

BIG SKY FLYER



Vol. XXXVII No. 12
December 5, 2015

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Commander's Comments

Col. Lee Smith
120th Airlift Wing Commander

Vigilantes,

The Montana Air National Guard has had another incredible year filled with noteworthy accomplishments. In the middle of conversion, we continued to execute our mission deploying Airmen in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. We also carried more than our fair share of AMC requirements, flying 39 operational missions, including 9 JA/ATTs, 17 Guardlifts, 9 TACC missions transporting more than 2500 personnel and 278 tons of cargo.

I am extremely proud of each and every one of you! Your dedication and focus has vastly improved our readiness and kept our C-130 conversion on track. During the November UTA we had a midterm AFIS visit by an AMC IG team; [CLICK FOR STORY](#)



A 120th Airlift Wing C-130 Hercules transport aircraft flies over the football stadium at the end of the national anthem for the annual Cat-Grizzly football game. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson)

First quarterly awards presented

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

The first awards in a new 120th Airlift Wing quarterly awards program were presented to Airmen during a meeting of senior leadership, commanders and supervisors prior to the November unit training assembly.

The quarterly awards program was instituted by 120th Airlift Wing Commander Col. Lee Smith to provide timely recognition of the outstanding work of Airmen [CLICK FOR STORY](#)

Q and A with Command Chief Master Sgt. Lynch

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

Chief Master Sgt. Steven Lynch has served as 120th Airlift Wing's Command Chief for nearly eight months. During that time he has served as the top enlisted member of an organization that is in the middle of an aircraft conversion and implementing a new enlisted performance rating system for many of its personnel.

I sat down to interview Chief Lynch prior to the December UTA [CLICK FOR STORY](#)



120th AW awarded AFOUA

By Tech. Sgt. Michael Touchette

Lt. Gen. Stanley E. Clarke III released the list of 53 winners of the 2014 Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Sept. 11, 2015, and the 120th Airlift Wing made the list.

"Once again, you've proven to be among the best of the best, even in the face of a challenging mission conversion." [CLICK FOR STORY](#)

Veterans Day video



Veteran's service celebrated at memorial

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson



Patriotic citizens braved cold, gusty winds to attend the Veterans Day celebration held at the Montana Veterans Memorial November 11. [CLICK FOR STORY](#)

Honor Guard seeks new members

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

The 120th Airlift Wing's Base Honor Guard is looking for a few good Airmen to join the team. [CLICK FOR STORY](#)



EXCELLENCE

INTEGRITY

SERVICE



CFC underway at the 120th Airlift Wing

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

The 2015 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) opened its season of giving for members of the 120th Airlift Wing during the November unit training assembly.

The CFC is the only program authorized by the federal government to solicit charitable contributions from employees in the workplace. [CLICK FOR STORY](#)

Airmen attend Airlift/Tanker Symposium

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

Eleven 120th Airlift Wing members attended the 47th annual Airlift/Tanker Association Symposium held in Orlando, Fla., October 28-November 1.

[CLICK FOR STORY](#)

Save date for annual MTANG Holiday Party

Make sure to save the date for the annual Montana Air National Guard Holiday Party.

Join us for light foods and desserts!

Date: Saturday, December 5th.

Time: 3 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Location: Mansfield Center

Sparky goes for a ride

By Lt. Chris Phinney

120th Airlift Wing Fire Department

Since October 1925 and the presidential proclamation of Fire Prevention Week, members of the fire service have been trying to help educate members in their communities on fire prevention techniques.

The 120th Airlift Wing's Fire Dept. [CLICK FOR STORY](#)



Lt. Col. Jennifer Cinq-Mars administers the Oath of Enlistment to Eric Fletcher. (U.S. Air National Guard photo/Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson)

Faces of the Guard - Three generations serve

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

On October 30 Eric Fletcher raised his hand, completed the oath of enlistment administered by 120th Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Jennifer Cinq-Mars, and became the third [CLICK FOR STORY](#)

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History of the Montana Air National Guard (from the December 1965 Scorpion newsletter)



Several Montana Air National Guardsmen participated in Veterans Day ceremonies at the Cascade County Courthouse lawn along with veterans and reservists from other services.

Color guard and flag raising duties were performed by Senior Master Sgt. Don Hess, Master Sgt. Harold Hensley, Master Sgt. John Halvorson, Master Sgt. Bob Buley, Staff Sergeant Bob Barker, Staff Sergeant Don Klundt, Staff Sergeant Chuck Nottingham, Staff Sergeant Richard Nelson and Airman First Class Mike Eichinger.

A parade was held before the ceremony and dedication of a newly acquired cannon for the courthouse lawn was part of the ceremony.



December dining menu

Saturday Holiday Meal-

Steamship Round Roast, Cornish Hen, Baked Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Rice Pilaf, Savory Dressing, Carrots, Green Beans, Corn O'Brien, Sweet Potatoes, Brown Gravy, Shrimp Cocktail, Dinner Rolls

Soup-Vegetable

Desserts-Pumpkin Pie, Pecan Pie, Cheesecake, Strawberry and Blueberry Soft Serve Ice Cream Bar

Sunday-Country Fried Steak, Baked Ham and Macaroni with Tomatoes, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Peas, Country Gravy