



**GOWEN FIELD CLUB
CHANGING WITH THE
TIMES**



**NEW COMMANDER
INBOUND FOR 124TH
FIGHTER WING**



**SAVE THE DATE
TAG DAY IS MAR 15
SEE PAGE 12**



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

**Idaho Air and Army
National
Guardsmen spend
second annual
legislative day at
the Capitol**

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.

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**

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Commander's View

Our Future looks Promising

Colonel Christopher Rood

Commander

Idaho Airmen, February drill is already upon us and with it comes some significant leadership changes (but first I want to congratulate our Public Affairs

Office on their recent 1st place National Guard Bureau award for 'The Beacon')! Changes of command will occur for LRS and SFS. Congratulations to the new commanders. Thanks and well done to the outgoing Commanders. We will follow these changes in leadership on March drill with the 124th Fighter Wing change of command. Col Sherrie McCandless, (photo below) previous NGB Plans/Programs Officer and Executive to the NGB Director, assumes command of the wing on March 2. She brings us substantial NGB corporate knowledge and know-how. With her background as a flying squadron commander and a fighter pilot, she



will be a great leader for the IDANG going into our possible conversion to F-15E's. Yes, I said POSSIBLE conversion to 15E's! When, how many, and where are still big questions, but be assured your leadership is working hard for our best interests. We will hopefully know more this year as budgets and force structure planning proceeds. Due to these unknowns, the timetable for divestment of A-10s may move years into the future. We have the best airmen and aircraft in the country and a command information team who will continue to put us on the National Guard radar. Our future is promising, you have great and engaged state leadership, and it is a real honor serving as your Wing Commander. Keep em' flying SAFE!

Legislative day reveals military history exhibit, now inside State Capitol

By Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur
124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

BOISE, Idaho – Lt. Gov. Brad Little invited state legislators, officials of the Idaho State Historical Society, The Idaho Adjutant General and other key National Guard military members to the Rotunda of the Idaho State Capitol Jan. 15.

This year's Military Division Legislative Day coincided with a new military history exhibit, located on the third floor. The traveling exhibit is currently open to the public and will be inside the Capitol through the legislative session, available to travel afterward.

"Those Who Served" is a tribute honoring Idaho's military past and present. Idaho Lt. Gov. Little addressed the crowd that attended the exhibit opening.

"We hear it every day, those of us that work here, how proud we should be of our Capitol, and the fact that we continue to highlight what was important in our past and, of course, the service given by our military. I think this (exhibit) is a very proper part of Idaho to highlight in the Capitol," said Lt. Gov. Little.

"We take this opportunity to think about our present as well as our future," said Janet Gallimore, Idaho State Historical Society executive director. "Idahoans are fiercely proud of the past, but recognize that the past frames their future." (Continued on Next Page)



Idaho State Rep. Pete Nielsen, left, talks with Idaho National Guard Commanding General Maj. Gen. Gary Sayler, during the Military Division Legislative Day held at the State Capitol building in Boise, Idaho Jan. 15. (Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur)



Idaho Lt. Gov. Brad Little, middle, talks with Idaho National Guard Commanding General Maj. Gen. Gary Sayler, right, and Brig. Gen. Richard Turner, left, Assistant Adjutant General, Air, about construction for future facilities and the economic impact contributing to the economy during the Military Division Legislative Day held at the State Capitol building in Boise, Idaho, Jan. 15. (Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur)

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At the Capitol (Continued)

"Today we are here to recognize and honor Idaho's military history, past and present. Through a terrific partnership with the Capitol Commission, the Idaho Military History Museum, the Idaho National Guard and an amazing military advisory committee, we are all here to present this great exhibition," Gallimore said.

Gallimore acknowledged Representative Linden Bateman, who felt strongly that the state needed to recognize and honor its veterans and the men and women who protect Idaho's freedom and defend our country.



"Without Representative Bateman, we would not be here today. This would not have been possible without his vigilance and persistence," Gallimore said. "Idahoans are proud of their heritage, they demonstrate this each and every day, it is that spirit that shapes our future. We are here to celebrate this exhibition."

Chief of Staff, Idaho Army National Guard, Col. Robert Lytle is the Idaho military team lead liaison in conjunction with the Idaho State Historical Society and the Capitol Commission partnership.

"We are grateful to have an external display of some of the archives that we have here and some of the archives that we share back and forth with the Historical Society. Our Military History Museum at Gowen Field is currently under renovation and not available. It bugs us every time we deny Idahoans their history," said Col. Lytle.

The annual event allows for state leaders to stay connected with the military leaders and discuss any changes within current military stature, see displays of military equipment and events, and learn what is new with associated groups and partnerships.

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



Airman 1st Class Neil Mooney, a tactical air control party specialist from the 124th Air Support Operations Squadron, shows specialized head gear equipment to Rep. Thyra Stevenson at the Military Division Legislative Day held at the State Capitol building in Boise, Idaho, Jan. 15. (Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur)

**See the entire photo Album
"Legislative day reveals military
history exhibit, now inside State
Capitol." now on flickr:**

<http://flic.kr/s/aHsjRyTvqt>

Commander's Cup Grading Criteria

FY2014 1st Quarter

Cutoff period for grading is 31 Dec 13

CC Cup will be graded using six areas. Each are given a value of 10 pts

for example 85% is equal to 8.5 pts, 75% = 7.5 pts out of 10

Event	How it's graded
Fitness	% of passing scores
OPR/EPR	% of current reports
MICT Stats	% of closed out assessments
Training completion (TFAT/Tier2A)	% of current training
Individual Medical Readiness	% of mission ready
Security Clearances	% of current clearances
Status of Skill Level Training	% of on track training status

Place	Pts	%	Unit
1st Place	63.21	90.3%	MDG
2nd Place	61.69	88.1%	FWS
3rd Place	60.42	86.3%	MXG
4th Place	59.39	84.8%	MSG
5th Place	59.03	84.3%	OG

Gowen Field Activities Center making changes to keep up with the new base lease

Editor's note: We asked Major Christen Titus, DEH-NAF Facilities Operations Supervisor for the Idaho Army National Guard about the current and future operations of the building formerly known as "The Club" and to the relief of many, the building's long-term future is sound.

Maj. Titus: "The GFAC Incorporated is currently in the process of being dissolved and the new MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) Program will temporarily stand up to take its place. The GFAC is scheduled to be dissolved NLT 28 February 2014. Due to the restructure, there will be limited activities during February and March.

"Lunches will resume this Friday, 7 Feb, from 1100-1300 and will only be available on Fridays throughout the months of February and March. We will not be taking any more private bookings for the facility through February and March just so we can close and open vendor accounts. Any events that are currently booked through these two months will be honored. All official military functions during these two months will continued to be scheduled. The bar will remain open throughout this transformation."

"Additionally, we have construction

going on in this facility, i.e., roof, pergola and fire suppression system that limits our ability to have a lot going on in the building."

"Reason: The installation split between Army and Air facilities. This facility is now considered Army real property and falls under Army regulations. Under the current incorporation, the GFAC does not comply with AR 210-22 Private Organizations and therefore needs to be restructured under a different tax status.

The Idaho National Guard is also in the process of expanding its MWR activities on this installation. The goal is to eventually stand up a State MWR program under the authority of the TAG. This will require adopting a state statute that will authorize this."



Time for your Winter Safety Talk with "Sheriff Hawk"

The snow has finally arrived in the mountains and looks to be promising for all you winter wonderland folks. I bet you can hardly wait to get home and do one last check on the sleds and skis in preparation for the weekend. Well, before you head out for some fun in the snowy mountains I want to plant a few seeds in the back of your mind. I know, I know, more safety 'words of advice'.

Zip up your coat, tie up your boots and get ready for winter! Being active in winter is an important part of enjoying life for many Idahoans. Winter sports and pastimes give us the chance to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends, get involved with others in the community, and maintain our health. When you are having fun, it is also important to be safe. If you keep a few basic things in mind, we will all be able to "slide" safely through the winter.

1. The potential for avalanches. The recent snow creates prime conditions for avalanches. For up to date information for the Payette and Boise National Forrest check out <http://payetteavalanche.org/advisory>.

C h e c k o u t <http://www.saferiderssafetyawareness.org/> for more



information on the hidden dangers and how to prepare.

2. Make sure someone, who isn't with you, knows where you are going and when to expect you back.

3. Pack an emergency kit for your car:

<http://www.21stcenturyadventures.com/advice/lists/winterSurvivalChecklist.html>

4. If you have to shovel here is a trick that will make the task easier. When the stuff gets sticky and hard to toss, grab a can of canola oil cooking spray, commonly known as Pam, and spray your shovel with it:

<http://lifehacker.com/5433071/use-pam-to-make-snow-shoveling-easier>. No more stuck snow clumps, and your shoveling blade is a proper weapon in the war against precipitation.

5. There is a Winter Survival Kit application that you can download for your Android or iPhone. It will help you determine your geographic location and contact emergency services as well as several other useful tools. Go to:

<http://techland.time.com/2012/01/06/5-best-winter-weather-apps>

6. All you skiers respect your limits. Do not ski trails that are above your skill level. Trails will be clearly marked: Green Circle

<http://skiing.about.com/od/skiingglossary/g/greensquare.htm>

Blue Square <<http://skiing.about.com/od/skiingglossary/g/bluecircle.htm>

Black Diamond<<http://skiing.about.com/od/skiingglossary/g/blackdiamond.htm>

as to what level skier they are appropriate for. On a similar note, stay in control of your skis and focus on the trail you are skiing. Accidents happen more readily when we are distracted. Be safe and enjoy the snow!

Senior Master Sgt. Becky L. Hawk
Chief, Ground Safety, 124th Fighter Wing

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

February UTA Menu

Saturday

Veal Parmesan Fish Almandine Mashed Potatoes Jefferson Noodles Peas Squash
Chicken Noodle Soup Wisconsin Cheese Soup

Fast Food Line- Cheeseburgers
Hamburgers French Fries Pizza
Sloppy Joes

Sunday

BBQ Ham Steaks Country Captain Chicken
Steamed Rice
Macaroni and Cheese Carrots
Green Beans Corn Bread
Bean and Ham Soup Broccoli Cheddar Soup

Fast Food Line- Bacon Cheeseburgers
Hamburgers
Onion Rings Chicken Nuggets Chili

For ID card renewal, CAC pin reset, and DEERS/RAPIDS updates please make an appointment at <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/>

Hours of Operation:

Tue - Fri: 0800 - 1500hrs

Primary UTA - Sat: 0800-1500hrs

Sun: 0900-1500hrs

CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICER OPENING

FOUR-YEAR DEGREE IN ANY ENGINEERING DISCIPLINE REQUIRED. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT LT. COL. JAMES HEURING, 124TH CIVIL ENGINEERING SQUADRON COMMANDER, 208-422-5500

BALLET IDAHO TICKET DRAWING

Only for Idaho Air Guard and only at the Beacon online

<http://idahoangbeacon.ning.com/page/free-tickets>

Papa John's pizza is offering a 30% discount off all online orders. Offer good at any of 6 Treasure Valley locations. Go to web site <http://www.papajohns.com/index.html> and enter the online code GOWEN30.

Gowen Field Personnel 30% OFF

At home or office—now until December 31, 2014, when ordering online! Use code: GOWEN30 Receive \$8 large 1 toppings when ordering in store.

IG Inspection Alert

During March Drill and Wing Mandatory AT day there will be an emergency management exercise (Coronet Birch) on the east campus of Gowen Field. This will drive increased FPCONS and the barrier plan. Review your FPCON checklist.

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

Service members, you have new mortgage protections in 2014

By Holly Petraeus <<http://www.consumerfinance.gov/blog/author/hpetraeus/>>

It's no secret that the housing crisis in recent years was particularly hard on military families. Service members and their spouses at installations around the country, and even abroad, cited problems with mortgages as some of their most serious financial challenges. But now, the CFPB has written new mortgage rules that can help.

More than a third of the consumer complaints we've received from the military are mortgage-related. And at listening sessions around the country, concerned military families have told me about the painful consequences of poor mortgage servicing, sloppy lender recordkeeping, and inconsistent foreclosure practices. Obviously, service members aren't the only homeowners who have run into trouble with mortgage servicers or faced financial hurdles. But the demands of military service sometimes increase the severity of the problems or limit the solutions available to address them.

So, I'm happy to report that we've written new rules that address some of the worst problems in the mortgage servicing industry and bring new rights and protections to borrowers, including service members. For military families, this means that when they seek help for a troubled mortgage or have to move because of Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders, they will get fewer nasty surprises and face less risk of losing their home.

Here are some changes that should help service members:

Restrictions on dual tracking. In the past, service members dealing with mortgage troubles sometimes found that their mortgage servicer had moved forward to foreclose on their home at the very same time it was working with the service member on a potential loan modification. That's called "dual tracking

<http://www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201312_cfpb_foreclosure-avoidance-procedures.pdf> " and our new rules set up clear guidelines that restrict this practice.

More help for troubled borrowers. Too often service members have had to apply over and over again for programs that might help them keep their homes, being asked to send in the same paperwork repeatedly. Our new rules require mortgage servicers to evaluate a borrower who files a complete application for help for all the options that are available to that borrower. That means no more multiple rounds of applications and wasting of precious time and resources for the homeowner seeking help!

Information courtesy of:

Steve Stech, CFP®
 CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™
 JFSAP Personal Financial Counselor (PFC),
 State of Idaho Cell: (208) 215-8804
 Phone: (208) 272-8332 (Not voice mail capable)
 4250 Cessna St., Bldg. 270
 Boise, ID 83705 sstech@mflc.zeiders.com

Continued on NEXT PAGE

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

Service members, you have new mortgage protections in 2014 (Part Two)

You can find out about options for helping service members with a troubled mortgage by watching our Military Educator Forum <<http://www.consumerfinance.gov/servicemembers/on-demand-forums-and-tools/>> on the subject, finding a HUD-approved housing counselor <<http://www.consumerfinance.gov/find-a-housing-counselor>>

or calling 888-995-HOPE (4673). You can also ask CFPB <http://www.consumerfinance.gov/d/askcfpb/search?selected_facets=category_exact%3Amortgages&selected_facets=audience_exact%3AServicemembers> for answers to your mortgage related questions.

No more runarounds and missing documents. Our rules require mortgage servicers to train their people tons and, if you do run into trouble, the servicer has to assign people to help you. The servicer also has to have policies in place to make sure they don't lose your paperwork.

Those are some of the new rules. In addition, service members should know that we issued guidance

<<http://www.consumerfinance.gov/newsroom/consumer-financial-protection-bureau-and-prudential-regulators-issue-joint-guidance-to-address-mortgage-servicer-practices-that-impact-servicemembers/>> in June 2012, along with other regulators, saying that mortgage servicers should have processes in place to handle requests for assistance from service members with PCS orders, and that they should clearly communicate their policies.

In 2011, two important players in the mortgage market —Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac —updated their policies to say that a PCS move is considered a “qualifying hardship” for mortgage assistance options for service members. In other words, service members do not have to be behind on their mortgage payments before they can ask for help. It was also announced that a homeowner with a Fannie or Freddie loan and PCS orders will automatically be eligible for a short sale. Also, those service members who do a short sale (selling their home for less than they owe on the mortgage) will not have to pay the difference between the original loan amount and the proceeds from the sale if the property is their primary residence and it was purchased on or before June 30, 2012.

Finally, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) also has provisions for a short sale called a “compromise sale

<<http://www.benefits.va.gov/roanoke/RLC/forms/COMP-SALEProgramTrainingVaBeach.pdf>>.”

Service members should contact their lender or the VA for more information on this program. We work closely with the military community to get the word out about any policy changes that affect service members. We encourage service members and their spouses to talk to their JAGs <<http://legalassistance.law.af.mil/content/locator.php>> or military Personal Financial Managers <<http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil/pls/psgprod/f?p=MI:ENTRY:0>> (PFM) about these issues, too.

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

ASK THE CHIEF:

Check out the main page of 'The Beacon Online' at <http://bit.ly/124Beacon> for "Ask the Chief." 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. The chief will share as many answers as she can with Beacon readers. Ask your questions and be sure to click the "Submit" button at the bottom our Beacon's newest feature.

All officers are invited to an Idaho National Guard Officer's Association general meeting on 8 FEB at the indoor pavilion, Bldg 310 at 1630.

Come join us for an update from your executive board.

Strong Bonds Couples

Relationship Enrichment Weekend

Designed to strengthen relationships, inspire hope, and rekindle marriages Location: Boise, Idaho

Dates: 25-27 April 2014

Chaplain Contact Information and to Register for this event: Office: (208) 272-6468 <tel:272-6468>

Email: robert.w.morris1.mil@mail.mil <<mailto:robert.w.morris1.mil@mail.mil>> <<mailto:keith.g.millar.mil@mail.mil>>



124th Fighter Wing won some awards for media excellence recently:

2013 Air Force Media Contest – National Guard Bureau

Category 1 – Web -based Publications

1st - 124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs – The Beacon (IDANG)

Category 2 – Website

3rd place – 124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs (IDANG)

Category 9 – Outstanding initiative in New Media

1st place – 124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs (the Beacon, 124th FW Facebook/Flickr/Twitter – integrated social media initiative, IDANG)

Contributors: Tech. Sgt. Sarah Pokorney, USAF, Master Sgt. Thomas Gloeckle, Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur, USAF, Lt. Col. Gary A. Daniel, USAF

Category 10 – Outstanding Blog

2nd Place – 124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs—The Beacon Online

Contributors: Tech. Sgt. Sarah Pokorney, USAF, Master Sgt. Thomas Gloeckle, Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur, USAF, Lt. Col. Gary A. Daniel, USAF

Congratulations to everyone around the entire Idaho Air National Guard who contributed to make this recognition possible—at your service again for 2014, Wing Public Affairs.

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

FEBRUARY 8, 2014
**MARCH
15**



TAG LEADERSHIP TRAINING DAY

The Riverside Hotel in Boise

All O-5s and above, all O-4 and O-3 in Key Staff or Command Positions, all CW4/CW5s, all E-9s and E8/1SG in leadership positions

More information about the entire weekend at ngaid.org

**LTC Ralph Myers at 208-272-3777 and
Lt Col Britt Vanshur at 208-422-3269**

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