



# NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN

Volume 4, Issue 11

November 2011

## Inside:

Guarding  
Life

N.D. Drill  
Sergeants

Wing  
Inspection  
Success

## Beyond Driven

Lindberg Cruises Through  
Best Warrior Competitions

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In typical Happy Hooligan fashion, Airmen from the 119th Wing rose to the occasion when met with an Operational Readiness Inspection. While the event only comes around once every five years, the unit showed that they are prepared for future challenges and missions.

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# NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN

Commander in Chief  
North Dakota Governor  
Jack Dalrymple

The Adjutant General  
Maj. Gen. David A. Sprynczynatyk

Chief of Public Affairs  
Capt. Dan Murphy

Editor  
Staff Sgt. Eric W. Jensen

Contributors  
Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp  
Staff Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson  
Master Sgt. Eric Johnson  
Senior Master Sgt. Mike Anders  
Spc. Jess Raasch  
Spc. Tyler Sletten  
Sgt. Angie Gross  
Sgt. Sean Harp  
Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Johnson  
Chief Warrant Officer Kiel Skager  
Spc. Jennifer Joyce

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Electronic submissions are preferred. Please e-mail stories in Word format to: [eric.william.jensen@us.army.mil](mailto:eric.william.jensen@us.army.mil)  
Phone: 701-333-2195 Fax: 701-333-2017  
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## On the Cover



Spc. Ryan Lindberg lunges backward with a hold on the head of Army National Guard Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Sgt. Guy Mellor during their bout at the Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition combatives tournament at Fort Lee, Va., Oct. 7, 2011. The double-elimination combatives tournament was the final event in the weeklong Best Warrior competition. (Photo by Sgt. Sean Harp)

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# GUARD POSTS

## Dispatches from the N.D. Guard Family

### GUARD LIFE A FULL-TIME MISSION

We recently had the opportunity to award Staff Sgt. Misty Breland for her lifesaving actions, which you can read more about on page 7.

Misty's civilian and military training had her prepared to respond to such a car accident and save lives, but her compassion, bravery and heartfelt concern is what made a very intense situation more calming and controlled for the accident victim and her child.

As awesome and honorable as this act was, it really is indicative of how the Guard Family as a whole responds and takes care of one another. As a senior non-commissioned officer in the 119th Medical Group, I have had the opportunity to hear of many such accounts during my career. Many of those involved an Airman providing immediate assistance, such as when two 119th Maintenance Squadron personnel were ice fishing and reacted to someone they didn't know who fell through the

ice. There's also the time when a father from the Operations Group performed CPR on his own son who had accidentally gotten a rope stuck around his neck. On yet another occasion, a Civil Engineer Squadron Airman reacted to a civilian contractor who was severely shocked while working on the base power supply. All of these N.D. Guardsmen were prepared and willing to respond to someone in need.

Oftentimes, this response to help others in need isn't an individual endeavor. Our Guardsmen take part in motorcycle runs, benefits and raffles regularly to raise money for an injured Guardsman and their family. They volunteer their time to help with Habitat for Humanity. Often, I hear of Guard members getting a group together to do yard work or snow removal for a deployed member's family, as well. This is all part of being the Guard Family and serving our communities, state and nation.



SENIOR MASTER SGT.  
MIKE ANDERS

Health System Specialist  
119th Wing Medical Group

We all continue to do more with less, but we maintain our focus on training and doing things the right way. It's our every day professionalism, random acts of kindness and bravery, and our continuance to do things the "Hooligan and Straight Arrow Way" that make it a pleasure and honor to be a member of the N.D. National Guard!

Senior Master Sgt. Mike Anders  
119th Wing Health System Specialist



Senior Master Sgt. Mike Anders, right, and Master Sgt. Gary Weis practice cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on a training mannequin Jan. 9 during 119th Medical Group training at the N.D. Air National Guard, Fargo, N.D.

# Blood Brothers

## Guard Family Proves Closest Connection when Soldier in Need of New Kidney

By Staff Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson  
Joint Force Headquarters



Photos by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp

In the most simplistic military sense, it's a reallocation of assets. The story of how one N.D. Guardsman's kidney now filters the blood in his battle buddy's body, however, isn't nearly that basic. It spans two Afghanistan deployments, about 17 months of dialysis, worried family members, painful surgeries and an incredible amount of "selfless service."

Sgt. Francisco "Cisco" Raatz didn't have to think long on living up to that Army Value even as his worried mother questioned, "Are you sure you want to donate a kidney?"

Yes, he was sure. "I've got to do this, mom," he told her.

He had seen Spc. John Chase's quality of life diminish as he spent hours connected to a dialysis machine, leaving him tired but trying to do what he could despite restrictions on what he could lift, eat and drink. Through it all, John tried to help others. It was time somebody helped him, Cisco says. Plus, having been adopted, John's closest relatives truly are his "brothers and sisters in arms" in the National Guard Family.

"Sgt. Raatz is just like my brother, it feels like," John says.

### CONNECTED BY AFGHANISTAN

The two N.D. Guardsmen first met in 2005. John had served in the Marine Corps in the late 1980s and early 1990s and then bounced from job to job on the East Coast before moving his family to North Dakota for a better life. It was then, after a 15-year break in military service,

Spc. John Chase, left, shakes hands with Sgt. Francisco Raatz Sept. 23, just a few days before Raatz will donate a kidney to Chase during transplant surgery at Sanford Hospital, Fargo, N.D. The men stand in front of a Sentinel Radar System, which is a piece of equipment they work with as members of the 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment.

that he decided to enlist in the N.D. National Guard to serve his country again and improve his family's situation with the extra income. Plus, he says, "I like the military life."

He started predeployment training almost immediately and, by the end of the year, deployed to Afghanistan as part of the 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment's SECFOR (Security Forces) mission. He was joined by Cisco and about 150 others on the dangerous personnel security mission.

"A lot of us became really close on the SECFOR deployment because that was a different kind of mission," Cisco says. "We were there as military police and we were out doing combat patrols, and we actually did lose a few Soldiers, so that was a mission that brought a lot of us that were involved closer together. So, I think that was the big thing right there was that we were together doing those kinds of missions and stuff like that, and there when we lost people. Good times and bad times."

Just like John, Cisco had served on active-duty, but with the Air Force, before joining the Guard.

SECFOR was the first combat deployment for both Soldiers, but not their last. In November 2009,



they returned to Afghanistan in a group of just 39 Soldiers to conduct a RAID (Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment) base security mission. John deployed as a supply specialist and Cisco, alongside his new bride, Spc. Jacqueline "Jackie" Raatz, worked on the RAID and Sentinel Radar systems.

When John's opportunity for a two-week leave came up in May 2010, he hadn't been feeling well for a little while.

"I just felt a little sick, and as 'a man' I don't go to the doctors every time, and it got better, so I just came home and went on with my life," John says, and then he

Chase holds a kidney pillow as he lays in his bed at Sanford Hospital, Fargo, N.D., Sept. 29. Raatz has signed the pillow saying, "Enjoy my kidney!" Below, Chase sits in a chair as he undergoes kidney dialysis treatment Sept. 23 at the Aurora Dialysis Clinic, Grand Forks, N.D., as Raatz looks on.



laughs: "It didn't work out that good."

He took his wife of 17 years, Becky, and 15-year-old daughter, Natasha, to Disney World in Florida. Still not feeling well, he stopped by a walk-in clinic and was told he was just constipated. He made the most of Disney, but still not feeling well a week later, he tried another clinic but got the same diagnosis. With only a couple of days until he was scheduled to be back in Afghanistan, he went to the hospital in his hometown of Grand Forks. This time, the diagnosis was kidney failure.

"They put me in the emergency room so they could get me on dialysis and get all of the impurities and everything out of me because I was starting to get bloated and everything. (I) wasn't feeling very good at all," John says.

His first thought at the shock of the new diagnosis? That he wouldn't be returning to his fellow Soldiers in Afghanistan.

Back in country, the Raatzs did their best to keep tabs on John's prognosis and, at one point, Cisco checked on John's blood type, learning that they shared A-positive blood, which was the first step in a good transplant match.

"We both just kind of prayed that everything would be all right for him," Cisco said of he and Jackie. "I'd talk to his wife online just to get updates every now and

then to make sure everything was OK and just wish him the best until the rest of us were able to come home."

### TIED TO A MACHINE

As the Afghanistan mission continued for the rest of the Guard unit, John started a new mission: four hours' worth of dialysis three times a week. Sitting in a reclining chair, a blunt needle connected to clear tubes runs into "button holes" in his left forearm, where a vein and artery have been conjoined to make a thicker entry point for the blood to flow in and out as it is cleaned by the dialysis machine. Touching his arm, one feels the vibrating rush of blood pulsing through his body, a sensation that John says causes itching and a weird feeling if his arm slides under his pillow as he sleeps.

The dialysis sessions leave him exhausted and struggling to perform the tasks he was accustomed to doing.

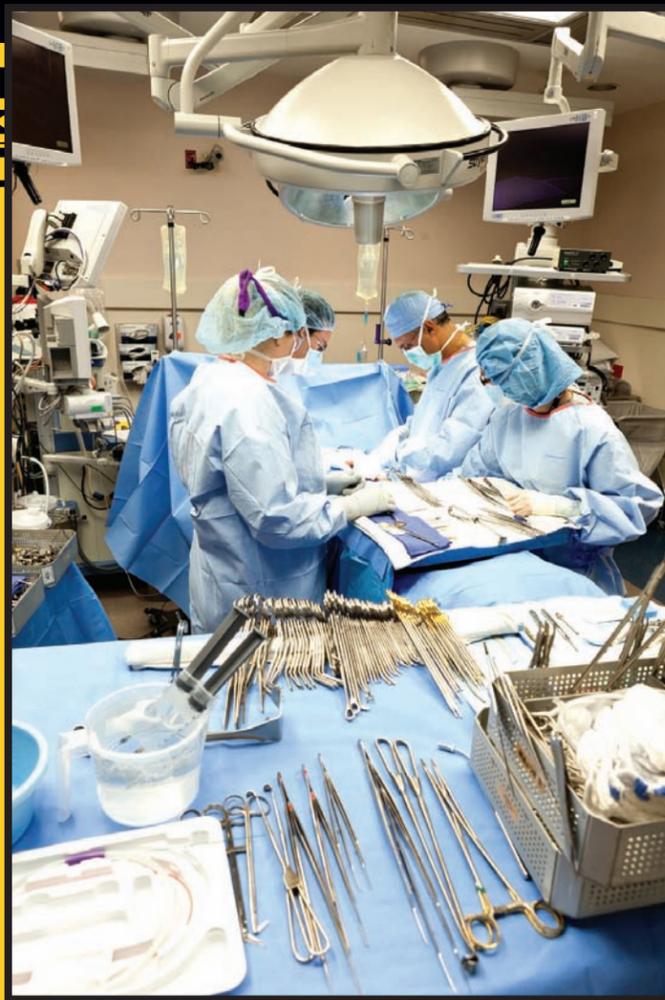
"I get tired very easily," he says. "I still try to do more than I should and, at times, I regret it, and then I can't do anything and I have to lay down."

He has almost completely cut out milk, bananas and tomato products — spaghetti and pizza, to his disappointment — because the potassium levels negatively impacted his body. He found he needed to eat small meals throughout the day, rather than the normal portions to which he was accustomed, or he'd feel sick.

If he doesn't eat right, he says, "I can feel it because my bones (and) my muscles hurt walking up the stairs at the armory. If my potassium isn't high, I can zip right up them, but a lot of times I have to stop halfway and I'm out of breath. I'll get cramps trying to walk."

While on dialysis, he can have just a half-cup of milk a day. That counts toward the 40 ounces of liquid he can consume daily — far less than what healthy people are encouraged to consume just in water, not to mention the coffee, juices and soda that are a way of life for most.

"For my family and me, it hasn't been the most enjoyable. You're limited on what you drink and what you eat," John says after undergoing yet another dialysis session at Aurora Dialysis Clinic in Grand Forks



Courtesy of Sanford Health

Dr. Bhargav Mistry (second from right), a transplant surgeon for Sanford Health, conducts a transplant surgery Sept. 27 for the North Dakota Guardsmen

in September. "I guess when I'm home I do a little complaining, so my daughter really cannot wait until I have this done," he adds with a chuckle.

He dreams of pouring a tall glass of cold water and chugging the entire thing. He hopes to reconnect with friends he's distanced himself from after finding it made him depressed thinking of the things they did that he could no longer do because he was tired and couldn't lift much.

Despite getting down on himself, he finds a way to maintain his reputation for jocular, teasing the dialysis assistants.

"They can't wait to get rid of me, I'm sure," John says.

"Who am I going to make fun of," one nurse quickly shoots back.

It's his second to last treatment, and he's excited for what the future holds thanks to Cisco.

#### UNITED IN A MIRACLE

Several N.D. Guardsmen, all the way up the chain of command to Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Sveum Jr., offered John a kidney, but Cisco was the first to be tested. Having been adopted with no biological relatives available as a potential donor, John and Cisco knew the odds of a match were slim. Most patients on dialysis wait as long as 20 years with 70 to 80 possible donors being tested before a match is found.

"I think he was extremely blessed that the first person able to get tested was a match for him," Cisco says.

While more nervous about the transplant surgery than her son's deployments to Afghanistan, Terezinha "Terri" Raatz, Cisco's mom, wasn't surprised by his decision.

"He's always had a big heart and always tries to help people no matter what," she says.

Jackie sees her husband the same way.

"He's a very caring man. He'd do anything for a fellow Soldier," she says. "When you're deployed together like he was with John and a lot of other guys and gals, that becomes like your second family overseas, so you help each other out, especially when you get back, because you're friends for life when you deploy together.

(Donating a kidney) was a pretty noble gesture of him. It's not easy for someone to go through that and be in that pain for weeks, but ultimately it's the right thing to do. I'm really proud of him."

She describes John the same way, saying he, too, would do anything for a fellow Soldier. As an example, she tells of a Guardsman who was homeless. Chase took him in to his family's home, giving him a place to stay and helping him financially, even though he didn't have much himself.

#### JOINED DURING SURGERY

On Sept. 27, it was John's turn to benefit from the kindness of others.

The Raatz family arrived at Fargo's Sanford Hospital first, checking in just before 5 a.m. Cisco had undergone the last in a battery of tests the day before and was ready to go.

"I'm a little nervous. I'm not gonna lie," Jackie says as she sits with her husband and mother-in-law in the waiting room.

Before long, Cisco and Jackie are taken back to a room where he's given a hospital gown fit with a heated tube.

"It's like a Humvee heater," Jackie jokes, trying to keep things light despite her nervousness.

Nurses and a doctor and anesthesiologist make their way in and out of the room with updates and to retrieve power of attorney paperwork. As the clock ticks closer to the 8 a.m. scheduled time to move to the operating room, Jackie joins hands around Cisco's bed with Terri and another fellow Guardsman and offers a simple prayer.

In the meantime, the Chase family is checking in at Sanford, as well. When John hears he can see Cisco for a minute before he's wheeled to the OR, he excitedly leaps out of his seat in the waiting room and rushes back.

The Guardsmen chat animatedly about the horrors of catheters and being hungry and thirsty until, at 7:55 a.m., hospital staff comes for Cisco.

"See you later, bro," John says as his buzzer to report to be prepped for surgery goes off, as well.

"It's pretty amazing to see that you can give that gift of life to another person like that, someone who is living," Jackie says as she waits for updates of the surgery's progress. "John's quality of life isn't very good with his kidneys and being on dialysis, and knowing that Cisco is helping him so much to live a normal life without the constant medical expenses and disability that he has, I mean, that's a pretty amazing gift, but John definitely deserves it, so I'm glad (Cisco) can help with that."

#### SHARING PAIN IN RECOVERY

By the next day, the men are recovering in separate rooms on the third floor of Sanford. Cisco is visibly in pain, flinching every time he needs to cough — which is frequent due to the aftereffects of surgery. He clutches a tightly folded sheet over the incision on the left side of his body, hoping the pressure eases the pain that was only going to get worse as the carbon dioxide that was pumped into his body during surgery works its way up and out.

John is doing better, excited about being able to start eating and drinking normal foods again. It's also the first time in about a year and a half that he doesn't have needles in his arm.

"I have three kidneys now," he exclaims to visitors. "I'm special!"

Then, he lifts his hospital gown to show the roughly 10-inch long incision along his left, front side, where Cisco's healthy kidney now filters impurities alongside John's two failed organs.

On his hospital bed is a red, kidney shaped pillow that well-wishers from the Guard have autographed for him. Centered on the front is Cisco's message: "Enjoy my kidney!"

The men visit about how they're feeling and talk of when they'll be released in a few days. Cisco will be out of work for at least three weeks as he recovers at home, and will be limited on what he can do for a little while afterward. John will transition to the Scandia Hotel near the hospital for a few weeks, from where he will easily be able to report daily as Sanford monitors his bloodwork and the antirejection pills he'll need to take for the rest of his life.

Both Guardsmen are anxious to again resume drilling with their unit in Grand Forks. John hopes the armory there will display a special donation flag that their wives were able to raise on the flagpole outside of Sanford the day after surgery. It reads, "Donate Life." Guardsmen can save lives through organ donation and continue to serve their country is the message John wants people to take away from the display.

There are a lot of ways service members work to save lives, after all, but this is one of which they may not be aware, he says.

"I'm very proud of him," Terri says of her son's willingness to save a battle buddy's life through organ donation. "He's my hero, too — not because he's my son, but I think everybody that sacrifices something for somebody else, I think that (makes them) a hero."

"For me, I never knew what heroes look like," she continues. "For me, he's my hero." ■

## Guardsmen Use Military Training to Render Care to Family Following Automotive Accident

By Spc. Jess Raasch  
116th Public Affairs Detachment

Two N.D. Guardsmen have been awarded ribbons for lifesaving actions after rendering care to a fellow Guardsman's family following a vehicle rollover on I-29 last year.

Staff Sgt. Misty Breland, of the 119th Medical Squadron of the N.D. Air National Guard, used her military training to assist in stabilizing Deanna Shackelford after the accident north of Fargo, N.D.

Shackelford was traveling with her son, Dillon, when another driver rear-ended her. She was ejected through the car's windshield as the vehicle tumbled through the ditch.

Breland came upon the accident soon after and immediately pulled over to offer assistance.

"I noticed a large laceration to her left thigh," said Breland, who used her belt to form a tourniquet to stop the bleeding.

Breland used her experience as a nurse to keep Shackelford calm while providing medical aid.

"She says, 'Everything's okay. We're here. We're here,'" Shackelford said.

Soon after the accident, Staff Sgt. Troy Freadrich, of the N.D. Army National Guard, arrived at the scene.

"I asked (Breland) if she needed any help and she responded by having me check the tourniquet she had already put on and tighten it a little better because she wasn't sure of it," he said.

Freadrich then inspected Shackelford's vehicle to make sure there was no threat of a fire.

"Meanwhile, I am laying there and I'm thinking, OK, am I paralyzed or can I move my feet? I don't know," Shackelford said.

Shackelford's husband, Tech. Sgt. Kent Shackelford, with the 119th Aerial Port, was notified immediately and was able to meet his family at the hospital. He feels certain that had the Guardsmen not responded as they did, his wife may have not walked again because of the crushed vertebrae in her spine.

"I just made sure I could still feel her pulse, and she was able to feel her toes, and I did some neural checks where you want to make sure that they have full sensation," Breland said.

Breland and Freadrich received Meritorious Service Medals for their actions, and the Shackelford family is doing well.

"I cannot express how grateful I am for their actions," Kent said. "Having fellow Guardsmen assist so quickly and professionally makes me proud to wear the uniform. They talk about the Guard being a family and it really is." ■



Staff Sgt. Misty Breland



Staff Sgt. Troy Freadrich

Interact With Us!  

Check out more photos from this incredible story on our Flickr site at <http://bit.ly/NDkidneytransplant>.

Video of Chase and Raatz is available at <http://bit.ly/transplantvideos>. Check out video from the story in the sidebar at <http://bit.ly/Heroics>.

# MADE IN USA

## DRILL INSTRUCTORS LEARN, ADOPT SIMILAR MENTORING SKILLS TO BUILD FUTURE LEADERS

By Staff Sgt. Eric Jensen  
Joint Force Headquarters

New Army recruits can expect routine when they report for Basic Combat Training, or BCT. Early morning wake-ups, grueling physical training sessions, marksmanship and drill and ceremony are some of the constants facing them in their immersion into military life — that and the noticeable company of the ever-watchful, ever-intimidating drill instructor donned in his or her brown, round “Smokey the Bear” hat.

Future Guardsmen preparing for BCT in the N.D. National Guard’s Recruit Training Battalion (RTB) won’t be caught off-guard when facing their future mentors, though. They may have already come face to face with Staff Sgt. James Jefferson — the first qualified drill instructor to have trained while serving in the N.D. National Guard in nearly 30 years.

### A GLIMPSE AT THINGS TO COME

A vital component of the National Guard’s Recruit Sustainment Program, North Dakota’s RTB helps Soldiers who have taken an oath of enlistment, but have not attended BCT or Advanced Individual Training, make the transition to a regimented military training environment. To adopt the most recent rules, guidelines and regulations encompassed at BCT, Jefferson was chosen to attend the active-duty Army’s Drill Instructor course — an addition that will only improve an already successful program, leaders say.



Staff Sgt. James Jefferson is the first qualified drill instructor trained while serving in the N.D. National Guard since Command Sgt. Orville Wang led new recruits nearly 30 years ago.

“We do have a higher percentage of honor graduates and Soldiers who complete the training,” Jefferson said. “Before the RTB, there were a lot of training pipeline losses and a lot of recruits get down there and think, ‘Geez, I don’t want to be here. This isn’t what I signed up for.’”

Through the RTB, new recruits become familiar with the challenges they’ll face upon arrival at their BCT posts. Jefferson said the preparation instills confidence and gives the Soldiers the means to excel.

“They get a little taste of it before they get thrown into the fire, so to speak,” he said. “It definitely eliminates some of that major fear and shock factor that a lot of us had when this program wasn’t around. It lets them get down there and focus on the task at hand and the training and volunteer for leadership roles and be successful as opposed to having that fear and doubt and hiding in the corner.”

But the drill instructor assisted training concept is not new to the N.D. National Guard. Thirty years ago, one of the organization’s current senior enlisted leaders, Command Sgt. Maj. Orville Wang, donned the drill instructor hat to provide the same type of mentoring.



Jefferson runs future Guardsmen from the Recruit Training Battalion through a round of flutter kicks during a drill weekend at Camp Grafton, Devils Lake, N.D., July 2011.

### BUILDING LEADERS

In the early 1980s, military schools in the state were facilitated by the North Dakota Military Academy, an institution that carried out Soldiering much in the same way the RTB does now. BCT preparation was not the Academy’s only specialty, however. Noncommissioned officer schools, senior enlisted courses and Officer Candidate School also were part of the curriculum. Wang, now the senior enlisted leader for the 164<sup>th</sup> Regiment’s Regional Training Institute at Camp Grafton, was a newly promoted sergeant and a training, advising and counseling, or “TAC,” officer for the Academy. He also assisted in preparing new recruits for BCT, although there were times he found his endurance for Soldiering tested.

“We would get to a certain point and I ran out of substance, ran out of ability ... didn’t know what level to take them to. We were doing drill and ceremony, teaching them marksmanship, nuclear, biological and chemical ... anything to give these Soldiers a leg up. They were still being taken care of in the units, but they would go to one or two sessions (at the Academy) before shipping,” Wang said.

The commandant of the Academy, Command Sgt. Maj. Loren Ford, scoured active-duty drill instructor schools to find Wang a course vacancy in order to bring “Big Army” Soldiering knowledge back to the state. With a limited budget and resources, it was crucial that the 23-year-old noncommissioned officer succeed and graduate from the course.

“(There was) a lot of pressure on me. There was a high dropout rate, and I knew that if I came back early and were not to make it for some reason, I’d never get a second chance,” Wang said. “(We) didn’t have an extended budget. It’s ‘Here’s what you got. Now, go.’”

In August 1981, he went to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. The odds of making it through certainly were against him. Wang’s course began with 44 Soldiers. Many had been to the school two or three times without success. Only 14 graduated. Two were from the National Guard — Wang and another noncommissioned officer from a military academy in Utah.

Wang said that active-duty noncommissioned officers typically made careers in two primary positions in the 1980s — recruiting and working as a drill instructor. The latter was not always an enviable position.

“Many of them did not want to do it, because it was long hours, lots of stress, lots of PT (physical training),” he said. “(You) had to look better, act better, perform better ... but I knew my job.”

No one could argue that Wang brought back a new level of expertise to the Military Academy. When he returned to the state, he continued to prepare Soldiers for BCT, many of them in engineering. Combat engineers in “buddy platoons” mentored by Wang would ship together for training. The knowledge and leadership they received prior to their departure made the North Dakotans a highly regarded group.

“They (the drill instructors and cadre) would literally fight to get a North Dakota platoon because we had already gotten them through basically the first two weeks of basic training,” Wang said. “They (the new recruits) were acclimated. They were used to it.”

Looking back on the drill instructor course, Wang notes that it was the “most professional, but stressful” noncommissioned officer course he’s been to in his more than 30-year career. In his nearly 10 years as drill instructor, he crossed paths with many Guardsmen who are still in the organization today, including Col. Mike Aberle, N.D. National Guard chief of staff, who attended the Academy before going to BCT.

“So, drilling had really paved the way for me. Probably gave me a reputation, be it good or bad,” Wang said. “I never knew then that it would take me here (the Regional Training Institute), to where I am today.”

### CREATING THE PERSONA

Both Jefferson and Wang agree that Soldiering takes a high-degree of devotion. Anyone who becomes a drill instructor has to want to lead and mentor recruits. That determination is what ultimately got them through the rigorous drill instructor course.

“Drill sergeants aren’t born, they’re made,” Wang said.

For Jefferson, the challenge was personal — a benchmark he had sought out for most of his military career.

“I had thought about it a few times throughout my career, what it would be like to be a drill instructor, but the biggest thing, for me in accepting it, was the challenge,” he said. “It’s one of the toughest schools in the Army and to be able to meet that challenge was a pretty big goal of mine.”

Potential drill instructors face 10 weeks of psychological and physical stress, mirroring the intensity that embodies BCT. Jefferson said the course lends a drill sergeant’s perspective to the basic training experience. Attendees learn how to be a subject matter expert on everything from drill and ceremony to weapons to counseling and generational communication.

“The immense amount of knowledge and discipline that you gain from that school is priceless,” Jefferson said. “It’s a lot of time management, a lot of psychological stress that they put on you to see if you can handle two years (the length of an initial drill instructor tour) of being at that fast of pace.”

Early morning wake-ups, constant physical training and evaluations on instructing form the bulk of the course’s curriculum.

**“DRILL SERGEANTS AREN’T BORN, THEY’RE MADE.”**

Command Sgt. Maj. Orville Wang, a staff sergeant at the time, worked as a drill sergeant at the North Dakota Military Academy. He held the position for nearly 10 years.



But when mistakes are made, are they yelled at and reprimanded in the same way a new recruit might experience? Jefferson said it's a different brand of scolding.

"I kind of equate it to the 'disappointed Dad' look," he said. "They didn't really yell at us all the time. You know, sometimes your Dad would yell at you when you did something wrong ... it wasn't that big of deal, but it was the times they didn't (yell at you that felt worse)."

### BRIDGING THE GENERATIONAL GAP

Like anything in life, the Army culture experiences shifts and changes. Jefferson and Wang have had to adapt to generational outlooks when developing their style of Soldiering. Both note that today's Army is largely comprised of Soldiers from Generation Y — the generation that asks, "Why?" When Jefferson attended the drill instructor course this summer, some of what he learned equipped him with how to manage this new type of recruit.

"There's a lot relating to the Soldiers instead of the 'You're going to do this, do it now, and don't ask any questions,'" he said. "That generation, they are going to ask, 'Why?' A lot of us who went to basic in the early parts of our career were just doing what we were told. They (the new generation) want to know why something is. Why do they have to do it that way? To be an

Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp



Staff Sgt. Scott A. Lewis, formerly with the 164th Regional Training Institute, directs new recruit Brandi Berg, of Bismarck, N.D., in blue, as she begins her initial in-processing with the N.D. Army National Guard June 6, 2008, at the Armed Forces Reserve Center, Fargo, N.D. Berg was one of many recruits who trained in Fargo as part of Operation Summer Surge, a three-day event preceding travel to Basic Combat Training or Advanced Individual Training. Lewis was trained as a drill instructor while in the Army Reserve, and the N.D. National Guard was able to incorporate that training once he joined the organization.

effective trainer and mentor, you need to be open to the fact that they are going to ask (those questions) and have the patience to explain it to them."

Wang has had the same experiences in his latest role as commandant at the Regional Training Institute. He said that, for the most part, things haven't changed.

"With any group of people there are issues, concerns and challenges," he said. "The Army is really a reflection of society.

So yes, there's a different way you talk to them, a different way you handle them. It's a very intelligent group."

Despite their appetite for learning, recruits can still benefit from age-old methods of drilling, Wang said.

"You still got to be there to motivate them and you have two ways to motivate them — by fear and interest. You use fear to get their attention and interest to keep them there," he said.

That interest lends well to mentoring. New recruits are expected to participate in the Soldiering process by posing questions to their leaders and taking the initiative to learn more.

"That's pretty much my leadership style — the mentoring role. I train to standard, not to time. I do require that they retain the knowledge, but in doing that I also require that they give me feedback so I know that they're understanding it," Jefferson said.

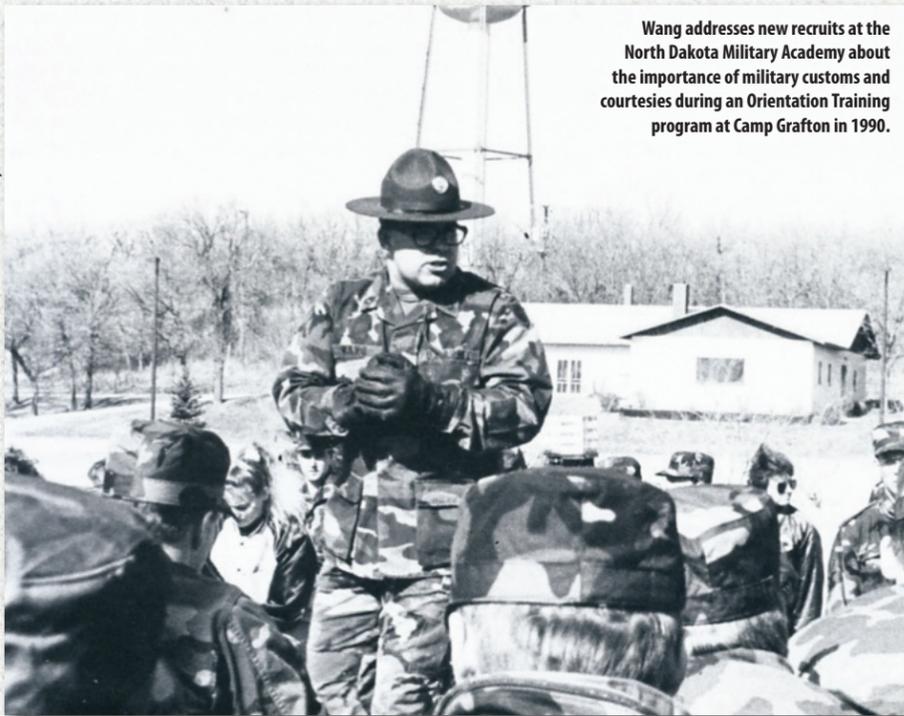
Having that mentor/mentee interaction only elevates the importance of having competent, attentive drill instructors.

"You're such a role model," Wang said. "You are someone they look up to and emulate. So everything you do, they're watching."

That is the one noticeable constant between Wang and Jefferson's careers as drill instructors. Regardless of changes in training and culture, the drill instructor is always watching. ■

Courtesy of The North Dakota Guardsman

Wang addresses new recruits at the North Dakota Military Academy about the importance of military customs and courtesies during an Orientation Training program at Camp Grafton in 1990.



Spc. Tyler Sletten



Tech. Sgt. David Harmon, of the N.D. Air National Guard, displays a pheasant harvested during the Hunting Dakota with Roosevelt event in southwest North Dakota Oct. 15. In 2008, Hunting Dakota with Roosevelt was initiated by Roger Krueger and Retired Col. Jon Hanson, both of Bismarck. The charity raises funds for cancer patients at the Bismarck Cancer Center. The event also honors North Dakota's men and women in uniform. Eighteen military members participated in this year's hunt.

Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp



Senior Master Sgt. Barbara Anderson, of the 119th Mission Support Flight, hands retired Chief Master Sgt. Dennis Isrow a glass of orange juice during the annual N.D. Air National Guard retiree's breakfast, which is hosted by the 119th Wing Chief's Council. About 130 retired Happy Hooligans attended the breakfast this year, which is a slight increase over the past two years.

Soldiers from Task Force Aviation of Kosovo Force, KFOR, 15 host a helicopter visit for first graders from Columbus Christian School in Columbus, Ind. The children requested to meet the aviation Soldiers during a class field trip to Camp Atterbury, Ind., Sept. 30. About 55 Soldiers with the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 1st Battalion, 112th Aviation Regiment (Security and Support) will mobilize with KFOR 15 for a yearlong NATO peacekeeping mission after completing training at Camp Atterbury.



Sgt. Angie Gross

# GUARDIAN Snapshots

# Airmen Embrace ORI for Success

Story and Photos by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp  
119th Wing

Thirty-one aircraft maintenance personnel and nine pilots with two C-21s deployed to Volk Field, Wis., last month in the first Air Mobility Command (AMC) Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) in 119th Wing history. The Airmen carried the inspection torch, along with personnel from several other deployment functional areas at the N.D. Air National Guard in Fargo, as they subjected themselves to evaluation during a full-unit AMC ORI Oct. 11-18.

The 119th Wing's two major flying missions are the C-21 Learjet and the MQ-1 Predator. The 177th Airlift Squadron and the 119th Maintenance Group work in the C-21 mission and were the major areas of inspection by the Air Mobility Command, but some support areas also were inspected.

While there is a lot of overlap for unit support personnel in the two flying missions, some people were largely uninvolved in the inspection while others were simulating the most extreme deployed combat conditions in full personal protective gear and weapons, including body armor and chemical gear with gasmask.

The ORI evaluated the unit's deployment process and then its ability to survive and operate once aircraft and personnel arrive in the most stringent wartime conditions, which were simulated at Volk Field.

Top, Col. Rick Gibney, the 119th Wing commander, left, greets Operational Readiness Inspection team chief Lt. Col. James Williams as he arrives Oct. 11 at the N.D. Air National Guard in Fargo, N.D.

Second photo, Master Sgt. Merri Jo Filloon, of the 119th Mission Support Flight, center, checks personnel deployment documents of unit members, including Lt. Col. Toby Brallier, right, as Operational Readiness Inspector Chief Master Sgt. Len Naugher looks on. The unit members simulated a forward operating area deployment for inspection purposes.

Third, 119th Wing members, from left to right, Master Sgt. Steven Koenig, Master Sgt. Darby Plath and Capt. Ryan Rastedt prepare to board a C-130 aircraft at the N.D. Air National Guard. They deployed to a stateside air base, which simulated a forward operating area for the purpose of evaluating war-fighting capabilities of the unit and its ability to meet U.S. Air Force standards.

Bottom, Tech. Sgt. Kent Shackelford, left, directs pallet building of deployment luggage during the Operational Readiness Inspection on Oct. 13.



Maj. Jason Newham, of the 119th Operations Group, center, looks through deployment issue items with the assistance of Staff Sgt. Travis Brost, of the 119th Logistics Readiness Squadron, as Newham prepares for a simulated deployment to a forward operating area. Operational Readiness Inspector Chief Master Sgt. Len Naugher, left, looks on.

Tech Sgt. Jeffrey Arel, of the 119th Maintenance Squadron, center, is among several other unit members looking through deployment issue items during a simulated deployment to a forward operating area during the Operational Readiness Inspection.

The unit aircraft maintainers and pilots who went to Volk Field became part of a flying temporary Wing created for the inspection. That Wing was being inspected as a whole and as organizational parts that represented home station organizations.

119th Wing personnel at Volk were identified by the color of their white reflective belts, and they melded into a Wing of active duty and Air National Guard pieces in the ORI machine.

"I felt a lot of pressure to make sure that we lived up to the Hooligan standards during the inspection. None of us wanted to be the guy that let our unit down, and we didn't. Each person carried their weight and we came together as a team. We were very focused and our attitude was not just to meet the standard but to see just how well we can do at this thing ... 'embrace the suck' was what the inspectors told us — and we did," said Chief Master Sgt. Doug Faldet, who is the 119th Maintenance noncommissioned officer in charge.

The 119th Maintenance deployment personnel's attitude paid off with an "excellent" grade on its "ability to survive and operate," as well as two superior performer teams.

Personnel deployment processes in Fargo and Volk were closely inspected, including the mobility area (equipment issue), the personnel deployment function (out-processing) and the air-terminal operations (equipment and personnel loading).

"The challenge for us is that this is the first AMC ORI that we have ever had, but we've done our homework and prepared by having several operational readiness exercises over the last two years, and we're ready," said Senior Master Sgt. Robert Scheidecker, who is the installation deployment noncommissioned officer tasked with managing the deployment control center.

"We came through in the typical Hooligan way. We were



well-prepared and had great attitudes — and that reflected in our grade," said Col. Brian Sivertson, the 119th Operations Group commander.

The Hooligans garnered an overall ORI grade of "satisfactory." "An AMC ORI inspector mentioned that 90 percent of the units inspected get a grade of satisfactory, which means that you are doing what you are supposed to be doing," said Sivertson, whose command oversees both the 178th Reconnaissance Squadron and the 177th Airlift Squadron.

The good thing from a unit member perspective is that a satisfactory grade on the ORI means that Airmen can reset their ORI clock to 60 months, which puts the next AMC ORI sometime in 2016. By then, the Hooligans will be well into the C-27J Spartan aircraft, with a slightly different airlift mission and a fresh determination to succeed once again. ■

 **Interact With Us!**

Check out more photos from the Operational Readiness Inspection on our Flickr site at <http://bit.ly/HooliganORI>.

Video is at <http://bit.ly/2011ORI>.





# Pushing the Limits

By Staff Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson  
Joint Force Headquarters

## Lindberg Put to the Test at All-Army Competition

After a week of intense competition in early October against the best Soldiers in the entire U.S. Army, the N.D. National Guard's Spc. Ryan Lindberg didn't walk away the best in the nation, but he was close. It's the first time a North Dakota Guardsman has ever qualified to compete at this high of a level, said State Command Sgt. Maj. Gerald Miller, and Lindberg didn't disappoint.

Lindberg, 23, qualified for the competition after being named the best in his unit — the Jamestown-based 817<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company (Sapper) — and then the best at brigade level, followed by the best in the state and then the best in

the eight-state region. From there, he was named the "Best Warrior" out of all enlisted Soldiers in the entire Army National Guard, an incredible achievement that put him head-to-head with the top Soldiers from Army divisions around the world. That's how he ended up at Fort Lee, Va., competing in what's been coined the "Super Bowl of Army competitions." In all, he spent 15 months studying, training and competing to prepare for the event.

"It's really surreal for the most part, but it's an honor for me to not only represent our unit but the state and the entire United States National Guard," said Lindberg, who has served more than six years in the Guard.

One enlisted Soldier and one noncommissioned officer represented each of the 13 Army commands during the competition. On the first day alone, the 26 Soldiers responded to questions posed by a board of sergeants major; were graded on their appearance, uniform and military bearing; took an exam; wrote an essay; and completed the Army Physical Fitness Test.

"You just never know what (the board is) going to ask you, and you don't know if you're prepared. ... I was in front of the Sergeant Major of the United States Army (Raymond F. Chandler III). ... It's a little intimidating but yet it's still an honor at the same point that you meet this guy and you're here in this spot to be able to answer these questions in front of the Sergeant Major of the Army," Lindberg said.

The next day, Oct. 5, they launched into the more strenuous part of the competition — the part Lindberg prefers despite the physical challenges that come with it. Lindberg's mentor, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Mark Olafson, of West Fargo, N.D., watched Lindberg come in a close second during a daytime Urban Warfare Orienteering Course, and then win the nighttime course "by a hefty margin," Olafson said, beating even the Soldier named the 2009 Ranger of the Year.

"We start out at a starting point and they give us certain grid coordinates that we have to navigate to, and we don't know exactly what to expect but ... we're just expecting along the route that certain scenarios are going to happen to us and we're going to have to react to those scenarios and do our best to complete the task," Lindberg said before the event.

The scenarios included mock battlefield injuries that required medical treatment as the Soldiers worked to find all of their points by map and compass and be the first across the finish line.

After three hours of sleep that night, Lindberg and the other competitors tested on Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills, which included everything from evaluating a casualty to clearing rooms and villages to weapons assembly and functions checks. At one point, Lindberg hopped on a scale for a mock

aircraft boarding and was surprised to note his gear added more than 130 extra pounds to his weight. Later that day, they zeroed and qualified with their personal weapons before heading into a spectacular night fire event where competitors needed to hit targets lit only by the glow of flares as pyrotechnics exploded around them.

"He gave it a valiant effort all the way through," Miller said. "I, for one, can tell you he truly is a remarkable young man with a bright future, and I feel I am a better person for knowing him."

Olafson, who also serves in the 817<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company, remained by Lindberg's side through every stage of the competition, providing mentorship and assistance.

"He's probably done more work than I have for this competition," Lindberg said. "... He's done a big part in helping me advance this far."

For more than a year, Olafson has been there quizzing him and training with him. He's proud of how well his young, fellow Soldier has done.

"It's been awesome watching him excel at all of the given tasks throughout the competitions," Olafson said, "but the most impressive thing is the respect he earns from the other competitors and sponsors. It really reflects well on him and the entire N.D. National Guard."

As the week drew to a close, Lindberg fought his way to the top during a combatives competition, as well, being named the best enlisted Soldier in the tournament.



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp



Lindberg lunges backward while executing a rear takedown on U.S. Army Medical Command Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Staff Sgt. Ilker Irmak during their bout at the Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition combatives tournament at Fort Lee, Va., Oct. 7.

Sgt. Sean Harp

Despite the wins, Lindberg missed the top spot — the only place revealed — when the competition concluded. Spc. Thomas Hauser, who serves with the Army's FORSCOM (Forces Command), was named the Best Warrior in the enlisted category and a Utah National Guardsman, Sgt. Guy Mellor, won the Best Warrior title in the noncommissioned officer category. They were announced winners during a banquet in Washington, D.C., which Lindberg was able to attend with his parents, Rob and Donna Lindberg, of Jamestown.

"I didn't hold anything back," Lindberg said afterward. "Everything I did was the best I could do."



Sgt. Sean Harp

After missing about two weeks of school to compete with the best of the best, Lindberg is now returning to North Dakota State University, in Fargo, where he's pursuing a degree in construction management and engineering. He plans to graduate in the spring. ■

### Interact With Us!

Check out more photos of Lindberg at the various Best Warrior Competitions on our Flickr site at <http://bit.ly/SPCLindberg>.

Videos from the All-Army Best Warrior Competition also are available at <http://bit.ly/BWCvideos>.



Far left, Lindberg stands on a flatbed truck as he prepares to catch a cable hanging from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter June 24 near a flood levee in Minot, N.D. He is waiting to attach a one-ton sandbag to the helicopter sling-load cable so the helicopter can place it in an area of concern on the levee. Lindberg responded with his unit, the 817<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company (Sapper), for flood duty this summer even as he trained for the Best Warrior Competition. Left, Lindberg displays his trophy for winning the combatives portion of the All-Army Best Warrior Competition with Sgt. Guy Mellor, who won the competition in the Noncommissioned Officer Category.

# Retirements • Promotions • New Members

July 2011 — September 2011

## Promotions • Army

### Chief Warrant Officer

CW4 Tyler P. Bridwell  
CW2 Kerry L. Beck  
CW2 Travis J. Ktytor  
CW2 Arnold H. Zins

### Lieutenant Colonel

Lt. Col. Kurtiss J. Fleck

### Major

Maj. Michael P. Corcoran

### Captain

Capt. William H. Brown  
Capt. Nicolette K. Daschendorf  
Capt. Robert N. Peleschak

### First Lieutenant

1st Lt. Marshall Clemons  
1st Lt. Patricia D. Omlid

### Second Lieutenant

2nd Lt. Aaron J. Kramer

### First Sergeant

1st Sgt. Joshua D. Entzel  
1st Sgt. Russell K. Garrett

### Master Sergeant

MSG Jerold L. Dodds  
MSG Tamara M. Eckelberg  
MSG David C. Kenney  
MSG Bruce A. Newland  
MSG Troy L. Skelton  
MSG Delon E. Weisz  
MSG Laurie M. Zacher

### Sergeant First Class

SFC Amy R. Everson  
SFC Darin R. Leick  
SFC Fieldings J. Olson  
SFC Eric J. Peterson  
SFC James A. Scheen  
SFC Danelle L. Wolnik

### Staff Sergeant

Staff Sgt. Christopher L. Foley  
Staff Sgt. Jay P. Haaland  
Staff Sgt. Levi E. Jenson  
Staff Sgt. Justin A. Lindteigen

Staff Sgt. Chad M. Prescott  
Staff Sgt. Steven C. Rieger  
Staff Sgt. Ian B. Schmidt  
Staff Sgt. Jordan J. Ternes  
Staff Sgt. Kenneth J. Thomas

### Sergeant

Sgt. Joshua L. Adams  
Sgt. Scott W. Becknell  
Sgt. James R. Birchfield  
Sgt. Nathan T. Blair  
Sgt. Jason M. Cook  
Sgt. Luke D. Daley  
Sgt. Toni L. Deberg  
Sgt. Dustin K. Devillers  
Sgt. Thomas J. Fakler  
Sgt. Jebediah G. Goodman  
Sgt. Lane A. Goodsoldier  
Sgt. Shawn R. Hill  
Sgt. Heather L. Lepp  
Sgt. Shane M. Maddock  
Sgt. Elyse N. Moen  
Sgt. Joshua K. Peterson  
Sgt. James R. Porten  
Sgt. Russell W. Rogers  
Sgt. Jay W. Sandeen  
Sgt. Lucus W. Shelquist  
Sgt. John P. Stautz  
Sgt. Jason J. Weil  
Sgt. Michael P. Werner  
Sgt. Johannah R. Wiege  
Sgt. Aubriana M. Wolf

### Specialist

Spc. Andrew D. Birrenkott  
Spc. Devin G. Deile  
Spc. Christopher A. Donis  
Spc. Chanel V. Duguid  
Spc. Eric D. Edwardson  
Spc. Nathan E. Erickson  
Spc. Ryan C. Greicar  
Spc. Justin J. Heth  
Spc. Cody A. Ingebretson  
Spc. Keith K. Kaufmann  
Spc. Alex J. Klave  
Spc. Joshua S. Lanzdorf  
Spc. Adam L. Laroque  
Spc. Christopher M. Leavitt  
Spc. Kellie K. Lindberg  
Spc. Jeremy J. Mlnarik

Spc. Steven A. Moen  
Spc. Dylan J. Nerem  
Spc. Christopher C. Ness  
Spc. Shelby K. Pickard  
Spc. Taran J. Reierson  
Spc. Michael A. Sampsil  
Spc. Corby C. Stopplesworth  
Spc. Bennett M. Strege  
Spc. Jacob B. Thompson  
Spc. Denver A. Tweenen  
Spc. Amanda G. Weninger  
Spc. Mackenzie L. West  
Spc. Sean M. Williams  
Spc. Isaac J. Wynne

### Private First Class

Pfc. Derrek L. Anderson  
Pfc. Tanner W. Ault  
Pfc. Joshua T. Baneck  
Pfc. Preston B. Beechie  
Pfc. Kaia J. Bickford  
Pfc. Devon M. Blazek  
Pfc. Kyle L. Craig  
Pfc. Dereck J. Delvalle  
Pfc. Justin D. Hamilton  
Pfc. Rick R. Hamley  
Pfc. Maricela C. Hernandez  
Pfc. Matthew T. Howlingwolf  
Pfc. Christopher T. Hunter  
Pfc. Shane W. Joersz  
Pfc. Alex L. Kaiser  
Pfc. James I. Kassian  
Pfc. Brent A. Lafontaine  
Pfc. Shon S. Leatherman  
Pfc. Austin R. Lenoue  
Pfc. Cody M. Lippert  
Pfc. Kasey C. Lynn  
Pfc. Daniel D. Mastel  
Pfc. Jared M. Miller  
Pfc. Tyler J. Orgaard  
Pfc. Derek A. Palmer  
Pfc. Joshua P. Rebenitsch  
Pfc. Brandy A. Roehrich  
Pfc. Breanna L. Sadowsky  
Pfc. Keevan L. Schimmel  
Pfc. Allison M. Smaaladen  
Pfc. Bryce A. Solie  
Pfc. Dillon T. Spray  
Pfc. Megan E. Tiegs  
Pfc. Taylor A. Volk

### Private

PV2 Adrian C. Bailey  
PV2 Kayla E. Berg  
PV2 Jessica M. Bilquist  
PV2 Noah R. Bjerke  
PV2 Hudson T. Burkett  
PV2 Timothy R. Collins  
PV2 Cody D. Cox  
PV2 Nicholas J. Dalle  
PV2 Drew T. Dockter  
PV2 Cody A. Erickson  
PV2 Eric A. Flick  
PV2 Jorge A. Gonzalez  
PV2 Jillon D. Jones  
PV2 Scott A. Kern  
PV2 Brandon D. Kidwell  
PV2 Alecia A. Krapp  
PV2 Zachary R. Longie  
PV2 Dillon M. Longnecker  
PV2 Brady A. Meester  
PV2 Brent M. Mittleider  
PV2 Drew S. Morin  
PV2 Damin J. Nygard  
PV2 Breanne L. Olson  
PV2 Byron J. Perry  
PV2 Kevin L. Poor  
PV2 Cody M. Pratschner  
PV2 Christopher D. Seaver  
PV2 John B. Steckler  
PV2 Johnathon D. Torfin  
PV2 Edward A. Vardanega  
PV2 Tanner P. Vesledahl  
PV2 Brandin T. Weninger

## Retirements • Army

Lt. Col. Jan M. Carter  
Sgt. Maj. Bruce G. Reichert  
1st Sgt. Todd D. Ingebretson  
Sgt. 1st Class Allen L. Kupitz  
Staff Sgt. Roland B. Greuel  
Staff Sgt. Calvin E. Moldenhauer  
Staff Sgt. Jack K. Schulz  
Staff Sgt. William O. Walsh  
Sgt. Scott J. Block  
Sgt. Sylvin J. Brunzell Jr.  
Spc. Jeffrey P. Fliginger

# Retirements • Promotions • New Members

July 2011 — September 2011

## New Members • Army

CW2 Sheldon K. Atwood  
Capt. Michael E. Melland  
1st Lt. Amanda J. Engen  
1st Lt. Jeremy R. Lombardo  
SFC Kevin M. Wolnik  
Staff Sgt. Troy A. Anderson  
Staff Sgt. James R. Hach  
Sgt. Meaghan R. Knight  
Sgt. Jeramie L. Larson  
Sgt. George B. Maxwell  
Sgt. Shawn D. Meador  
Sgt. Hilary M. Mehrer  
Spc. Dustin M. Andrews  
Spc. Thomas L. Arnold  
Spc. Tyler C. Bergseid  
Spc. Jamal J. Burgess  
Spc. Carl A. Carver  
Spc. Matthew C. Cobb  
Spc. Rikki L. Crowsbreast  
Spc. Christopher L. Dalton  
Spc. Gregory J. Doll

Spc. Alex D. Elliot  
Spc. Patric R. Greenizer  
Spc. Rachael K. Hunt  
Spc. Joseph A. Johnson  
Spc. Zackary L. Olson  
Spc. Danielle C. Sigloh  
Spc. Jeffrey K. Stein  
Spc. Daniel S. Toy  
Spc. Clyde B. Tracy  
Spc. Buddy G. Wenisch  
Pfc. Benjamin G. Bjertness  
Pfc. Devon M. Blazek  
Pfc. Joshua L. Brehm  
Pfc. Jonathon A. Dushane  
Pfc. Gabriella V. Eagle  
Pfc. Christopher L. Farley  
Pfc. Justin D. Hamilton  
Pfc. David C. Hathaway  
Pfc. Michael S. Heisler  
Pfc. Breanna M. Kraft  
Pfc. Rebecca N. McCormick

Pfc. Adam G. Phillipe  
Pfc. Conrad P. Roberts  
Pfc. Dean E. Sather  
Pfc. Dacia R. Schroeder  
Pfc. Zachary S. Schuster  
Pfc. Samuel T. Vigesaa  
Pfc. Britny L. Wehri  
PV2 Sumner L. Boschert  
PV2 Cody D. Cox  
PV2 Joshua M. Damaso  
PV2 Christopher A. Gerving  
PV2 Jorge I. Gomezperez  
PV2 Jillon D. Jones  
PV2 Charles L. Kelly  
PV2 Brandon D. Kidwell  
PV2 Igor R. Nitardy  
PV2 Christopher R. Peoples  
PV2 Christopher D. Seaver  
PV2 James O. Sumba  
Pvt. Nicholas C. Alforque  
Pvt. Nikki M. Alfstad

Pvt. Tyrell W. Andersen  
Pvt. Britana R. Giroux  
Pvt. Andrew R. Givens  
Pvt. Tyler J. Harriman  
Pvt. Stephen P. Johnson  
Pvt. Tracee A. Leinen  
Pvt. Albert E. Main  
Pvt. Aaron C. Morningstar  
Pvt. Roger C. Needham  
Pvt. Andrew S. Nicklay  
Pvt. Talon K. Petersen  
Pvt. Nicholas D. Schroeder  
Pvt. Kevin M. Schulz  
Pvt. Brianne N. Smith  
Pvt. Ashley M. Tanata  
Pvt. Holli B. Tollefson  
Pvt. Justin D. Vanleuven  
Pvt. Kyle A. Volk  
Pvt. Michael J. Wagner  
Pvt. Nicholas B. Webber  
Pvt. Travis A. Zeeb

## Promotions • Air

### Lieutenant Colonel

Lt. Col. Alan J. Iossi

### Major

Maj. Justin J. Clemenson  
Maj. Cory A. Genelin  
Maj. Grant J. Larson  
Maj. Scott A. Nyberg

### Chief Master Sergeant

CMSgt. Paul R. Pederson  
CMSgt. Steven J. Scheuer

### Master Sergeant

MSG Brock J. Carlson  
MSG Dale E. Franchuk  
MSG Harold C. Goodwin  
MSG Chad K. Lewis  
MSG Kevin W. Reinhardt  
MSG Amber M. Rolph  
MSG Paul C. Skees

### Technical Sergeant

TSgt. Christopher J. Brewer  
TSgt. Erica G. Carruth

TSgt. Martin W. Holbrook  
TSgt. Cynthia J. Olsen

### Staff Sergeant

Staff Sgt. Samuel J. Dibble  
Staff Sgt. David N. Fyre  
Staff Sgt. Tyler G. Gortmaker

### Senior Airman

SrA Alexander J. Chyle  
SrA Chad J. Dehler  
SrA Alexander T. Frankl  
SrA Cooper J. Holm  
SrA Darrin J. Hook  
SrA Cody M. Jenson  
SrA Lucas D. Nelson  
SrA Trent J. O'Brien  
SrA Krystle A. Parrill  
SrA Lilisa M. Reese  
SrA Zachary M. Sherritt

### Airman First Class

Airman 1st Class  
Skyler M. Moderow

## Appointments • Army

WO Daniel J. Fitzner  
WO Shane J. Leingang  
2nd Lt. Eric J. Carlson  
2nd Lt. Arthur J. Christiansen  
2nd Lt. Luke A. Eberle  
2nd Lt. Natasha N. Ertelt  
2nd Lt. Ryan C. Fitts  
2nd Lt. Amber M. Flaig  
2nd Lt. Kerry D. Fredrich  
2nd Lt. Ben M. Klein  
2nd Lt. Aaron J. Kramer  
2nd Lt. Shawn A. Mattingley  
2nd Lt. David P. Schlador  
2nd Lt. Preston L. Steele  
2nd Lt. Jacob V. Stoelting

2nd Lt. Jon C. Storsved  
2nd Lt. Tanner R. Sundet

## Retirements • Air

Col. Michael A. Wobbema  
Lt. Col. Tamie K. Gerntholz  
Lt. Col. Geary L. Padden  
CMSgt. David G. Harmon  
CMSgt. Brian C. Self  
SMSgt. Kenneth D. Cawrse  
SMSgt. Charles A. Kasin  
MSG Daniel D. Bjur  
MSG Thomas W. Krabbenhoft  
MSG John R. Sad  
TSgt. Jonathan P. Gibson



## On the Move?

Don't forget to change your mailing address to continue receiving the North Dakota Guardian. Changes can be sent to [eric.william.jensen@us.army.mil](mailto:eric.william.jensen@us.army.mil) or call 701-333-2195.

### Army Guard to Access GoArmyEd for Tuition Assistance

Army Guardsmen can begin accessing the GoArmyEd website, [www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com), to apply for Tuition Assistance for the Spring semester Nov. 9 prior to enrollment in continuing education courses.

"Soldiers should get ahead of the Tuition Assistance application process by accessing GoArmyEd and setting up their accounts. The process to be updated within the system can take 2-4 days," said Chief Warrant Officer Lee Bushaw, N.D. National Guard education services officer. "Soldiers who wait for the last day to apply may not have sufficient time to get their applications approved."

GoArmyEd presents a variety of services. In addition to applying for Tuition Assistance, students can track their grades, degree requirements and receive support from the GoArmyEd help desk when planning their education goals.

The system is more accessible, allowing traditional Guardsmen access to the GoArmyEd site from their personal computers, rather than using armory Internet kiosks.

"This new system will require some learning, but will provide more flexibility and access. Students are able to access the system without a CAC (common access) card and they can use a preferred email for updates instead of being limited to their AKO address," Bushaw said.

Air Guardsmen will continue to use their current Tuition Assistance application process.

For more information, call the Education Services Office at 701-333-3071 or email [mark.jundt@us.army.mil](mailto:mark.jundt@us.army.mil).

### 'Day of the Deployed' is Observed Nationally

A ceremony celebrating the sixth annual North Dakota "Day of the Deployed" and the first-ever national observance took place Oct. 26 at Bismarck State College. The ceremony was arranged by Soldiers' Angels, a nonprofit organization, and featured representatives from the National Guard, community leaders and military Families.

The event began in 2006 in North Dakota, but this year marked the first time the day was celebrated on a national level



*Major General David and Connie Sprynczynatyk invite you to attend a Holiday Social at one of the following locations*

**2 Dec 11, 1500-1630**  
*Military Service Club, Camp Grafton*  
**2 Dec 11, 1900-2030**  
*Williston Armory, Williston*

**3 Dec 10, 1000-1130**  
*Dickinson Armory, Dickinson*  
**3 Dec 10, 1400-1530**  
*RJB Armory Drill Floor, Bismarck*

**4 Dec 10, 1000-1130**  
*Armed Forces Reserve Center Drill Floor, Fargo*  
**4 Dec 10, 1400-1530**  
*119th Wing Dining Hall, Bldg 400, Fargo*

*Duty Uniform or Casual Attire*

— and will be annually — as Congress unanimously passed a resolution proposed by Sen. John Hoeven. The "Day of the Deployed" is meant to honor the nation's deployed service members and their Families.

Hoeven was the first governor to officially set aside a day of recognition for the deployed by signing a Day of the Deployed proclamation in 2006. Since then, more than 40 other governors have signed proclamations, as well, marking Oct. 26 as an annual day of respect for the deployed.

During the Bismarck event, Lt. Col. Bill

Chief Warrant Officer Kiel Skager



Watson, N.D. National Guard commander of 55 Soldiers with the Bismarck-based 112th Aviation Regiment (Security and Support), was able to Skype in from Camp Atterbury, Ind., where his unit is preparing to deploy as part of Kosovo Force, KFOR, 15, a NATO peacekeeping operation. He spoke to *(Continued on page 19) ...*

Dawn Watson and her son, Ben, talk to Lt. Col. Bill Watson during the "Day of the Deployed" ceremony Oct. 26 at Bismarck State College. Watson is preparing for a deployment to Kosovo and Ben wanted to present him with a poster displaying a collage of family photos to hang on his wall while he is overseas.



Spc. Jennifer Joyce

## Chaplain's Corner: Simplicity

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Johnson  
 Joint Force Headquarters

A grandson asked his grandfather how old he was. He teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." To which the grandson replied, "Look in your underwear, Grandpa, mine says I'm 4 to 6."

Ahh ... if life were that simple, right? Why can't answers to questions be that easy? Truth is, life is a bit more complicated and answers are hard to come by. In addition, our lives also are complicated when it comes to our activities and schedules. Every time I hear the word, "calendar," a number of things come to mind. Work calendar(s), school calendar, spouse calendar, family calendar, community activities calendar, National Guard calendar

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Johnson, of Joint Force Headquarters, speaks during religious services at Fraine Barracks in Bismarck prior to the commemorative ceremony at the North Dakota Memorial to the Fallen in the Global War on Terrorism Sept. 11, 2011. The commemorative ceremony was in honor of all those affected by the terror attacks on the United States on Sept. 11, 2001. The Families of the Fallen were given special appreciation for all of their strength and perseverance.

... how do we balance it all? Life is ANYTHING but simple!  
 So what am I trying to say?

I think we can learn a few things from this simplistic view of this "4- to 6-year-old." Although I can't make your lives simpler, I think there are some important "basics" (simple questions, really) that we need to pay attention to that help us keep our focus in the right place. They are: 1) What is it that gives you life? 2) Where is it that you draw your support from day to day?

In other words, what is it that you are passionate about? What is most important in your life? Where do you find your support for life? And finally, how are you strengthened for the things that you are called to do? Oftentimes, we are always doing what we think we "have to do" and we neglect these important basics in life. (I, too, am guilty of this.)

A wise man once talked about these things in the following way: But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well (Matthew 6:33).

In this passage, the wise man is speaking about putting God first in all things. In my life, this is the most important thing. As I lean each day on my foundation for life (God in Christ), I know that whatever happens, I am supported by a God who loves and cares for me every step of the way. What about you? What is it that is "basic" for you in life? What is your foundation? Where do you draw your life from? I challenge you to go through the questions listed above, once again, and seriously reflect on these things.

Blessings, Chaplain Johnson



## Check out even more N.D. National Guard news online!

(... from page 18) the crowd and was able to visit with his wife, Dawn, and son, Ben.

"When we deploy, our Families serve too. The most important part of our day while we are deployed is ensuring our Families are taken care of at home. And we thank the community, friends and neighbors who have stepped up to help us," Watson said.

### Guard Job Vacancies Advertised at USAJOBS

A Department of Defense directive has required all N.D. Army and Air National Guard federal technician employment vacancies to be advertised using [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) as of Oct. 14.

Applicants now can apply for positions using automation through the USAJOBS

site versus submitting hard copy applications through the N.D. National Guard Human Resource Office.

Vacancy announcements will be advertised on USAJOBS and applicants will be required to fill out a job questionnaire focusing on knowledge, skills and abilities developed for each position. Questionnaires are on the Application Manager website, which the applicant will be directed to from USAJOBS once they submit an inquiry about a position at <https://ApplicationManager.gov>.

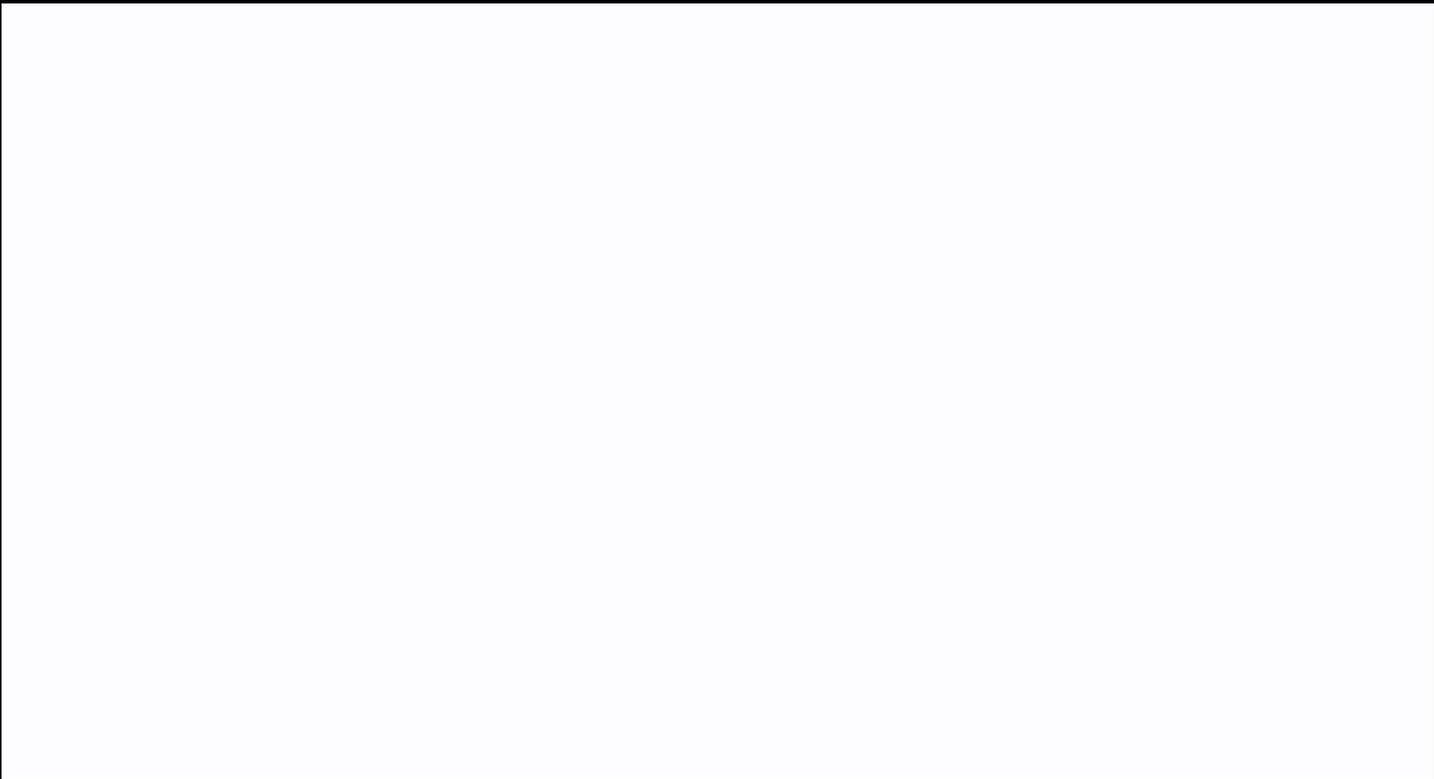
Technician vacancies will still continue to be advertised on the N.D. National Guard website at [www.ndguard.ngb.army.mil/joblisting/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.ndguard.ngb.army.mil/joblisting/Pages/default.aspx). Advertisements also will continue to be emailed to full-time Guardsmen, but instead of seeing the hard copy advertisement in the

body of the email, a link to USAJOBS will be included.

Upon answering questionnaire items, it is recommended that applicants complete a personal résumé that indicates their level of expertise to justify the answers provided on the questionnaire.

Access to USAJOBS is available from any location with an Internet connection. For more information, applicants can access handbooks for the application process at <http://www.ndguard.ngb.army.mil/joblisting/Pages/default.aspx>.

To speak with a representative in the N.D. National Guard Human Resource Office about applying for federal technician vacancies, contact Master Sgt. Beth Handt at 701-333-3365, Tech. Sgt. Kayla Skelton at 701-333-3373 or Ms. Connie Pieske at 701-451-2268.



Courtesy Photo

From left to right, Spc. Casey Renner, Sgt. Bryce Noonan and 1st Lt. Ryan Schulz, all of the 188th Engineer Company (Vertical), display a memento left behind at their mobilization station in Fort Bliss, Texas. The unit will serve in Kuwait for the next year. The artwork on this rock was painted by the three Soldiers prior to leaving Texas and features a rip saw to signify the unit's call sign and the members' occupational specialties as electricians, carpentry and masonry specialists, plumbers and construction engineers.