

EXCELLENCE ★ INTEGRITY ★ SERVICE

# BIG SKY FLYER

Vol. XXXV, No. 3 - March 2013

CONSOLIDATED UNIT INSPECTION  
**COMPLETE!**  
MTANG ACHIEVES FLYING COLORS

↓ INSIDE



- Fighter History, the F-102 Delta Dagger
- RideShare helps coordinate carpooling, saving Guardsmen money



By Col. Pete Hronek  
120th Fighter Wing Commander

# Operations, Mission & Inspection Results

## Federal Budget Constraints Pose Challenges and Uncertainty for Wing

Vigilantes,

Welcome back from a quick turn from last month's UTA. What great inspections by all and we are now flowing into continued training and supporting our current mission in Alaska! You are all very aware of the budget issues facing our nation. We are facing a threefold challenge: Sequestration, Continuing Resolution and Mission future. Each of these present a unique challenge but one that I am confident we will overcome as we work together.

Sequestration is an \$85 billion funding reduction to the federal government. Due to several congressional actions we now have only seven months to generate these savings. The Air Force portion of the bill is over \$12 billion with a \$1.8 billion shortfall in

Overseas Contingency Operations. The big hit to our Wing and most of the DoD is the furloughing of all Civilians totaling 22 days between April 21 through Sept. 30. The bill to pay for the ANG is \$178 million. I expect there will be minimal impact to our AGR and Traditional Airmen. Your Group Commanders and I are researching the use of military resources (AT, PT or ST days) to both soften the financial impact to our Technicians as well as allowing the Wing to meet its operational mission requirements and readiness.

The Continuing Resolution (CR) we are currently under expires on March 27. The CR impacts us in a couple of ways: funding under the CR is based upon the Air Forces 2013 President's Budget which called for a reduction of 149 aircraft and 5,000 personnel, it does not take into consideration the business rules which the ANG follows for Depot Maintenance, and if legislation is not passed the government will shut down

on March 28. We are experiencing a 30-50 percent reduction in flying hours across the Guard fleet this month. I am confident however that we will be successful in navigating the month of March but if the CR is extended at current levels our readiness and combat capability will suffer as we move through April.

Our future is scheduled in both the 2013 President's Budget and the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act, to begin converting to an operational C-130 Wing. As the CR and Sequestration continues it may cause the Air Force and lawmakers to re-evaluate our current F-15 mission but for now the programatics are in place if funded to the appropriate levels. I am taking your Group Commanders with me to the National Guard Bureau in mid-March to discuss our way ahead with the NGB A Staff and work any conversion plan for success. I will have more to give you after that trip.

As I close, I want to take this opportunity to reaffirm how impressed I am with your performance last month during the Consolidated Unit Inspections. You truly are a world class organization and I am confident we will overcome this adversity intact and continue to Fly, Fight and Win.

**“We are facing a three-fold challenge: Sequestration, Continuing Resolution and Mission future.”**



Members of the Inspector General Inspection team depart from the Great Falls International Airport February 13, 2013. Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson.

Vol. XXXV No. 3 - March 2013  
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Wing Commander  
Major Cody Smith  
Public Affairs Officer

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Col Hronek swears in his son, Matthew, as the newest member of the 120th Fighter Wing.

Ride Sharing Online pg. 4

New online program assists individuals in sharing rides -- saving money and the environment.

pg. 5 Recognition for a Job Done Well

In the wake of the February Inspector General Compliance Inspection, the Airmen of the 120th Fighter Wing are recognized for their hard work and preparation.

pg. 7 Comander Live!

Col. Hronek updated Airmen of the 120th Fighter Wing with a live video broadcast and Airmen tuned in to hear the latest news.

pg. 9 Fighter History: F-102 Delta Dagger

In 1966 the F-89C began making way for the F-102A. By 1967 a full complement of Delta Daggers were on the ramp at the 120th.

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An exhibition of work done by Montana National Guard photographers is on display at the Holiday Village Mall.

Runners Wanted

The Montana Marathon Team is looking for athletes to join their team and compete for a place on the National Guard team.

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FRONT COVER: Airmen of the Montana Air National Guard bid farewell to members of the IG inspection team as they departed from the Great Falls International Airport. National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

# Share and Save

## On-line Ride Share to Save Cash and the Environment

Montana's wide open spaces often mean hours in the car traveling from city to city. For Montana Air National Guardsmen, making the monthly commute to Great Falls quickly translates to thousands of dollars in gas and vehicle maintenance. About one third of Montana Air National Guard members travel from out of town for the monthly unit training assembly

"With the high gas prices, food they have to pay for, by the time they come to drill and go back home, the paycheck they earned at drill is pretty much used up," said Master Sgt. William Carroll, 120th Fighter Wing Headquarters First Sergeant.

Master Sgt. Carroll is encouraging unit members to use Ride-ShareMT.com to find a carpool and track their savings. To use the service, an individual must first register, with either an email address or a Facebook account. After filling in a few details, such as where you work, your schedule, and how flexible your time is, the website tries to match you with another user.

"If Airmen wanted to try to share a ride, say they live in Missoula, instead of them both bringing their cars, they can go to the website, put their information in, and it will try to match you with someone," Carroll said.

You can calculate your annual commute cost using a calculator tool on the website. The figures might surprise you! An Airman living in Bozeman could easily spend over \$2,400 per year commuting. If you share a ride with three other Airmen your cost is under \$600 per year.

While you are saving money you are also cutting your carbon emissions. The website will track how many trips you make and what your cash and carbon savings are.

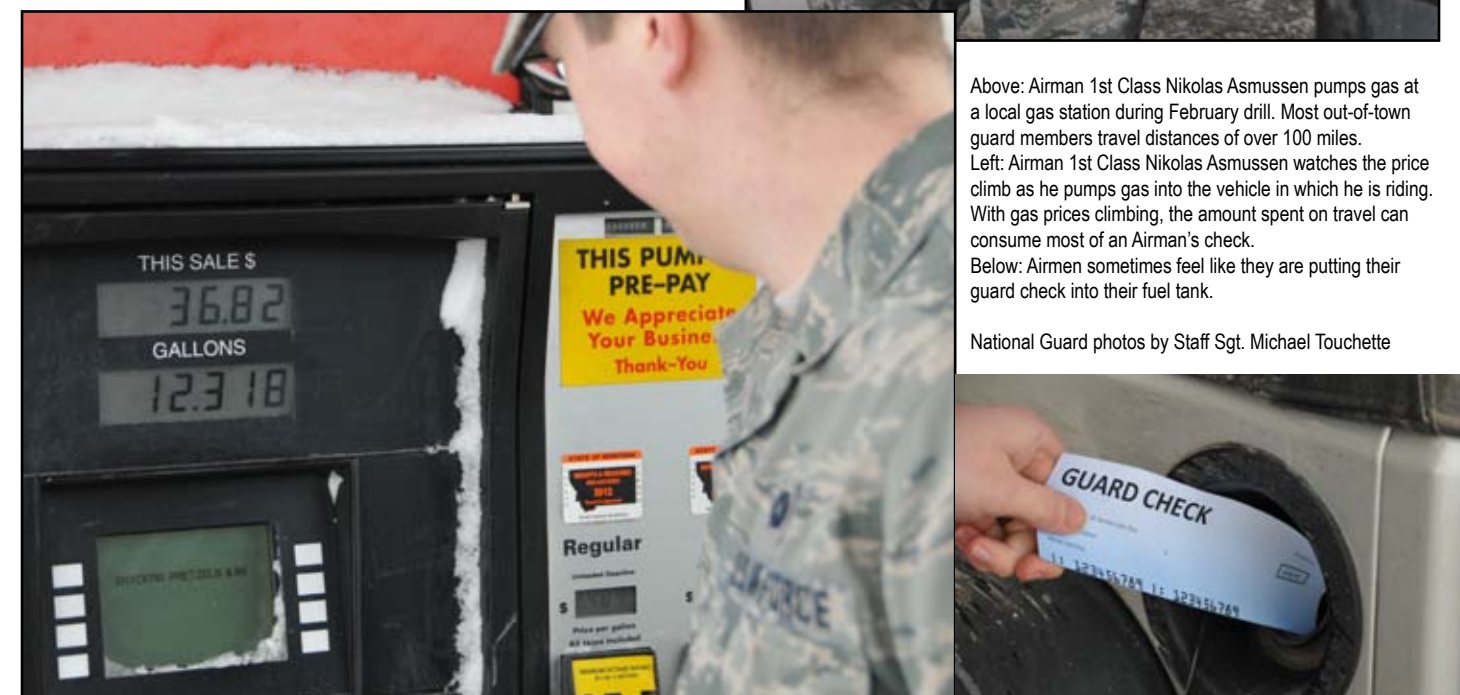
The database is small now but as more users register it will become easier to find a rideshare match.

By Airman 1st Class Nikolas Asmussen, 120th FW Public Affairs



Above: Airman 1st Class Nikolas Asmussen pumps gas at a local gas station during February drill. Most out-of-town guard members travel distances of over 100 miles. Left: Airman 1st Class Nikolas Asmussen watches the price climb as he pumps gas into the vehicle in which he is riding. With gas prices climbing, the amount spent on travel can consume most of an Airman's check. Below: Airmen sometimes feel like they are putting their guard check into their fuel tank.

National Guard photos by Staff Sgt. Michael Touchette



120th Fighter Wing Commander Col. J. Peter Hronek reads the Oath of Enlistment to his son Matthew as he is enlisted into the Montana Air National Guard Jan. 23, 2013 at the new recruiting storefront located at the Gallatin Valley Mall in Bozeman, Mont. on Jan 23, 2013. National Guard photo by Maj. Cody Smith.

## Newest Hronek Joins 120th

### Matthew Hronek sworn in by his father at new recruiting station.

It was a special moment for the Commander of the 120th Fighter Wing when the Montana Air National Guard opened up its recruiting storefront in Bozeman January 23, 2013. On that day Col. J. Peter Hronek had the pleasure of swearing in his youngest son Matthew as the newest member of the unit.

The younger Hronek attends Montana State University as a business major with a minor in information technology and will join the 120th Fighter Wing as an Aircraft Armament Systems Apprentice. He will leave to attend Air Force Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Matthew was thrilled to have his father officiate the oath of enlistment. "It's really exciting. My dad's a big role model in my life, so it's really nice to have him here," he said.

Having grown up as a member of a Guard family, he already has developed a positive opinion on what his future with the unit will bring.

"I'm expecting that I'll be working with a close-knit group of co-workers. It will be a good work experience that will also help me with college," he said.

Col. Hronek is understandably proud to see his son enlist into the unit he commands.

"You don't get to see this happen very often, so I think it is really cool to be able to have that privilege to bring him in to an organization that I'm part of," said Col. Hronek.

This isn't Col. Hronek's first son to enlist in the military. He also had the opportunity to swear another son into the Montana Army National Guard.

The new recruiting storefront is located in the Gallatin Valley Mall on

the west side of Bozeman. Recruiting staff say this is an ideal location for them to do their work and provides an opportunity to reach potential recruits in an area of Montana that has been underserved.

Gaukler says the recruiting staff has two goals to meet as they begin operations in their new location.

"We would like to make our presence known in the community. When someone thinks of great opportunities and wonderful options for their future we want to be the first thing that they think about. We would also like to enlist as many young people as possible to offer them the best future that the Air National Guard can provide," she said.

By: Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson  
120th FW Public Affairs



120th Fighter Wing Commander J. Peter Hronek congratulates his son Matthew on enlisting into the Montana Air National Guard on Jan. 23, 2013. Matthew was the first person to be enlisted at the new recruiting storefront located at the Gallatin Valley Mall in Bozeman Mont. National Guard photo by Maj. Cody Smith.

# Unit Compliance Inspection

## Superior Performers Individuals

120th Civil Engineering Squadron  
Master Sgt. Andrew M. Bailey  
Master Sgt. Ronald J. Martin  
Tech. Sgt. Anthony F. Barille  
Tech. Sgt. Tiffany M. Sinner  
Staff Sgt. Holly J. Griffin  
Senior Airman Haley Bennett  
Airman 1st Class Blake A. Gerke  
Mr. Curt K. Graves

120th Security Forces Squadron  
Master Sgt. William R. Freeny  
Master Sgt. Robert M. Martin  
Tech. Sgt. John S. Palomo

120th Communications Flight  
Master Sgt. Stephen D. Lowry  
Master Sgt. James D. Patzer  
Tech. Sgt. Raymond L. Cozino  
Tech. Sgt. Tiffany J. Watson

120th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron  
Master Sgt. Thomas K. Davies  
Master Sgt. Ted W. Gasvoda  
Master Sgt. Erik G. Green  
Master Sgt. Christian L. Howell  
Master Sgt. Sean D. Maroney  
Master Sgt. Shane J. Mikes  
Tech. Sgt. Trevor Cummings  
Tech. Sgt. Daniel S. Hayes  
Tech. Sgt. Zachary A. Kraft  
Tech. Sgt. David Ridl  
Tech. Sgt. Mark A. Snodgrass  
Staff Sgt. Robert C. Holcomb  
Staff Sgt. Erin K. Hoock

120th Maintenance Squadron  
Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey C. Mortag  
Master Sgt. Gary J. Flesch  
Master Sgt. Jennifer K. Hale  
Master Sgt. Wade Plant  
Tech. Sgt. Aaron M. Banks  
Tech. Sgt. Chad J. Brady  
Tech. Sgt. David M. Myers  
Tech. Sgt. Lisa A. Solheim  
Staff Sgt. Jacob L. Jones  
Staff Sgt. Johnny L. Myers

120th Maintenance Group  
Senior Master Sgt. Monte A. Howse  
Tech. Sgt. Mitch D. Hegg  
Tech. Sgt. Kari A. Maroney  
Tech. Sgt. Tammy A. Wajer  
120th Operations Group  
Major Matthew C. Ohman  
Airman 1st Class Samantha R. Bannister

120th Operations Support Flight  
Tech. Sgt. Naomy L. Bottomley  
Tech. Sgt. Ryan J. Caldwell  
Staff Sgt. Neil J. Kolve

120th Comptroller Flight  
Master Sgt. David H. Lewis  
Tech Sgt. Jolynn A. Howse

120th Fight Wing Headquarters  
Master Sgt. Patricia J. Hagan

120th Mission Support Contracting  
Master Sgt. Christina L. Hutchins

## ACC IG Team Coin Recipients

Master Sgt. David H. Lewis  
120th Comptroller Flight

Tech Sgt. Jolynn A. Howse  
120th Comptroller Flight

Lt. Colonel Anthony T. Brim  
120th Operations Group

Master Sgt. Scott T. Clark  
120th Operations Group

Senior Airman Brittani R. Hochstein  
120th Force Support Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Timothy R. Sanne  
120th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Robert J. Davidson  
120th Security Forces Squadron

Senior Airman Jason R. Spring  
120th Security Forces Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Tiffany J. Watson  
120th Communications Flight

Tech Sgt. Scot V. Lawson  
120th Civil Engineering Squadron

## Superior Performers Teams

Crash Damaged or Disabled Aircraft  
Recovery Team  
120th Maintenance Group

Maintenance Group Compliance Process  
Improvement Working Group  
120th Maintenance Group

Precision Guided Munitions  
Maintenance Team  
120th Fighter Wing

Logistics Plans Team  
120th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Aircrew Flight Equipment  
120th Operations Support Flight

Financial Management Analysis Team  
120th Comptroller Flight

Small Arms/Large Arms Team  
120th Mission Support Group

## ACC IG Coin Recipients

Master Sgt. Stephen D. Lowry  
120th Communications Flight

Tech. Sgt. Ryan J. Caldwell  
120th Operations Support Flight

Mr. Curt K. Graves  
120th Civil Engineering Squadron

The Air Combat Command Inspector General team assessed the 120th Fighter Wing to ensure compliance with Air Force standards in February. The 62 person team inspected all areas of the Wing over the five day inspection. Inspectors rated the wing "satisfactory" overall with some areas receiving an "excellent." During the out brief, Colonel Craig Leavitt, Air Combat Command Inspector General Team Chief, applauded the men and women of the 120th for performing so well in spite of political uncertainty.

"I'd like to personally congratulate you all for a job well done. You met and in many cases exceeded the very demanding standards of Air Combat Command," said Leavitt.

The team gave each inspected area a rating of "outstanding," "excellent," "satisfactory," "marginal" or "unsatisfactory". "Satisfactory" units meet all Air Force standards and mission requirements. This new five tier scale system replaced the old three tier scale; "complies," "complies with comments," and "non-compliant."

Multiple areas received "excellent" ratings indicating that their performance exceeds mission requirements and that they operate in a superior manner. The 120th Maintenance Group and its three subordinate units were all rated "excellent." The Aircraft Maintenance Squadron had zero deficiencies on their inspection.

"Overall maintenance personnel displayed a high proficiency level and a strong sense of Montana pride," said Leavitt.

Unit members in attendance of the out brief gave the maintenance section a standing ovation for achieving such a difficult accomplishment.

No areas were "marginal" or "unsatisfactory." There were also no critical deficiencies or conditions that could result in widespread mission impact or failure.

Colonel J. Peter Hronek commended the wing for its excellent performance and having no weak areas.

"Amazing!" he said, "You all worked together as groups, squadrons, and flights, to get the job done, to make sure no one was failing."

The Inspection team recognized 51 individuals and seven teams for superior performance. The team identified 43 areas of strength, where performance was excellent or outstanding. Individual inspectors gave out ten IG Team coins to outstanding individuals.

Three 120th Fighter wing members received the prestigious ACC IG coin. Leavitt pointed out that less than one half of one percent of Airmen will ever receive the coin. Air Combat Command Inspector General, Colonel Peter A. Donnelly personally approves the recipients of the coins. Leavitt presented the coins to Master Sgt. Stephen D. Lowry, Tech. Sgt. Ryan J. Caldwell and Mr. Curt K. Graves.

"Their accomplishments are critical to the success of their teams and your wing," said Leavitt.

"What we observed over the last five days was a true mission-focused, world-class, fighter wing. No matter what lays in store for you, I know the future is bright. Montanans and Americans should sleep better at night knowing that you'll be there to defend our freedom," said Leavitt.



By: Airman 1st Class Nikolas Asmussen, 120th FW Public Affairs



Top: Col. Thomas Mora commends 120th Fighter Wing Airmen on a job well done after hearing the results of the inspection. Above: Col. Pete Hronek thanks inspectors as they prepare to depart from the Great Falls International Airport. Left: Airmen from the Montana Air National Guard shake hands with the departing members of the IG team

National Guard photos by Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson



# MTANG FIGHTER HISTORY



## F-102 Delta Dagger

The big news in 1966 was an aircraft conversion.

The F-89's were leaving, and the F-102 Delta Daggers were replacing them.

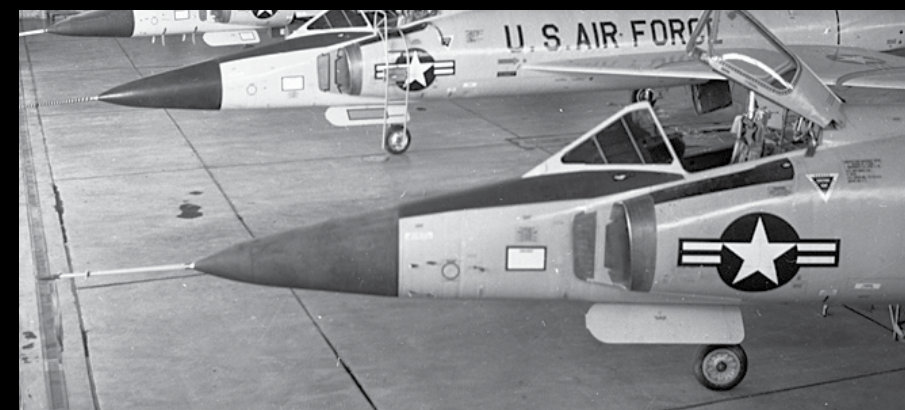
The first F-102 was flown into Great Falls on July 30, 1966, by Major Jim Aiken, a former member of the 120th, from Wisconsin. On August 1, an active-duty Air Force team arrived at the 120th to assist with all aspects of the conversion. They remained for six months.

The first TF-102, or Tub, two-seat trainer arrived on the Hill on September 28. All affected sections were well into their conversion training when the Tub arrived.

In 1967 the group received its full allotment of F-102's. These were brought up to unit maintenance standards and given the group's markings.

Several of the "Deuces" sported fuselage stripes in addition to the more normal markings. Four stripes indicated General Young's aircraft, while three indicated Lt. Col. Whalen's plane. Two stripes were on Lt. Col. Gremaux's plane, and one stripe indicated the flight commander's birds.

From the 120th Fighter Wing History Archives



# Expo Showcases Guard Photographers

## National Guard Images Showcase

A collection of photographs featuring members of the Montana National Guard are now on display near the Montana National Guard Recruiting Center in Holiday Village Mall.

The Montana National Guard Photo Expo was originally created by Montana Army National Guard photographer Staff Sgt. Stacey Scotson to showcase creative and artistic images taken by military photographers that are often never seen by the public.

“Sergeant Scotson was a little distressed about all of the wonderful photographs that all of our photographers have put together that nobody ever sees and so she decided that she wanted to do a show to take to the Helena College of Technology photography students and show them the types of things that we capture during our daily work,” said Montana National Guard Community Relations Manager Maj. Lori Hampa-Chamberlain.

The display of photographs was originally intended to be a one-time showing to college students but has since grown to be a travelling exhibit that visits cities and towns throughout the state of Montana. In its 18 months of existence the show has been to Sidney, Malta, Miles City, Anaconda, Butte, Bozeman, Helena and Great Falls.

As Community Relations Manager, Hampa-Chamberlain serves as liaison between the Montana National Guard and members of the communities where armories and bases are located. She says overseeing the travelling exhibit has become a natural addition to her job and an enjoyable responsibility.



Above: Maj. Lori Hampa-Chamberlain hangs a photo at the expo at the Holiday Village Mall. Right: Photo Expo collection of photographs taken by Montana National Guard photographers are displayed for the public to view. Left: Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson stands by his photo on display at the expo. National Guard Photos by Maj. Lori Hampa-Chamberlain and Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson



A wide-ranging display of images includes combat photography from Iraq and Afghanistan and close-to-home training activities that capture moments in the life of a Montana National Guard Soldier or Airman. The goal of the travelling photo exhibit is to help tell the story of the members and the mission of the Montana National Guard.

The work of nine military photographers is featured in the show, but Hampa-Chamberlain would eventually like to see images from all military photographers currently serving in the Montana National Guard represented in the travelling exhibit. She even encourages National Guard members that do not possess the military occupational specialty of photographer to also submit outstanding images to be considered for the show.

“The communities at large are very respectful of today’s military, but I don’t think they understand what it is that we do. This is an opportunity to not only showcase the talent of these nine incredibly professional and very well-trained photographers, but it’s an opportunity to show our mission and it’s an opportunity to show our citizens what we do to help them better understand us,” said Hampa-Chamberlain.

The Montana National Guard Photo Expo collection will be displayed at the mall until April 2 when it is scheduled to be moved to the Great Falls Public Library and put on exhibit through April 29.

By: Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson  
120th FW Public Affairs



# Runners Wanted

## Montana National Guard Seeks Athletes for Marathon Team

The Montana National Guard Marathon Program is seeking Air and Army National Guard athletes. Each May, hundreds of Air and Army National Guard athletes compete at the Lincoln/National Guard Marathon to attempt to earn a coveted position on the elite All Guard Marathon Team.

The Marathon Program works with the National Guard Recruiting and Retention Force at both local and national levels to promote the Army and Air National Guard, and the Military Competitions Programs. The program encourages and enhances the National Guard Retention Program by instilling physical fitness, self-discipline, and esprit de corps among National Guard members from all fifty states and U.S. territories.

In Montana, we can send up to four people in a paid-status to qualify for the All Guard Marathon Team held in Lincoln, Nebraska on May 5, 2013 at the Lincoln National Guard Marathon. To be eligible for the opportunity, please submit your race time for a half marathon (preferable full marathon) that has taken place within the past 18 months to the contact information below. Qualifying marathon times are as follows (times must be equal or faster):

- Males (Under 40) 4:00
- Males (40 & over) 4:15
- Females (all ages) 4:30

If you are selected to represent Montana and compete at the Lincoln National Guard Marathon, the top 40 males, top 15 females, and top three males over age 50 will earn a position for one year on the All Guard Marathon Team. Those members who earn a coveted spot on the All Guard Marathon Team will have the opportunity to travel all over the country to represent the National Guard at major races. Please submit race information or any questions to Tech. Sgt. Crystal Brown at [crystal.brown@ang.af.mil](mailto:crystal.brown@ang.af.mil).

By: Tech. Sgt. Crystal Brown,  
120th FW Mission Support Group



Above: Col. Troy Frost, competes in the Lincoln National Guard Marathon for the Montana National Guard Marathon Team.



Right: North Dakota Guard Staff Sgt. Brekka Carlson, raises arms in triumph as she runs across the finish line.  
Below: Runners at the 34th annual Lincoln National Guard Marathon prepare to start their 26.2-mile course.  
National Guard Photos by Senior Master Sgt. David Lipp.



# HISTORY Of THE MTANG

A Canadian Confederate Air Force F-51 Mustang landed in Great Falls and parked on the Montana Air National Guard ramp on March 8, 1963. Experienced unit members had the chance to look over the aircraft and reminisce upon the days when the 186th Fighter Squadron flew the high-performance piston engine aircraft.

From the 120th Fighter Wing History Archives

# 1963



## The News You Can Use

### Family Programs Adds New Member To Team.

Liz Foster is the new Personal Financial Counsel (PFC). The Military & Family Life Consultant (MFLC) Program includes Personal Financial Counseling to help you and your family manage your finances, resolve financial problems and reach long-term goals such as getting an education, buying a home and planning for retirement.

Her services include:

Support and counseling, to include: Confidential financial consultations for individuals and families, referrals to military and community resources, support for family members while you're deployed, help with credit management and budgeting, Help navigating state-related benefits, and more.

To schedule a briefing or consultation/visit, contact Liz at:

Office: 406.324.3302 Cell: 406.249.6697 [lfoster@mflc.zeiders.com](mailto:lfoster@mflc.zeiders.com).

### Welcome to Tax Season.

There are many free resources available to military members to be able to prepare and file taxes. Some options are as follows per the Air Force Portal, which has a wealth of information on many subjects.

"Free Tax Preparation Resources for Military Personnel"

The military has a strong Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program. Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Guardsmen, and their families worldwide receive free tax preparation assistance at offices within their installations. These VITA sites provide free tax advice, tax preparation, and assistance to military members and their families.

They are trained and equipped to address military specific tax issues, such as combat zone tax benefits and the effect of Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) guidelines. Most service members file their tax returns electronically at their tax centers and, by selecting direct deposit, receive their refunds in as little as 1 week.

This combined effort ensures that service members receive free tax assistance from well-trained and equipped military tax preparers. Please note eligibility to use VITA will vary by base. Some bases only see active duty members while other bases require individuals to be below a certain income threshold. Please contact your local base VITA office to determine eligibility and for further assistance.

If you prefer to do your taxes yourself, there are several options to efile your taxes online.

The Military OneSource Tax Program is once again offering a free, electronic tax filing service. If you are eligible under the Military OneSource program, you can complete, save, and file your 2012 federal and up to three state returns online free with the H&R Block

At HomeR Basic tool. If you have questions about this tax service or about preparing your own tax returns, please call 1-800-342-9647 and ask to speak with a Military OneSource tax consultant.

Trained tax consultants are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For online assistance with questions about deductions, exemptions, and filing deadlines, send inquiries to [TaxQuestions@militaryonesource.mil](mailto:TaxQuestions@militaryonesource.mil). H&R Block At HomeR Basic tool is free to active duty, National Guard, and Reserve service members and their families.

TaxSlayer.com offers free e-file of federal and state returns for active duty military using their classic edition.

The U.S. Defense Department considers Active Duty Military for the 2012 tax year to be those personnel whose W2's contain one of 12 EIN's.

The EIN ( Employer ID Number ) is the number in Box 'b' of the W2 form. Reserve and National Guard personnel who are classified as permanent 'Active Duty' by the Defense Department will have a W2 containing one of the EINs. This offer applies to those active duty military personnel who received a 2012 W-2 form.

TurboTax Freedom Edition offers free online federal tax preparation and efilng for Active Duty, Reservists and National Guard personnel. To qualify, you must have a 2012 W-2 form from the military and have an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of \$57,000 or less in 2012. Turbo Tax Freedom Edition will be available in mid January.

IRS Free File is available to taxpayers with an Adjusted Gross Income of \$57,000 or less in 2012. Free file will open on January 30, 2013.



### Want to be in the Big Sky Flyer?

If you enjoyed this month's Big Sky Flyer center photo layout and would like to feature your shop or section in a future display, please contact Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson at 791-0226. We're always looking for opportunities to photograph our personnel in their work environment doing interesting and visual activities. This is a good opportunity for you to recognize your employees or co-workers for all of their hard work.



## Faces of the Guard

Lt. Col. Kelly Trahnam becomes new Wing Inspector General.



Lt. Col. Kelly Trahnam brings valuable military experience to his newest position as the 120th Fighter Wing Inspector General.

Since his commissioning as a United States Army officer in 1995, Trahnam served on active duty as a Battalion Chemical Officer and Signal Platoon Leader.

In 2000 he joined the Montana Army National Guard and commanded the 143rd Military Police Detachment.

He joined the Montana Air National Guard in 2005 and served as the Chief of Military Equal Opportunity at the 120th Fighter Wing. He then joined Joint Forces Headquarters to serve as a Contracting Officer and also commanded the 219th RED HORSE Squadron's Rear Detachment during their last unit deployment in 2010. He was appointed as the 120th Fighter Wing's Inspector General January 2011.

"It is my duty to be fair, impartial and objective, working for all of our Airmen as well as serving as the "eyes and the ears" of the Wing Commander being alert to issues that may affect our organization," said Trahnam.

He says the position requires the Inspector General to have the ability to be independent and have the freedom to act without influence or pressure.

"I can listen, advise and possibly assist on any matter that our Airmen have. My areas of focus are managing and executing the Complaints Resolution and the Fraud, Waste, and Abuse programs at the Wing level," said Trahnam.

He says unit members should use their chain of command for addressing issues or complaints, but would like everyone to know he has an open door policy. Airman can feel free to call, email or stop by his office located in the west wing of the Headquarters Building 64 in room 106.

By: Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson  
120th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

