Otis Airman Wins Gold
Pg. 5
Contents

4 Commanders Comments
Lt Col. Wanda Rushton, commander of the 102nd Medical Group, reflects on those she’s served with and preparedness.

5 Otis Airman Wins Gold
An airman from Otis Air National Guard Base has taken the top prize for his career field in the Maj. Gen. Doyle Larson Awards program.

6 Chapel Corner
Take a look at the third and final part in Caplain Berube’s series on keeping human groups successful entitled “movement”

7 Putting Otis on the Map
The 253rd Cyber Engineering Installation Group gets on-the-job training with a Geo-Survey Class.

8 Weather Awareness - Floods
Tips and advice for protecting yourself against floods
Message From a Commander

Have I told you lately how proud of you I am?

If permitted a fourth military career, I would be a recruiter. Although I’ll make no commission on Active Duty, Guard, or Reserve accessions, I will reap a profit. Every day I tout how satisfying a career in the military can be. Where else can you work beside exceedingly qualified, extremely motivated, immeasurably energetic, and exceptionally driven professionals?

At 25 years of age, I was too introspective to realize the high degree of proficiency among the men and women I served with. Now, twice that age, I marvel at the professionalism and the educational and technical accomplishments of our military forces. If I was asked what I took away from my 10 month active duty tour in 2011, I would relay how professional and loyal the young people serving our Air Force are. Above all else, they are competent. They are direct, yet respectful and especially gracious in their interactions with co-workers. It left an enduring impression. One that I can’t articulate fully, but wish the reverence could infiltrate the civilian sector with equal success.

As the 102nd Medical Group Commander, I have the distinct pleasure of sitting face to face with members who display military civility described above. Our conversations spotlight not only their accomplishments to date, but also their aspirations for tomorrow. I’m left to ponder if all young people aspired to the same degree, what success we Americans could enjoy. I am sincerely proud of the men and women serving the 102nd Intelligence Wing. I am humbled by those who served before me and optimistic for those who will follow. You all represent an elite group. Of the 25 percent of young Americans who can join the military, you did. You have answered your nation’s call; well done.

Success awaits the members of the 102nd IW. Your leadership strives to fulfill this promise. I know this to be true. Your role is straightforward. Be prepared. Your preparedness begins with satisfying requirements of your Air Force affiliation, your Air Force Specialty Code, and the duties of your office.

Individual Medical Requirements (IMR) rest high on the list of preparedness. As you near your birth month, you will be notified by your Unit Health Monitor (UHM) to accomplish a computer based health assessment. Afterward, a notification to report to the Medical Group will alert you that a face-to-face consultation is necessary. Your UHM will direct you visit the Medical Group for an appointment.

If you are deploying you will need to access the Aeromedical Service Information Management System (ASIMS). ASIMS is an internet based system that tracks all of your medical requirements. It is accessible via the Air Force Portal by clicking “Featured Links”, then “Fitness & Health”, and finally “Medical Readiness-Deployment Health.” Pending deployments will register you as overdue in IMR. Discuss with your Unit Deployment Manager the necessary steps to resolve the issue. Prepare yourself for accomplishing your annual medical requirements. Take time to review your IMR and assure it’s reflected in ASIMS. If not, contact the Medical Group for assistance.

Success through preparedness also entails that you identify your military aspirations as well as the correct road map for achieving them. Look around you and find other Airmen with whom you can relate; share your short and long term plans. Inquire how to position yourself for your next objective. Find out what you must do now to ensure you are competitive. In addition to accomplishing your IMR annually, work toward excellent fitness results. Master your Readiness Skills Verifications, contribute to on-time performance assessments, aspire to attend Unit Training Assemblies, and volunteer for as much as possible within the confines of your home and civilian responsibilities.

Thank you for your contribution the 102nd Intelligence Wing and best wishes for a successful Air National Guard year.

Lt. Col. Wanda Rushton
Commander, 102nd Medical Group

Otis Airman Wins Gold

By Master Sgt. Aaron Smith

A n airman from Otis Air National Guard Base has taken the top prize for his career field in the Maj. Gen. Doyle Larson Awards program. Technical Sgt. Aaron Ledger, commander of the 101st Intelligence Squadron, beat out airmen from the active-duty Air Force, the Air Force Reserves, and the Air National Guard to win the gold medal this year. Colonel David McNulty, commander of the 102nd Intelligence Group, stressed the importance of the competition, saying, “For our intelligence airmen, this is one of the few ways we can shine a spotlight on the great, but mainly unseen work that the people in intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance Agency do every day.” Technical Sgt. Leger is only the second airman from Otis to win a gold medal in the awards program.

The competition, formerly known as the Sensor Olympics, started in 1979 when Maj. Gen. Doyle Larson assumed command of the United States Air Force Security Service. General Larson modeled the program after competitions the Strategic Air Command held for its bomber and missile crews. These competitions tested airmen’s knowledge and proficiency in their jobs. Over time, the United States Air Force Security Service morphed into the Air Force ISR Agency and now the awards program identifies, recognizes, and honors the “best of the best” performers in 25 cryptologically-linked job specialties.

Today’s test is more knowledge based, rather than hands-on, but it’s not as simple opening a book and studying for it. The test itself is classified and unique to each of the 25 career fields. Each test has three phases and each phase has 100 multiple choice questions, which consist of moderate to in-depth technical knowledge and practical skills. Sergeant Ledger said that there was no clear way to study for the test and that his knowledge came through the cumulative experiences gained with time on the job.

Beyong the immediate significance of winning the gold medal and being rated number one in a career field of more than 2,800 airmen, winning can be a sign of things to come. Col. McNulty notes, “Earning a top spot in the Larsen Awards is typically a mark of distinction on a medal winner’s career and they often go on to be very successful Senior Non-Commissioned Officers; quite a few of them become chiefs.”

For his part Sergeant Leger is looking at the bigger picture. He says, “It’s cool to win and have the opportunity. I think it also makes our unit look good, and the Air National Guard as a whole.” He also said that he’d like to compete next year.

The medal was presented to Sergeant Leger during a ceremony over the February drill.

Thank you for your contribution the 102nd Intelligence Wing and best wishes for a successful Air National Guard year.

Lt. Col. Wanda Rushton
Commander, 102nd Medical Group

February/March 2014 Seagull

4 Seagull February/March 2014

5
Capel Call
Lt. Col. David G. Berube

Movement

“To me, if life boils down to one thing, it’s movement. To live is to keep moving.” - Jerry Seinfeld

Seinfeld may not rank among the greatest philosophers, theologians, or leaders of history, but I believe he has this foundational principle right –life is movement. In my series of articles on three keys to keeping human groups successful, we’ve considered relationships and purpose. This final installment focuses on movement. There are many ways to look at movement relative to groups and organizations, yet I want to share what I consider to be the most essential. That is the basic movement that demonstrates a group is alive and viable.

For a human body, basic movement or signs of life include a pumping heart, breathing lungs, and a functioning brain. The basics are the first thing I check in my civilian life, with the police department, when I encounter people who are unconscious. Before I can determine if a person had a medical problem, or drank too much, or just didn’t have a place to stay and decided to sleep in the park, I need to know they’re alive. What condition they are in immediately obvious they were not yet rowers as they remained very near the dock, expending great amounts of energy rowing in circles, casting blame, and arguing about what was going wrong. They hadn’t taken the time to ensure the basics of “life as a rower” and it had a negative impact on their progress.

By contrast, I once was pastor of a church that went through the process of discerning its “basic movements.” As we took a comprehensive look at ourselves, we asked members, friends, and visitors specific questions about what made us distinct. We wanted to be consciously aware of who we were. We also discerned our vision, mission, and core values so we could understand where we were going. What we learned in that process was that the church’s identity was rooted in a loving, joyful, inviting spirit. We learned that when we were true to that identity our relationships, work, and ability to effectively help the community around us functioned better.

Basic movement doesn’t guarantee a person or organization will attain goals or make significant contributions to the world, but it is a prerequisite. If groups don’t have strong signs of life they tend to either not engage their mission, or not fulfill it. They might exist in a kind of corporate coma, but won’t have the quality of life to do great things. On the other hand, if groups and the people that make them up display a healthy sense of identity, vision and mission, and core values, they are capable of moving out to engage their world, attain their goals, and fulfill their mission. They are fully alive.

Each of us has the opportunity to do an ongoing assessment of the basic movement of our life together as an organization. We also have the responsibility to contribute personally to our ongoing corporate health. As we travel through what can seem like constant transition, it’s vital that we share the work of remaining healthy, capable, and fully alive.

Putting Otis on the Map

Braving frigid temperatures, members of the 253rd Cyber Engineering Installation Group (CEIG) chiseled away ice, pried off freezing manhole covers, and took precise GPS measurements, all in an effort to modernize the communications infrastructure plans of Otis.

The 253rd CEIG airmen were taking part in a GeoBase course that is normally taught at the Lightning Force Academy in Fort Indiantown Gap, Penn. For this course, the 253rd CEIG sought to get the knowledge, but to keep costs down as well. 2nd Lt. Scott Humber explains, “Instead of sending unit members to Pennsylvania, we had the two instructors come up here. With the amount of people involved, it helped us reduce our overall travel costs.” In addition to the reduced costs the unit was able to provide a real-world benefit by using the training to map locations on Otis.

The options available by having the information in this form are apparent. Lt. Humber states, “This provides the opportunity for remote engineering. Instead of the 212th Engineers going out to the 104th Fighter Wing, if there was a geo-survey done there, the 212th engineers can produce a virtual engineering product from here.”

In the future, as new airmen need to be certified the 253rd CEIG will likely send them to the traditional Lightning Force Academy class. The current course 253rd CEIG airmen not only finished with their geo-base certification, but also a product that will help the base in the future.
Weather Awareness - Floods
By The Northeast States Emergency Consortium

A flood is an overflow of water that submerges land, producing measurable property damage or forcing evacuation of people and vital resources. Floods develop slowly as rivers swell during an extended period of rain, or during a warming trend following a heavy snow. Even a very small stream or dry creek bed can overflow and create flooding.

Floods frequently cause loss of life, property damage, and destruction. They damage and disrupt communications, transportation, electric, and community services.

HISTORY OF FLOODING IN NEW ENGLAND
New England has a long history of floods. The Vermont Flood of 1927 was the deadliest natural disaster in the state’s history; eighty-four people were killed, almost 500 were injured, and losses were estimated at over $5 million in property damage. The 1938 hurricane was a significant flood event in New England, with widespread property damage in marblehead, Massachusetts, and 14 fatalities in Vermont. The 1955 flood in New England resulted in 2 deaths, 50 injuries, and property losses of $25 million.

Floods are the most common and costly hazard to affect New England. Most communities have experienced floods after spring rains, thunderstorms, hurricanes, and winter snows. Floods can develop over a period of days or, in the case of flash floods, very rapidly. All types of flooding can be life-threatening.

Because New England has a long coastline, many rivers with dams and large urban areas, it is susceptible to many forms of flooding. New England is susceptible to river flooding, coastal flooding from hurricanes and nor’easters, flooding from dam failure, and urban flooding as runoff overcomes storm drains.

WHEN ARE FLOODS MOST LIKELY?
Inland floods are most likely to occur in the spring due to increased rain and the melting of snow. Flooding along the coast can occur anytime of the year as a result of heavy rains, a thunderstorm, tropical storm, hurricanes, or Nor’easters.

DID YOU KNOW?
- Swiftly moving flood waters only six inches deep can knock people off their feet.
- Cars can float away in just a foot of water.
- Two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles, including sport utility vehicles (SUV’s) and pick-ups.
- Flash flood waters move at very fast speeds and can roll boulders, tear out trees, destroy buildings, and obliterate bridges.
- Flooding causes more than 10,000 deaths since 1900.
- Property damage from flooding now totals over $51 billion each year in the United States.
- Historically, floods have been a factor in over 80 percent of all Presidential Disaster Declarations.
- Virtually all homeowners insurance policies do not cover flood damage. Individuals and homeowners can, however, purchase flood insurance administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through any insurance agency.

IN THE EVENT OF A FLOOD
- Listen to the radio, television, or NOAA Weather Radio for more information.
- Be aware that flash flooding can occur. If there is any possibility of a flash flood, move immediately to higher ground. Do not wait for instructions to move.
- Be aware of streams, drainage channels, canyons, and other areas known to flood suddenly. Flash floods can occur in these areas with or without such typical warnings as rain clouds or heavy rain.

IF ASKED TO EVACUATE
- If evacuation is likely, secure your home. If you have time, bring in outdoor furniture. Move essential items to an upper floor.
- Turn off utilities at the main switches or valves if instructed to do so. Disconnect electrical appliances. Do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water.

IF OUTDOORS
- Climb to high ground and stay there.
- Do not walk through moving water.
- Do not drive into flooded areas. You may need quick, easy access to these documents. Keep them in a safe place less likely to be damaged during a flood.
- Avoid building in a floodplain unless you elevate and reinforce your home. Some communities do not permit building in known floodplains. If there are no restrictions, and you are building in a floodplain, take precautions, making it less likely your home will be damaged during a flood.
- Elevate the furnace, water heater, and electric panel if susceptible to flooding. An undamaged water heater may be your best source of fresh water after a flood.
- Install “check valves” in sewer traps to prevent flood water from backing up into the drains of your home. As a last resort, when floods threaten, use large cans or stoppers to plug showers, tubs, or basins.
- Construct barriers (leaves, beams, flood walls) to stop floodwater from entering the building.
- Scoop walls in basements with waterproofing compounds to avoid seepage.
- Consult with a construction professional for further information if there are other damage reduction measures can be taken. Check local building codes and ordinances for safety requirements.
- Contact your local emergency management office for more information on mitigation options to further reduce potential flood damage. Your local emergency management office may be able to provide additional resources and information on ways to reduce potential damage.

HOW TO PLAN FOR A FLOOD
- Talk to your insurance agent. Homeowners’ policies do not cover flooding. Ask about the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- Use a NOAA Weather Radio with a tone-alert feature, or a portable, battery-powered radio for television for updated emergency information.
- Develop an evacuation plan. Everyone in your family should know where to go if they have to leave. Trying to make plans at the last minute can be upsetting and create confusion.
- Discuss floods with your family. Everyone should know what to do in case all family members are not together. Discussing floods ahead of time helps reduce fear and anxiety and lets everyone know how to respond.

The 202nd Weather Flight is currently working with the regional National Weather Service (NWS) office in Taunton, Mass. to implement Storm Ready processes in preparation for the 202nd IW Storm Ready accreditation. These processes have proven to help communities from around the nation to plan and prepare for all types of natural disasters - from blizzards to tornadoes to flooding. Preparation also includes quarterly weather awareness articles. This quarter’s article provides information on flooding and is courtesy of the Northeast States Emergency Consortium.

February/March 2014 Seagull
Oct. - Jan. Promotions

Danneil Broulay
Jill McCloud
Joseph Pallota
Meagan Sheppard
John Derby
Nicole Gossic
Noal Lamy
Mark Spadea
Tanya Rego
Sean McDonough

Christopher Golenski
Jonathan Dimauro
Brendan Sylvia
Eddel Alamos

David Harris
Mark Cowell
Kirk Wetherbee
Malcom Carv
Tristan Frechette

Sean Dias
Patrick Simpson

Mark Faucher

Commander’s Cup

This Month: Basketball! March 1st!

Five-on-five half-court basketball, in the hangar of building 158. The game will be followed by a three-point shooting contest for extra points. Warm up at 1530 and start playing at 1600!

Contact Capt. Dennis Swift for more information about upcoming Commander’s Cup events at dennis.swift@ang.af.mil

Last Month: 253/267th out-bowls competition

Orders for Pay & Mileage

Members must now submit orders for pay & mileage electronically. Effective 6 February 2014, the ANG Reserve Order Writing System (AROWS) Electronic Certification of Duty and the interface with DMO will be enabled.

Vacancies

Public Affairs Officer: MIN/MAX GRADE: O-1/O-4. Closing date is 31 March 2014

Point-of-Contact: Lt. Col. Lisa Ahaesy (508) 968-4664

Human Resources Advisor: GRADE: E-7 promotable E-8. Closing date is 31 March 2014

Point-of-Contact: Lt. Col. Lisa Ahaesy (508) 968-4664

Honor Guard

Volunteer Opportunity: The Base Honor Guard is looking for members to join their volunteer force. Contact Tech. Sgt. Erica Melberg at (508) 968-4431 for more details.

Position: The Patriot Honor Guard has an opening for a highly motivated individual in the rank of A1C-TSgt. If you are interested please submit your application packages to SMSgt MacDonald at Bldg 158. Packages are due no later than 31 March 2014

Troops in the Spotlight

The 10th annual Troops in the Spotlight will be held May 25 and 26 at the Kmart Plaza, Hyannis. For more information visit www.capecod4thetroops.com.

Free Easter Egg Hunt

Sponsored by TGC for the Troops, Ballymeade (off Rt 151 in Falmouth) has agree to donate the space to have an egg hunt on Sat. April 19th. The Otis Civilian Advisory Council will provide hotdogs, sodas, water, juice boxes, etc. There will also be an Easter Bunny, balloon artist and a face painter!! Contact Michelle Copeland at michelle.copeland@ang.af.mil for more information.

NGAMA scholarships

The National Guard Association of Massachusetts and The Adjutant General announce that two $2,000 scholarships will be awarded to Massachusetts National Guard personnel and their sons, daughters, or spouses. Get details here.

NGAMA scholarships

Do you have an idea for a Seagull article? Is your unit or shop doing something impressive? Is there something on base you don’t think gets enough attention? Or do you simply have an announcement? Stories and ideas are always welcome. Email us at 102iw.pa@ang.af.mil (Please limit articles to 500 words.)

The next Seagull deadline is Friday, Mar. 28, 2014.

SEAGULL IDEAS?