

SCOPE

193rd Special Operations Wing - Pennsylvania Air National Guard - Middletown, Pa.



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SCOPE

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THE VOICE OF THE QUIET PROFESSIONALS

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Live, define 'service before self'



By Chief Master Sgt. James J. Porta

Material Management Superintendent

Service before self: a core value, a catchy phrase or a way of life? The United States Air Force has determined that this is in fact one of our three defining core values. It is one of the most popular promotion board questions and it means something different to everyone. At the end of the day how do we truly define such a broad proclamation? You need only to look at our long and proud history for true definition. Our brothers in arms have defined this value everyday of their service.

Through history dating back to the Revolutionary War those in uniform have blazed a path for us to follow by sacrificing life, limb and family for service to a greater entity than themselves. George Washington's Continental Army nearly froze and starved to death without pay to define it. The Battle of Gettysburg and the entire Civil War displayed the lengths that servicemembers would go to sacrifice for their beliefs and country. World War I was supposed to be the war that ended all

wars and deployed us to foreign soil to defend our freedoms against tyranny. World War II took us to the beaches of Normandy and Iwo Jima to defeat an evil dictator and avenge the first attack on American soil at Pearl Harbor. Korea and Vietnam defined two more brave generations of Soldiers, Airmen and Sailors that were willing to lay down their lives for the freedom that we enjoy today. Finally our generation has seen the invasion of Iraq in 1991 followed 10 years later by a heinous attack on the Pentagon and the World Trade Centers. These attacks produced an on going 10 plus year War on Terror.

As I reflect on a 24-year career, one thing is crystal clear - my personal contributions have been very minute when compared to those who came before us and many who are fighting today, especially those that have made the ultimate sacrifice.

I tie all this into the questions and complaints that I hear on a daily basis and wonder where our perspective on service before self has gone. I was taught early in my career that if you are going to bring a problem forward be prepared with a solution. In other words if you see it's broken be prepared to help fix it. Too often today I hear complaints that are based on selfish wants and perceived needs instead of issues that benefit the Air Force and the Wing. "I am entitled to a promotion," "I don't get enough out of this," "we deploy too much," "this or that isn't fair." In most cases the member didn't prepare themselves for promotion, the member didn't put enough into it, the deployments have kept us viable and in a job, and life generally isn't always fair. These are facts that are too often overlooked as members continuously aim to stop someone else from getting over or from getting themselves ahead. (See Perspective, page 6.)

ON THE COVER



Lt. Col. Samuel Guertin, 193rd Special Operations Wing, chief of Wing plans, recently donated bone marrow through the C.W. Bill Young Department of Defense Marrow Donor Program. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Culeen Shaffer.)

193 Wing member still running strong

Airman 1st. Class Emily Shertzer, member of the 553rd Band of the Mid-Atlantic, took second place in the female division and placed 52nd overall at the recent 36th annual Marine Corps Marathon. Her final time was 2:45.55, just 27 seconds behind the first place female winner. Shertzer bested her previous time by 9 minutes, a phenomenal achievement for any marathon runner. To read more about Shertzer on the run, visit:

<http://www.193sow.ang.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-111014-038.pdf>



Promotions

For the month of October

Promotion to Chief Master Sergeant

Sue A. Thario 112 AOS

Promotion to Master Sergeant

John I. Weber 193 SFS
 John P. Jovanelly 193 SOS
 Scott E. Wulbrandt HQ
 Ryan C. Titzell HQ

Promoted to Technical Sergeant

John M. Rafferty 193 SOS
 Anya N. Jones 193 SOS
 Andrew P. Gothel 193 AMXS
 Nathan A. Belanger 148 ASOS
 John C. Norris 148 ASOS
 Brian K. Gulvas 271 CBCS
 Shawn R. Hicks 271 CBCS

Promoted to Staff Sergeant

Kurt M. Shipkowski 193 FSS
 Damon A. Page 193 MXS
 Reuben I. Dascalescu 193 MXS
 Reiner E. Herrera 193 FSS
 Jeremiah L. White 193 SOS

Promoted to Senior Airman

John S. Webb 193 MXS
 Christopher Rupert 193 MXS
 Kelley H. Mahoney 193 CS
 Zachary G. Dickinson 193 AMXS

Promoted to Airman First Class

Rebekah E. Mesaric 193 FSS

Congratulations!

News In Brief

Airmen transport wounded Lybians

11/2/2011 - BOSTON, Mass. (AFNS) -- Nearly two dozen wounded Libyan fighters were evacuated from Libya to here Oct. 29 aboard a C-17 Globemaster III.

At the request of State Department officials, the Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta directed two missions supporting the humanitarian assistance effort in Libya.

In the first mission, four wounded fighters were transported to medical facilities in Europe by an aircrew piloting a C-130J Super Hercules, assigned to the 86th Airlift Wing at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, officials said. An Air National Guard aircrew piloting a C-17, assigned to the 172nd Airlift Wing out of Jackson, Miss., carried out the second mission, landing at Boston Logan International Airport in the midst of a massive winter storm after a nearly 13 hour flight from Libya.

The Libyan Transitional National Council requested the transport of fighters to American medical facilities because their injuries could not be treated in Libya, officials said. The patients will be treated at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Salem, Mass., before returning to their country

"We want to make sure these brave young men are able to return to their country to enjoy the freedom they so valiantly fought for," said David Storto, the president of the Spaulding Rehabilitation Network.

Storto noted the success of the operation was due to a tight partnership between his organization, the Department of State and the Department of Defense, especially the Air Force.

For more information, go to:

<http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123278290>





Airman gives gift of life to stranger in need

By Senior Airman Claire Behney

Public Affairs Specialist

With no superhuman strength or abilities, Lt. Col. Samuel Guertin, 193rd Special Operations Wing chief of Wing plans, has still proven to be a hero amongst the ranks. A decision he made five years ago has now saved the life of an individual in need, someone he's never even met.

Donating blood is a regular occurrence for Colonel Guertin and when he was asked during a prescreening if he had any interest in joining a bone marrow donor list his answer was indubitably yes. After a swab of the inside of his mouth for DNA sampling his name was added to the donor list and the wait began. It then took five years for Colonel Guertin to get a phone call telling him that he was a preliminary match for someone in need of a bone marrow transplant.

"Anyone who works with Colonel Guertin knows that he epitomizes the Air Force core value of service before self, but few may fully understand how far that reaches into his personal life," said Master Sgt. Hali Confer, who works with Colonel Guertin in Plans and Integration as a logistics planner.

Colonel Guertin works on base full-time as chief of Wing plans and as a traditional Guardsman he's a flight instructor, but his volunteer efforts extend beyond his 26 years of service with the Air National Guard. Guertin donates blood on a regular basis and he also does volunteer work with WITF in Harrisburg, where he's often a tour guide and has been a pledge supervisor.

"I'm just lucky and I realize that so I just want to try to help others," Colonel Guertin humbly said of his volunteer efforts.

But it's his donation of bone marrow that has played a critical role in saving a man's life and, according to the National Marrow Donor Program, about 70 percent of individuals needing a transplant do not have a matching donor in their family.

It was early 2010 when Colonel Guertin got the call that he was a preliminary match and from there it was a whirlwind of donor orientation, screening and testing to ensure that he was the match for the patient.

Colonel Guertin's donation was then put on hold because the patient developed a tumor on his spine and three months later he was told that his donation was no longer needed.

"All I thought was that he had passed away," said Colonel. "But then I got a call again almost a year later that I was back on for the same patient."

From there it was the whirlwind all over again and in May

Colonel Guertin was reporting to Georgetown University in Washington D.C.

"I was treated like a rock star," said Colonel. "Everything was paid for by through the DoD program."

About 600,000 service members have registered as marrow donors as part of the C.W. Bill Young Department of Defense Marrow Donor Program. The program targets the military due to servicemembers being the nations largest source of blood donations and because they meet the strict health and age requirements for bone marrow donations.

"My biggest apprehension going into the procedure was the pain. Everyone was saying how painful it was," said Colonel Guertin. "But on a scale of one to ten, it was about a five and I really don't have much of a high pain tolerance."

Colonel Guertin explained that two doctors were involved in the harvest of his bone marrow. A total of about 2.5 pints of bone marrow were removed from the top of his hip bones through his lower back.

"All I know about the patient is that he's 26-years-old, from Western Europe and has a form of Leukemia," said Colonel Guertin. "I was informed by my program sponsor that six weeks after the transplant, he's cancer free and out of the hospital."

Colonel Guertin explained that a year after the procedure, if the patient wants to, he can contact him and the Colonel is very open to that. He has written the patient a letter, which he was able to send him through his program coordinator.

"There's a commitment involved in this process and it does affect your whole family," said Colonel. "The program was calling me and checking on me every step of the way to ensure that I was fully educated and still willing to go through the process."

Along with having the support of his family, his son Christopher made the trip to D.C. with him; the Wing was also supportive of his efforts by working with his busy schedule and deployment rotation.

"Giving the gift of life is the greatest gift anyone can give and Colonel Guertin's donation of bone marrow saved another man's life and truly demonstrates the kind of person he is," said Sergeant Confer.

Colonel Guertin said he didn't participate in the donor program for recognition and all he'd like is to bring awareness to the need for bone marrow donors and hopefully get more people to participate.

"I would do it again in a heartbeat," Colonel Guertin said.



Anyone interesting in volunteering and making a donation can obtain more information at:

***Department of Defense Bone Marrow Donation Center: www.dodmarrow.org
National Marrow Donor Program: www.marrow.org***



Sounding Off

What you need to know to keep you flying...

MSG commander position announced

The Wing Commander is seeking resumes from eligible members for the position of Commander, 193d Mission Support Group. The position is being dually advertised as a traditional and/or technician opportunity. Interested members must have appropriate command and work experience and be eligible for promotion to colonel. The State HR office will soon advertise the position for those interested in the job in a fulltime capacity. Those interested in the position as a traditional should submit their application c/o Maj Amy Crossley, Wing Executive Officer, by close of UTA.

Ronald McDonald House drive scheduled

The 193rd Special Operations Wing Enlisted Council is having a drive for Ronald McDonald House. Boxes will be put out at the end of October's drill. The drive will run until December's drill.

Here are items that are needed for the drive:

Food items: single serving cereal, chips, crackers, candy, cookies, microwave foods, fruit juice, pop tarts, breakfast bars

Supply items: disinfectant spray, high efficiency laundry detergent, liquid hand soap/ hand sanitizer, plastic utensils, paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, paper plates and bowls

Toiletry items: shampoo, conditioner, lotion, deodorant, tooth paste, tooth brush, body wash

For the kids: Family DVDs and board games, coloring books, crayons, books, various toys for children of all ages

Gift cards: Kmart, Karns, Giant, Wal-Mart, Weis, Applebee's, Bob Evans, Friendly's, Isaac's, McDonald's, Staples, Sheetz, Turkey Hill, pre-paid phone cards

ZOP established at Wing

With an ever-decreasing defense budget, we need to maximize the use of our resources. One sure way to insure this happens is to reduce overpricing in Air Force acquisitions. The Zero Overpricing Program was established for this purpose. In addition, the program interfaces with the Suggestion Program to provide recognition and awards to personnel who successfully identify such overpriced items.

If you have reason to believe an item is overpriced, complete an AF Form 1046, "Zero Overpricing Challenge/Referral" and forward it to 193LRS/LGRMCE/Airman 1st Class Alicia Foy, extension 2384 for processing.

Wing Director of Psychological Health readily available

Hope Clever is the new director of psychological health. She is here to help with any type of psychological issue or concern. Wing members can see her at least four times, free of charge. Some issues individuals Hope addresses include relationships, parenting, stress, and grief. Hope also has a number of tools and resources available should you be in need of private support in your local community.

All communication is confidential and your privacy is protected. During drill weekends, Hope is located in the Wing headquarters building and can be reached at extension 2508. During non-drill duty hours, Hope is available at the Gap, every other Wednesday of each month until noon.

What's on the Menu

UTA PAYDAY
November 18

Constellation Cafe

Hours of operation 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Services Flight will be serving their Thanksgiving meal on Saturday

SATURDAY

BOTH lines:

Turkey
Ham
Stuffing
Mashed potatoes
Sweet potato puff
Corn
Broccoli

SUNDAY

Main Line:

Sweet and Sour
Chicken
Chili Mac
Rice
Veggie mix
Green beans

Snack line:

Burgers
BBQ sandwich
Baked beans
French fries



Need space for a working lunch?

The atrium is now available for working lunches and can accommodate up to 24 people. Call extension 2456 to reserve this space 48 hours in advance.



Perspective: service before self (continued from page 2)

We all have self-interests and a need to ensure that fairness and equality exist, but a self-serving individual putting their needs ahead of the good of the organization is the surest way to fail both the individual and the organization. I believe I have worked very hard through out my career for the best interests of the organizations that I have served. I never expected to hold the position I currently find myself serving but can only credit those that helped me arrive here. At one of the lowest points in my career a SNCO pulled me aside and reminded me that if you take care of the Air Force it will take care of you. It took me many many years to understand that statement but I believe it to my core. The best leaders I have ever followed in my career both enlisted and officers never worried about what was in it for them. Instead they have put the needs of their organization ahead of all else. In the end this usually equates to the promotion or accolade the self serving individual is seeking. You can't fake your heart and people will always see through phony.

President John F. Kennedy is famous for the line in a speech to the American people, stating, "Ask not what your country can

do for you but what you can do for your country." In an age of recession that has never begged more for self-sacrifice the United States military is a glowing example of this philosophy. We carry a flag that has been handed down over generations and a responsibility to remember that with it comes great sacrifice. It is truly a privilege to wear this uniform everyday and to represent something much bigger than ourselves, it is equally important to remember that we are only as good as the least of our parts and our teamwork and commitment is the fabric that helps to keep all of us together.

Life is generally a perspective of where you are in a given moment. Occasionally we all find ourselves a little selfish and forget that there is an E-3 climbing a mountain in Afghanistan with a 75-pound ruck in 100-degree temperatures knowing he may die that day.

The next time you are going to complain about the PT test, wages, hard work, weather conditions, long hours and the million other things that may inconvenience our lives, we may all be a little better served remembering him.

ABOUT FACE

"What are you thankful for this holiday season?"



"I'm thankful for the blessings we have in this nation of freedom and for my family that is well. I'm also thankful for the opportunity to serve my country."

~Lt. Col. John Emrick, OPS Support Flight commander

"I'm thankful for my family and having them all safe; I'm really glad they're all around."

~Airman 1st Class Kathleen Schmitt, Logistical Readiness Squadron



"Family. Without them, none of this would be possible for me. They don't show their appreciation often, but when they do, it's heartfelt."

~SrA Mark Miltenberger, 211th Cable Section, Cable and Antenna Communication Installation Maintenance Specialist



"My family. My one year old son is healthy and happy."

~ Capt. Cynthia Chagnon, OIC Support

