

THE CARGO COURIER

123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, Louisville, Ky.

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Ky. Air Guard exceeds CFC goal again

Unit raises more than \$51,000 for local and national charities

By Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

The Kentucky Air Guard wrapped up this year's annual Combined Federal Campaign with a record high \$51,200 in donations.

This gift to the community ranked No. 1 per capita among top federal agencies in the Louisville and Southern Indiana region, said Lt. Col. Rich Frymire, who directed the unit's CFC effort for the third straight year.

Frymire was thrilled to see a new benchmark set.

"Our members rallied to support the local and national community," Frymire said.

"It's great to see the Kentucky Air National Guard leading the way to help those less fortunate."

The unit's record gift capped an 82 percent increase during the last three campaigns and topped previous record highs of \$46,070 last year and \$38,000 in 1999.

The unit's generous gift-giving also delighted Col. Michael Harden, commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing.

"We've placed tremendous demands on our members during the recent national crisis," Harden said.

"Yet, they recognize the needs are critical in the local community, too."

The wing contributed a record 19 leadership gifts, each one a donation of \$750

or more by an individual or base organization.

This topped last year's campaign, which finished with 11 leadership gifts.

The record number of leadership gifts again ranked the unit No. 1 per capita among local federal agencies.

Tina White, CFC manager for the Louisville and Southern Indiana region, commended the wing's leadership success.

"The Kentucky Air National Guard is a role model for our campaign," White said.

"Their leadership set the tone and motivated other CFC federal agencies."

The CFC has been a local tradition since the 1960s and gives federal employees a chance to improve the quality of life in their

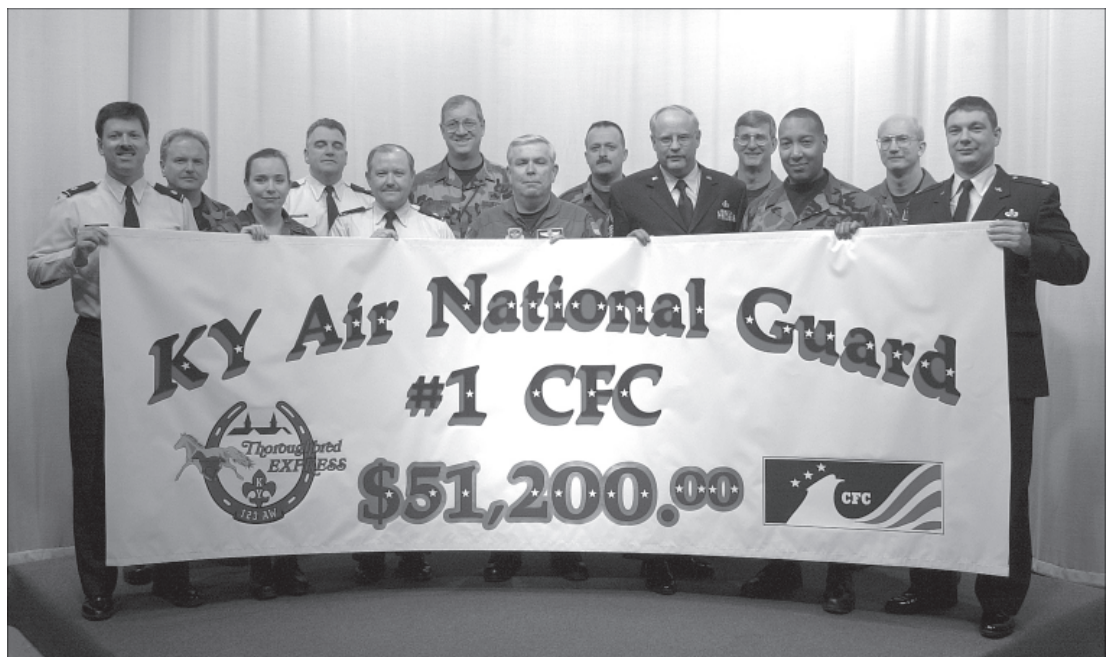
own communities and nation.

The campaign works as a charity-fund manager by collecting and distributing donations to public service agencies in the local community and across the country.

Among the organizations that benefitted from this year's donations were the American Red Cross, WHAS Crusade for Children, Home of the Innocents, Boy Scouts of America and the Kentucky Special Olympics.

The Kentucky Air Guard also earned a third consecutive Gold Star Award for exceeding its \$48,000 goal.

Other participating agencies included the U.S. Postal Service, Fort Knox and the Veterans Affairs hospital.



Staff Sgt. Tommy Downs/KyANG

KyANG's leadership giving team contributed a record 19 gifts of more than \$750 each to the 2001 Combined Federal Campaign. The contributors are, in front from left, Lt. Col. Rich Frymire, 1st Lt. Katrina Johnson, Lt. Col. Tom Marks, Col. Michael Harden, Senior Master Sgt. Russ Slinger, Master Sgt. Ralph Barney, Maj. Phil Howard; in back from left, Master Sgt. Mark Green, Col. Michael Dornbush, Master Sgt. Ed Sachleben, Tech. Sgt. Mark Webb, Lt. Col. Bill Ketterer and Lt. Col. Mark Kraus. Not pictured are Chief Master Sgt. Bob Allen, Chief Master Sgt. Rich Cwiak, Master Sgt. Pete Rendon, Tech. Sgt. Jeff Romig and Tech. Sgt. Curtis Hall.

Thanks to the great people in the KyANG

As the holiday season approaches with our nation at war, it is fitting to reflect upon the past year and think about who we are, what we do, and how we do it.

When I do that I always come up with a long list of things that we did well and a relatively short list of those we did not so well.

I think about how great it is to be associated with such a fine group of people, and all of the things that I have to be thankful for. I am thankful for:

- National political leaders who have returned trust, honor, character and competence to the White House
- Local political leaders who are interested in what we do and strive to ensure that we have the assets to make us a viable fighting force
- A military made up of dedicated people that is motivated and ready to carry out the awesome task of ridding the world of people intent upon destroying our way of life
- An Air National Guard that is fully integrated into this military force and is respected for the awesome power that we possess
- All of those dedicated Guardsmen who have served in the KyANG over the years and made it great
- More than 40,000 hours of accident-free flying
- Twelve modern C-130 aircraft
- Beautiful, efficient and convenient facilities
- Flyers who do things right and are intolerant of those who don't
- Fixers who are uncompromising in their



Col. Michael Harden
123rd Airlift Wing Commander

- efforts to provide safe, mission-capable aircraft
- Cops and fire fighters who are forever vigilant in their efforts to protect life and property
- Engineers who are willing to put up with almost anything in order to build a future for less fortunate people all over the world
- Administrators who ensure that our folks are paid, promoted and awarded for what they do
- Services folks who feed us, house us and make sure that we have the recreational and fitness facilities to help us maintain our readiness
- Special tactics folks who possess special skills and the willingness to use them.
- Aerial porters who have lived with primitive conditions yet maintain extreme pro-

- fessionalism and sense of purpose
- Command and control folks who can, and will, do anything that is necessary to get the job done
- Planners who tirelessly ensure that no detail is overlooked, and that our folks arrive ready to go to war
- Weapons of mass destruction folks who are ready to respond should the worst happen
- All of our folks who consistently say yes when asked to give their time, and support our numerous deployments and contingency missions
- All of our folks who quietly stay home to take care of the day-to-day business and support those who deploy
- NCOs who take charge and make things happen
- Officers who constantly strive to better themselves and their units
- Commanders who support our vision and take care of their folks
- Airmen who respond

This is truly a special unit with special people. The way that we performed our mission this past year, and the awards that we have won, prove that we are special. We have great aircraft and great facilities—but even better people. So I am most thankful that I have the honor to be the commander of such a unit made up of such special people. I wish each of you a joyous and safe holiday season. Take pride in what you have accomplished, and I look forward to working with each of you for another great year.

Thanks loads,

Michael Harden

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If you have a story idea, photo or article to submit, stop by the public affairs office, room 2117 of the Wing Headquarters Building. Deadline for the next issue is Dec. 29.

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An electronic version of the Cargo Courier is available at the Kentucky Air Guard's Web site — www.kyang.af.mil

Matters of State

Secretary of State Colin Powell is greeted by Brig. Gen. Allen Youngman, adjutant general of Kentucky, upon arriving on base Nov. 16.

Secretary Powell proceeded to Papa John's Cardinal Stadium, where he addressed more than 1,200 University of Louisville students and local dignitaries.

*KyANG photo by
Master Sgt. Charlie Simpson*



123rd promotes Ky. Harvest on TV, radio

**By Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor**

The Kentucky Harvest "Million in a Month" canned food drive moved into high gear recently as major organizations in the Louisville and Southern Indiana area made promotional pitches on TV and radio.

Several Kentucky Air Guard members, including wing commander Col. Michael Harden, appeared on WAVE-TV to endorse the campaign.

Standing alongside weatherman John Belski in what's known as "Belski's Backyard," Harden discussed the unit's deep commitment to the community.

"The Kentucky Air National Guard has a distinguished history of outstanding service to our nation," Harden told Belski. "Yet, we also recognize that we have a major stake in our community.

"I've challenged our 1,200 unit members to contribute enough canned goods to fill a C-130 Hercules."

Kentucky Harvest is a nationally recognized organization that serves more than 130 community centers in Louisville and Southern Indiana.

For the past 15 years, Kentucky Harvest has supported community centers and shelters with more than 23 million pounds of

food donated by restaurants, farmers, hospitals, bakeries, caterers, groceries, hotels and motels.

Because the KyANG has tabbed the Million in a Month canned food drive as its holiday gift to the community, unit members will

be able to donate canned goods through the December drill.

Unit members are asked to contribute at least three canned goods. Collection boxes are located near the entrances of most work areas and in high traffic areas.



KyANG photograph

Lt. Col. Steve Bullard, Senior Airman Valerie Gholson, Daniel Frymire, Lt. Col. Rich Frymire, Senior Airman Phil Speck and Senior Master Sgt. Steve Peters promote Kentucky Harvest with 123rd Airlift Wing Commander Col. Mike Harden and John Belski of WAVE-TV in November. The spot was broadcast from "Belski's Backyard."

Legal protections do not change when Guard members ‘volunteer’ for duty

By Lt. Col. Steve Bullard
Executive Director,
Kentucky Committee for ESGR

The vast majority of Kentucky Air Guard members haven't been recalled to active duty, but many unit members are volunteering for duty above and beyond their normal military schedule in support of Operation Noble Eagle or other requirements.

This has led to obvious questions from military members and their employers, such as: Is it a legal requirement for employers to honor volunteer military duty?

How are an employer's obligations to KyANG members different if the members are not ordered to military duty, but agree to it voluntarily?

The short answer is—there is no difference.

Employers must honor the military service requirement, and the Guard member

must provide proper notice and return to work promptly, under the guidelines established by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994.

Under USERRA, there are no distinctions between types of military service or how members are called to that service—with the one exception being state active duty, which is covered under state law.

It is legally irrelevant whether you accept military duty “voluntarily.” All military duty is considered a military requirement.

Once Guard members accept a military assignment, voluntary or involuntary, the member is obligated to perform the duty.

KyANG members are entitled to the same protection whether they are recalled to active duty, volunteer for a seven-day deployment to Texas, a 45-day deployment to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, a one-year tour with the Guard Bureau, or are simply

attending a drill weekend or flying an evening sortie.

USERRA does not address the topic of voluntary military service directly.

It says, quite simply, “a person who is a member of, applies to be a member of, performs, has performed, applies to perform, or has an obligation to perform service in a uniformed service shall not be denied initial employment, reemployment, retention in employment, promotion, or any benefit of employment by an employer on the basis of that membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service or obligation.”

For information, visit the ESGR web sites at www.kyesgr.org and www.esgr.org, or the U.S. Department of Labor web site at www.dol.gov/dol/vets/.

For questions on this issue, contact Bullard at 491-4737, (800) 745-3144 or by e-mail at sbullard@aik.org.

KyANG holds MOWW Youth Leadership Conference

By Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

Kentucky Air Guard members played host to the Military Order of World Wars Youth Leadership Conference Nov. 15.

More than 250 students representing seven Jefferson County High Schools—Atherton, Doss, Eastern, Male, Moore and Shawnee—attended the MOWW event. Most of the students belong to junior ROTC units or student councils.

and the free-enterprise system.

Lt. Col. Rich Frymire, senior vice president of the MOWW Major Gen. Ben Butler Chapter in Louisville, said he was pleased to see unit members working to make a difference with the community's young people.

“It's a great opportunity for our unit members to share their leadership and patriotic experiences,” said Frymire. “And it's also great to see so many youth hungry to learn about flight and county.”

The MOWW is a patriotic, nonpartisan organization of commissioned, warrant or flight officers who have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States. The order is actively engaged in patriotic education programs throughout the nation.

Kentucky currently has four orders—two in Louisville and one each in Frankfort and Fort Knox.

Kentucky Air Guard members comprise the membership majority of the Major Ben Butler Chapter.

For information about membership or MOWW Youth Leadership Conferences, contact Lt. Col. Frymire at ext. 4589.



Master Sgt. Charlie Simpson/KyANG

More than 250 high school students gathered on base Nov. 15 to participate in a youth leadership conference sponsored by the Maj. Gen. Ben Butler Chapter of MOWW.

Wing suffers loss of a friend and patriot

Unit remembers late comrade

By Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

The Kentucky Air Guard suffered a tragic loss when Master Sgt. Monte Montgomery was killed Oct. 24 at his home in Ashland, Ky.

Montgomery died from injuries suffered in a fight that ensued after he came home from work and interrupted a burglary in process.

Montgomery, 40, was the finance superintendent here and had served in the military, both on active-duty and in the Air Guard, since 1985.

His love for the Air Force and Kentucky Air Guard is one of the things he will be remembered for, said Chief Master Sgt. Mark Grant, Montgomery's supervisor.

"He loved to be here," Grant said. "He said that this unit made him feel important, and what he did here made a difference."

Montgomery's expertise in Top Dollar—a wartime contracting and finance office concept for deployed locations—was one of his biggest accomplishments here, Grant said.

"He knew so much about it that he taught the course for the National Guard Bureau all across the country," Grant said.

But such excellence was nothing new for the NCO.

In fact, Montgomery's performance during a deployment last year to Saudi Arabia was so outstanding, he was allowed to fly home first-class.

"Monte was such a dedicated NCO," Grant said. "The evening before he was killed, he called and said he was going to take off from work the next week and come help us get caught up here at the base.

"He was always volunteering for duty, and he was really a true friend to the military. He was there for those tough jobs, and yet he never complained."

Montgomery's former supervisor, Master Sgt. Debra Hall, who now serves in the Alaska Air Guard, agreed.

"This is a loss for the Kentucky Air Guard, but Monte's loss will also be felt Guardwide," she said.

"He was such an expert in what he did, and now that's all lost."



Master Sgt. Monte Montgomery

Montgomery was, Hall said, an extremely professional NCO whose work went above and beyond the call.

"It was good for the younger troops to be around someone like him," she said. "He really took his work seriously."

Montgomery, who served as a budget analyst for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in his civilian job, was a native of Shamrock, Texas. He was buried at Ashland Memorial Park in Ashland, Ohio, with full military honors and is survived by his wife, a son, two daughters, both parents, a brother and a sister.

MPF sponsors gift drive for poor and homeless

Cargo Courier Staff Report

The 123rd Airlift Wing's Military Personnel Flight is once again sponsoring a holiday gift drive for the Wayside Christian Mission.

Donations will go to help the poor, homeless or less fortunate in the local community.

Unit members are asked to donate new, unwrapped items for the cause. The flight also is collecting money for gifts and will purchase needed items for the less fortunate.

Gift ideas include toys for babies, toddlers and preschool children; and watches, jewelry, walkmans, calculators

and curling irons for teenagers.

Other requested items include personal hygiene products, school supplies and cold-weather items like blankets, toboggans, gloves and scarves.

For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Elizabeth Green at ext. 4622.

123rd seeks operations group commander

The Kentucky Air Guard is seeking qualified officers who are interested in filling the position of operations group commander.

If interested, send a cover letter and military resume to the 123rd Airlift Wing Commander, Col. Michael Harden, no later than close of business Dec. 4.

For more information, contact Harden at ext. 4404.

Reflective belts now mandatory after dark

All KyANG members are now required to wear reflective belts on base during the hours of darkness.

The order was issued after two individuals were struck by a vehicle while crossing the street after dark.

Recruit & Retain



Master Sgt. Charlie Simpson/KyANG

Kentucky Air Guard recruiters don their aprons and chef's hats to serve members of the 123rd Airlift Wing a Thanksgiving dinner during the November drill.

May our hearts be home for the holidays

With the holidays approaching and our nation in the midst of a war against terrorism, we might reflect on the desire of soldiers of our nation's past to be "home" for Christmas.

In 1943, Kim Gannon and Walter Kent penned the song, "I'll be home for Christmas."

Snow, mistletoe and presents on the tree seemed so far away for those fighting a war in Europe, Africa, Asia or the South Pacific. Being home for Christmas was a reality only in the dreams of many of those soldiers.

Again our military personnel are embroiled in conflict and are far from home. Even if stationed within the United States, many will find it necessary to be at work and away from family during the holidays.

It's a different world since World War II, and the religious experience of our military is much more diverse.

While there are still many military members of the Christian faith anticipating Christmas, and many others of the Jewish faith preparing for Hanukkah, we recognize that

others of the Islamic faith are in the midst of Ramadan.

That these three monotheistic religions call humanity to look beyond itself to a greater hope seems incongruous with the violence of our current world situation, but the perspective of faith presents good news during these holidays.

These special days reminded us that God is alive and at work in the world, in spite of humanity's ability to inflict evil upon one another.

The Prophet Isaiah reminds us that there is a hope for everlasting peace.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9: 6).

Since there truly is "no place like home" for the holidays, may we all eventually celebrate our holidays embraced with the love of family and friends.

Chaplain's Column

— 1st Lt. Jon Von Almen
Chaplain

Japanese fighters train with U.S. during Cope North

**By Master Sgt. Michael Farris
353rd Special Operations Group
Public Affairs Office**

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan—Japan’s air self-defense force just finished training here with U.S. Air Force and Marine Corps units to test their ability to defend Japan in an exercise named Cope North 02-1.

More than 70 people were deployed to join units from the 18th Wing here for the week-long drill. At the pinnacle of the exercise, more than 24 aircraft battled for air supremacy.

“Cope North is all about the defense of Japan,” said Col. Don Weckhorst, 605th Air Operations Group commander and exercise director. “Under the Mutual Defense Treaty, the U.S. is obligated to assist in the defense of Japan. We’re developing the expertise with the Japanese to defend this country within the framework of that treaty.”

The ultimate goal of Cope North is to develop and improve techniques that en-

hance bilateral air operations to better provide for the defense of Japan.

Typical training scenarios tested a pilot’s ability to defend territory from intrusion. The first day included two-ship flights defending under peacetime rules of engage-

During Cope North, both Americans and Japanese acted as the attackers. Pilots rotated to take on the role of the defender, with the objective being to develop proficiency in the defensive counter-air role.

Following each day’s duels, the Japanese pilots engaged in a second, but more peaceful, face-off with their American allies.

“They sat down, face-to-face, to discuss what happened so those lessons got hammered home,” Weckhorst said. “The aggressor talked about his plan and the defender spoke of his. Each benefited from the lessons of the mission.”

In select scenarios, the interoperability became nearly transparent, Weckhorst said.

“In some cases, Japanese weapons directors provided advisory control to assist U.S. fighters, and in other cases U.S. weapons directors controlled or advised the Japanese fighters,” he said.

Because of real-world concerns and unit deployments, the exercise was scaled back to roughly one-third of its original size and into one week rather than two.



Master Sgt. Marvin D. Krause/USAF

A KC-135 Stratotanker from the 909th Air Refueling Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Japan, refuels F-15 Eagles from the 44th and 67th Fighter Squadrons Nov. 15 during Exercise Cope North 02-1.

ment. As the scenario unfolded, flights involved more aircraft and wartime rules were introduced.



Master Sgt. Valerie Weaver/USAF

On *the* Homefront

Members of the 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron’s exterior electric shop at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, illuminate their holiday gift to the community—a 22,000-bulb display of the American flag.

Each winter, the shop is responsible for brightening the base with holiday lights. This year, with so many U.S. service members in harm’s way, the squadron wanted to do more.

KyANG promotions & separations



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:

AIRMAN (E-2)

•**Jeffrey Geoghegan**,
123rd Student Flt.

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS (E-3)

•**Jeffrey Clark**,
123rd Student Flt.
•**Jessica Dawley**,
123rd Student Flt.

SENIOR AIRMAN (E-4)

•**Brandon Brown**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**John Choi**,
123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
•**Casey Clark**,
165th Airlift Sq.
•**Richard Hessick**,
165th Airlift Sq.

•**Joshua Jaburg**,
123rd Operations Support Flt.
•**Matthew Killen Jr.**,
123rd Aircraft Generation Sq.
•**Christopher Knight**,
123rd Aircraft Generation Sq.
•**Kenneth LeMay**,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Robert Packett**,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Clint Stinnett**,
165th Airlift Sq.
•**Cameron Taylor**,
123rd Civil Engineers Sq.

STAFF SERGEANT (E-5)

•**Anthony Gardner**,
123rd Medical Sq.
•**Norma Kern**,
123rd Mission Support Flt.
•**Jennifer Lucas**,
123rd Airlift Sq.

TECHNICAL SERGEANT (E-6)

•**William Allen**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.

•**Jennifer Berry**,
123rd Logistics Sq.
•**Kevin Cowell**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Martin Edester**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**David Malone**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Annette Marshall-Robinson**,
123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
•**Christopher Matero**,
123rd Special Tactics Sq.
•**Keary Miller**,
123rd Special Tactics Sq.
•**Thomas Monin**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Roger Nelson**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Mark Wilson**,
123rd Medical Sq.

The following individuals have separated from the Kentucky Air National Guard:

•**Capt. John Korfhage**,
123rd Medical Sq.
•**1st Lt. Darryl Spaulding**,
123rd Airlift Wing

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