

147TH RECONNAISSANCE WING THE TEXAN



TEXAS AIR NATIONAL GUARD | ELLINGTON FIELD JRB | HOUSTON, TX

MAY 2013 | VOL 5 | ISSUE 5



Commander's Comments



Col. John B. Daniel
Commander 147RW

What is the 147th Reconnaissance Wing's number one resource? People -- the men and women of the 147th Reconnaissance Wing and associated units. The most important responsibility is to ensure we maintain safe and healthy work environments; however, to be a well-rounded unit we must also place a special interest in our personnel's off-duty activities. Commanders, Chiefs, First Sergeants, and Supervisors must maintain this safe and healthy work environment while the individual must ensure his or her off-duty time is spent safely.

The AF Safety Center has three major Safety Campaigns: Fall, Winter & Critical Days of Summer. We are entering the Critical Days of Summer which is the most dangerous time-frame of the year for our Airmen. Each year, the Air Force loses more Airmen from the end of May to the beginning of September, than any other time of the year. The Safety Office has provided a sample 14-week plan based on topics highlighted by the AF Safety Center for

briefings during the Critical Days of Summer. These can be used in any order. Please use these resources and others to help our unit members become informed and knowledgeable of the dangers that exist and what we can do to mitigate the hazards around us. The last thing we want to do is say the final goodbye to one of our own.

Numbers tell only a small part of the picture, especially when you think of the effects on the family, friends and the unit. In the 2012 Critical Days of Summer, the ANG lost 5 members to off-duty fatalities and the Air Force lost 16 Airmen. There is not a standard age or rank of the members, or task the individuals were involved in.

Private Motor Vehicles are the principal danger to our Airmen. Half of the total fatalities in 2012 involved motorcycles. They are especially dangerous and have severely injured three of our members in the past two years. It is commonly stated among riders that "it's not IF you will be in an accident, it is WHEN". Distracted driving is also a major problem on Texas roadways. Please wait to text or make that call, it could save your life or those around you.

Commanders, supervisors, peers, family members and friends, it is time for us to step up and ask the questions: "Are you being safe when you are driving your vehicle?" "Have all risks been mitigated?" "What can I do to help my family, friends and unit members to return 'Safe 'n Sound'?"

Have a great summer and thank you for all that you do.

¹⁴⁷ RECONNAISSANCE WING THE TEXAN

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This funded Air Force publication is produced for members of the 147th Reconnaissance Wing at Ellington Field. Contents of The Texan are not necessarily the official views of the U.S. Government, The Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office and members of the 147th Reconnaissance Wing, Ellington Field JRB, 14657 Sneider St., Houston, TX 77034-5586

Cover:
Critical Days of Summer graphic by Master Sgt. Sean Cowher. Images from The Defense Video & Imagery System; www.dvidshub.net.

ESOH CAMP INSPECTION 163 DAYS

Safe 'n Sound All Year Round Critical Days of Summer

24 May - 3 September 2013



The Air Force Critical Days of Summer Campaign 2013 has been developed to raise awareness of the hazards during the summer season. It is an effort to help all Airmen mitigate those hazards and to understand that safety has a role in everything we do, both on- and off-duty. While all Airmen have a commitment to the core values of Integrity, Service, and Excellence, Airmen must also have a commitment to their family, friends, co-workers and country to value safety as well as the safety of others, with the same intensity that is held for our other core values.

Below are the topics we are highlighting during the 2013 season that begins on 24 May 2013 and ends on 3 September 2013. With everyone's safety foremost during all our activities this summer, let's all return Safe 'n Sound.

This schedule is meant as a guide. The modules are intended for use in any order as needed for local requirements.

The 2013 Critical Days of Summer plan can be found in the Safety Information folder on the User Information Drive.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Week 1 - On the Road Again | Week 2 - Stone Cold Sober | Week 3 - Friends | Week 4 - Fun in the Summer |
| Week 5 - Stormy Weather | Week 6 - Living in America | Week 7 - Born to be Wild | Week 8 - Built for Speed |
| Week 9 - Boatman | Week 10 - Gonna Fly Now | Week 11 - Basketball Jones | Week 12 - Bicycle Race |
| Week 13 - Rocky Mountain High | Week 14 - Funeral in the Rain | | |

ANG changes Enlisted Evaluation System (EES) Program

The Enlisted Evaluation System (EES) has varied purposes. The first is to provide meaningful feedback to individuals on what is expected of them, advice on how well they are meeting those expectations, and advice on how to better meet those expectations. The second is to provide a reliable, long-term, cumulative record of performance and potential based on that performance.

To accomplish these purposes, the evaluation system focuses on performance. How well the individual does his or her job, and the qualities the individual brings to the job, are of paramount importance to the ANG and Air Force. Performance is most important for successful mission accomplishment.

It is also important for development of skills and leadership abilities and in determining who will be selected for advancement through assignments, promotions, and other personnel actions. The evaluation system emphasizes the importance of performance in several ways--using periodic performance feedback, as the basis for formal evaluations, and, for officers, through performance-based promotion recommendations.

The EES program and evaluation requirements for enlisted Active Guard Reserve (AGR) personnel will not change. This EES change applies to all enlisted Traditional Guard (TG) personnel, to include Military Technicians (MT) in the performance of their official military duties during scheduled mandatory training in accordance with ANGI 36-2001, Management of Training and Operational Support within the Air National Guard.

ANG Commissioning

Join Master Sgt. Mark Ward for briefing about how to become an officer in the Air National Guard.

Sunday - May 5, 2013
CE Training Room

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Transitions



Capt. Scott McKay
147th Chaplain Corps

In the Bible, when Joshua led the Israelites from their old home in the desert to their new home across the Jordan River, God told him six times, “Be strong and courageous for the Lord you God is with you.”

Why so many times?

Because Joshua is just like us. Whenever we enter a new season in life, we enter it a little uncertain and somewhat fearful. God was reassuring Joshua of His presence and direction.

I am Scott McKay and I’m the newest chaplain at the 147th. The military is completely novel to me. My last direct descendant to serve in the military was a Civil War officer. The reason I chose to enter the chaplaincy was because of a clear sense of God’s direction. It was not an easy move because it required risk, discomfort and fear of the unknown. But, I was certain it was the Lord’s time to walk through this transition.

My full time job is pastoring Willow Drive Baptist Church in Lake Jackson. I have been in the pastorate for 25 years. I remember taking my first church and having a lot of “book learnin’” and not much “ministry sense.” (May God bless that first church I teathed on!) It was not the type of church I wanted - small and rural - but it was clear it was the church God wanted me to serve. Again, it was the unknown and foreign.

As we began our family, we knew were to have a larger than average household. When my wife was pregnant with our fifth child, she had a sudden miscarriage. This left us questioning whether we should have another child. Like the chaplaincy and the first pastorate, God calmed our fears with “Be strong and

courageous for I am with you”, so we had another child and this month we celebrate her twelfth birthday.

Currently, we are experiencing another transition. My wife was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease five years ago. From my perspective, her health was relatively the same since the initial diagnosis, that is, until I returned home from Officers Training School in February. Being gone five weeks gave me a realistic perspective of her true condition. Thus, we have decided to sell our house for something smaller so she does not have to work. On many levels, this is an incredibly hard decision, but it’s time to transition.

Life is a journey which is filled with all kinds of twists and turns. Some are expected, while others catch us completely off guard. When the transitions happen, changing and adapting are part of the pilgrimage. As you follow your path, it may be broad and sunny with ease on every side or it may be dark and gloomy with no hope in sight. There is no rhyme or reason to the change, but there is this one constant...

“Be strong and courageous for the Lord your God is with you.”

Fellow Airmen,

I need your help. Throughout my Air Force career I’ve learned that when times get tough, Airmen consistently figure out a way to “get it done.” Today, complex security and fiscal challenges reemphasize the need to capture and implement your innovative ideas for the Air Force and for the Nation. I want to hear from you and I encourage your participation in a 30 day “Airmen Powered by Innovation” call for ideas on how we can cut costs and better fly, fight and win.

There are two options for you to participate in this effort. During the month of May, you can provide your ideas using the Air Force Portal or the Air Force’s public website.

The future of our Air Force starts with you. Providing global reach, vigilance and power requires all of us working together as an unbeatable team. As we face fiscal challenges, we must make prudent choices to ensure the Air Force is able to unleash the full potential of airpower. Each of us must find new ways to win the fight, strengthen the team, and shape the future. Every Airman, every day, can make a difference. Be that Airman and let me know your thoughts on how we can better fly, fight and win!

LARRY O. SPENCER, General, USAF
Vice Chief of Staff

An advertisement for the "Airmen Powered by Innovation" campaign. It features a blue background with a white eagle logo at the top left. The text reads "EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS" in large white letters. Below that, it says "AIRMEN POWERED BY INNOVATION" and "1 May - 1 Jun 2013". On the right side, there is a portrait of Gen Spencer in military uniform. At the bottom left, it says "Share Your Innovative Ideas HERE!". At the bottom right, it says "VCSAF Gen Spencer".



San Jacinto Day Festival

Members of the 272nd Engineering Installation Squadron (EIS) visited with reenactors of the Battle of San Jacinto during the San Jacinto Day Festival April 19, 2013.

Air National Guard Photos by Master Sgt. Sean Cowher.





WHY BE A FIRST SERGEANT?

Provided By The 147th Reconnaissance Wing First Sergeant Council

This month's First Sergeant Message comes from the heart of the First Sergeant Council. As most of you are aware the First Sergeant special duty tour with a minimum of three years not to exceed six years. The 147th Reconnaissance Wing is looking for members willing to take a leap of faith in their military careers, to lead; mentor and most of all take care for our people.

Over the next few months we will ask current First Sergeants why they became a First Sergeant and what they have enjoyed about being a First Sergeant.

If you are considering stepping up to the challenge of being a First Sergeant or you know someone who you think would be a great First Sergeant, talk to your First Sergeant for more information.



Senior Master Sgt. Maria Cornitius 147RW First Sergeant

I became a First Sergeant for a few different reasons. One was because I had really good First Sergeants in my career and they made a huge difference in both my life and career choices and I wanted to be able to do that for others. Another reason was because I've always felt I was good at helping others and I truly enjoy it, so it was a logical choice.

One was the experience of having worked with great people who have been instrumental in shaping how I handle people and difficult situations as they have led by example and been mentors, leaders and friends. I hold their opinions in high regard and was always made to feel as a peer; which is the highest compliment one could receive in my opinion. Secondly, the opportunities I've had to be a part of the lives of our troops has been one of the most rewarding

parts of my life. I've said a million times that if done right, this job is the hardest job there is, but it's always the most rewarding. I've been fortunate to be a part of many promotions and awards, weddings and baby showers, birthday parties and welcome home reunions and each one holds special meaning to me. But the ones that are the most significant are when I was invited to be a part of the hard times; the funerals, the divorces, the hospital visits and the farewells. These are private, intimate moments in people's lives that shape who they are and they trusted me enough to include me in them.

Being a First Sergeant is more than wearing a diamond on your sleeve, it's about earning the trust of those in your unit so that you can best help them to not only achieve the mission, but become the best person they can

be. You protect and guide them, praise and reward them; but most importantly, you never forget you are one of them. A wise man once taught me what true leadership was when he took off his BDU jacket and went and worked alongside airmen during an ORI. He sweat, he cursed and he got some things wrong, but he showed he wasn't above doing the work he'd asked his troops to do and the message was received loud and clear by not only the airman, but his First Sergeant as well. And I am forever grateful to him for having shown me that being great isn't about medals or ribbons or what you have on your sleeve or collar, it's about helping someone find their path to reach their full potential and as a result, the mission is met, the airmen thrive and your job is complete.

TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REINSTATED

By Staff Sgt. David Salanitri
Secretary of the Air Force

ARLINGTON, Va. (4/13/13) - The military tuition assistance program has been reinstated and Army and Air National Guard members who qualify can take advantage of the benefits immediately.

The program was restarted as a result of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013, where Congress called for the MTA program to continue in the current fiscal year.

As a result of the restart, the program will resume the

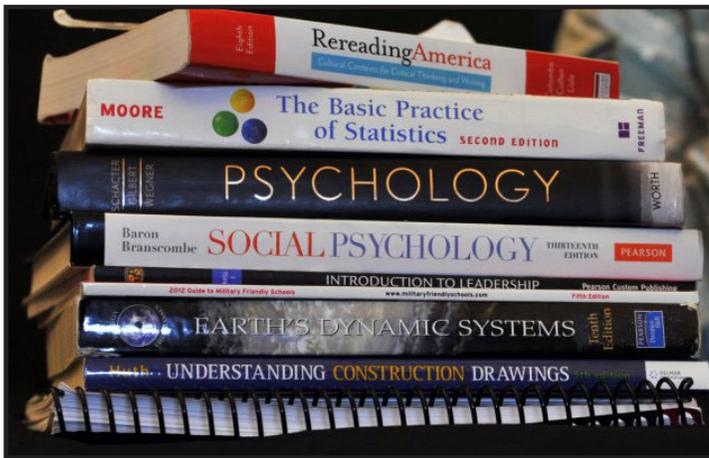
same benefits as before. Airmen and Soldiers are eligible for up to \$4,500 per fiscal year and a maximum of \$250 per semester hour or quarter hour equivalent to cover tuition and allowable fees. Military tuition assistance is not available retroactively to cover courses taken and paid for using any other funding source during the suspension of military tuition assistance that occurred March 8 through April 9.

"Military tuition assistance will be the same program (service members) are used to," said Russell Frasz, the director of Force Development for the Air Force. "The same policies and procedures will be in place."

With this change, current and future Airmen and Soldiers will be given another tool to develop pro-

fessionally through advanced education, Frasz said.

"Voluntary education and military tuition assistance programs continue to be integral to the recruiting, retention and readiness of Airmen and contribute to insti-



Tuition assistance has been reinstated and those who qualify can take immediate advantage of the program. (Air National Guard photo by Master Sergeant William Wiseman.)

tutional competencies," said Kim Yates, the Air Force Voluntary Education chief.

Looking to the future, Frasz notes that they are trying to maintain the balance of the military tuition assistance benefits while also ensuring the force is ready and equipped for operations.

"We are working with senior leaders to develop a way ahead for fiscal year 2014 that takes into account both the value of the (military tuition assistance) program as well maintaining the financial health of the program within funding constraints."

Soldiers and Airmen should check with their local education office for details and any changes on benefits of the program.

Did you know... Your Official Military Personnel Record is Online?

Now that your personnel record is electronic, you have access to it 24/7. You can view and print forms or manage your record when it's convenient for you. Simply use the Personnel Records Display Application (PRDA) on the myPers website at mypers.af.mil. Although you may log in to myPers with a userid and password you will need to use your CAC to access PRDA.

From your myPers homepage, go to the "I Would Like To..." section and select the "View my e-Records (PRDA)" link. After the CAC log in action, select "PRDA" from the "My Sections" area on the left. The categories of your record will display. Instructions on the page give you the different options for accessing your forms. Just follow them and you're on your way.

Make myPers your first stop for personnel business. It's your total force source for Air Force personnel information and services where you can learn about personnel programs, find answers to your questions, and conduct personnel business online. If you haven't already established an account, do so and visit your personalized homepage today.

Keep your DTS profile up to date.

It is important for travelers to ensure that Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), home address, and Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC) information is current in their DTS profile. If this information is not kept up to date, travel reimbursements may be affected. In addition to the information above, travelers should periodically check their profiles in order to update other information such as rank, organization, phone number, emergency contact and other traveler information.

When should you update your profile?

- GTCC expires or is reissued
- Moving/Permanent Change of Station
- Promotion/New job

147TH RECONNAISSANCE WING DINING FACILITY

Saturday
4 May 2013

Chicken Fajitas
Soft Beef Tacos
Burritos
Spanish Rice
Refried Beans
Mexican Corn
Green Beans
Assorted Salad & Desserts
Assorted Drinks

Sunday
5 May 2013

BBQ Chicken
Chili Mac
Oven Brown Potatoes
Winter Vegetables
Broccoli
Dinner Roll
Assorted Salad & Desserts
Assorted Drinks

Shortline

Cheeseburger/Hamburger
Hot Wings
Pizza
French Fries

Meal Price: \$4.55

Phishing Scam

The email subject line includes one of the following:

1. Download your ticket #(6 digits)
2. Your order #(6 digits) has been completed
3. Your order has been completed.

Often a string of random letters and numbers, much like an airline uses, appears in the subject of the email in an attempt to make the message appear to be authentic. This also attempts to prevent Phishing Tools from blocking the emails.

The email states that the user has ordered a ticket on American Airlines. The email asks the user to click on a link and verify certain information. These emails are being sent from various email addresses that appear to be airline or travel related such as; Airlines <service.792 @ at-ticket.com> and Airlines <client-114 @ vegasticketsservice.com>.

Users should not open these emails or visit the links and should report any suspicious email that could be a phishing attack or spam email to their Organization Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT), Supervisor or local Information Assurance Manager.

Safety Shorts



DISTRACTIONS AT WORK

Employees may face many distractions:

Personal

Health, Financial, Marriage, Children,
Work/Life Balance, Spiritual, etc.

Work Related

Furlough, Budget Constraints, Deadlines,
Deployments, Exercises, etc.

Remember to maintain focus:

Safety First; Honesty, Integrity, and Accountability always apply; If it isn't adequate, improve it; Lead by example.

New ESS Program - Responsibilities. Evaluators must have an adequate understanding of the Enlisted Evaluation System (EES), depending on who they supervise.

Unit commanders are responsible for ensuring all raters/supervisors receive mandatory EES training (as appropriate for their position) within 60 calendar days of being appointed as a rater. Additionally, member required to accomplish evaluations should receive annual recurring EES training. How and when this training is conducted is at the discretion of the unit commander. Commander must ensure training to also provided on the Officer Evaluation System (OES).

Enlisted Evaluation System (EES) for the ANG. For ANG enlisted members an evaluation will be accomplished every two (2) years (Biennial).

The EES program will commence in CY13 by ensuring that mandatory 'Performance Feedback' is accomplished on all enlisted members as outlined in AFI 36-2406. Raters must include these revised evaluation reporting requirements in any scheduled feedback sessions.

Effective CY 14, the ANG will implement the requirement of accomplishing a biennial evaluation on enlisted members beginning with those in the rank of SrA through SSgt.

The requirement of accomplishing a biennial evaluation on enlisted members in the rank of TSgt through CMSgt is effective CY 15.

Those in the rank of SrA through SSgt will receive an initial evaluation in CY 14 closing out on the anniversary of their birth date. Example: A SSgt born 12 Mar will have an evaluation due 12 March 14

Those in the rank of TSgt through CMSgt will receive an initial evaluation in CY 15 closing out on the anniversary of their birth date. Example: A MSgt born on 17 Aug will have an evaluation closing out 17 Aug 15

Related Resources. For additional information on processing an evaluation, please review and study the following guidance. Member should login into myPERS:

- Learn How to Write an EPR
- Air National Guard Evaluations Site Map

Guardians of Texas



OPERATIONAL SECURITY

In today's society, the Internet dominates a majority of our lives. Computers have enhanced our lives, and at times crippled it. Most everywhere you travel today, to or through the world has connectivity. And when it's free, we like it even more. For our adversaries and those wanting to scavenge for personal or military data, this is a "virtual" smorgasbord of information. Some people feel when they are on the internet they are anonymous, so protecting themselves, their family, business or military operations are not on the forefront of their mind. Some do not understand that when posting/blogging/emailing friends and family that they could possibly be sharing their sensitive personal or military information with an unintentional audience. People don't think identity theft will ever happen to them. As the old saying goes, "there are those that have and those that will". If your personal information hasn't been compromised yet, it will. It's just a matter of time.

Data miners are working hard to get your information. The following video provides an example of how little bits of information we provide on the internet can easily be collect. Be the hard target.

<http://www.youtube.com/embed/F7pYHN9iC9I?rel=0>

OPSEC COUNTERMEASURES to Live by:

- Understand that a common technique of those that intent on gathering information is to simply watch what you're doing on your computer in public areas such as coffee shops, airports, hotel lobbies, etc.
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Assume that others are reading what you're writing
- Be aware of the security settings for each web site you use & ensure they are set properly to protect your information, but more importantly you
- Ensure that the information posted has no significant value to anyone other than your intended audience
- Avoid public (online or real life) speculation about future plans/missions
- Don't use personally identifiable information as your password
- Never, leave your computer unattended in a public place
- Never, share your password with others

ARMED FORCES DAY MILITARY BALL
SATURDAY, 18 MAY 2013
1800 SOCIAL WITH DINNER AT 1900
THIS GALA EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE
RELIANT CENTER IN HOUSTON, TX
HONORING OUR TROOPS DEEP IN THE
HEART OF TEXAS
PLEASE CONTACT YOUR UNIT POC FOR MORE INFORMATION

Commanders Hotline
Ideas | Comments | Suggestions

929-2000



Judge Advocate 
147 Reconnaissance Wing
UTA Weekends – 0800 - 1600
281-929-2199 147RW.JA@ang.af.mil

AMERICAN AIRMEN | SPIRITUAL WINGMEN

 147 RECONNAISSANCE WING
CHAPLAIN CORPS



DUTY HOURS: 281-929-2636
NON-DUTY HOURS: 281-929-2716
147RW.CHAPLAIN@ANG.AF.MIL

Alcoholism is Treatable!
Need Help?
Call 1-800-410-2560

Sexual Assault S.A.F.E. Helpline
1-877-995-5247

147TH RECONNAISSANCE WING
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OFFICE
BLDG 1057, ROOM 236

MAJ GRETA COSTA
929-2610

MSGT ANITA BLUE
929-2210



TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE ON ISSUES INVOLVING
DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT



Ace in the Hole
Retirees Association
President: James (Jim) Buchta
Vice President: James Hamm
Sect./Treas: Mildred Koehn
www.aceintheholeretirees.com
147th.retirees@gmail.com



Ms. Monalisa Norton
Family Readiness Program Manager

Airman & Family READINESS PROGRAM

147TH RECONNAISSANCE WING - ELLINGTON FIELD JRB - HOUSTON, TEXAS



The 147th Reconnaissance Wing Airman and Family Readiness Program Office provides a direct link between the commander and families. Family members can get information and help for a variety of issues, for more information contact the Family Readiness Program Manager.

Important Numbers and Services

Provided by: Monalisa Norton, Airman & Family Readiness Program Manager

American Red Cross
Armed Forces Emergency Number
877-272-7337
www.redcross.org

NGB Family Program Online Community
www.jointservicessupport.org

Employer Support of Guard and Reserves (ESGR)
800-336-4590
www.esgr.mil

Tricare Service Center
800-444-5445

Tricare Regional Office South
www.tricare.mil/TROSouth

Humana-Military
www.humana-military.com

Military One-Source
800-342-9647
www.militaryonesource.com

Texas National Guard Family Support Foundation
www.txngfoundation.org

National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies
www.naccrra.org

Veteran Affairs
www.va.gov

Military Spouse Center
www.military.com/spouse

Hope for Heroes
www.samaritan-counseling.org

Air Force Crossroads
www.afcrossroads.com

United Concordia
800-866-8499
www.ucci.com

Hero Bracelets
www.herobracelets.org

Kid's Area

Kids Health (Toddler to Teens)
www.kidshealth.org

Kids.gov
www.kids.gov

Kid's Space
www.kids-space.org

FEMA for Kids
www.fema.gov/kids

White House Kids Site
www.whitehouse.gov/kids

Texas Senate Kids
www.senate.state.tx.us/kids

Energy Kids Page
www.eia.doe.gov/kids

Texas Parks & Wildlife
www.tpwd.state.tx.us