ANG troops enter unique basic training class
All-Guard flights shorten long waiting list for BMT

By James Coburn
37th Training Wing Public Affairs

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — For the first time since the 1980s, Air National Guard members are undergoing basic military training here in all-Guard or mostly Guard flights.

The special BMT effort was established, officials said, because the Guard has a backlog of members who need basic training.

To help address the training shortfall, Air Education and Training Command offered the Air National Guard 200 slots for what originally was programmed to be a non-accession week.

Chief Master Sgt. William Seiler, the Guard liaison superintendent for BMT and technical schools at Lackland Air Force Base, said Guard, Air Force Reserve and active-duty airmen have been combined for basic training since the 1980s as part of the Total Force concept.

For this occasion, however, he said four flights of Guard members, including one flight with 18 active-duty Air Force trainees who are “holdovers,” began basic training together.

The backlog of Guard members needing basic training developed because retention of active-duty people has increased since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Seiler said.

Instead of a majority of Guard members coming from people leaving active duty, he added, the majority of new Guard members now have no prior service.

That deviation resulted in the Guard needing about 5,500 basic training slots this year when only 4,500 slots had been projected, “which means we would be 1,000 short.”

Seiler also noted the balance of the shortfall will be resolved by giving the Guard more basic training slots the rest of the year.

These four flights will have a special graduation, which is scheduled to be held Dec. 13.

Graduations normally feature 14 to 20 flights of 50 to 60 airmen, said Chief Master Sgt. Billy Blackburn, BMT superintendent.

KyANG troops showcased in national PSAs

By Tech. Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

Nearly 30 Kentucky Air Guard troops are showcased in three commercials to be broadcast nationwide as public service announcements for the Air National Guard.

The media campaign was initiated by the National Guard Bureau, said Master Sgt. Linda Tussey, Kentucky Air Guard recruiting supervisor.

“The PSAs are for use for the entire Air National Guard, which is why it’s so exciting,” she said. “Our troops will represent the Guard for the entire country to see.”

The decision to use Kentucky airmen was made in part because Videobred Inc., a local TV production company, was selected by the National Guard Bureau to produce the commercials.

As a result, the Kentucky Air Guard base here was selected as the most logical place to conduct filming.

Additional footage of KyANG firefighters was shot in Lexington, Ky., at Blue Grass Airport’s Regional Aircraft and Fire Fighting Training Facility.

In addition to the firefighters, the PSAs will feature personnel from the base honor guard and the Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team.

The PSAs, which were filmed in July and October, are designed to target prior-service individuals as well as those considering military duty for the first time, said Alan Manias of Videobred.

The spots also are intended to make the Air Guard’s contributions to the nation’s Total Force more apparent to civilians, he noted.

Star of stars

FRANKFORT, KY — Gov. Paul E. Patton promoted Kentucky Adjutant General D. Allen Youngman to the rank of major general Nov. 1 in a ceremony at the state capitol building. A combat veteran of the Vietnam War, Youngman was appointed to his current post in 2001. He heads the Department of Military Affairs, commands the 7,400 men and women of Kentucky’s Army and Air Guard, and oversees the Division of Emergency Management and the Office for Security Coordination.

Photo courtesy of the Kentucky Army Guard
hang on for the ride—it’s not

 COMMANDER’S CALL

W hat a year—it’s hard to believe that it’s almost over.
It seems like yesterday that we were engaged all over the world fighting the enemy and protecting our homeland from an adversary who is cunning, cowardly and who continues to threaten our way of life.

Along the way we found time to prepare for and execute an initial response Operational Readiness Inspection and the first-ever Air Mobility Command Unit Compliance Inspection of a Guard unit.

Everything we have done this year was done with the enthusiasm, efficiency and sense of duty that has typified this unit over the years.

While the effort that you showed was typical of this unit and was simply what we have to come to expect over the years, the level of commitment that you showed was simply remarkable.

You deployed all over the world for longer periods of time than ever before.
The places that you deployed to were more austere than ever, and more of you were placed in harm’s way than ever before.

You set a new standard for volunteerism and willingness to support and perform whatever mission or task I ask of you.

For that you have my sincere thanks and admiration, and you should be proud of what you have accomplished.

Because there are still many folks out there in the world who hate us and our way of life, I am afraid that I can only offer you more of the same.

What I offer is an opportunity to do your best to help see that these monsters, and the despots who support them, get the opportunity to meet Allah face to face very soon.

What I offer is an opportunity to be a part of a massive effort to rid the world of evil forces intent on destroying our way of life.
What a great opportunity to serve, and what a sacred responsibility to have placed upon us.

When we watched the aircraft slam into the towers last year, the entire country was horrified, angry and maybe a bit fearful of what was going to happen next.

What separates us from our neighbors, civilian coworkers and friends is that we have the ability and opportunity to do something about it.

I am thankful every day that I have the training, experience and health to be part of an organization whose mission is to deal with people like this.

It is a great opportunity, as well as a grave responsibility, and I wouldn’t want to have it any other way.

It has been intense year, but we are not finished.

Let’s stay focused, improve our readiness every day, and hang on for the ride.

As long as those guys are out there I want to be a part of tracking them down and destroying them.

Because you have chosen to be a part of this organization, I know that you do too.

Let’s go get ‘em!

Thanks Loads!

Michael Harden

123rd Airlift Wing Commander

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication by the public affairs office of the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, Louisville International Airport, Louisville, Ky. 40213-2678.

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KyANG troops make up half of rock band

By Senior Airman Mark Flener
Cargo Courier Staff Writer

If the Kentucky Air Guard ever had an official rock band, Loose Screws would probably be it. Senior Master Sgt. Curtis Carpenter, Tech. Sgt. Dan Paul and retired Air Guard member Tech. Sgt. Herb Shown make up half of the band “Loose Screws.”

“It was a great stress reliever after the inspections, plus the band is really good,” she said. “They play such a variety of music that a wide range of people can attend and all enjoy the music.”

“We enjoy performing for people and giving people a good show,” Carpenter said. “We like to get the audience involved.”

Playing in the band also helps its members wind down a little.

“It’s a good stress-relief activity,” Carpenter said.

“The playing part is the fun part. The job part is setting up the band’s equipment and tearing down.”

Besides Carpenter, Paul and Shown, the band includes a guitarist, a bassist, a keyboardist/saxophone player, and a drummer.

“We’re real lucky to have the people we have to do this part-time and enjoy it,” Carpenter said.

“We’re not in it for the money. We’re just in it to enjoy it,” Carpenter said.

“Typically, we wouldn’t play on a drill weekend but it worked out well in October with the extra time off,” Paul said.

More than 130 members of the Kentucky Air Guard turned up for one recent Loose Screws gig, held at the Ramada Inn on Oct. 5 — which also happened to be the Saturday of a drill weekend.

The performance followed the unit’s recent Operational Readiness Inspection and coincided with reduced duty hours during the October UTA.

“We got a lot of good compliments on the band,” Carpenter said — but they’re not going overboard with their bookings.

“We’re shooting for around once a month,” Paul said.

“We’re not in it for the money. We’re just in it to enjoy it,” Carpenter said.

“We wanted the traditional Guardsmen to come out,” he said. “It really meant a lot.”

Loose Screws is scheduled to play at the KyANG Christmas Dance in the Fuel Cell Hangar on Dec. 14.

May your holiday season be filled with gratitude

What are you grateful for today? The holidays are upon us, and many of us are thinking about all the good gifts we’re going to give — and receive. That’s why we’re grateful.

As adults, however, we learn that life doesn’t always give us what seems good.

Is it possible to be grateful at times like these? Henk Nouwen, in his book “Bread for the Journey,” responds to this question in the following way:

“To be grateful for the good things that happen in our lives is easy, but to be grateful for all of our lives — the good as well as the bad, the moments of joy as well as the moments of sorrow, the successes as well as the failures, the rewards as well as the rejections — that requires hard spiritual work.”

Being grateful for the good times as well as the bad is not easy, but it’s also the bad times that shape our character and make us who we are.

Nouwen goes on to say:

“As long as we keep dividing our lives between events and people we would like to remember and those we would like to forget, we cannot claim the fullness of our beings as a gift from God to be grateful for. Let’s not be afraid to look at everything that has brought us to where we are now and trust that we will soon see in it the guiding hand of a loving God.”

The following prayer of thanksgiving (adapted, author unknown) expresses this way of thinking:

“Thank you, God, for all the complaining about government because it means we have freedom of speech. Thank you for the taxes we pay because it means I have a job. Thank you for a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home in which to live.

“Thank you for the huge heating bill because it means my family and I are warm. Thank you for the feeling of exhaustion at the end of the day because it means I am alive and able to provide things for my loved ones.

“Thank you for the huge laundry bill because it means my family and I are near.

“Thank you for the ups and downs of life, because it means you are with us and we are loved.

Expressing our gratitude in all circumstances is like putting on eyeglasses that let us see the gifts in life we may be overlooking, especially when times are tough.

May your holiday season and celebrations be filled with gratitude.

— Maj. Fred Ehrman
Wing Chaplain
Toy Drive

The 123rd Security Forces Squadron is holding a toy drive to help the Salvation Army replace toys that recently were stolen from the charity's local warehouse.

Toy donations can be placed in boxes located in the Headquarters Building, the Main Hangar, Base Ops., and the Civil Engineers Building.

For information or to make a monetary donation, contact Senior Airman Kevin Roy or Master Sgt. Jon Fulkerson at ext. 4477.

Multimedia shop designs coins

By Tech. Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

The 123rd Airlift Wing’s multimedia services section has been busy designing mili-
tary coins, including one for use by all multi-
timedia shops in the Air National Guard.

The newly minted coins include one for the 123rd Communications Squadron, a coin for the KYANG’s chief of staff, and a popular Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom coin that represents the wing’s contributions to the Global War on Terror.

“Coins are a tradition, and they symbolize who we are,” said Senior Master Sgt. Terry Lutz, manager of the multimedia section.

“They’re also a great way to say, ‘At a boy.’ It’s similar to leaving a calling card.”

Before each coin is struck, the interested parties usually get together for a brainstorming session to pick out symbols, Lutz said.

“Designs should reflect the unique aspects of its customer or the represented career field,” Lutz explained.

“For example, on the multimedia coin, one side depicts the combat role of visual information while the other side symbolizes the peacetime mission,” he said.

Lutz is personally responsible for the designs—including the Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom logo that was adopted nationally—but he also seeks input from his staff.

“It’s always a group effort to come up with ideas for these things. We try to come up with one or two items that best describes the unit and then we roll with it.”

Promotions, retirements & separations

Local MOWW chapter co-sponsors massing of the colors

By Lt. Col. Rich Frymire
Wing Executive Officer

More than 500 spectators gathered at Bowman Field Nov. 10 for a Veterans’ Day celebration that included a stirring massing of the colors.

After a C-130 Hercules flyover by the Kentucky Air Guard opened the ceremony, retired Maj. Gen. Carl Black, MOWW Region IX Commander, gave the order to “Parade the colors.” Nearly 30 Color Guard units took part in the massing of the colors, including units represented by the Kentucky Air Guard, Sons of the American Revolution, 100th Division of the U.S. Army Reserve, the Jefferson County Police, Louisville Fire and Rescue, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Louisville Scottish Rite, R.O.T.C. units from Male, Moore, and Eastern High Schools, and the Military Order of World Wars.

Louisville Mayor David Armstrong presented the annual Liberty Award to William Cundiff for his commitment to veterans.

Since 1997, Cundiff has logged 1,200 volunteer hours at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, where he works with others who, like him, are visually impaired.

Armstrong, who will step down as mayor in January, was honored for his service to veterans over the past 13 years, during which time he also served as county judge-executive.

Armstrong has dedicated several military memorials in the Louisville area and recruited veterans to visit schools and talk to students about patriotism and issues involving military service.

The massing of the colors was co-sponsored by Armstrong, Highlands Funeral Home, the Scottish Rite and the Military Order of World Wars—Maj. Gen. Ben Butler and Louisville chapters.

MOWW is open to any active or retired officer who served honorably in the armed forces. For more information contact Lt. Col. Rich Frymire at ext. 4589 or 2nd Lt. Latonia Trowell at ext. 4637.

The following individuals have been promoted to the rank indicated as members of the Kentucky Air Guard and reservists of the United States Air Force:

TOP: This coin was designed for the 123rd Communications Squadron. Five lightning bolts depicted on the front represent the five branches of the squadron.

BOTTOM: This coin, which was designed for all Air National Guard multimedia services shops, represents both wartime and peacetime missions.

Seniors Airman Anthony Walker, Staff Sgt. Eric Hamilton, Staff Sgt. Heather Allen and Tech. Sgt. Greg Lucas comprise the color guard that represented KYANG at the Massing of the Colors on Nov. 10.

The following individuals have retired as members of the Kentucky Air Guard and reservists of the United States Air Force:

The following individuals have separated from the Kentucky Air Guard:

Seniors Airman Alecia Willis/KyANG
Toy Drive

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“It’s always a group effort to come up with ideas for these things. We try to come up with one or two items that best describes the unit and then we roll with it.”

Units, groups and organizations that are interested in commissioning a coin should contact multimedia services at ext. 4484.

Promotions, retirements & separations

The following individuals have been promoted to the rank indicated of the United States Air Force:

**SENIOR AIRMAN (E-4)**
- Brian Crowdus, 123rd Airlift Sq.
- Brent Monroe, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Charles Poynter, 165th Airlift Sq.

**STAFF SERGEANT (E-5)**
- Heather Allen, 123rd Airlift Wing
- Lewis Christopher, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Richard Mood, 165th Airlift Sq.

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KyANG troops make up half of rock band

By Senior Airman Mark Flener
Cargo Courier Staff Writer

If the Kentucky Air Guard ever had an official rock band, Loose Screws would probably be it.

“If you had a band of the band’s main vocalist. “There was a bar that needed a band, and that’s how we got started,” he said matter-of-factly.
Loose Screws initially was comprised of two people from one band and two people from another, along with Carpenter, inspiring the name.

The band covers a wide variety of music, including ‘60s, ‘70s and ‘80s hits plus blues, rock and even country.
Loose Screws has played several local establishments, including Sheehan’s, the Double Deuce Bar and, most recently, the Zorn Avenue Ramada Inn.

“We get a lot of compliments on the band,” Carpenter said. “We like to get the audience enjoy it,” Carpenter said.

Loose Screws is scheduled to play at the KyANG Christmas Dance in the Fuel Cell Hangar on Dec. 14.

Troop support

In November, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1170 Ladies Auxiliary presented 100 gift boxes to the Kentucky Air Guard for airmen deployed stateside and overseas. From left are 1st Lt. Michelle Best, Col. Cora Jackson, Debbie Antle, Jean Duffy, Brian Duffy, James MacDonald, Darrell Doty, Toby Conway, David Flannery, Larry Bristow and Lt. Col. Rich Frymire.

May your holiday season be filled with gratitude

What are you grateful for today? The holidays are upon us, and many of us are thinking about all the good gifts we’re going to give—and receive. That’s why we’re grateful.

As children, we learn to connect gratitude with receiving something good.
Is it possible to be grateful at times like these? Henri Nouwen, in his book “Bread for the Journey,” responds to this question in the following way:

“To be grateful for the good things that happen in our lives is easy, but to be grateful for all our lives—the good as well as the bad, the moments of joy as well as the moments of sorrow, the successes as well as the failures, the rewards as well as the rejections—that requires hard spiritual work.”

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Because cowardly forces think it is their duty to kill, maim and destroy symbols of our society in the name of Allah, I can’t tell you that the coming year will be any less intense.

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123rd Airlift Wing Editorial Staff

Wing Commander......................Col. Michael Harden

Wing Public Affairs Officer..........Capt. Dale Greer

Editor......................................................Tech. Sgt. Amy Ziegler

Staff Writer...........................................Senior Airman Mark Flenor

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AIR FORCE NEWS

CSAF presents first official employer ‘Thank You’ letter and pin to UPS

Ceremony marks the launch of 59,000 more to follow

By Tech. Sgt. Scott Elliott

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON—Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper presented the first “E” pin to United Parcel Service on Nov. 8 to officially begin the Air Force’s “Your Guardians of Freedom” program.

The award and ceremony marked the launch of more than 59,000 letters of appreciation and E pins from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Jumper to employers of Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members across the nation.

The E pin is a lapel pin emblazoned with the letter “E” cradled within the Air Force symbol, representing the employer-Air Force partnership in defense of the nation.

Jumper presented the E pin to Rick Barr, UPS vice president of Flight operations, in recognition of the company’s singular support to both the Air Reserve Component and to the Air Force.

“This great company, having to give up all that talent and ask the rest of the employees to compensate, at great cost to the company, is a mark of patriotism and commitment that we should all be proud of,” Jumper said.

Barr said the honor belonged not to the company leaders, but to the rank-and-file employees.

“I wish the rest of the 370,000 (UPS) employees could be here to witness this, because they’re the real heroes,” Barr said.

“They’re the ones who roll up their sleeves to work harder as almost 500 people are out supporting the war on terrorism.”

Brig. Gen. Ed Tonini of the Kentucky Air Guard and director of the Air Force’s Your Guardians of Freedom effort, praised UPS support to the nation.

“There’s the clear and distinct leader in exceptional support of airmen and their generous support of the Air Force,” Tonini said.

According to UPS, 36 of its pilots have been called to active duty in support of operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, and 27 others have participated in deployments of 30 to 120 days.

In all, about 470 of the company’s employees are on active duty.

The company has continued to provide benefits to those employees while they served the military and, in cases where military pay was less that the employee’s normal salary, voluntarily made up the difference.

According to a Wall Street Journal report, those activities cost the company more than $800,000 per month.

UPS also assists the Air Force by shipping, free of charge, Your Guardians of Freedom materials across the country to employers of ARC members.

ABOVE: Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper presents the first “E” pin to Rick Barr, United Parcel Service vice president of Flight operations, Nov. 8. The lapel pin is emblazoned with the letter “E” cradled within the Air Force symbol. It represents the employer-Air Force relationship and is presented to civilian employers of Air Guard and Air Force Reserve airmen.

LEFT: This plaque was presented to UPS in recognition of its outstanding employer support of the men and women of the Air Guard and the Air Force Reserve.

Thanks Loads!

Michael Harden

Col. Michael Harden

123rd Airlift Wing Commander

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ANG troops enter unique basic training class
All-Guard flights shorten long waiting list for BMT
By James Coburn
37th Training Wing Public Affairs

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Seiler also noted the balance of the shortfall will be resolved by giving the Guard more basic training slots the rest of the year.

These four flights will have a special graduation, which is scheduled to be held Dec. 13.

Graduations normally feature 14 to 20 flights of 50 to 60 airmen, said Chief Master Sgt. Billy Blackburn, BMT superintendent.

KyANG troops showcased in national PSAs
By Tech. Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

Nearly 30 Kentucky Air Guard troops are showcased in three commercials to be broadcast nationwide as public service announcements for the Air National Guard.

The media campaign was initiated by the National Guard Bureau, said Master Sgt. Linda Tussey, Kentucky Air Guard recruiting supervisor.

“The PSAs are for use for the entire Air National Guard, which is why it’s so exciting,” she said. “Our troops will represent the Guard for the entire country to see.”

The decision to use Kentucky airmen was made in part because Videobred Inc., a local TV production company, was selected by the National Guard Bureau to produce the commercials.

As a result, the Kentucky Air Guard base here was selected as the most logical place to conduct filming.

Additional footage of KyANG firefighters was shot in Lexington, Ky., at Blue Grass Airport’s Regional Aircraft and Fire Fighting Training Facility.

In addition to the firefighters, the PSAs will feature personnel from the base honor guard and the Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team.

The PSAs, which were filmed in July and October, are designed to target prior-service individuals as well as those considering military duty for the first time, said Alan Mancias of Videobred.

The spots also are intended to make the Air Guard’s contributions to the nation’s Total Force more apparent to civilians, he noted.

FRANKFORT, KY—Gov. Paul E. Patton promoted Kentucky Adjutant General D. Allen Youngman to the rank of major general Nov. 1 in a ceremony at the state capitol building. A combat veteran of the Vietnam War, Youngman was appointed to his current post in 2001. He heads the Department of Military Affairs, commands the 7,400 men and women of Kentucky’s Army and Air Guard, and oversees the Division of Emergency Management and the Office for Security Coordination.

Photo courtesy of the Kentucky Army Guard