness, infidelity and knowing when to end an unhealthy relationship.

## **Details for all events:**

Friday night arrival is only available for couples that live more than 50 miles away and do not live in an adjacent County from the event. Military members are not required to be on orders. Hotel accommodations will be reserved & paid by the program. Some meals are provided. Couples are responsible to pay for any incidentals such as room service and movies. Child care is provided. Dress is business casual.



# What does an AF First Sergeant do?

By: Master Sgt. Eric S. Risner, 200RH Det. 1 First Sergeant

*I often get asked by new Airmen, family members, co-workers and transfers from other branches of the service "what does an Air Force First Sergeant do?" I'll answer the question to the best of my abilities.*

*In the United States Air Force, First Sergeant is not a rank, but a special duty held by a senior enlisted member of a military unit who reports directly to the unit commander. When selected to the position you agree to serve a minimum of three years and a maximum of six years.*

*As a first Sergeant you are the principal advisor to the commander on all issues related to the enlisted force. You provide the commander a mission-ready enlisted force to execute the unit mission. You prepare enlisted personnel of the organization to deploy in support of mission requirements. You must exercise the necessary leadership to provide and sustain a mission-ready workforce for the commander.*

*First Sergeants work with fellow senior noncommissioned officers (SNCOs) and supervisory personnel to ensure the health, esprit de corps, discipline, mentoring and welfare of the enlisted force are met. They ensure supervisors set an appropriate example for the subordinates. Provide leadership and guidance to supervisors and members enabling them to resolve problems or complaints at the lowest level. They must maintain a liaison with base agencies to ensure availability of services for unit members. Provide training on matters of leadership, customs and courtesies, dress and personal appearance, self-discipline, adherence to standards, drill and ceremony, safety, hygiene and sanitation. First Sergeants also support and promote professional military education activities and are responsible for the commander's Family Care Plan Program and tracking the Unit's Performance Feedback Program.*

*In summary my job as a First Sergeant is to advise and assist my commander in maintaining discipline and standards, while taking care of my enlisted personnel and setting a positive example for all unit members.*



# Mansfield Lahm Military Families Scholarship Program 2013 - 2014

Attached is the formal application for the Mansfield Lahm Military Families Scholarship(s). Please follow all instructions carefully and attach all documents that are required. It is preferred that the application form be typed or printed as neatly as possible.

This application must be completed with all documentation attached and returned to: Mansfield Lahm Military Families, c/o William H. Kohler, 25 Oxford Avenue, Mansfield OH 44906. It must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 22, 2013. It is important that you keep to the above mentioned deadline or your application will be returned without action.

The deadline will be observed in all instances. Applications must include all required information to be considered. Application forms may be obtained in the Lobby of Bldg. 422 and or in the orderly room of each squadron.

Scholarships will be announced through the mail and proceeds will be awarded when verification of the student's enrollment has been received by the Scholarship Chairperson. Verification can be in the form of a letter, invoice, or other proof of enrollment from the student's college / university registrar's office.

## **Mansfield Lahm Military Families Scholarship Program and Criteria**

Mansfield Lahm Military Families will be awarding at eight (8) \$1,000 Scholarships for the 2013 - 2014 academic year. An impartial panel of judges will rank the scholarship applications.

### **Scholarship Requirements:**

#### **The following persons are eligible:**

1. Children, grandchildren and spouses of active or retired 179th AW and 200th RHS DET 1 Air National Guardsman.
2. Unmarried dependent children of deceased 179th AW ANG & 200th RHS DET 1 members who were in good standing at the time of their death.
3. Children, grandchildren and spouses of active or retired members from the 5694th, 1486th, and 486th, assigned to Mansfield Lahm Regional Airport since 2009 are eligible to participate.

#### **The following persons are ineligible:**

1. Current members serving in the Ohio National Guard.
2. Members and retirees from a facility / location outside of Mansfield Lahm Regional Airport.

#### **Academic criteria:**

1. Applicants must be enrolled as either a high school senior (in good standing) or a full-time student at a college, university, trade or business school in order to receive funds.
2. Must have at least 2 semesters left for degree completion.

**GRADUATE STUDENTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS.**

The Mansfield Lahm Military Families Scholarship Committee will award scholarship grants as approved by the MLMF Executive Board. Grants will be sent directly to the recipient with each check made payable to the recipient school of choice. To receive the grant, verification of enrollment is necessary.

Grants will be awarded on the basis of scholarship, character, leadership and need. **All applications will be accompanied by:**

1. Transcript of High School Credits or college credits if enrolled in college.
2. Letter from applicant with facts as to his/her desire to continue his/her education, comments about their individual future goals and objectives, and comments as to the value that this financial aid will afford.
3. Three (3) letters of recommendation verifying the application and giving personal traits. (High School principal, counselor, dean, professor, minister, employer, etc.)

After selection, recipients will be scheduled to have a group picture taken by the 179th Public Affairs section for use during the MLMF Golf Outing. If the student is granted a scholarship and fails to complete the school term for reasons other than illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstances, the student agrees to return any scholarship money to the Mansfield Lahm Military Families.

Contact Bill Kohler at (419) 529-6353 with questions.

**2013 - 2014**  
**Scholarship Application**  
**Mansfield Lahm Military Families**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First Middle*

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Number Street P.O. Box or Apt. #*

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

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PARENT/SPONSOR \_\_\_\_\_  
*Rank Full name*

ACTIVE OR RETIRED (A/R): \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS OF SERVICE (IF RETIRED): \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT OF SPONSOR \_\_\_\_\_ ( 179<sup>th</sup>, RHS Det 1, 1486<sup>th</sup>, 486<sup>th</sup>, 5694<sup>th</sup>)

IF SPONSOR IS RETIRED, DATE OF RETIREMENT \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
*Home address/City/State/Zip Phone Number*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Relationship to Sponsor Enlistment Expiration Date Unit/Squadron*  
*(If active)*

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APPLICANT'S STATUS: (Check one) High School ( ) Business/Trade School ( ) College ( )

School/College & Grade/Term \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received any other scholarships? (if so, please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

List Activities (School, Community, Church): \_\_\_\_\_

List offices to which you have been elected in Any Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

List Honors which you have been awarded: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List College/ Trade/Business School you plan to attend or are currently attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What career are you planning to pursue and why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*If you need additional space to answer , please attach a separate sheet to this form.*

I have answered the above questions to the best of my knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant/Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Spouse/Date

If granted a scholarship and I fail to complete the school term for reasons other than illness and injury, I agree to return any scholarship money to the Mansfield Lahm Military Families.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant/Date

(This application can be reproduced for applicant purposes.)

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Stories or story ideas may be submitted to the Public Affairs Office for publication consideration in the Buckeye Airlifter. Information should be e-mailed to [lisa.haun@ang.af.mil](mailto:lisa.haun@ang.af.mil).

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