

January 2014

THE


official newsletter of the 124th Fighter Wing

BEACON

• Idaho Air Guard • Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho • "First Class or Not at All" • www.idaho.ang.af.mil

In this issue:

- ★ Firefighters battle live flames
- ★ Outstanding Airmen selectees
- ★ Outstanding Airmen Banquet
- ★ Christmas with the Veterans
- ★ "Ask the Chief"
- ★ OPRs and EPRs



Firefighters from the Gowen Field Fire Department battled flames and smoke alongside Boise City Fire Fighters in a "live-burn" exercise at an abandoned home turned training grounds in Boise, Idaho Nov. 1. (Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Matthew Harrington, Gowen Field firefighter)

THE BEACON is the official newsletter 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 National Guard, Department of Defense or U.S. government.

THE BEACON STAFF

WING COMMANDER

Col. Chris Rood

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Lt. Col. Gary A. Daniel

PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCOIC

Editor, Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur

PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

Tech. Sgt. Sarah Pokorney

Senior Airman David Anderson

**124TH FIGHTER WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
4474 S. DeHaviland St.
Boise, ID 83705
Voice (208) 422-5358
Fax (208) 422-5298**

E-MAIL US

idaho.ang.mil@gmail.com

MORE NEWS. FEATURES. EASY
MAILING ADDRESS UPDATES &
MORE ONLINE AT:

**www.idaho.ang.af.mil;
<http://bit.ly/124Beacon>**

FACEBOOK:

Share your Air National Guard related news, photos and links at
www.facebook.com/124FWOfficial

TWITTER:

Twitter @124FighterWing



COMMANDER'S



CALL

Commander's Column *Happy New Year!*

I'm proud to serve as the 124th Fighter Wing Commander until 1 March when a new Wing Commander will take charge.

Our first drill of the year is this weekend, and I'd like to remind you that our Wing Mandatory training has

changed. Since adopting the Unit Self Inspection concept, Friday 10 Jan is no longer a Mandatory Wing Training Day, and you should contact your supervisor if in doubt whether to attend. The Wing Mandatory Training day for 28 Feb will involve more but not all airmen. Again, your supervisors will let you know if they require your attendance.

Lt. Col. Linda Schneider is our new Wing Director of Inspections and she will come up with a firm plan on the remaining Mandatory Training days, but plan on attending all our planned (additional) days until further notice.

We had a big turnout for the Outstanding Airmen of the Year Banquet and I believe everyone had a really good time. Special thanks and well done to Chief McMonigal and the airmen responsible for putting it on.

Also, please join me in welcoming Lt. Col. Ron "Chester" Hedges as the new Wing Chief of Safety. He brings a wealth of experience and a cool nickname to the Wing Staff.

It's been a pleasure serving as your Vice Wing Commander and I look forward to a smooth transition the next couple months as Wing Commander.

We have a very strong wing leadership team and our airmen and aircraft are the finest in the country.

Keep 'em flying! Col. Rood

Gowen Field firefighters conduct 'live-burn' training with Boise City Fire Dept.

By Tech. Sgt. Sarah Pokorney
124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Firefighters battle live flames...

Boise, Idaho—Firefighters from the Gowen Field Fire Department battled flames and smoke alongside Boise City firefighters in a “live-burn” exercise at an abandoned home turned training grounds on Beverly St. off Victory Rd. in Boise, Idaho, Nov. 1.

Fire Chief Ryan York and five Gowen Field firefighters: Tech. Sgt. Damon Williams, Staff Sgt. Matthew Harrington, Staff Sgt. Matthew Logue, and Senior Airman Reginald Pierce were initially to provide resupply using tender at the exercise. As the day went on they were incorporated into incident command, ventilation, search/rescue, fire attack, and overhaul. The team also practiced shuttle operations with the tender.

“This operation met our live burn requirement as well as the requirement to train with mutual aid fire departments,” explained Master Sgt. Christopher Brearley, Deputy Fire Chief, Gowen Field Fire Department. “It also solidified our knowledge of tender operations.”

The firefighters also conducted follow on nighttime water shuttle operations with Boise Fire and other local agencies 12-16 November at a Boise School District Complex training location on Victory Rd.

The department trains several times a year with mutual aid departments, which are other local fire departments like Boise, Kuna, and Eagle that have reciprocal response agreements with Gowen Field. In the case of a large fire they can call on Gowen Field for additional support and vice versa.

The firefighters also respond to off-base plane crashes. They conduct joint tabletop exercises at the Boise Airport or here in the department training room to process prove response to a variety of scenarios. They are also scheduled to conduct structural collapse training with Boise's technical rescue team in the near future.



Above and below: Firefighters from the Gowen Field Fire Department battled flames and smoke alongside Boise City firefighters in a “live-burn” exercise at an abandoned home turned training grounds in Boise, Idaho Nov. 1. (Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Matthew Harrington, Gowen Field firefighter)

“Training with local fire departments allows us to work out interoperability issues in a controlled environment rather than trying to figure things out on the fly during a real world incident,” said Brearley.

In the past the firefighters have responded to off base grass fires, motor vehicle accidents requiring extrication on the freeway, and house fires.

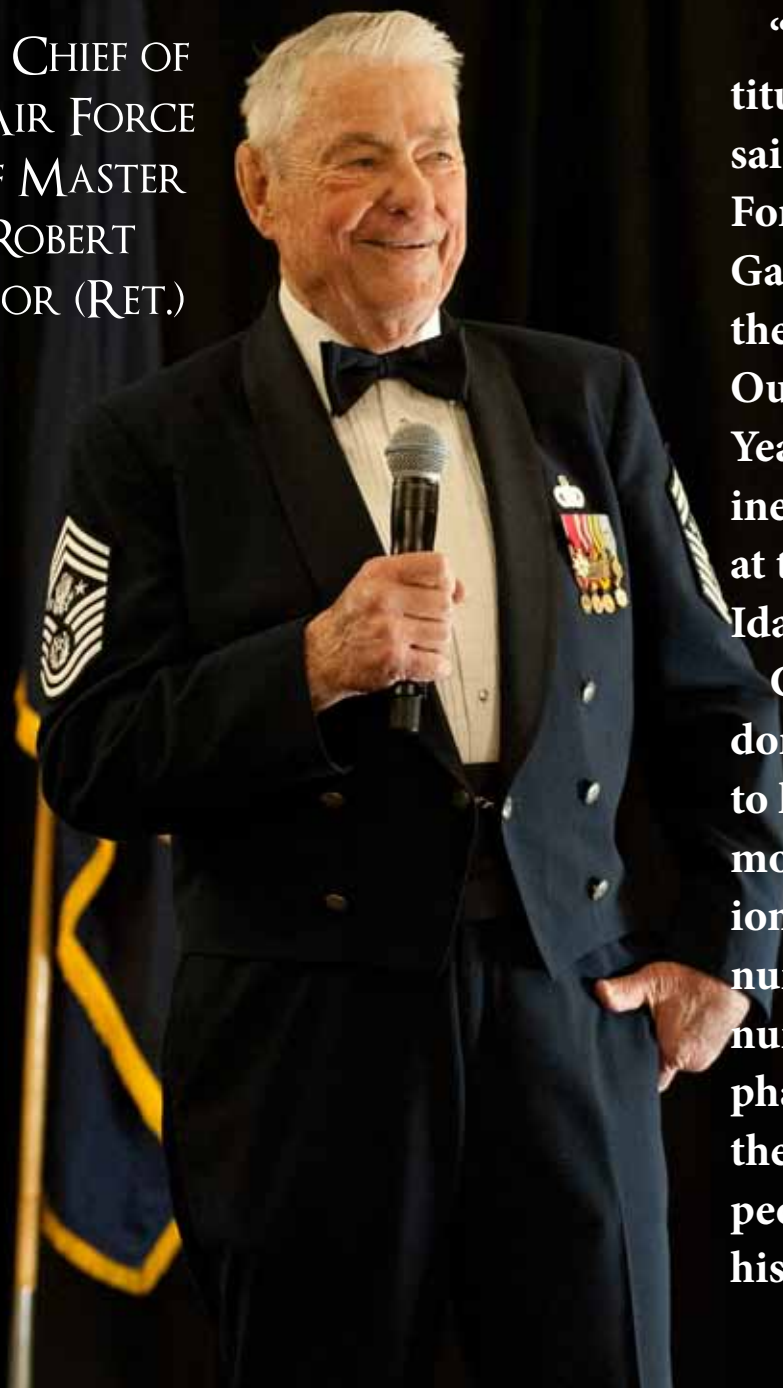
In 2008, Gowen Field firefighters responded with approximately 40 other fire crews from throughout the valley, to a four-alarm fire in the Columbia Village subdivision that took one resident's life, destroyed 10 houses and damaged nine others.

Fire crews worked with law enforcement to evacuate residents and contain the fire.



See more photos with this article at:
www.idaho.ang.af.mil

FIFTH CHIEF OF
THE AIR FORCE
CHIEF MASTER
SGT. ROBERT
GAYLOR (RET.)



“Opportunity, Aptitude, Attitude” three words to live by, said the fifth Chief of the Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Robert Gaylor (Ret.). Chief Gaylor was the guest speaker at the 2014 Outstanding Airmen of the Year Banquet, showcasing nominees from 2013, on Jan. 4 held at the Riverside Hotel in Boise, Idaho.

Chief Gaylor shared his wisdom about the three key words to live by, Attitude being the most important in his opinion. He pointed out that it also numerically adds up to 100 in numerical value with the Alphabet. Chief Gaylor also had the large crowd, more than 300 people, laughing out loud with his inspirational speech.

To see more photos and watch a video of his speech go to:
<https://www.facebook.com/124FWOfficial> and
<http://bit.ly/124Beacon>

Portrait photos available to
download at:

<http://bit.ly/124Beacon>



2014 SELECTEES FOR OUTSTANDING AIRMEN OF THE YEAR 2013



“Tonight we recognize the good work of all Airmen in the Idaho Air National Guard and we acknowledge, particularly this past year’s, efforts of some of our best Airmen in the organization, as the 2014 Outstanding Airmen of the Year,” said Master of Ceremonies, Staff Sgt. Cora Shambaugh.

“We will honor the accomplishments of these amazing Airmen selected to represent you as they go on to compete at the Air National Guard level and hopefully continue on to be one of the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year for the United States Air Force,” she said.



The selectees pictured are Senior Airman Bradley Ford, top left, from the 124th Security Forces Squadron, was the 2013 selectee for the Airmen category. Staff Sgt. Christina Rohrenbach, below Ford, from the 124th Logistics Readiness Squadron, was the 2013 selectee for the NCO category. Master Sgt. Shallan Prickett, below Rohrenbach, from the 212th Command and Control Squadron, was the 2013 selectee for the Senior NCO category.

Master Sgt. Mathew Johnston, bottom left, from the 124th Fighter Wing Staff, was the 2013 selectee for the First Sergeant category.



Senior Airman Edward Landis, top right, from the 190th Fighter Squadron, was the 2013 selectee for the Honor Guard category. He was unable to attend, Lt. Col. Shannon Smith, right, is receiving his award in his honor. Awards given by Brig. Gen. Richard Turner at the 2014 Outstanding Airmen of the Year Banquet on Jan. 4 held at the Riverside Hotel in Boise, Idaho. (Air National Guard photos by Senior Airman David Anderson)

To see more photos and watch the video of the speech given by Chief Gaylor (Ret.) go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/124FWOfficial> and <http://bit.ly/124Beacon>

LARGEST OUTSTANDING AIRMEN



By Lt. Col. Gary A. Daniel
Photos by Tech. Sgt. Sarah Pokorney
and Senior Airman David Anderson
124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

“Tonight, we’re recognizing winners, you work with them,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force (retired), Robert Gaylor, “and they were nominated because they embrace the words that I’ve shared with you tonight (opportunity, aptitude, and attitude). They are a demonstration of what success is all about.”

Gaylor delivered the keynote address to a capacity crowd of over 340 at the 2014 Outstanding Airmen of the Year Banquet held in Boise in early January. He served as the fifth Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force in the late 1970’s. He spoke prior to the awards ceremony.

This year the Idaho Air National Guard honored Master Sgt. Shallan Prickett, from the 212th Command and Control Squadron, Staff Sgt. Christina Rohrenbach from the 124th Logistics Readiness Squadron, and Senior Airman Bradley Ford from the 124th Security Forces Squadron for the Senior NCO, NCO, and airmen categories.

Master Sgt. Mathew Johnston, from the 124th Fighter Wing Staff, won the First Sergeant category. He serves as the 124th Fighter Wing First Sergeant during Unit Training Assembly (UTA) periods.

Senior Airman Edward Landis, from the 190th Fighter Squadron, was the 2013 selectee for the Honor Guard category.

Gaylor exhorted everyone in attendance to seek continuous improvement in life. He challenged all trailblazers in the room, “Leaders inspire, stimulate, and motivate—they help develop attitudes. They won’t put up with anything less,” he said.



Col. Chris Rood, Commander of the 124th Fighter Wing talks with Chief Gaylor and represents him with the Wing coin.



Chief Master Sgt. Jim McMonigal, from the 124th ASOS, gives Chief Gaylor a Boise State t-shirt as a gift for speaking at the 2014 Banquet.

BANQUET CELEBRATES SUCCESS



A special thanks to Middleton High School Choir for singing the National Anthem and many heart-felt songs honoring military members.



“Opportunity, Aptitude, Attitude” three words to live by, said Fifth Chief of the Air Force, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force (retired), Robert Gaylor to a large crowd. Gaylor is a nationally recognized public speaker and motivator.



The 124th Fighter Wing Base Honor Guard post the colors and paid tribute to those past and present Missing In Action (MIA) and Prisoners of War (POW).



AIRMEN SPEND CHRISTMAS WITH VETERANS

Master Sgt. Aileen Castro of the 124th Communications Flight loads presents to take to the Idaho Veteran's Home Dec. 18 for the Annual Veteran's Christmas Party on Dec. 20 in Boise, Idaho. (Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur)



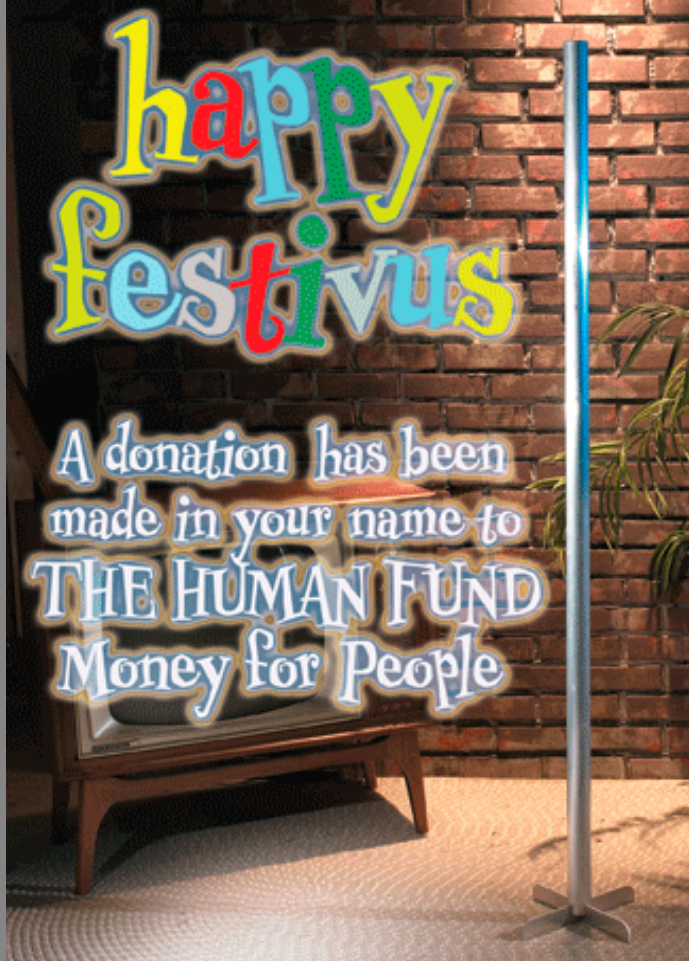
Don "Doc" Pate, a retired pilot from the Idaho Air Guard, was a Prisoner of War in North Korea and shared memories of his past with Chief Master Sgt. Bryan Littrell from the 124th Operations Support Squadron after delivering gifts to the Veteran's center on Dec. 18. (Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur)

Airmen, sailors, and soldiers from Gowen Field participated in the gift of giving when they volunteered to bring numerous gifts to the Veteran's center Dec. 18 in preparation for the Christmas party to follow Dec. 20.



Senior Airman Laurel Lee of the 190th Fighter Squadron inspects presents delivered to the Idaho Veteran's Home Dec. 18 for the Annual Veteran's Christmas Party that will be held on Dec. 20 in Boise, Idaho. (Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur)





FESTIVUS PARTY FOR THE REST OF US! IT'S A FESTIVUS MIRACLE

When is this said Festivus party? 17 Jan at 1430... you say.

Where is this said Festivus party? Gowen Field MCAC (GFAC, Club... however you want to say it)

Why... you say? *The Holiday for the Rest of Us, which shows in hilarious detail the stunning, bizarre and controversial ways real people all over the world are actually celebrating the holiday that most learned about from Seinfeld.*

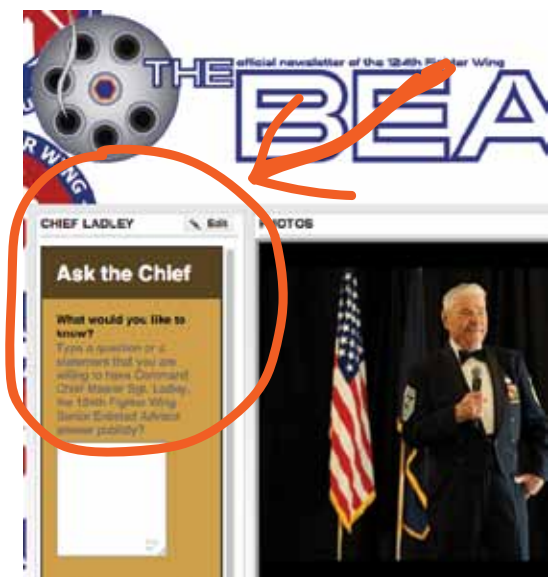
The real reason Why? Unit camaraderie

The Details: Funny money gambling, raffle tickets for a chance to win a prize, everyone will be given \$1000 in funny money, special prizes will be given to the top three gamblers!

For more details contact Capt. Teresa Busmann 208-422-5469

Check out **“Ask the Chief”** at <http://bit.ly/124Beacon>

Command Chief Tammy Ladley has consented to take your questions about anything, this may include wing or Idaho Air National Guard policy, regulations, training, careers and many issues that you wish you could ask, but just didn't have the forum to do so.



“I will share as many answers as I can with Beacon readers. Ask your questions and be sure to click the “Submit” button at the bottom our Beacon’s newest feature.”

-Chief Ladley

Chief Tammy Ladley
124th Fighter Wing
Command Chief



Fill out your question or statement here <http://bit.ly/124Beacon>

Military Family Retreats

at Teton Science Schools



The National Military Family Association and Teton Science Schools are teaming up to offer service members and their families a chance to explore Grand Teton National Park. Families will stay and eat at the Jackson Campus of the Teton Science Schools and spend their days exploring Grand Teton National Park with professional environmental educators.

ANNUAL SUMMER RETREAT June 30-July 4, 2014

Canoe beneath majestic mountains, hike through breathtaking scenery, and investigate the amazing wildlife for which Jackson Hole is famous. Enjoy a float trip through Grand Teton National Park on the Snake River while watching for moose and other wildlife along the banks. Evenings will be filled with games and activities, including a Fourth of July Celebration in the town of Jackson.



ANNUAL WINTER RETREAT February 14-18, 2014

Learn to cross country ski and snowshoe while exploring the wildlife and the winter wonderland of Jackson Hole, Wyoming. See thousands of elk and other wildlife up close on a sleigh ride through the National Elk Refuge. Depart with photos of moose, elk, majestic mountains and treasured family time in the outdoors.



“[This experience at TSS] allowed us to step outside our normal lives, unplug, be surrounded by other **amazing military families** and the best staff imaginable. We were able to **bond and focus on each other.**”

-2011 Military Family Retreat Participant



For More Information,
Visit www.tetonscience.org
Or contact joe.petrick@tetonscience.org

IDAHO NATIONAL GUARD OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2014



We are active participants in the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS). Our membership rose by 40 percent last year.

1st and 2nd Lieutenants—your first year membership is FREE.

Our year 2014 association vice-president for ANG is Lt. Col. Stephanie Sheppard.

To Pay Online: <http://ngaid.org/page/ingoa-membership-dues>

Go to: <http://ngaid.org> for more information.

OPRs and EPRs - Significant changes:

Significant changes to the Officer and Enlisted Evaluation systems begin this year. Performance reports for Enlisted Traditional Guardsman are on hold indefinitely. The following is a summary of changes provided by ARPC:

1. Effective 1 January 2014, AFGM 2 to AFI 36-2406, Officer and Enlisted Evaluation Systems, will take effect. The new AFGM incorporates three major changes to the evaluation process. They are “organizational climate” (mandatory to discuss during all feedback sessions for all Airmen), “organizational climate” (on all evaluations), and “command climate,” mandatory to discuss during performance feedback and mandatory to consider on all commanders’ evaluations.
2. The Performance Feedback Forms were revised to include organizational climate for both officer and enlisted. Since commanders are accountable on a more significant level, it is mandatory that “command climate” be discussed during their feedback sessions.
3. Evaluators will take an Airman’s contribution to promoting a healthy “organizational climate” into consideration. “Command climate” must be considered when evaluating a commander.
4. All evaluators must use new forms for any performance report closing out on or after 1 Jan 14, and for all performance feedback conducted after this date.

Go to <http://www.idaho.ang.af.mil> for the complete details on how to accomplish the new OPR/EPR evaluations.

January is the last month to contribute to the Combined Federal Campaign!



Combined Federal Campaign

Combined Federal Campaign Points of Contact:

Fighter Wing Staff: MSgt Mathew Johnston @ 422-5569

Mission Support Group: MSgt Tim Gibson @ 422-5974

Medical Group: SSgt Charlton Medina @ 422-6177

Maintenance Group: TSgt Keely Lowe @ 422-5851

Operations Group: Capt Jon Yost @ 422-5348

Joint Forces Headquarters/212 CAC/ASOS: MSgt Shallen Prickett @ 422-3292
and MSgt Joseph Kunz @ 422-3287

***With your help we can meet the Wing goal of \$20,000.00 and...
“Make it Possible”***