

THE CARGO COURIER

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123rd Airlift Wing named top unit by the Airlift/Tanker Association

By Maj. Dale Greer
123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

ORLANDO, Fla.—The Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing has been named the top airlift or tanker unit in the Air National Guard by the Airlift/Tanker Association, a group of aviation professionals dedicated to the support of military airlift.

Lt. Gen. Stanley Clarke III, director of the Air National Guard, presented the 2015 Major General Stanley F.H. Newman Award to Kentucky's adjutant general, Maj. Gen. Edward Tonini, during the A/TA's annual convention here Oct. 30.

"Once again, the Airmen of the Kentucky Air National Guard have demonstrated that the 123rd Airlift Wing is truly a world-class organization," Tonini said. "From providing combat airlift in support of wartime taskings in Southwest Asia to helping stop the spread of Ebola in West Africa, the 123rd always answers the call to duty with unsurpassed excellence."

The 123rd Airlift Wing won the award for exceptional service from July 1, 2014 to June

30, 2015. During that time, the unit mobilized more than 250 Airmen for wartime and humanitarian deployments to the U.S. Central Command and U.S. Africa Command areas of responsibility, supporting Operations Enduring Freedom, Freedom's Sentinel and United Assistance.

In Southwest Asia, the wing's 123rd Operations Group flew 403 combat and 625 combat-support sorties, airlifting 4,000 troops, more than 3,500 tons cargo and hundreds of wounded service members. In Africa, the wing's 123rd Contingency Response Group established an airlift hub to process and forward troops, cargo and medical supplies into Liberia as part of Operation United Assistance, the multi-agency effort to stop the largest Ebola outbreak in history.

Additionally, Airmen from the wing's 123rd Special Tactics Squadron were deployed for more than 2,000 days, supporting 270 combat missions and 50 Combat Search and Rescue sorties in U.S. Central Command.

Read more online at www.123aw.ang.af.mil

Curry retires, ending career of 30 years

After more than 30 years of service to the Air National Guard, Chaplain (Col.) Thomas Curry was officially retired in a ceremony here June 7.

Brig. Gen. Steven P. Bullard, chief of staff for Headquarters, Kentucky Air National Guard, praised Curry for his dedication to the unit, addressing an audience that included current and retired members of the Kentucky Air Guard as well as many members of Parkland Baptist Church in Louisville, where Curry has been a civilian pastor since 1984.

Read more at www.123aw.ang.af.mil

CE hones skills at California base

More than 50 Members of the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Civil Engineer Squadron concluded a week-long training exercise here June 13 that was designed to enhance their job skills and command-and-control capabilities.

According to Lt. Col Rodney O. Boyd, deployment commander for the unit, the exercise provided CE Airmen with hands-on training in a natural, realistic environment.

Read more at www.123aw.ang.af.mil



U.S. Air Force photo

The director of the Air National Guard, Lt. Gen. Stanley Clarke (third from left) presents Maj. Gen. Edward Tonini (fourth from left), adjutant general of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, with the 2105 Airlift/Tanker Association's Major General Stanley F.H. Newman Outstanding Unit Award during the annual A/TA Convention in Orlando, Fla., Oct. 30.



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Family Day draws hundreds

By Tech. Sgt. Vicky Spesard
123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Classic cars shining in the sun, braying farm animals in a pen and bounce houses filled with laughing children all lined the end of the runway next to a C-130 during annual Family Day activities here Sept. 13.

In partnership with the Airman and Family Readiness Office and the Key Volunteer Group, hundreds of family members and guests of Kentucky Air Guardsmen gathered for the day's events, which began with a welcome address from Col. Barry Gorter, wing commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing.

"It's not that often that we get the opportunity to say thank you to our families who, are always there as our support structure," said Gorter, who addressed the crowd inside the Fuel Cell Hangar. "Today's events are a gesture of appreciation to the families, our one chance to say thank you for your support of our Kentucky Air National Guard members."

Activities for Family Day included a classic car show, jousting events, a C-130 Hercules static display, bounce houses, games and crafts.

"Today was a great day for the family and kids," said Staff Sgt. Aaron Kiger, who brought his wife and two young children. "The weather is beautiful, the kids are having fun making crafts. Family Day is always something they want to come out and do every year."

Read more online at www.123aw.ang.af.mil

KyANG Officer Vacancies

Applications are currently being accepted for the following officer vacancies:

Title: Executive Officer (AFSC Any / 97E0); DSG Vacancy
Unit: JFHQ-KY
Rank/Requirements: Officers in grades O-3 and O-4
Employment Status: Traditional / Area II
Closeout Date: Dec. 7, 2015

Description: Oversees information management activities for the commander and support staff; handles protocol duties as required; implements, directs and coordinates executive functions, services and activities; represents the commander in interaction with other agencies of all levels; and is responsible for unit programs as directed by the commander.

POC: Lt. Col. Matt Stone, (502) 607-1087 or (502) 413-4424; matthew.stone@ang.af.mil. Resumes should contain personal contact information and a concise work history. They should also cite experience that demonstrates skill and abilities necessary to carry out the duties listed in this advertisement.

Title: Maintenance Commander (DSG Vacancy)

Unit: 123rd Maintenance Squadron

Rank/Requirements: KYANG officers in the grades of O-4 and O-5. Must possess a Secret security clearance and be a qualified 21A3.

Package Requirements: Letter of intent, resume, all OPRs, current Fitness Assessment score sheet with last three fitness scores; letters of recommendation are optional

Closeout Date: Dec. 1, 2015

Description: Leads aircraft organizational maintenance activities in support of air mobility operations locally and worldwide; directs and prioritizes aircraft maintenance efforts through unit leadership and supervisors, assuring effective utilization of assigned personnel and facilities; manages aircraft maintenance production; resolves problems related to operational efficiency, training, equipment and facilities; advises Maintenance Group commander on organizational maintenance plans as they relate to meeting the wing's Flying Hour Program and readiness requirements. More guidance is found in AFI 21-101, under Squadron Commander Responsibilities.

POC: Lt. Col. Ash Goves, (502) 314-9808. Packages should be submitted to Col. Ken Dale — kenneth.j.dale@mail.mil. The selection board will convene Dec. 5. Service Dress is required.

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We welcome your feedback. Please contact the Public Affairs Office directly if you have suggestions for articles or photography. Our office is located in Room 1160 of the Wing Headquarters Building, 1101 Grade Lane, Louisville, KY 40213.

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