

# Take Advantage of Valuable Opportunities



There are lots of folks around the wing taking advantage of some very valuable professional development opportunities including Lt. Col. Chad Kornberg who was selected to fill the Idaho Officer State Developmental Stat Tour at National Guard Bureau. He has reported to work in the NGB/ A3... (Operations Division) at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland where he will gain valuable insight in to MAJCOM-level staff functions and ANG resourcing decisions at the national level. We are currently working to fill the Enlisted Developmental Tour as well.

The final Officer Professional Development Lunch is Saturday of October UTA and Chief Ladley will begin hosting her series for our Airmen and NCOs. The officer events earlier this month were very well attended - I look forward to joining Chief Ladley for a few sessions.

We hosted a team of AFSO 21 experts that will be working with each of the four groups in the wing on a Rapid Improvement Event (RIE). This RIE will focus on one process in your workplace that was nominated by your group as 'problematic'. The purpose of an RIE is to rapidly identify inefficiencies in the way we do our daily processes - once duplication, waste, inaccuracies, etc. are found we can eliminate them therefore saving time and 'flail'. I have seen it work personally and hope you can find time to participate.

Each of these developmental opportunities helps you be a more valuable contributor to the 124th Fighter Wing moving forward. For that I thank you!

Have a safe and enjoyable fall.

- Col. Sherrie McCandless, Commander

#### National Guard Bureau 2013 Media Awards

1st Place:

Best Online Publication: The Beacon—Idaho ANG

1st Place:

Outstanding Initiative in New Media—124th Fighter Wing

2nd Place:

Outstanding Blog, The Beacon Online http://bit.ly/124Beacon

3rd place:

Best Home Page www.idaho.ang.af.mil

USAF 2013 Global Media Contest Online Publication: 3rd Place The Beacon—Idaho ANG

WING COMMANDER
Col. Sherrie McCandless

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER Lt. Col. Gary A. Daniel

PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCOIC Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur

#### **PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF**

Tech. Sgt. Sarah Pokorney Tech. Sgt. Joshua Almaras Senior Airman David Anderson Senior Airman Cassie Morlock Airman 1st Class Skyla Child



### "First Class or Not at All"

TYS!	Civil Engineers in Germany	4
	A-10 at Berlin Air Show	6
	Services Search and Recovery	8
	Family Day	10
	Fire Department open house	12
THE BEACON Official Newsletter/ Magazine of the Idaho Air National Guard	idaho.ang.mil@gmail.com www.idaho.ang.af.mil bit.ly/124Beacon	
THE BEACON is the official newsletter/ magazine of the 124th Fighter Wing, Idaho Air National Guard. It is published monthly by the wing public affairs office. Views expressed may not be those of the U.S. Air Force, Air	fb.me/124FWofficial Flic.kr/ps/2tB3kf	

The Beacon is designed and published the week prior to UTA weekend so we must receive your materials 10 business days prior to the UTA weekend. We'll feature your submissions we receive after that time in the following month's publications. Questions? Call 208-422-5358

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www.instagram.com/124FighterWing

National Guard, Department of Defense or

**U.S. government.** 





Civil Engineers aid NATO School in **Oberammer**g Germany Special to the Beacon

Capt. Russell Chatterton 124th Civil Engeneers Squadron

The 124th Civil Engineers Squadron spent more than two weeks in August working internationally at the NATO School in Oberammergau Germany. Here our engineers have been able to gain valuable experience working alongside German Meisters (Master Craftmen), and German Soldiers. Our Airmen have been given the chance to perform AFSC tasks using German tools and materials, and German construction methods. We also brought along airmen from services and the medical clinic, where they have gained cross training experience.

Upon arrival to the NATO School, there were several projects that we accepted. These projects included: replacing 34 windows and 4 doors; painting the exterior of the 4,500 square-foot school building; surface repair and paint the bars over the windows of a school; building a pad for the placement of trash cans; constructing a Schneckle (German for Snail) house - which is a raised spiral rock garden with stone pavers surrounding it; removing window bars from one of the school buildings and building a 3 paver pad for a bike rack.

We finished many of these projects, to or exceeding their expectations, and took on more projects such as; removing a tree stump (which they refer to as the stump of knowledge); re-split (split is a well graded small gravel) areas of stone pavers; releveled an old concrete defensive fighting position; and built an insect house for the Schneckle house.

During this Deployment for Training our engineers have also been able to partake in German social affairs, and many were able to visit historical sites such as the Dachau concentration camp and one of King Ludwig's castles.

At the end of our duty we completed the seven assigned tasks and also completed the ad hoc projects. And, in an effort to keep our people employeed, we reconstructed another pad for trash cans in the schools housing area before departing.



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# Our prime time appearance at the Berlin Air Show

By Master Sgt. Joshua Reddick Special to the Beacon

I was ecstatic when I received the news from operations group commander Col. Paul Kingsley that I would represent the Idaho Air National Guard at the Berlin Air Show.

The presence of the almighty and (I believe) feared A-10 Thunderbolt II in Germany was an amazing sight to see. While being TDY to Spangdahlem Air Base, I witnessed hundreds of Airmen stop by the old 81st Fighter Squadron

we were working out of just to talk to us about the A-10. It was very apparent that this monster of a machine was dearly missed.

Multiple senior NCO's stationed in the 52nd Fighter Wing would bring their new Airmen over asking if we could provide a tour of the 'mighty Hawg.' It gave us all so much more pride than we already had to show off the Warthog, and I'm not exaggerating when I say that these young Airmen acted like

kids in a candy shop. They were in pure AWE standing in front of the beast while the engines cranked.

During the drive on the Autobahn up to Berlin I thought about the type of welcoming we would have. It had been 20 plus years since the Berlin Wall was destroyed so how would the Germans welcome us? It was fascinating observing all the aviation enthusiasts that huddled around us.



For 10 hours each day there was never a break in the line and everyday there were at least five to ten civilians that would plant themselves outside the fenced in 'Hawg' while watching the aerial demonstrations so when there was a break they could go back to gawking the ugly pig.

This included Aviators and Maintainers from multiple nations that were thrilled just to see the A-10 up close and talk to us. Needless to say they absolutely loved us and treated us like rockstars.

Aviation has always been captivating to me ever since I was a 'jüngling' (German for young man). I loved attending airshows and to be a scene at the granddaddy of them all is something that I will never forget.

To witness aircraft from all over the world was electrifying. It's not every day you get to see a Mig-29 Fulcrum aerial demonstration, Red Bull helicopters executing ailerons and split-s turns, a pristine F4U Corsair wingtip with a majestic all chrome B-25JMitchell and to witness the

only one-of-its-kind that still flies the German ME 262 Schwalbe.

It was a great pleasure and honor to represent the 124th Fighter Wing and Idaho Air National Guard with Tech. Sgt. Nic Paskett, Master Sgt. Luke Forsea, 1st Lt. Bud Munns, 1st Lt. Mike Binford, 1st Lt. Micah Stoddard", Capt. Tom Silkowski, Capt. Jon Yost and Maj. Mark Falsani. Thanks to all for making this an unforgettable experience.







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hensive understanding of the scope of their search and recovery duties as part of their career field training.

When the Search and Recovery team of 11 Services members arrived on scene, they lined up in a cordoned manner to begin the recovery and marking. The team took small steps in unison, stopping and searching one square foot area around them throughout their walk. They then bagged any type of remains that was found and tag it for retrieval and identification.

In a real-world situation these teams of Services volunteers would deploy to the location of a mass causality incident after all survivors have

been evacuated. In most cases Security Forces will have cleared the area and declared it safe for the team to begin. The Search and Recovery teams have 11 to 28 members depending on the size or area of the incident site.

The most common types of incidents are from vehicle accidents, plane crashes, and natural disasters. The Search and Recovery teams can be called to any of these locations to assist local government agencies. In the event of a military accident, the Services Search and Recovery team will always be the first to begin the recovery process. In support of a real world mass casualty incident, Air Force Civil Engineering, local medical officials, and airport personnel would assist in the effort.

Another important part of the investigation is finding out what may have caused the event and finding personal effects of the deceased. In some cases these personal effects are the only identifying items that will be found. These items can be important to family members that have lost loved ones.

"Personal effects can give families something to hold on too when there is nothing left." Tech. Sgt. Tim Wolf.

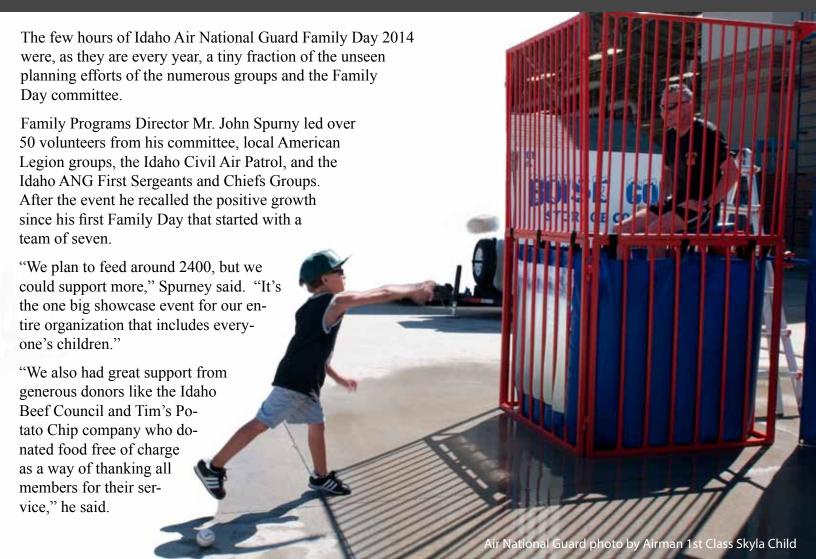
Providing families with proper respects of loved ones in these situations begins with the Search and Recovery teams and their ability to recover remains and personal effects.



# Family Day 2014

Families enjoyed food and fun at the 124th Fighter Wing family day event on Sept. 7 at Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho.

#### Click here to check out more photos of Family Day















# "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!"

Special to the Beacon By Senior Airman Reginald Pierce Gowen Field Fire Dept.

The week of Oct 5 – 11 is Fire Prevention Week. Gowen Field Fire Department would like to take this time to remind you of some things to know about your surroundings on and off base.

- Know where your nearest exit is to you.
- Know where the closest fire extinguisher is at.
- Know where any special hazards are in your area (i.e.Flammable lockers)

This year's Fire Prevention Week theme focuses on motivating people to test their smoke alarms each month to make sure they're working properly When was the last time you replaced your smoke alarm? Or better yet when did you last test your smoke alarm? Do you remember?

NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) statistics:

- Having a working smoke alarm in the home cuts the risk of dying in a fire in half.
- On average each year, three out of five home fire deaths result in fires where there are either no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

#### NFPA recommends:

- Installing smoke alarms inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Testing all smoke alarms every month by using the test button.
- Replacing all smoke alarms every 10 years or sooner if they don't respond properly when tested.

To stay safe, replace the batteries in all smoke alarms, at least once a year and change the batteries immediately if they begin to chirp before one year. It only takes a few minutes to help save the lives of you and your family.



# Fire Dept. Open House

As part of Fire Prevention Week the Gowen Field Fire Department will host an open house on Sunday Oct. 5 from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Anybody is welcome to stop by and check out our new vehicles. There will be demonstrations set up to include some hands-on opportunities. The Fire Dept. will be conducting some hands-on training at individual shops throughout the month!



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# Participate in the official TAG History Project

Do you have photos, documents, videos, and remembrances of your service in the Idaho ANG from 1990 to the present? Likely you were involved with:

- C-130 worldwide missions
- A-10 worldwide missions
- Operation Enduring Freedom
- · Operation Iraqi Freedom
- Hurricane Relief Efforts
- Major Inspections
- Sports and recreation
- Community Service

Can you share your rich history with us? For the remainder of the calendar year we are gathering the history of the Idaho ANG to include in a larger history of Idaho Air National Guard.



This link takes you to our automatic photo uploader. Don't forget to fill all the data blocks along with the photo when it prompts you.

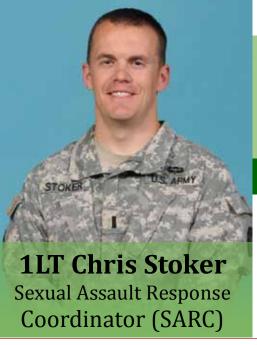


### SAVE THE DATE

### OUTSTANDING AIRMAN OF YEAR BANQUET

JANUARY 3, 2015 RIVERSIDE HOTEL





Sexual Assault
Prevention & Response

CALL: (208) 272-8400 christopher.c.stoker.mil@mail.mil





# BROWN BAG Lunch Series



Idaho Air National Guardsmen: Please join Col. Sherrie McCandless for the Professional Development/Mentoring Brown Bag Lunch Series at the Gowen Field Indoor Pavilion. Please bring your lunch and questions/concerns to be discussed with Col. McCandless. Sessions are broken out by rank.

Drill Status Guardsmen: 4 Oct. 12-1 p.m. Indoor Pavilion





124th Fighter Wing Commander Col. Sherrie McCandless officiates the promotion of Col. Shannon Smith, who was appointed commander of the 124th Maintenance Group, on Sept. 6, at Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho. (Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Skyla Child)

Lt. Col. Kyle Carpenter assumed command of the 124th Operations Support Squadron from Lt. Col. Tony Brown at Field, Boise, Idaho, 6 Sept. Lt. Col. Brown moves to deputy Operations Group Commander. (Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Cassidy Morlock)





## FLU IMMUNIZATIONS FOR ENROLLED VETERANS

Flu shots will be available to enrolled veterans at no cost to the veteran at the Boise VA Medical Center and Outpatient Clinics.

Please check below for available dates and times of walk-in and drive-thru flu shot clinics. You can also get a flu shot during your scheduled appointments.

#### WALK-IN CLINICS

Sept. 15th - 19th
10a to 11:30a and 1:30p to 3p
Sept. 22nd - 26th
10a to 11:30a and 1:30p to 3p
Sept. 29th - Oct. 3rd
10a to 11:30a and 1:30p to 3p

Oct. 6th - Oct. 10th 10a to 11:30a and 1:30p to 3p Oct. 13th - 17th

10a to 11:30a and 1:30p to 3p

#### DRIVE-THRU CLINICS

(follow signs)

Sept. 23rd, 24th and 25th 9a to 3p

CALDWELL CBOC DRIVE-THRU CLINIC

> Oct. 8th - 9th 9a to 3p



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Maj. Jason Kunik of the District of Columbia Air National Guard spoke to Idaho Air National Guard members about generating efficiencies and improving combat capabilities at an Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century (AFSO21) at Gowen Field, Sept. 29. (Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Sarah Pokorney)



# THANK YOU to everyone who registered in ECARS!

ECARS went live September 5th, and since that time 32% of personnel at the base have self-registered in the program. Let's keep improving! Using a government computer, follow the link below to access the self-registration website: <a href="https://apims.af.mil/apims/ecars/certification/initCertification.ecars?certificationId=999000412">https://apims.af.mil/apims/ecars/certification/initCertification.ecars?certificationId=999000412</a> 776&esc=true

In some cases, personnel are unable to register. If you have problems registering, email the issue to 1stLt Heidi Caye at heidi.caye@ ang.af.mil for correction.

### **ECARS** Registration is for Everyone!

The Employee Vehicle Certification and Reporting System (ECARS) is a web-based program designed to ensure the IDANG complies with Clean Air Act (CAA). This Act requires the IDANG to document that vehicles driving on base comply with local air emissions requirements.

### What does this mean?

ALL personnel at the base have to self-register in ECARS. If you drive a vehicle on the installation 60 days or more per year, you need to have a passing Ada or Canyon County emissions test on that vehicle. This applies to all personnel driving on base – even if your car is registered outside of Ada/Canyon County. ECARS is the program that documents you comply with this regulation. If you don't drive on base 60 days or more per year, you still need to identify this in ECARS.

### Why do I have to do this?

Congress passed this CAA law with the intent that employees at federal installations would not have a negative impact on local air quality. Since Ada County has air quality issues, employees at federal installations in Ada County are required to drive vehicles that pass the local emissions test.

Using ECARS to document your compliance with the CAA is required per <u>AFI 32-7040</u> and Commander supported (<u>read Brig.</u> Gen. Michael Nolan's support letter here).

## Who is Exempt?

Great question! The following vehicles are exempt from requiring a passing local emissions test.

- Vehicles that are driven on the installation less than 60 days per year
- Electric/hybrid vehicles
- · Vehicles less than 5 years old
- Vehicles older than 1981
- Classic automobiles
- Vehicles weighing less than 1,500 pounds
- Motor homes

EVEN IF YOU ARE EXEMPT, you still have to self-register and identify your exempt status!

# How do you self-register in ECARS?

From a military computer, follow the link: https://apims.af.mil/apims/ecars/certification/initCertification.ecars?certificationId=999000412776&esc=true to register in ECARS. There you can identify your vehicle as compliant/non-compliant, or exempt from the emissions requirements. ALL personnel MUST self-register in the system. This is a quick and easy process!!! You will be required to self-certify in ECARS every 1-2 years.

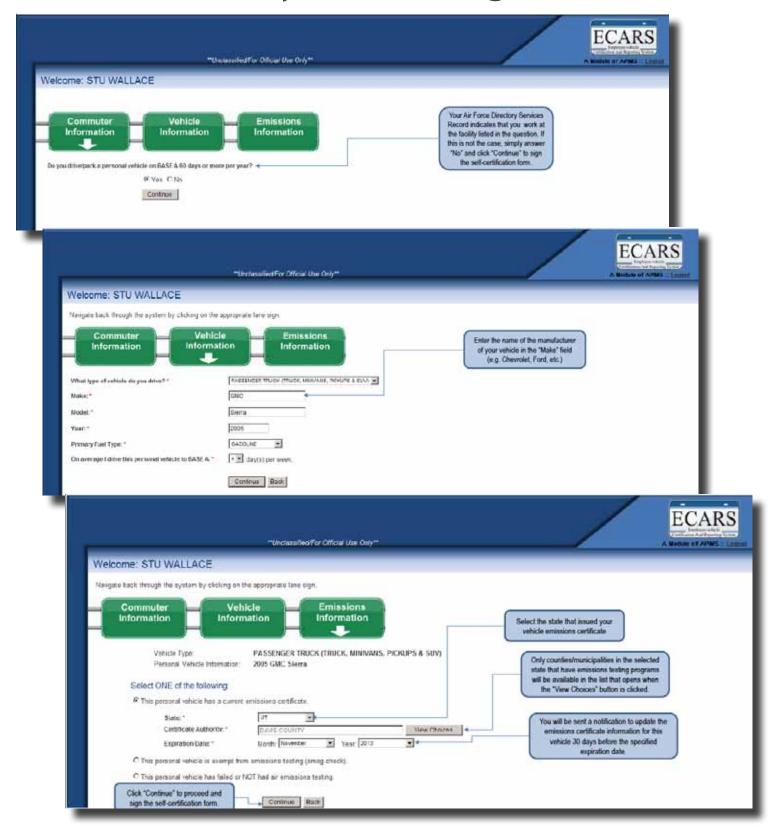
Thanks for your help self-registering in ECARS and showing compliance with this important regulation!

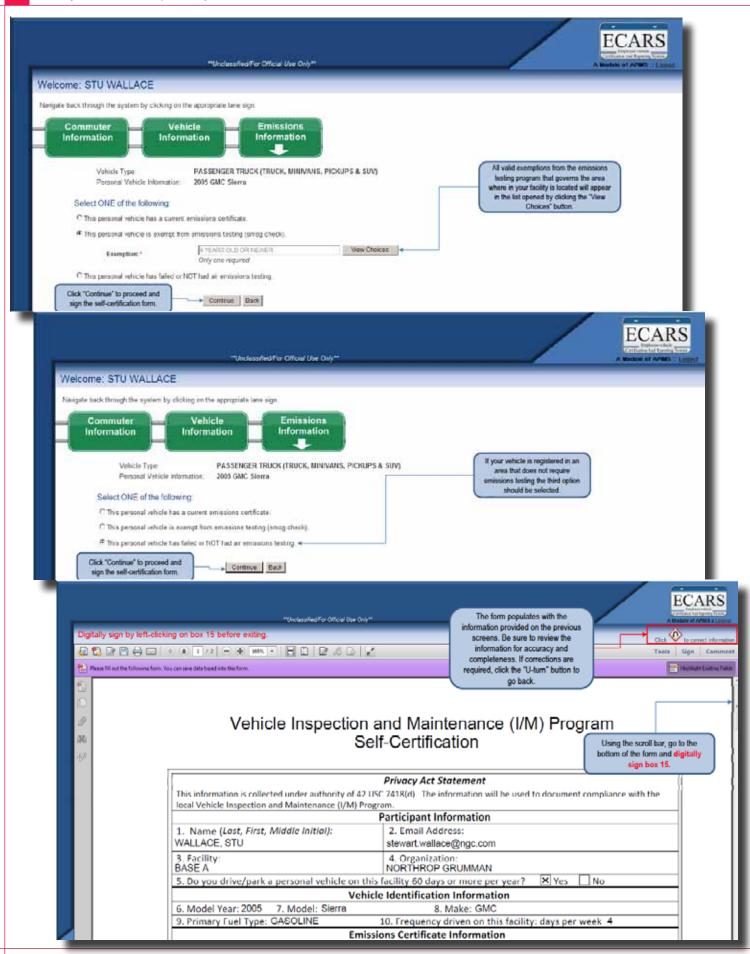
Questions about air emissions testing? Check out the Ada County Air Quality Board website at http://www. emissiontest.org/questions.aspx.

If you have additional questions, please call 1st Lt. Heidi Caye, Environmental Manager, at 422-5327.

## Quick and easy ECARS registration

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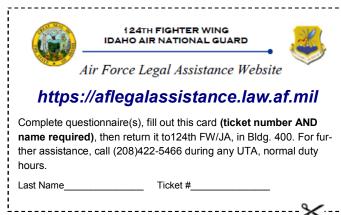
# Reenlisting soon? Come get your required UCMJ briefing

Article 137 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) requires that specific articles of the UCMJ shall be explained to each enlisted member when enlisting and at each reenlistment. The UCMJ briefing is required before reenlistment or within six days



after. If you are approaching your reenlistment, stop by the 124th Fighter Wing Legal Office in Building 400, or call 422-5466 to schedule a UCMJ briefing.

--124 FW/JA



# 124th Comptroller Update

Documents with departure date on or after Oct 1, 2014

- The following expenses will no longer be considered reimbursable expenses:
  - Authorized Business Call
  - Authorized Call Home
  - Baggage Tips
  - GOVCC ATM Advance Fee
  - GOVCC ATM Service Fee
  - Laundry/Dry Cleaning
  - Non-GOVCC ATM Advance Fee
- These expenses will be included as part of the daily incidental expense rate.

## LearningCounts™ for SECO

## Earn college credit for what you know!

Not all learning takes place in the classroom. The knowledge you acquire through life and work experience is extremely valuable, and may be worth college credit.

LearningCounts for the Department of Defense Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program or SECO is a new initiative to help military spouses earn college-credit for knowledge and expertise gained through life and work experience.

#### How does it work?

LearningCounts is an easy to use online service that helps you identify college-level learning gained from:

- Volunteer and community service
- Work experience
- > Training programs
- Military service
- Independent study

Learning Counts online courses guide you in building an online Learning Portfolio that aligns your knowledge and expertise with college courses. Your Learning Portfolio is then evaluated for college credit.

### Is LearningCounts™ right for me?

LearningCounts is a great opportunity if you:

- Are a strong writer or have taken a basic college-level writing course
- Have completed at least one other online course, or have good computer skills and will feel comfortable completing an online course
- ➤ Have several years of work, volunteer and/or other life experience in an area that aligns with college coursework for example: communications, management, information technology, marketing, healthcare, or merchandising.

### Why use LearningCounts™?

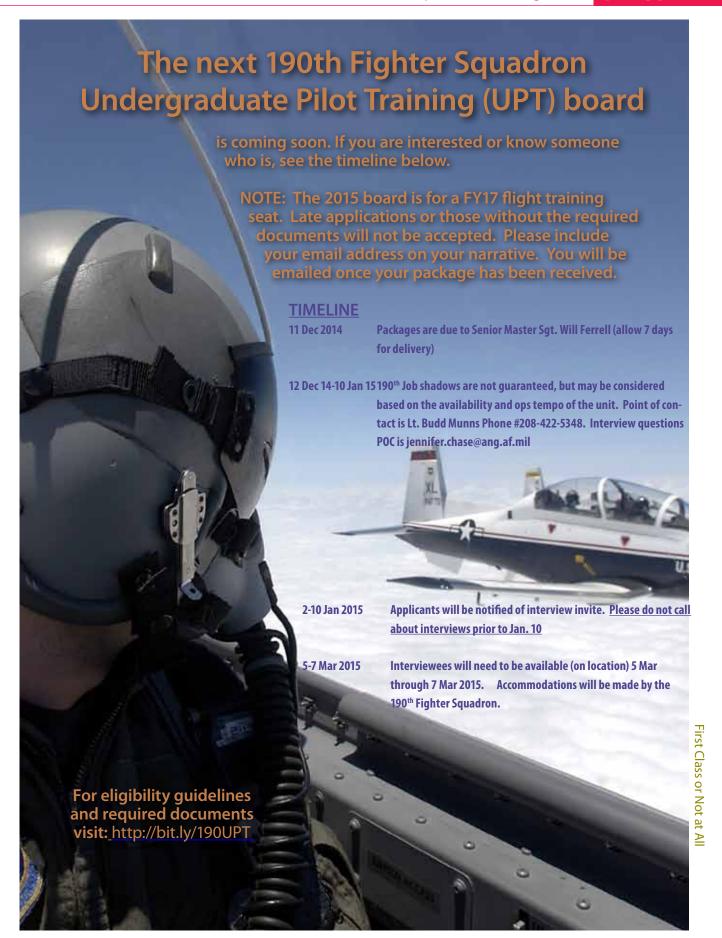
- ➤ It saves time and money! Why spend time and money taking a college course when you could build a Learning Portfolio to earn credit for what you know?!
- It's convenient and fits your busy schedule! LearningCounts online courses can be taken any time and anywhere.



## How can I get more information about LearningCounts $^{TM}$ ?

We're glad you want to know more about the LearningCounts for SECO program. The program will begin this fall. Until then, if you are interested in learning more, contact us at <a href="mailto:moreinfo@learningcounts.org">moreinfo@learningcounts.org</a>.





## Strong Showing At 'Gunfighter Skies 2014'

The Idaho Air National Guard made a strong showing at Gunfighter Skies 2014 throughout the third weekend of September. Friday and Saturday featured Technicolor-blue skies, beach-weather temperatures, and all three days featured welcoming smiles from Boise-based members of the 124<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing and the 124<sup>th</sup> Air Support Operations Squadron.

Parked just behind "show center," the 190<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron's A-10 "Thunderbolt II" drew lines a football field in length of interested spectators who each sought just a minute up close to

the cockpit with a pilot or maintenance specialist. Joint Terminal Attack Controllers from the 124ASOS treated hundreds of their fans from grade school to retiree ages to an opportunity to try on their battlefield airmen gear.

The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds demonstration team took a 'Hometown Hero' for a VIP flight in their special two-seat F-16 Friday morning. Boise Police Sgt. David Cavanaugh flew with U. S. Air Force Major Michael Fisher, AKA 'Thunderbird 8.' Boise Police Chief Michael Masterson nominated the 24-year-veteran of







# January 16-19, 2015

Trinity Pines Camp & Conference Center Cascade, ID

## Registration

Camp: Sep 22 - Dec 12, 2014
Teen Counselors: Sep 22 - Nov 14, 2014
Adult Chaperones: Sep 22 - Dec 12, 2014

## Age Requirements

Camper: 10-18 yrs by 1 Feb 2015 Teen Counselors: 14 yrs by 1 Feb 2015 (must

have attended at least one IDNG Youth

Camp)

Adult Chaperones: 19 yrs by 1 Jan, 2015

# To Register:

Email: leann.d.edwards.ctr@mail.mil

Subject: CAMP

Call: 208-272-8397 OR 208-272-4387

## Registration Fee:

A \$35 refundable check is required per camper to hold their spot. Once the camper attends camp, the check will either be returned via a self-addressed/stamped envelop or shredded.

## Late Cancellation:

Any cancellations received on or after 29 December will NOT be refunded. Cancellations should be called in or emailed for date verification.

daho national quar

# Little Leaders

## Preschool Mini-Series





#### Dates

October 2: Harvest Festival November 6: Tell me a Story December 4: Christmas Party

#### Time

9:30-11:00 a.m.

#### Location

Gowen Field Indoor Pavilion

Don't miss this opportunity to have fun while building resiliency with your child! Join us for one or all of the mini-series. Parent participation is required. Registration is open to military families with children ages 2-6. Home schooled children are welcome!

Pre-Register now!







#### For information and registration

Debbie Blagburn Child & Youth Program Coordinator 208-272-4387 debbie.d.blagburn.ctr@mail.mil



The 124th Fighter Wing now have one Home Community Care provider in Boise and another one in the process. Child care provided to Guard and Reserve members for primary Unit Training Assembly (UTA) weekends, or when member is on UTA status at no cost to the parents. Currently, the home in Boise can take six children, two under the age of two.

#### **PROGRAM DETAILS**

Child care provided to Guard and Reserve members for primary Unit Training Assembly (UTA) weekends, or when member is on UTA status. Care provided in a Family Child Care (FCC) Home identified by Child Care Aware (CCA).

#### Eligibility

- At least one parent/guardian is in the Guard or Reserve
- There is not another adult in the child's home who could provide care
- Spouses must be scheduled to work
- Care should only be scheduled during the work hours
- It is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure the family's eligibility
- Children two weeks 12 years
- Enrollment paperwork complete

For more details contact: 2nd Lt. Anya Davis at 208-422-5786

# Course 14 correspondence course no longer required for Senior NCO Accademy



#### NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

3501 FETCHET AVENUE JOINT BASE ANDREWS 20762-5157

11 August 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR STATE CCMs

FROM: NGB/HR

3501 Fetchet Avenue

Joint Base Andrews, MD 20762

SUBJECT: Change to Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy (SNCOA) Course

Prerequisites for FY15

Under the new Enlisted Professional Military Education (EPME) model, SNCOA Course 14v6 is a
prerequisite for attendance in the Advanced Leadership Experience (in-residence course). NGB/HR has
been informed by AF/A1D that in order to aid in the transition to the new EPME model, the requirement
to complete Course 14v6 prior to attending the SNCOA Advanced Leadership Experience has been lifted
for FY15.

- 2. Individuals who have been selected to attend the SNCOA ALE for FY15 and have not completed Course 14v6 will report on Day 1 of training listed in the AFSNCOA Selection Announcement. Selectees who have completed Course 14v6 will report on day 8 of training. The FY15 SNCOA class schedule will be provided to FSS/FDSs and should be utilized to determine the proper class start date for members assigned to their units.
- In light of this new development, a supplemental FY15 SNCOA Application Announcement will be released to the field to allow those who have not completed Course 14v6 an opportunity to apply to compete for a quota in FY15 AFSNCOA ALE Classes 15-C, 15-D and 15-E.
- Please direct questions to my POC, MSgt Elizabeth Shapiro at 240-612-8676, DSN 612-8676, or email elizabeth.shapiro@ang.af.mil.

MICHAEL E. MCDONALD, Colonel, USAF Director, Human Resources

Miles Meal

## Applications Due Fri. 24 Oct.

<u>Click here to view AFNCOA Supplemental Announcement</u> <u>Click here for AFNCOA Supplemental Application Worksheet</u>

Questions?
Contact Master Sgt. Bonnie Davis in the Base Training office
DSN 422-5371 Comm 208-422-5371