

# THE Airstream

*Pilot for a Day  
John Ray  
Crew Chief  
7sgt. R. Rice*



*July 25, 2000 • Inaugural Pilot for a Day*

*Pilot for a Day  
2nd Lt. Alan Hinton*

*Crew Chief  
7Sgt. M. Huostal*



*November 18, 2009 • 41st Pilot for a Day*

**• 910 AW PFAD Program - 10th Anniversary**  
**Also Inside: New Year, New Faces**

# FROM THE TOP

## Unit Compliance Inspection: 20 things to know

**Col. Karl McGregor**

910th Airlift Wing Commander

**1. You are ready.** The road to success began months ago, continues today and will continue up until the Unit Compliance Inspection in May. Being prepared means you have taken responsibility for your programs and processes, understand your program and processes and have all your paperwork ready and ready to present.

**2. Be proactive.** Ask your supervisor what you can do to help. Every Airman's preparation is going to be different depending upon their job and level of responsibility, but there are things that everyone can do during the inspection that will benefit the wing.

**3. Work with your UCI preparation team.** They're here to help you. Lt. Col. Perry Sorg is the main point of contact for all things UCI at 330-609-1088. Leadership is available to provide help and resources.

**4. Understand the grading criteria.** Getting an "Outstanding" is process oriented and not based on "Zero Findings." Know the standard and work toward it with intention. You get a "Satisfactory" grade by following the checklist. You get an "Excellent" with high attention to detail when you follow the checklist. You get an "Outstanding" by looking beyond the checklist and dealing with the purpose and reason of your unit function.

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**"Each person holds some piece of the puzzle that will ensure 100 percent compliance."**

- Col. Karl McGregor

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**5. Use the checklists.** MICT provides the checklists that will be used for the UCI. Know your checklist answers and your Air Force Instructions.

**6. Conduct regular UCI preparation meetings.** Unit leadership should meet frequently with their teams to tackle issues and set suspense dates for corrective actions. Time is short!

**7. Maintain strong continuity books in every section.**

**8. Set deadlines and suspense dates.** When deadlines and suspenses are set, stick to them and hold individuals accountable if they don't meet the set requirements.

**9. Understand the Wing Inspection Program definitions:**

- *Critical Finding:* Prevents the mission from happening.

- *Non Critical Finding:* Doesn't prevent the mission from happening, but has an effect on the mission.

- *Information finding:* No impact to mission.

- *Limiting Factor:* A factor or condition that, either temporarily or permanently, impedes mission accomplishment.

- *Special Interest Item:* A tool to focus management attention, gather data and assess the status of specific programs and conditions in the field.

- *Common Core Compliance Area:* Key processes, procedures or requirements based on bylaw requirements, executive orders, DOD directives, Air Force, MAJCOM or applicable AFRC instructions.

**10. Monitor self-inspections closely.** An "Outstanding" rating can be achieved only when the unit complies with nearly every inspectable item. Double check each item before crossing it off the self-inspection checklist. There can be no "Repeat" write-ups on items within our control from previous inspections.

**11. Take "oral exams."** Units should conduct mock interviews to help personnel prepare. By giving members the opportunity to verbalize answers and talk about their programs, they will approach the inspection with increased confidence. Speak clearly and with a full understanding of the topic. Try not to ramble, but ensure you answer their questions thoroughly.

**12. Know your strong programs as well as your weak ones.** Be sure that members talk up programs the unit is proud of. If a program is weak, demonstrate how the unit is getting it up to speed. Have your whole team at the inspection interview if possible. Be able to describe your part in a program or process and know something about all other parts of it.

**13. Success is not fixing every discrepancy, but having a working process to identify/track findings.**

**14. Squadron Commanders own and track findings to closure.**



**15. Research current UCI trends.** See where the UCI team has their focus.

**16. Use customs and courtesies.** Looking and being professional goes a long way toward success.

**17. Don't be argumentative.** An inspector may find something you don't agree with, explain your opinion without appearing argumentative. Be confident in what you relay to the inspector and inform your supervisor immediately afterward.

**18. Have all documentation ready.** The inspection team will want to see documentation to verify checklist items are being complied with. Standardized binders with tabbed content represents a unit's pride and professionalism.

**19. Answer what you know and research the rest.** If an inspector asks you a question and you don't know the answer, don't guess. Tell the inspector you don't know what the exact answer is, but you know where to find it and you will get back to them. If they ask you a question, they more than likely already know the answer.

**20. You are the key to Youngstown's success.** The inspection team is interested in talking to each and every one of you. Each person holds some piece of the puzzle that will ensure 100 percent compliance. By working together, we can repeat the success of the Operational Readiness Inspection and continue the long line of brilliant performance at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station.

# OPERATION SLEIGH RIDE



Photo by Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

## 910th Airlift Wing brings new Airmen home for the holidays

Airman 1st Class Nequita Stevens, an Air Force Reserve recruit currently training as a munitions systems apprentice, hugs her daughter, Martina, age 4, shortly after arriving at Youngstown Air Reserve Station, December 19, to spend the holidays at home with her family and friends. Airman Stevens was among more than 25 of the Air Force's newest Airmen who caught a ride aboard a YARS C-130H Hercules tactical cargo transport aircraft, to take a break from their training at technical schools in Little Rock, Ark., Kessler Air Force Base, Miss., and Shepherd Air Force Base, Texas. The mission, Operation Sleigh Ride, was spearheaded by the 910th Recruiting Service and supported by the USO of northern Ohio, the Trumbull and Mercer Counties chapter of the American Red Cross and more than 50 family, friends as well as 910th AW members were on hand to welcome the Airmen home for the holidays.

### The Airstream is published monthly by:

910th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office  
Youngstown Air Reserve Station  
3976 King Graves Rd., Unit 12  
Vienna, OH 44473-5912  
Phone: (330) 609-1236  
Fax: (330) 609-1022  
Website: [www.youngstown.afrc.af.mil](http://www.youngstown.afrc.af.mil)  
E-mail: [pa@youngstown.af.mil](mailto:pa@youngstown.af.mil)

**910th Airlift Wing Commander**  
Col. Karl McGregor

**Public Affairs Officer**  
Maj. Brent J. Davis

**Superintendent of Public Affairs**  
Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr., *Airstream Editor*

**Public Affairs Staff**  
Tech. Sgt. Dennis Kilker Jr., *NCOIC PA Operations*  
Tech. Sgt. Rick Lisum, *NCOIC Photo Lab Operations*  
Tech. Sgt. James Brock, *PA Photographer*  
Senior Airman Brenda Haines, *PA Apprentice*  
Senior Airman Valerie Smock, *PA Apprentice*  
Airman 1st Class Megan Tomkins, *PA Apprentice*  
Mr. Eric M. White, *PA Assistant*

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### *On the cover...*

This month's cover highlights the 10th anniversary of the 910th Airlift Wing's Pilot for a Day program. Cover photos: 910th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office file photos. Cover design: Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr. and Senior Airman Brenda Haines. See the complete story, a 2009 interview with the 910th's first PFAD and photos on page 4.

# YARS celebrates a decade of PFAD

**Maj. Brent Davis**

910th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

If a child were asked by any adult if he or she likes airplanes, chances are pretty good they would say yes. Some children dream of being a pilot, if only for a day. For the last decade, a program at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station has enabled more than 40 children to do just that.

It all began in May 2000 when Maj. Jack Hickey, a pilot with the 773rd Airlift Squadron, approached Brig. Gen. Michael F. Gjede, the commander of the 910th Airlift Wing during that time, with an idea to bring a child out to the base who suffered from a chronic or life threatening illness. The child would be given a private tour of the base, mementos to take home and be taxied around in an airplane. This outreach program, aimed at brightening the child's day, would make the participant an honorary second lieutenant and a pilot for a day.

General Gjede, now retired, agreed so long as a sponsor was secured to cover the program's expenses. Within a month, MCI Worldcom agreed to pay for each child's flight suit, meals and a C-130 model.

Ten years later, the 910th AW is working with the program's current sponsor, the Youngstown Air Reserve Station Base-Community Council, and has completed more than 40 Pilot for a Day events.

While visiting the base earlier this year, General Gjede said he was very happy to see the program still in full motion.

A lot of planning and details are wrapped into each PFAD event in order for it to succeed. Currently, each participant is chosen by Akron Children's Hospital of the Mahoning Valley in Youngstown.

The day is filled with support from 910th

Security Forces, Marine Corps Reserve Landing Support Equipment Company, 910th Life Support Flight, 910th Maintenance Group, aircrew personnel from the 757th and 773rd Airlift Squadrons, 910th Services Squadron Eagle's Nest club staff, 910th AW Public Affairs staff and the 910th Civil Engineer Fire Department.

A large part of each PFAD event is a 910th AW pilot that serves as a big brother or big sister for each honoree.

Capt. Brian Hodor, a pilot with the 773rd AS, has supported approximately one fourth of the PFAD events.

"It's great being able to see the kids enjoying themselves," said Capt. Hodor. "I think it's great to be able to bring them out and give them the VIP treatment for a day. I also think it's great that the (media) covers the program so the community knows that we're doing more here; that we care about the kids and community."

Tech. Sgt. Scott Obermeyer, an aircraft structural maintenance journeyman with the 910th Maintenance Squadron, has supported this program since its inception by fabricating decals of each child's name that are affixed above the crew door of a C-130H Hercules tactical cargo transport aircraft and also on the child's model C-130H.

"I'm very happy to do my part to add to each program," said Sergeant Obermeyer. "These kids are going through tough issues in their lives and I think it is nice for them to be able to take a break and come out here for some fun."

Col. Karl McGregor, the current commander of the 910th AW, is the third base commander to support this program and has the unique experience of giving the oath of office to the children upon their honorary commissioning as second lieutenants.

"This is a shining example of positive goodwill

for kids that need a life lift brought about by well-meaning members of the base, the BCC and our hospital partner," said Colonel McGregor. "The impact on the kids is immeasurable and the impact to our participating members is, by far, greater than the few hours we're privileged to spend with our honorary lieutenants."

Thanks to YARS Servicemembers, these PFAD honorees have had a rare look into the world of the air station and have memories meant to last a lifetime. YARS and the Base-Community Council are working to continue this tradition so that a new generation of honorary lieutenants can share the exciting experience of being a pilot for a day.



## PFAD: all grown up

Ten years ago, an enthusiastic 8-year-old boy, John Ray, of Austintown, became the 910th Airlift Wing's first honorary second lieutenant and a pilot for a day.

John was being treated for Type 1 diabetes at Tod Children's Hospital in Youngstown.

John came to the 910th AW, along with several other Pilot for a Day program alumni August 7, 2009, for a special preview of the wing's first air show and open house since 1986.

"10 years ago I was taking shots to control my sugar and didn't have it under complete control," said John. "Nowadays I have an insulin pump that helps monitor and maintain my blood sugar and it enables me to live my life to the fullest while taking just a few breaks to check my sugar."

Now a senior at Fitch High School and Mahoning County Career and Technical Center, John has plans for his future.

"I'm a senior at MCCTC in an interactive multimedia program," he said. "I'm learning the arts of printing, digital and graphic design, and photography."

"After high school I plan to follow up my education and go to the Art Institute of Pittsburgh for graphic design and pursue a career in that field," said John.

It seems the ray of sunshine that fell upon John here in July of 2000 continues to light a path for him for toward a potentially bright future.



Photo by Major Brent Davis

**Alan Hinton, the 41st YARS Pilot for a Day honoree, poses in the pilot's seat of a 910th AW C-130H Hercules tactical cargo transport aircraft on the flightline, Nov. 18. Alan, a sickle cell anemia patient and resident of Youngstown, received an honorary commission to the rank of second lieutenant.**

# New year, new faces

The units of the 910th Airlift Wing had several changes of leadership during the closing months of 2009. YARS welcomes the following new commanders.



Photo by Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

Lt. Col. Kenneth Saunders accepts the guidon of the 757th Airlift Squadron from Lt. Col. Perry Sorg, the acting 910th OG Commander, Oct. 3.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dennis Kilker

Lt. Col. Craig C. Peters (right) accepts the guidon of the 910th Operations Group from Col. Karl McGregor, commander of the 910th AW, during a ceremony, November 8.



Photo by Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

Lt. Col. William Kowalewski accepts the guidon of the 910th Civil Engineer Squadron from Col. Teresa Hams, the 910th Mission Support Group Commander, Oct. 3.



Photo by Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

Maj. Robert Marchese accepts the guidon of the 910th Logistics Readiness Squadron from Col. Teresa Hams, the 910th MSG Commander, Sept. 12.



Photo by Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

Lt. Col. Richard Elder accepts the guidon of the 910th Operations Support Squadron from Lt. Col. Perry Sorg, the acting 910th OG Commander, Oct. 3.

## YARS bids farewell to PFAD honorary 2nd lieutenant

Honorary 2nd Lt. Gene Paul (Moe) Richards Jr., 18, of Andover, passed away Dec. 2, after a battle with leukemia.

Moe was selected as the Youngstown Air Reserve Station's 25th Pilot for a Day Oct. 12, 2005.

PFAD's mission is to brighten the day for a child with a chronic illness.

The son of Gene Paul and Kimberly (Parks) Richards Sr., he was born Oct. 19, 1991, in Cleveland and was a lifelong area resident.

He loved spending time with his mom and dad while they enjoyed the outdoors, four-wheeling, archery and shooting skeet. He had a strong interest in the U.S. military, aircraft and weapons.

Moe had a love of life and for everyone around him. He maintained a sense of humor during his six-year fight with leukemia. He looked for the bright side of any situation and kept everyone smiling, which encouraged other people to do the same.



## PT standards sidelined for six months

YARS Airmen can breathe a sigh of relief. They will have some additional time to get back in shape after the holidays. The new Air Force fitness test standards are on hold, the Jan. 1 start date pushed back six months.

Although this is good news for Airmen, they will still be required to test twice per year beginning in January.

Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III, the Air Force's deputy chief of staff for manpower and personnel, said the service's top leaders sought feedback from commanders and senior non-commissioned officers throughout the Air Force when deciding to execute the updated program that will test Airmen twice during calendar year 2010 -- once under the current program and once under the new program.

"Based on feedback from the field, we are implementing the July start date so Airmen have the opportunity to excel," General Newton said. "This implementation strategy will allow for a smoother transition of the new Air Force Instruction and afford commanders adequate time to establish installation fitness assessment cells to include adequate manning for the FACs."

According to the change, during the Jan. 1 to June 30 testing phase, unit physical training leaders will provide two scores -- one for the current system and one for the new standard so Airmen can gauge their performance. Starting July 1, Airmen will officially test under new requirements with the new scoring.

Under the new standards, the aerobic run will count for 60 percent of the test. Body composition will count for 20 percent. Under the current standard, they count for 50 and 30 percent, respectively. The sit-up and push-ups remain at 10 percent each. The new standards have differently valued waist measurements and 15 seconds, rather than 30, separating run scores.

Passing the test will require a composite score of 75 while also meeting a minimum level for each component. The new physical fitness test will place Airmen in one of five age groups: less than 30, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60-plus. Results will fall into one of three categories: 90 and above, excellent; 75-90, satisfactory; and under 75, unsatisfactory.

## YARS Airmen receive CCAF degrees

Air Force leadership has long recognized that Airmen with higher education usually bring increased capabilities to their position.

YARS servicemembers can obtain a bona fide degree from a reputable university through the Community College of the Air Force, a federally chartered institution accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The following Airmen received associate degrees from the CCAF in October 2009:

**Master Sgt. Brenda Acker**  
**Master Sgt. Donald Cusick**  
**Tech. Sgt. Robert Felix**  
**Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Ference**  
**Staff Sgt. Kyle Knox**  
**Master Sgt. Calvin Marshall**  
**Staff Sgt. Steven McNew**  
**Tech. Sgt. Cherylene Menefee**  
**Tech. Sgt. Donika Rivera**  
**Staff Sgt. Michael Rubenstahl**  
**Staff Sgt. Cody Snyder**  
**Staff Sgt. Shawn Spaulding**  
**Tech. Sgt. Keith Traylor**  
**Staff Sgt. Steven Vallance**  
**Tech. Sgt. Anthony Williams**  
**Tech. Sgt. Cathleen Young**

Congratulations to the Airmen for their hard work and dedication. Airmen interested in pursuing a CCAF degree can contact the Education and Training office at 330-609-1102.

## 910th recognized for superb safety

Each year the Air Force Reserve Command recognizes units and individuals for their outstanding safety accomplishments.

"The nominations submitted by the Numbered Air Forces were impressive and the competition was intense," said Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr., the Air Force Reserve Command Commander.

Three YARS Airmen were among the winners for fiscal year 2009.

Tech. Sgt. Robert Metts, a civil engineering craftsman with the 910th Civil Engineer Squadron, received the AFRC Ground Safety Non-commissioned Officer of the Year award (Additional Duty).

Master Sgt. William McAdoo and Staff Sgt. Thomas Withem, patrolmen with the 910th Security Forces Squadron, received the AFRC Ground Safety Well Done Award.

"I want to congratulate all of the nominees and commend them for their dedication to duty and outstanding performance," said General Stenner.

## Retroactive stop loss pay available

Reservists and Guardsmen whose service was involuntarily extended beyond an approved separation or retirement date as a result of stop loss may be eligible for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay compensation of \$500 for each month they were affected.

The Air Force used stop loss for Operation Enduring Freedom in 2001 and 2002 and Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

The 2009 War Supplemental Appropriation Act set aside \$534.4 million to compensate members, including those of the Reserve components who served on active duty who were affected by stop loss between September 11, 2001 and September 30, 2009. Eligible individuals have until October 21, 2010 to file their claim.

For more information, visit the Air Reserve Personnel Center Web site at <https://arpc.afrc.af.mil>. Counselors at the Total Force Service Center are available at 800-525-0102 to answer questions regarding eligibility.

# NEWCOMERS

# PROMOTIONS



Master Sgt. John F. Pounds, 910th Maintenance Operations Flight

Tech. Sgt. Traci D. Higdon, 910th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Ryan S. Cooke, 910th Airlift Wing

Staff Sgt. Al T. Craig Jr., 910th Maintenance Squadron

Staff Sgt. Adam C. Lallathin, 910th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Staff Sgt. Wayne D. Wallace, 910th Security Forces Squadron

Senior Airman Kalee K. Lint, 910th Maintenance Operations Flight

Senior Airman Jason A. Noesner, 910th Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Paul M. Tanner, 910th Civil Engineer Squadron

Airman 1st Class Aaron S. Harmon, 910th Maintenance Squadron

Airman 1st Class Seth M. Kauderer, 910th Civil Engineer Squadron

Airman 1st Class Cory R. Reed, 910th Operations Group

Airman Basic Matthew A. Keller, 910th Maintenance Squadron

Airman Basic Foster L. Williams, 910th Security Forces Squadron



Paul D. Boothe, 773rd Airlift Squadron  
Gary L. Henderson, 910th Civil Engineer Squadron



Lawrence E. Felts, 773rd Airlift Squadron  
Jade C. Grove, 773rd Airlift Squadron  
Shaun E. Jackson, 910th Maintenance Group  
Mark E. Phelps, 910th Civil Engineer Squadron  
Michael D. Potts, 910th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



Ryan V. Johnson, 910th Logistics Readiness Squadron  
Wesley W. Whitaker, 910th Security Forces Squadron



Michael D. Culp, 773rd Airlift Squadron  
Eric C. Dodge, 910th Maintenance Squadron  
Adam P. Hernandez, 910th Security Forces Squadron  
Nicholas A. Mintz, 910th Civil Engineer Squadron



Jessica L. Gilmore, 910th Medical Squadron



Tae H. Choe, 76th Aerial Port Squadron  
Scott P. Ranostay, Communications Flight



Frank S. Collenette, 910th Security Forces Squadron  
Rizaldy M. Cosat, 910th Logistics Readiness Squadron  
Benjamin S. Davisphillips, 910th Operations Support Sq.  
Anisha M. Mccloud, 910th Medical Squadron

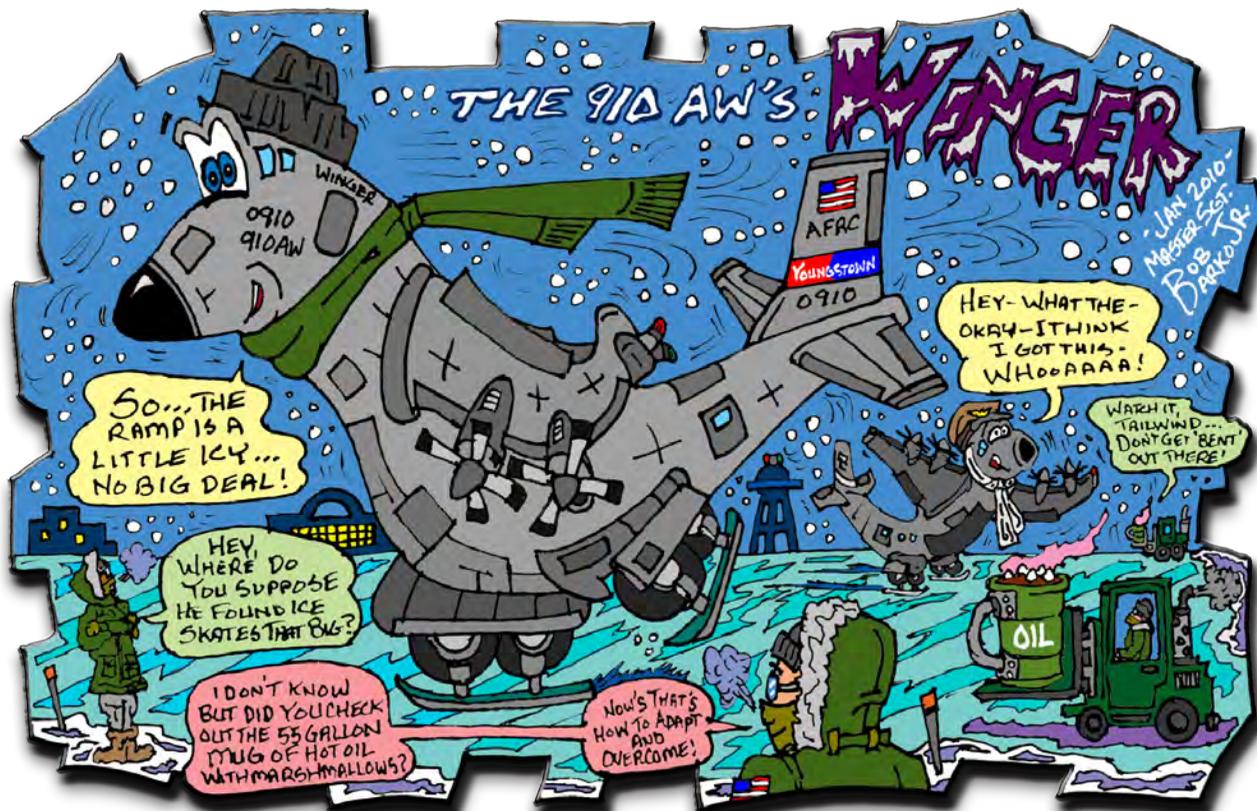


Illustration by Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

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## DECEMBER COMMANDER'S CALL



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jim Brock

### YARS commissions honorary wing commander

Col. Karl McGregor, commander of the 910th Airlift Wing, steps back so that Honorary Commander Fred Kubli Jr. and his wife, LaVerne, can be welcomed by servicemembers of the Youngstown Air Reserve Station during a Dec. 5 commander's call. Mr. Kubli, a decorated World War II veteran, received an honorary commission to the rank of colonel during the event. Mr. Kubli was chosen for this privilege because of his dedication to YARS through the Base-Community Council and his involvement in numerous organizations within the community surrounding the wing. This honorary commission is the first of its kind in the history of the 910th AW.