



official newsletter of the 124th Fighter Wing

THE BEACON



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10th Anniversary of 9-11 "A Testimony to Our American Spirit"

By Lt. Col. Gary Daniel
124th Fighter Wing
Public Affairs Officer
BOISE, Idaho

"How we remember this day is a testimony to our American Spirit," said Major General Gary L. Sayler, Idaho Adjutant General, as he addressed the hundreds of 124th fighter wing members assembled to honor the 10th anniversary of the attacks on September 11, 2001.

Major Gen. Sayler mentioned the purpose of the ceremony and the honor that all wing members feel toward the more than six thousand American military men and women who have given their lives in military service since the attacks. "We especially remember the 55 Idahoans, including members of the Idaho National Guard, who have paid the ultimate sacrifice to their nation since the morning of 9-11," he said.

124th Fighter Wing Honor Guard members conducted a 21-gun salute to break the otherwise hushed tone of the remembrance.



Members of the 124th Fighter Wing take a moment of silence to honor those lost on Sept. 11, 2001. Members of the 124th FW gathered on Sept. 11 at Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho to remember that tragic day. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Becky Vanshur)

"We honor and recognize those lost but we also recognized that on that day in our country a generation of Americans were changed," Major Gen. Sayler said. "Afghanistan and Iraq mark the first time since the (American) Revolutionary War that our nation has depended on an all-volunteer force to fight."

"Never before has our nation asked so much of an all volunteer force as you the post 9-11 generation," said Major Gen. Sayler. He listed recent successes in the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq as evidence of the vast contributions of the post 9-11 generation.

As the formal ceremony closed, 124th Fighter Wing Commander Colonel James R. Compton thanked Command Chief Robert Bailey his committee of for their coordination of the tasteful ceremony and the appearance of the band "Pilot Error" while wing members enjoyed a picnic dinner to conclude their drill.



Members of the 124th Fighter Wing (FW) Honor Guard present a 21 gun salute in honor of the memory of Sept. 11, 2001. Members of the 124th FW gathered on Sept. 11 at Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho to remember that tragic day. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Becky Vanshur)

More on this, check
thebeaconlive.com
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We welcome articles and captioned photos relevant to members of the 124th Fighter Wing. Submissions must be accurate in fact, and will be edited for clarity and length. Articles will be published as space permits. They are due on Sunday of the UTA prior to the month the article will be published. Submit articles as e-mail attachments on Microsoft Word. Photographs must be non-copyrighted prints of 300 dpi or higher TIF or JPG images. Articles and images can be sent to:

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COMMANDER'S



CALL

Teamwork: Individual commitment to a group effort



By Brig. Gen. Bill Shawver

Assistant Adjutant General, Air

As we enter autumn, the Broncos are several games into the season, and our organization heads into an event that is vital for showing key leaders in the Air National Guard what we're made of. The 124th Fighter Wing's upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection, Oct. 15 and 16, is a significant event for the Idaho Air National Guard, and—just like in football—it takes the whole team to make it a success.

You are all capable of the winning attitude, sense of urgency, and technical expertise that our Air Combat Command Inspector General expects of professional airmen. Each of you make a meaningful contribution to our overall wing grade, and I believe everyone's commitment to our goal of an "outstanding" rating can certainly pay off.

I am proud of your determination and effort through all of the major preparation exercises. Now is the time to be confident in the experience you've gained, the fellow airmen you work with, and our "first class" organization, knowing that it is time to pull it all together for the big "win."

Our whole team needs to embrace the spotlight cast on the 124th Fighter Wing. The professionalism you display during the ORI is a key indicator to commanders, supervisors, the National Guard Bureau and Air Force of your readiness for deployment as part of the Air Expeditionary Force in 2012.

As winter months come around, bringing with them the joy of the holiday season, I hope you will enjoy time with family and friends. Keep up with your fitness routine, eat healthy and get the rest your body needs so you are in optimum physical condition—for all of the obvious reasons, but more importantly, so you are prepared in the event that you are deployed as part of our AEF rotation next year.

Without your dedication and commitment, we would not be the first class organization that we are. I extend a genuine "thank you" to every member and retiree of the Idaho Air National Guard—for your service to our country and the state of Idaho. Family members also deserve a great deal of thanks for their support of your service. The sacrifices families make during extended hours, drill weekends, TDYs and deployments have a positive and lasting impact on the overall success of our mission, and we should always be thankful for their support and encouragement.

Heading into the ORI, keep your focus, do what you've trained to do, do it well, and support each other through the process. As Vince Lombardi once said, "Individual commitment to a group effort—that is what makes a team work..."

Leadership, Professionalism, Discipline and Respect

From the Chiefs' Group

"Leadership, Professionalism, Discipline and Respect continue to be the underpinnings of our nation's military service."

The above quote was the guiding principles that shaped the last four articles that we published. It was published in a memo and was directly related to the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) policy.

Leadership, Professionalism, Discipline and Respect serve as the foundation of the United States Military. Picture the four legs of a chair; if any one of them is broken or missing the chair will not stand the way it's designer intended. Using this analogy to look at the military; if any one of the underpinnings is broken or missing then the military's foundation would be in jeopardy.

In order for the Idaho Air National Guard to function like a well-oiled machine, the foundation must be solid, rock solid. Today, the Idaho Air National Guard has a rock solid foundation. When our men and women perform our mission, we once again assure our citizens that we truly are part of the world's strongest military. We currently have the ability to go anywhere in the world and serve our nation because the Airmen who serve are our strength.

Our leaders expect us to adapt to the change that is on the horizon with regards to DADT. There will always be change, whether it is

repeal of DADT, force restructure, budget cuts, recapitalization, new technology, new missions, or a new administration. We have to meet the current demands of accomplishing the mission at hand and prepare for the next fight without letting our guard down. We owe it to ourselves and those we serve to stand firm, embrace change and be the foundation that makes our military great.

How do we continue this momentum? Stop and take a look in the mirror. Are you doing all you can, with all you have, in the time you have to accomplish the mission? If you can honestly say "yes" then you have done your best. To quote Samuel Johnson "Great works are performed not by strength, but by perseverance". Thank you for persevering through the many changes we have faced and for making the Idaho Air National Guard the unit it is today.



The 124FW is selling tickets for the Idaho State Veterans Home fundraiser. Lucky raffle ticket holders win a modified gun safe that has taken on attributes of the A-10 Warthog. The safe is a Bighorn model 6030, 22 Rifle Safe, and includes all the bells and whistles of a 1200° / 70 Minute Fire Rated safe. The front is a modified design, with a picture of the A-10. The opening mechanism is a replica of the 30mm Gatling gun. The safe will also have some custom wood and metal finishes. The final product will be the cumulative effort of volunteers around Gowen Field and the local community to include Rhino Metals, Inc., Bryant Ideas and Anodizers Inc. The safe will be on display at various locations around Gowen Field during the month of October. This fundraiser is open to all. Tickets go on sale 1 Oct and the cost is \$10. The winning ticket will be drawn November 6th which is Sunday of drill weekend. Flyers on where to purchase tickets will be posted throughout the base and on the electronic Bulletin Board. Proceeds will go directly to the Idaho State Veterans Home, to support our Nations Heroes with quality of life items such as televisions and fans. **Contact CMSgt Brent Larson at 870-0375 or Lt Col Ron Hedges at 863-9622 for more information.**

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Joint Counterdrug Program heats up this summer

by Tech. Sgt. Becky Vanshur
124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

GOWEN FIELD, Boise, Idaho -- The Idaho Counterdrug Support Program is keeping Idaho's youth drug and alcohol free this summer with an increase in the Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) schedule, and promoting awareness in the school months to follow.

To start the school year strong, the Counterdrug Program has employed several temporary members to help construct the summer and school year program. This summer, the DDR program has become one of Counterdrug's primary focal points as the new school year approaches. Senior Airman Christina Rohrenbach, the Region 3 DDR Specialist for Idaho's Counterdrug, works intensely with this program.

"Although DDR is a just one portion of Counterdrug, it is an important one and has the biggest impact on the



Airman 1st Class Sheryl Villeneuve from the Idaho Counterdrug Support Program teaches Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) to a group of children at the Boys and Girls Club in Meridian, Idaho on Aug. 19. The DDR educational program increases awareness and motivation towards positive self esteem and drug awareness, increasing the ability for these children to make drug-free choices. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Becky Vanshur)

community by providing students with unique life-skills such as problem solving, stress-management, and most of all communication," Rohrenbach said.

"DDR provides help with substance abuse involving families and communities, and acts as a role-model for children and adolescents."

Continued on page 5

Don't forget to bring two forms of ID to update your ID card

Airmen assigned to the 124th Fighter Wing Personnel Flight handle a variety of responsibilities. One of the most visible to those currently in the military, retirees and military dependents is issuing military identification cards. The small staff in Customer Service serves all the branches of the military, both active, guard and reserve, as well as those retired from service and dependents. Tech. Sgt. Connie Rodgers, one of the airmen who helps with the diverse crowd, enjoys seeing the variety of customers, especially talking with retirees who reminisce of their service.

"It's fun actually, to hear their experiences compared to how ours are now, with the new DoD numbers, they all remember their old service number," said Sergeant Rodgers "Now with the service number replacing the social security number; they all remem-

ber their old one." With some current DOD ID card policy changes though, sometimes it is regrettable to have to turn people back.

"One of the biggest issues we have is not using an expired ID," said Rodgers. With the current procedures, directed by the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System, they are not allowed to use expired ID and are limited in the types of acceptable forms they have to scan into the system. In

the past Customer Service was allowed to use the old, expired, ID card as the first form. They still require two forms of ID, at least one with a picture, to issue a replacement DoD ID card. "Unfortunately most people don't normally carry with them most of the second documents, and when they have had to drive in we feel pretty bad turning them back." For specific questions call Customer Service at 208-422-6719.

Picture ID's that are acceptable:

- current military ID
- sponsor DoD card
- drivers license, passport
- valid immigration photo ID
- school ID with photo

Example of secondary ID':

- original (or certified copy) of birth certificate
- social security card
- certificate of citizenship
- voter registration card
- Native American tribal document
- foreign photo ID.

As part of the overall Counterdrug mission, the DDR has several essential programs. The four programs: *Class Action*, *Stay on Track*, *Coalition Support*, and *Experiential Education*, use the National Guard's resources to help create the best opportunity for America's youth to make an informed decision to be drug and alcohol-free.

Class Action is a classroom curriculum program for underage drinking and related problems that begin when students are in high school. A Class Action presentation focuses on broader social and legal consequences of underage drinking. Stay on Track is an evidenced-based curriculum, designed to be taught in the classroom to middle school students. The lessons are taught on health, decision-making, goal-setting, communication skills, interpersonal relations, and media influences.

Coalition Support is a project-based program that specializes in supporting events such as, Red Ribbon Week, Boys and Girls Clubs, Idaho Meth Project, health fairs, and other drug and alcohol related events.

Experiential Education is the largest program the Counterdrug DDR supports.

The program visits local schools and community events to increase awareness and motivation, and provide leadership to America's adolescents with guidance to remain drug-free. Experiential Education challenges participants to overcome obstacles by working together to achieve goals while utilizing communications skills, patience, innovative thinking, and problem solving techniques.

The Counterdrug Program staff uses sensory impairment Fatal Vision goggles to educate substance awareness, Low

ROPES Obstacle Course to build confidence, literature and booths to inform, the inflatable mascot Sgt. Drug Free and the challenging 25 foot high Rockwall to climb. These activities focus on developing team work, esteem, leadership, and friendship in the participating youth and adolescents. Idaho's Drug Demand Reduction program directly interacts with these children through their key National Initiative "Drug Free Starts with Me," and the Idaho National Guard Counterdrug Support Program will continue to build a drug and alcohol-free youth across Idaho.

Spc. Nate Lamb, a temporary Counterdrug member, hired to help with the DDR program this summer, enjoys the community outcome and public view associated with Idaho's Counterdrug.



Airman 1st Class Sheryl Villeneuve from the Idaho Counterdrug Support Program places Fatal Vision goggles on a child at the Movie Night event at Julia Davis Park in Boise, Idaho on Aug. 20. The Idaho Counterdrug Support Program assists events with substance awareness activities to keep Idaho's youth drug and alcohol free. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Becky Vanshur)

"It's a different side of the Military for me, seeing us work with the youth and seeing such a positive public view from our community involvement. I am able to be a part of keeping them on the right track and keeping them away from drugs. Being able to have a positive influence and outreach with civilians has been my favorite part of this job," Lamb said.

To learn more about the Idaho Counterdrug Support Program go to www.nationalguard.idaho.gov/CounterDrug/

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Sergeants Craig-Mundy and Smith Win 2011 124th Security Forces Minuteman Award



**By Master Sgt. Steven D. Beale
124th Security Forces Squadron**

Each year since 2007, the 124th Security Forces Squadron selects two members, one traditional and one full-time, to be named the 124th Security Forces Minuteman of the Year. Similar to the Guardsman of the Year award, multiple individuals are nominated by their supervisors who feel their employees follow the Air Force Core Values, excel in their primary duties, work hard at self-improvement, are active members in their community, and epitomize what it means to be a Security Forces member. The idea for the award started in 2006 when MSgt John Ward, SFS Flight Chief, won a Minuteman statue at a Security Forces Conference. Rather than keeping the statue for himself, he gave it to the squadron and proposed the idea of an award to recognize the top Security Forces members of the year. Prior to MSgt Ward's award proposal, the squadron did not have a program specifically geared toward recognizing its "Top Cops." Since the award's inaugural year, ten Security Forces members' names have been

engraved on the base of the trophy. Two of those names include this year's winners; **TSgt Morgan Craig-Mundy (shown below) and SSgt Jarrett Smith (shown in column one)**. TSgt Craig-Mundy and SSgt Smith exude the qualities outlined for receipt of this award, and both truly stand out among a squadron of true professionals.



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Congratulations to our newly promoted Airmen!

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TO MASTER SERGEANT JAMES D. KOVALSNIK

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TO TECHNICAL SERGEANT DAVID JGF. WHITNEY