



Space Observer

"2003 AFSPC Best Large Wing PA Office"

Thursday, Sept. 30, 2004

Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado

Vol. 48 No. 39



Photo by Lt. Col. Clancy Preston



Team Pete kicks off Operational Readiness Inspection
Expect delays at gates and base services, Oct. 1 through 22.



Photo by Photos by Diane Vulcan

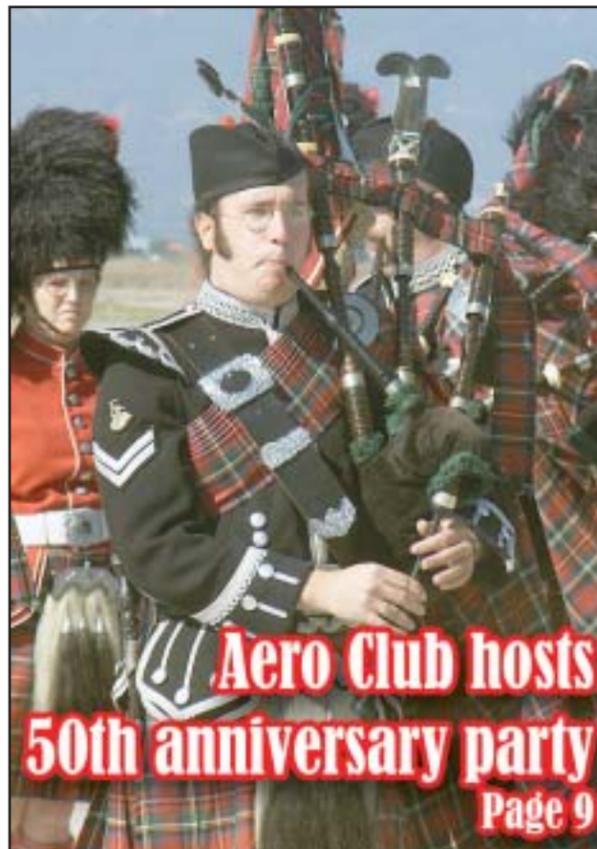


Photo by Budd Butcher

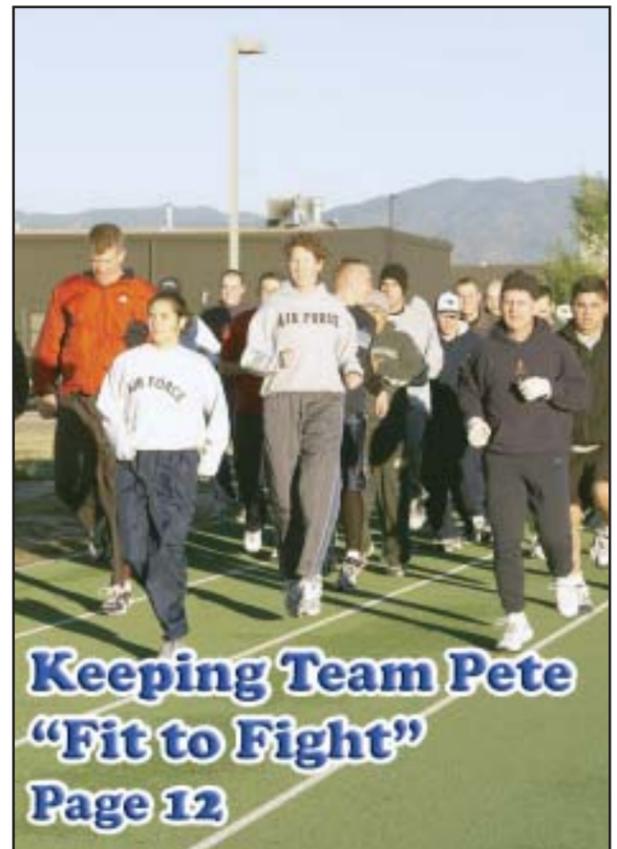


Photo by Dennis Plummer



Language – a cultural gift

By 2nd Lt. Mary E. Miksell
319th Operations Support Squadron

The ability to speak another language can be beneficial not only for one's career options but also for life. Parents who speak more than one language often pass on their bilingual capabilities to their children.

Children are better equipped to learn another language than adults, yet some parents feel reluctant or just do not realize the potential of having bilingual children. My parents, for instance, are fluent in English and Spanish. However, I was not raised in a Spanish-speaking home.

Growing up with the last name "Perez" and the features of a born and bred Hispanic has led to the assumption that I speak Spanish. I was raised

in a small town 10 minutes from the U.S.-Mexican border in South Texas. Everywhere in the Rio Grande Valley, people can be heard speaking Spanish. At first it did not seem like a big deal to be unable to speak Spanish since all our schools taught in English, with a few classes reserved solely for Spanish-speaking children. Since my brothers, sisters and I did not go anywhere without my mother, the need to understand Spanish was nil as she was our translator.

It wasn't until I was in my teens that the effects of not being bilingual set in. Whether my friends and I went to football games, the movies or just to the mall, people would speak to me in Spanish.

Most of my friends, like me, had bilingual parents, but their parents

taught them Spanish at home. So I had translators around me, yet I could not help but feel a little left out and a little ashamed.

After high school, I felt better knowing I would be leaving the valley so I wouldn't have to continue to get frowns when I told people I did not speak Spanish, which had begun to annoy me.

Why should I have to speak Spanish just because I look Hispanic? Because of that sentiment, I chose to study Russian in college. Yet it did not matter where I moved, people still looked at me and assumed I spoke Spanish.

Many times in my life I had to pass up opportunities because I am not bilingual. Finding a job in high school seemed difficult since many of the

businesses wanted bilingual employees to provide better customer service. In college the opportunity to escort and "house" student nationals usually went to those who were either taking the same language course or were already fluent in their language.

Even in the Air Force there are opportunities, like becoming an attaché or a foreign area officer, where the knowledge of another language or culture would come in handy and in some cases, be required.

The ability to grow by expanding language capabilities and seeing beyond one's own culture is rewarding.

Parents who have the ability to teach to their children another language or culture give them a true gift. Such a gift can be passed on for generations.

And many more ...

Left to right: Brigadier General Richard E. Webber, 21st Space Wing commander, joins Amn. Lamar Gaines, 21st Space Communication Squadron, as the two share a baker's knife with Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Barron, 21st Space Wing command chief, to cut the first slice of birthday cake, celebrating the Air Force's 57th birthday Sept. 17 at the Aragon Dining Facility. Gaines was recognized as the base's youngest Airman at the celebration.



Photo by Dennis Plummer



Space Observer

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 21st Space Wing Public Affairs Office, 775 Loring Ave., Suite 218, Peterson AFB, Colo., 80914-1294. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The Space Observer is published every Thursday. For advertising inquiries, call Colorado Springs Military Newspapers, (719) 634-3223 Ext. 207. Employees of Peterson Air Force Base who want to place a free classified advertisement should call 556-5241.

Articles for the Space Observer should be submitted to the 21st SW/PAI, Attn: Space Observer, 775 Loring Ave., Ste. 218, Peterson AFB, Colo., 80914-1294 or e-mail space.observer@peterson.af.mil. Deadline for submission is 4:30 p.m. the Thursday one week before publication. All articles, copy and announcements submitted will be edited to conform to AFI Series 35 and the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual. For details, call the editor at (719) 556-4351 or DSN 834-4351.

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A Moment in Time



■ **Sept. 30, 1949** - The Berlin airlift officially ends. Allied aircraft carried more than 2.3 million tons of supplies on 277,264 flights. United States planes carried 1.8 million tons.

■ **Sept. 30, 1995** - The 93rd Bomb Wing, the first B-52 wing in Strategic Air Command, inactivates after 47 years of continuous service. Its home base at Castle AFB, Calif., closes as well. Also closing after 41 years is Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y.

■ **Oct. 1, 1989** - General Hansford T. Johnson becomes the first Air Force Academy graduate to become a four-star general.



Practice makes perfect ORI

By Major Robert H. McIntyre
AFSPC/IG

While practice does make perfect, a number of other things can be done to help units successfully complete an Operational Readiness Inspection.

The Air Force Space Command Inspector General Web site, <https://halfway.peterson.af.mil/afspcig>, contains a wealth of information to help units prepare for their next ORI. The site contains previous inspection reports, best practices and publications. Although the site has other areas, these merit the most attention:

Inspection reports

There are several reasons why people should look at previous inspection reports. For one thing, no one ever wants to repeat a write-up. Nothing makes a unit look worse than having the same problem found on a subsequent inspection.

Look at your unit's past inspection reports and at your sister units' inspection reports. If a unit is a missile squadron, people can pretty well bet other missile squadrons conduct their business in much the same manner as that squadron. The same goes for spacelift squadrons, satellite operations squadrons or any other Air Force Space Command squadron. While studying sister units' inspection reports, take a close look at the errors they were assessed – not to laugh at them, but to ensure units are not committing the same errors. The Inspector General posts inspection reports for units to read and heed, so take advantage of them.

Best practices

When the IG team inspects a unit, they look at unit readiness and compliance with directives, as well as the good things people are doing. A best practice is a good thing, a superior method or innovative practice that contributes to improved performance of processes. Air Force Instruction 90-201, Inspector General Complaints, tasks the IG to record observed best practices as an unclassified addendum to all inspection reports. Units are encouraged to look at these best practices and apply the processes, if they can. A best practice is yet another tool for a unit's use.

Publications

Last, but certainly not least, are the publications – particularly the inspection checklists – on the Web site. When the IG team inspects a unit, the inspection is conducted with the major command's inspection checklists.

The checklists are derived directly from the instructions. So, if the instructions comply with the checklists, odds are the unit is also in compliance with the instructions.

Units that conduct self-inspections, using the inspection checklists, can self-identify deficiencies and correct them or document the existence of the deficiency if it is not correctable. In either case, ensure members of the unit take proactive steps to correct the deficiency.

Units that aggressively perform self-inspections typically do quite well on IG inspections. Take time to perform self-inspections before the IG shows up and everyone's jobs will be easier.



Photo by Budd Butcher

Team Pete makes clean sweep

Three 21st Comptroller Squadron members join together during a mass GI Party at the dormitories Saturday. Airman Santana Brown (left) helps Lt. Col. Brian Shimel, commander, sweep a walkway while Airman Aaron Roybal awaits his turn. A mass of dormitory residents pooled together with base leadership in a concerted effort to give Team Pete a fall cleaning Saturday.



Peterson opens new coffee shop

By Airman Mandy Weightman
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Peterson Shoppette Class Six employees celebrated the grand opening of their new Seattle's Best Coffee Shop Sept. 21.

The idea for the shop came from senior leadership on the base and the Army and Air Force Exchange Service staff ran with it, said Jeremy Wasinger, Facilities Supervisor in charge of the Coffee Shop. The preparations for the shop started about three weeks prior to the grand opening.

"The shop makes it easier for people who work on Peterson to have access to more food services on the base," Mr. Wasinger said. "Now, people don't have to run off base for good coffee. It's more efficient."

Not only do they offer coffee products, but also tea, smoothies, decaffeinated drinks and fruit flavored drinks.

"If someone comes to our shop with an idea of what type of drink they want, we will try to create that for them. The possibilities are endless," Mr. Wasinger said.

"The staff is excited and the business seems to double everyday," Mr. Wasinger added.

The coffee shop is open 5 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.



Photo by Airman Mandy Weightman

Captain Clifton Harness, Satellite Early Warning System Central Command Theater Manager, purchases a caffeinated beverage from the new Seattle's Best Coffee Shop Friday.



Wing extends helping hand after Russian tragedy

By Tech Sgt. Stefano Collins
302nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Two C-130 Hercules aircraft assigned to the 302nd Airlift Wing here traveled the globe in response to a call for action Sept. 8.

The crews of the 302nd AW aircraft answered the call to deliver medical and humanitarian supplies to Beslan, Russia, where a hostage crisis situation in a school claimed more than 330 lives.

The 302nd AW crews were already deployed to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, in support of Operation Joint Forge. The crews were on another mission in support of Joint Forge when they received the call for help.

"We were called off a channel mission in the Mediterranean to Brindisi, Italy," said Lt. Col. John Richey, 731st Airlift Squadron flight commander. "The mission just fell into our lap," he said.

Senior Master Sgt. Pete LaBarre, 731st Airlift Control Flight superintendent and loadmaster during the Russian humanitarian aid airlift, agreed.

Sergeant LaBarre said his crew was on a 'spaghetti run' – flying from Sigonella Naval Air Station to Naples and to Obia, Italy.

"We were reflagged (deviated from the original mission) from Sigonella to Brindisi," Sergeant LaBarre said. "We arrived at Brindisi, and when we landed, we loaded five pallets of cargo. Once loaded, we were on hold until we obtained clearance to go into Russia."

Technical Sgt. Graham Thorne, 731st AS flight engineer, was one of the

crewmembers.

"You can only fly during the day in Russia," Sergeant Thorne said. "We had limited time to get in and get the supplies unloaded. We also had low ceilings and rain the first day. Upon entering the country, we had to determine flying in meters instead of feet."

The aircraft and crews landed on an airfield on the outskirts of Beslan.

"We were met by a 'reception committee' comprised of individuals from various Russian agencies, such as their equivalent of our Federal Emergency Management Agency, members of the Russian military and airport personnel," Sergeant LaBarre said.

"I think they were still in shock of what was going on to understand why two American planes were on Russian soil even though they knew we were coming," Sergeant Thorne said.

"I think the two first aircraft broke the ice for us with regards to the language barrier," Colonel Richey said. "When we got there, they were great."

By all crewmembers' accounts, the mission was a success.

"We felt we did something that mattered and counted," Colonel Richey said. "To bring those people something they needed was really a unique experience. It was refreshing to be able to help those people with a timely response."

"For us to have active duty (military) put trust in us to perform a mission like this really meant something," he said. "It shows all of our training has really paid off."

The crewmembers answered another unexpected call during this



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Pete LaBarre

After a 302nd Airlift Wing C-130 lands on the flightline in Beslan, Russia, Americans and Russians join together to load medical and humanitarian cargo onto trucks in support of the Russian hostage crisis Sept. 8.

mission – a personal one. Providing humanitarian aid airlift on a rainy day in Russia touched the 302nd AW crews emotionally.

This mission shattered Sergeant LaBarre's preconceived notions of images of robotic, militaristic Russians, he said.

"It warmed my heart to see smiles on these gruff Russian soldiers," he said. "All of the paradigms I held were broken, and there were feelings which cannot be expressed with words, but that's what it's all about."

Sergeant LaBarre made a new friend.

"Russian customs agent Kaurbek Toguzov was one of the translators," Sergeant

LaBarre said. "He (Mr. Toguzov) said, 'I can't express how grateful we are to you for providing help.' I told him it was a tremendous honor in serv-

ice to my country and yours."

"It is quite humbling how far the relationship between our countries has progressed in 10 years," Sergeant LaBarre said. "In providing desperately needed humanitarian and medical supplies and also representing my unit, my culture and my country to former enemies, and in meeting this man, my new friend, this was an experience of a lifetime."

He and Toguzov exchanged addresses and pledged to maintain contact with each other.

Colonel Richey said he was also touched by the sentiment this mission created.

"You could tell it was just devastating for them to go through what was going on," he said. "This was their Sept. 11. It would have been nice to have met them under different circumstances."



Wing members celebrate C-130's 50th anniversary

By Tech. Sgt.
David D. Morton
302nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Fifteen C-130H3 Hercules aircraft assigned to the 302nd Airlift Wing were part of an Air Force-wide celebration this August recognizing 50 years of the aircraft's service within the Air Force inventory.

The original version of the C-130 came off the assembly line in 1953, and has evolved over time to perform numerous complex missions including modular airborne firefighting, aerial spray missions and providing updated weather information about hurricanes.

"The C-130 is without a doubt the finest, most well designed aircraft ever built to handle these missions," said Chief Master Sgt. Ron Bebow, superintendent of wing maintenance. "Its capabilities in the areas of flying and maintenance repair reliability is outstanding."

Designed to replace the C-119 flying boxcar many units were flying in the late 1950s and early 1960s, the C-130 continued the tradition of personnel transport, transporting cargo, dropping paratroops and medical evacuation of casualties.

"It brought the tactical air-

lift mission into the jet age using turbo prop engines," said Chief Master Sgt. Eric Deylius, 731st Airlift Squadron, chief flight engineer. "It is probably the most versatile aircraft in history as far as mission and performance capability, from airship to gunship, weather reconnaissance, and airborne television broadcasting."

The first Air Force Reserve C-130 assigned to the Peterson Air Force Base flight line and the 302nd Airlift Wing, then the 901st Tactical Airlift Group, arrived in July 1982.

Over the years the aircraft has been upgraded from the original "A" model and has evolved into the newest version of the aircraft, the "J" model, which has two additional blades installed on the propeller.

The 302nd AW has the newest version of the C-130H3 model with the oldest aircraft dating back to 1992. Prior to receiving the H model, the wing was flying the C-130B model.

"I got to fly on the first 'A' model aircraft built in 1953 while I was stationed at Chicago O'Hare International Airport," said Master Sgt. Tom



Farley, 731st Airlift Squadron, flight engineer.

The aircraft, tail number 5023 was originally delivered to the 463rd Troop Carrier Group at Admore AFB, Okla., on Dec. 9, 1956, prior to its assignment at O'Hare IAP.

"A models were built as a short-field, mid-range altitude combat aircraft for Vietnam to fit the needs of the Army, Air Force and U.S. Marine Corps," said Sergeant Farley. "They needed an aircraft compatible for landing on a short field or unimproved runway."

Sergeant Farley started flying on the aircraft in 1975 as a member of the USMC. "They used the aircraft primarily as a flying dump truck and for refueling," he said.

It wasn't until the active-duty began to receive the newer "B" and "E" model aircraft that "A" models were divided up among wings within the Air Force Reserve, including units at Niagara Falls IAP ARS, N.Y., and General Mitchell Field in Milwaukee, Wis., according to Sergeant Farley.

The Reserve began to receive C-130B model aircraft in the early 1980s. Among those units were the 901st TAW, Peterson AFB, and the 910th AW at the Youngs-town Air Reserve Station, Ohio. "During that time, the Air Force Reserve was still flying a mixture of 'B' and 'E' model aircraft," said Chief Deylius.

"I've had the good fortune of picking up two new C-130s at the factory in Marietta, Ga.," said Col. Wes Langland, 302nd Operations Group commander. "I have 30 years and nearly 9,500 hours flying in the C-130. I have been on all seven continents and close to 80 different countries in this airplane. It's the hardest working airlifter in the history of aviation."

Staff Sgt. Walt Lee, assistant crew chief with the 302nd Maintenance Squadron who

worked on F-16's while on active duty, said, "Working on C-130s is less time consuming and I get to go with the aircraft."

"It's one of the most modified airframes in the Air Force inventory," said Senior Master Sgt. Ron Vierling, 302nd maintenance team chief. "We probably do more humanitarian missions with the C-130 than combat missions."

"Today, over 64 countries fly the C-130," said Chief Deylius. "The C-130 can be recognized and associated with any humanitarian incident in the modern world from African humanitarian relief, to hurricane relief to anywhere supplies are needed including the most recent relief mission to Beslan, Russia."

Lieutenant Colonel McKeel, former chief of Wing Safety who flew C-130 weather reconnaissance on active-duty and MAFFS aircraft number 5 while assigned to the 731st AS, added, "The C-130 is the only aircraft I've known for 35 years - a good portion of the 50," It was also my honor to be the aircraft commander to pick up 94-7316, the 2,100th C-130 Lockheed produced. The C-130 has been my faithful partner for my entire career." Colonel McKeel retired in September.



Peterson Fire, Emergency Service announces Fire Prevention Week

By Master Sgt. Steve Kjonaas

21st Civil Engineer Squadron

The Peterson Air Force Base Fire and Emergency Services is joining the National Fire Protection Association and other safety advocates this fall to remind children and adults about fire safety during Fire Prevention Week, Sunday through Oct. 9.

This year's theme, "It's Fire Prevention Week: Test Your Smoke Alarms," highlights the importance of all families installing and maintaining smoke alarms in the home. The Peterson AFB Fire and Emergency Services flight will be hosting many events in the local and base community.

Fire Prevention Week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, in which more than 250 people died; 100,000 were left homeless; and more than 17,400 structures were destroyed. Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record, according to the NFPA.

Smoke alarms are the most effective early warning device available for the home. Since they were introduced to consumers in the 1970s, they have helped to reduce the home fire death rate by half. Even though they are now widely popular, roughly 70 percent of home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

Fires can spread through a home rapidly, and in some cases, individuals may have as little as two minutes to escape to safety once the alarm sounds. Peterson AFB Fire and Emergency Services encourages residents to keep smoke alarms working and to leave immediately when a smoke alarm sounds.

In addition, the Peterson AFB Fire and Emergency Services flight will be helping res-

idents to develop a home fire escape plan at the Main Exchange Saturday and Oct. 11. People can also attend the Fire Station 1 Open House Oct. 9. Residents will learn to identify escape routes in the home and to choose an outside meeting place where everyone can gather after they've escaped. Practice ensures everyone in the home knows the fire escape plan, they're familiar with the sound of the smoke alarm and they know how to exit quickly.

■ Here are some key smoke alarm installation and maintenance tips:

■ Install at least one smoke alarm on every level of the home and outside each separate sleeping area.

■ Mount smoke alarms on ceilings or high walls.

■ Test smoke alarms once a month, following the manufacturer's instructions.

■ Replace batteries once a year or as soon as the device "chirps," indicating that the battery is low.

Replace all smoke alarms after 10 years, even those that are hard-wired or smoke alarms with long-life (10-year) batteries. Smoke alarms with long-life (10-year) batteries also need to be replaced when the alarm "chirps" or fails to respond to periodic testing. The batteries in these units cannot be replaced.

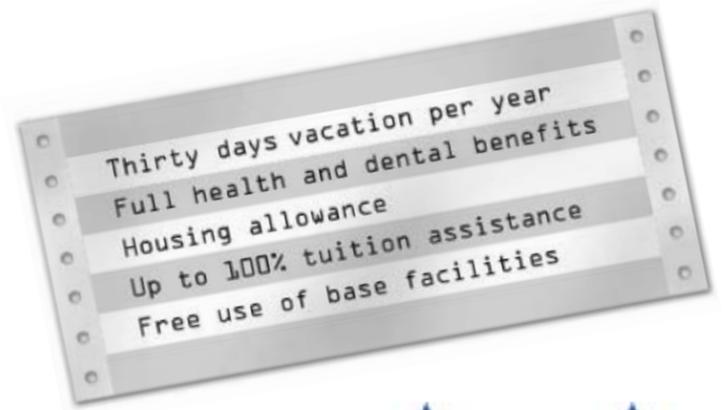
Alarms that are hard-wired to the home's electrical system should be installed by a qualified electrician.

To learn more about Fire Prevention Week, visit NFPA at www.fireprevention-week.org.

NFPA has been the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week since 1922. The campaign's purpose is to raise public awareness about the dangers of fire, how to prevent it and how to be protected from it.



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TEAM PETE CELEBRATES HISPANIC HERITAGE

The Peterson Hispanic Heritage Committee is sponsoring several events to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. Hispanic Heritage Month, September, promotes fellowship and camaraderie among varied cultures and ethnicities. Hispanic heritage activities this month include:

Hispanic Fiesta – 3 p.m. today at the picnic pavilion. There will be free food and music.

Hispanic Heritage Luncheon – 10 a.m. to noon Oct. 8 at the Enlisted Club. A dance group, mariachis and a buffet will be provided. Tickets are on sale now for \$12. Contact the following individuals for tickets: Tech. Sgt. Rudy Rodriguez, 556-9907, Bldg. 1; Tech. Sgt. Miguel Perez, 556-1811, 21st Space Wing Headquarters; Staff Sgt. Leticia Johnson, 556-1341, 21st Medical Group; Airman 1st Class Valerie Castillo, 556-1612, all others.

Tickets will also be on sale starting at 3 p.m. today during the picnic at the Picnic Pavilion. For more information or to volunteer, call Airman 1st Class Valerie Castillo at 556-1612.

BUS SCHEDULED TO TRANSPORT CFC PARTICIPANTS

There will be bus transportation available for those interested in participating in the 2004 Combined Federal Campaign Kick-off Event at the Air Force Academy, Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The bus will pick passengers up on Peterson Air Force Base between 7:45 and 8 a.m. at the Base Auditorium; between 8:05 and 8:15 a.m. at Building 350, between 8:20 and 8:30 a.m. at Building 845; and between 8:35 and 8:45 a.m. at Building One.

For the return trip, the bus will depart from the U.S. Air Force Academy at approximately 1:30 p.m. and stop at each building in reverse order. For more information, call 556-4448.

PETERSON FIRE DEPARTMENT KICKS OFF FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

The fire department will kick off Fire Prevention Week at the Base Exchange from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday with their Surrey Fire Safety Trailer, Sparky the Fire Dog and a huge inflatable bouncy house and slide. Bob Schmidt, Abbott Fire and Safety, will be conducting hands-on fire extinguisher training for anyone who would like to learn.

SOME DEPLOYED, NON-DEPLOYED MEMBERS MAY ACCRUE LEAVE

By orders of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Force Management Policy, active duty members who have been recalled from or not authorized annual leave (including home station personnel) as a consequence of duty assignments in support of contingency operations are authorized to accumulate leave in excess of 60 days as shown on the End of Month September Leave and Earnings statement. Those service members are authorized to retain such leave (not to exceed 120 days) until the end of the fiscal year 2005 or until fiscal year 2006 if other reasons preclude use of such leave. Although SLA has been approved, commanders and supervisors are still highly encouraged to allow military members to use their leave in the year it is earned.

Members who had leave restored as a result of the Sept. 11 tragedy were authorized to retain such leave (not to exceed 90 days) until the end of fiscal year 2004. There is no provision to extend that authority past Sep. 30 for members who had leave restored due to the Sept. 11 tragedy.

For more information regarding this matter, call your unit orderly room.

NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ACADEMY CONDUCTS PME HIRE BRIEFING

The Peterson Noncommissioned Officer Academy will conduct a professional military education hire briefing at 11:45 a.m. Oct. 13 in the NCO Academy Auditorium. Those interested in any level of enlisted PME duty are encouraged to attend. The briefing contains information on what it is like to be a PME instructor, basic requirements and application procedures. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tonya Draper at 556-8439.

COLORADO SPRINGS UNIVERSITY- PUEBLO CONTINUES REGISTRATION

Registration for classes for the second fall term with Colorado State University-Pueblo is ongoing. Classes begin Oct. 18 for all five campuses. Tuition discounts are available to military spouses. Register for classes at the education center between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., call 574-3312, or visit their website at www.colostate-pueblo.edu

TROY UNIVERSITY REGISTRATION BEGINS

Registration for Troy University's second term has begun. For more information on TSU programs, visit the education center from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays or call 265-TROY.

MEDICAL GROUP MAKES ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Peterson Clinic will close from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. today and Oct. 28.

Members of the Health Consumers Advisory Council remind everyone of the 21st Space Wing policy that children, 8 years old or less, may not be left unsupervised on base at any time. This also applies to visits to the 21st Medical Group. The Medical Group has no capabilities to supervise children. Parents must plan appropriately, or reschedule visits, when they are unable to supervise their children.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute is hosting the 12th Annual Volunteer Weekend at Shelf Road in celebration of National Public Lands Day and as part of the Access Fund's Adopt-A-Crag program. For more information or to register, call 719-471-7736.

ASSOCIATION SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Noncommissioned Officer Association needs volunteers to help sell seatbacks and programs during the U.S. Air Force Academy football season. To view the football schedule, visit www.airforcesports.com. For more information, call Master Sgt. Bill Gardner at 554-2745 or e-mail william.gardner@peterson.af.mil.

HONOR GUARD SEEKS APPLICANTS

The Peterson Honor Guard has an opening and is looking for new members. Applicants must be a technical or master sergeant. To apply, members must submit a resume or biography, a copy of their past five enlisted performance reports and an 8-inch by 10-inch official photograph. For more information, call 556-8029.

AIR WAR COLLEGE CHANGES FORMAT

There has been a change in format this year for Air War College. There is no formal seminar as in the past. If those who have signed up for AWC seminar would like to meet to form study groups, the Education Center has made Room 102 available at 3 p.m. Mondays. The study material will be sent direct-

ly to the students' home address.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association will accept applications from enlisted corps in the Colorado military community to assist with college education costs. Enlisted members do not have to be a member of AFCEA to apply. Applicants must be enlisted military members in the Rocky Mountain Chapter area, which includes Buckley AFB, Peterson AFB, U.S. Air Force Academy, Fort Carson and Schriever AFB. They must also have education expenses greater than the total of tuition assistance, G.I. Bill benefits and all other grants or scholarships received for their classes taken. There are degree specifications and other requirements. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Mark A. Everson at 554-8570.

UNIVERSITY OFFERS

PROGRAM ON HOMELAND SECURITY

The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, through the Network Information and Space Security Center, has developed a set of graduate courses leading to a Certificate in Homeland Security. The courses were developed in consultation with officials as U.S. Northern Command. After completion of the four courses, students will receive a Graduate Certificate from UCCS. For more information, e-mail Warren Lotzbire at wlotzbir@uccs.edu.

PIKES PEAK COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFFERS ACCELERATED COURSES

The Pikes Peak Community College Military Programs Weekend classes have taken on a new format. The classes are now required to meet for the full 45 contact hours in the classroom. They will meet Fridays and Saturdays, for four consecutive weekends with the exception of weekends containing holidays. For more information, call Ron Shields in the Base Education Center at 574-1169.

EDUCATION CENTER OFFERS COMMISSIONING BRIEFINGS

Enlisted members interested in learning about commissioning opportunities should attend one of the monthly commissioning briefings offered at the Education Center. Interested members can find out more about Officer Training School and Reserve Officer Training Corps programs such as the Airmen Education and Commissioning Program; Airmen Scholarship and Commissioning Program; and the Professional Officers Course-Early Release Program. Information on eligibility requirements, opportunities and application procedures will be discussed.

Upcoming briefing dates are Oct. 27, Nov. 23 and Dec. 29. Call 556-4064 to register for a briefing.

LOCAL SCOUTS MEET ON PETERSON

Girl Scout Troop 422 meets at 6 p.m., Mondays at the Peterson Chapel. This troop is for girls ages 11 to 17 years old. There are units developing for younger girls and they will also meet on Mondays. For more information, call Laura Pitcher at 392-1102.

Cub Scout Pack 99 meets at 6:30 p.m., Thursdays at the Peterson Chapel, starting tonight. Cub Scout Packs are for boys ages 7 through 10. For more information, call Wendy Jendrick, the Cub Master, at 637-0397. The Peterson Fire Department sponsors Cub Scout Pack 99.

Boy Scout Troop 199 meets at 7 p.m., Wednesdays at the Enlisted Club. Boy Scout Troops are open to boys ages 11 to 17 years old and no prior scouting experience is needed. For more information, call Alex Welton, Scout Master, at 574-8970. Boy Scout Troop 199 is sponsored by the Colorado Springs Area Chiefs Group.

Airman's Manual Online

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Photos by Diane Vulcan

People crowd around a stage at the Sunset in the Park celebration to listen to The U.S. Air Force Academy Band. More than 400 people attended the festivities.

Museum celebrates second annual Sunset in the Park



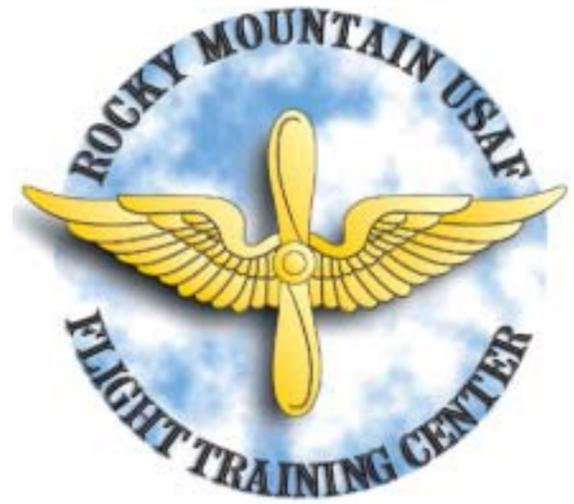
The crowd enjoys the weather during the second annual Sunset in the Park event. The program lasted 2.5 hours and included free food and bottled water.



General Richard E. Webber, 21st Space Wing commander, addresses the crowd at the second annual Sunset in the Park. People who attended the event had the chance to go on board the last known fully equipped EC-121T "Connie."

Peterson Aero Club boasts 50 years

One of Air Force's oldest aero clubs celebrates anniversary



LEFT: Captain Tom Taylor, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, and son, Drew, 3, look at the inside of an airplane during the Aero Club's 50th Anniversary Saturday.

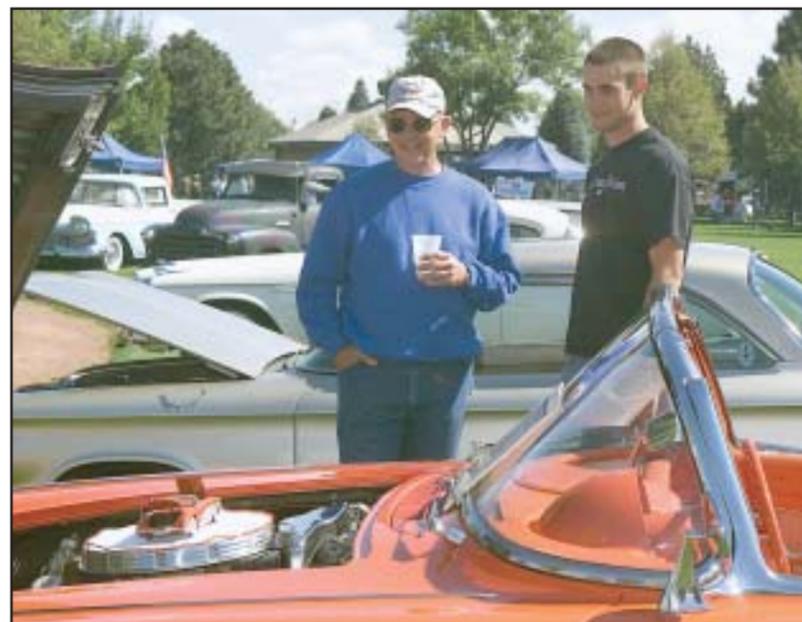


Photos by Budd Butcher

The March Air Force Base T-34 Flying Team demonstrates the Missing Man formation in honor of fallen troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.



The Scottish-American Military Society, accompanied by the Pikes Peak Pipe and Drum Band, presents the colors during the opening ceremony of the 50th Anniversary of the Peterson Aero Club.



Colonel Tom Mayberry, retired, tells Josh Thomas about his 1958 Corvette at the vintage car show during the Aero Club's 50th Anniversary.



Team Pete's noteworthy events

To submit information for the base calendar, email space.observer@peterson.af.mil

Thursday, Sept. 30

- Hispanic Fiesta Picnic at the Base Pavilion from 3 - 6 p.m. Free Hispanic food and music
- Air Force Academy vs. Navy tailgate from 3 - 5 p.m., kickoff at 5:45 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 1

- 21st Space Wing begins Operational Readiness Inspection

Saturday, Oct. 2

- Fire Prevention Parade kicks-off Fire Prevention Week. A fire safety trailer will be outside of the Base Exchange from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. along with Sparky the Dog and firefighters teaching proper fire extinguisher techniques.

Thursday, Oct. 7

- Combined Federal Campaign Kick-off Event at the U.S. Air Force Academy from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. (For the Peterson Shuttle Bus Schedule to the academy, see Page 6)

Friday, Oct. 8

- Annual Hispanic Heritage Luncheon at the Enlisted Club from 10 a.m. - noon. There will be live entertainment and a guest speaker.

Saturday, Oct. 9

- Air Force Academy vs. New Mexico

Team Pete's noteworthy events

THIS WEEK

Friday

- Social Hour at the Enlisted Club - 556-4194 Friday evenings from 5-7 p.m. Includes a club-card cash-prize drawing, music by a DJ, food and drink specials.

Saturday

- Bike Ride - 556-1515 The Fitness Center is hosting a 35-mile bike ride beginning at 10 a.m.

Sunday

- Beginning Rock Climbing - 556-4867 Every weekend Outdoor Recreation takes day climbing trips to local sites, such as Garden of the Gods. Minimum age is 12.

Monday

- Monday Night Football - 556-4194 The Enlisted Club offers free food, drink specials, prizes and a night of football on a big-screen TV. Doors open at 4 p.m. Open to everyone.

Tuesday

- Auto Skills - 556-4481 Save \$2 on tire rotations in September, Tuesday through Thursday, by appointment only.

Wednesday

- Bowling Center - 556-4607 Ladies bowl three games for the price of two today.

Sept. 30

- Aero Club - 556-4310 Save \$5/hr on all aircraft today.

at your SERVICE

Peterson Outdoor Recreation offers rock-climbing trips

For anyone interested in rock climbing, real rock beats out a climbing wall every time. The Garden of the Gods is in the Springs' backyard and its sheer rock formations challenge climbers, no matter how experienced they are.

Outdoor Recreation has a program in the fall and spring that takes climbing trips to local rocking climbing spots, which include the Garden of the Gods, Shelf Road and Castle Rock. Day trips go out on Saturdays and Sundays. Weekend climbing and canyoneering trips, such as those to Tanner Dome and Goblin Valley, Colo. and Little Wild Horse Canyon, Utah, spice up climbing opportunities, test a person's skills and offer the reward of rock hard achievement.

For a special climbing trips, talk to Outdoor Recreation. With the right number of participants and the skillful plan-

ning of the Outdoor Recreation staff the trips are enjoyable and are perfect Fit-to-Fight group outings.

Whether a novice climber or a savvy expert, Outdoor Recreation can match people with their perfect challenge. They provide all necessary climbing gear for all climbing trips. Climbers must be at least 12 years old.

■ There will be rock climbing classes Saturday, Sunday, Oct. 23 and 24. Outings are limited to groups no larger than eight people. This is a good class for beginners. They take day trips to local climbing sites including Garden of the Gods, Shelf Road and Castle Rock.

■ There will be an overnight climbing trip to Tanner Dome Oct. 16-17. Groups have a minimum of four people. This trip is designed for climbers who want to start leading both sport and traditional climbs. Tanner Dome is in

Oak Creek Canyon, about 9 miles south of Canon City. There will be a pre-trip meeting Oct. 13 at 5 p.m.

■ There will be Canyoneering trips in Goblin Valley, Little Wild Horse and Bell Canyons Oct. 9-12 and Nov. 11-14. The group must have at least six people. Little Wild Horse Canyon offers the best narrows on the Colorado plateau. A unique geologic feature, the San Rafael Swell offers some of the best canyoneering in Utah. A nice variety of narrows mixed within wider, more dramatic canyons provide excellent entertainment. The occasional boulder problems add a little spice. There will be pre-trip meetings on the Tuesdays before each trip at 5 p.m.

For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 556-4867. (Information courtesy of the 21st Space Wing Services Squadron)

ARAGON DINING FACILITY MENU

Today

- Lunch:**
Roast Loin of Pork
Jaeger with
Mushroom Sauce
Glazed Cornish Hen
Potato Halves
Orange Rice
Carrots
Simmered Pinto Beans
Corn Combination
- Dinner:**
Herbed Baked Chicken
Stuffed Cabbage
Southern Fried Catfish
Black-eyed Peas with Rice
Mashed Potatoes
Sweet Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables
Peas

Friday

- Lunch:**
Mexican Baked Chicken
Swiss Steak with Tomato Sauce
Stuffed Green Pepper
Baked Macaroni and Cheese
Steamed Rice
- Dinner:**
Lasagna
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Sweet Italian Sausage
Mashed Potatoes
Broccoli Polonaise
Cauliflower

Saturday

- Lunch:**
Crispy Baked Chicken
Cajun Meat Loaf
Grilled Steak
Baked Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes
Broccoli Peas
Glazed Carrots
- Dinner:**
Fish Almondine
Stir Fry Chicken with Broccoli
Pork Chops with Mushroom Gravy
Rissole Potatoes
Rice Pilaf
Calico Corn
Club Spinach

Sunday

- Lunch:**
Tuna and Noodles
Sauerbraten
Chicken Breast
Parmesan
Au Gratin Potato
Steamed Rice
Cauliflower
Combination Peas
- Dinner:**
Ginger Barbecue Chicken
Fried Shrimp
Spinach Lasagna
Orange Rice
Mashed Potatoes
Black-eyed Peas
Lima Beans
Corn O'Brien

Monday

- Lunch:**
Swiss Steak with Tomato Sauce
Baked Chicken
Hot Italian Sausage
Peppers and Onions
Steamed Rice
Mashed Potatoes
- Dinner:**
Roast Turkey
Baked Can Ham
Raisin Sauce
Fish and Fries
Mashed Potatoes
Corn Bread
Dressing
Succotash
Tempura

Tuesday

- Lunch:**
Onion-Lemon Baked Fish
Steak Pork
Schnitzel
Yakisoba Beef and Spaghetti
Baked Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes
- Dinner:**
Paprika Beef
Barbecue Beef
Cubes
Chicken Fajitas
O'Brien Potatoes
Steamed Rice
Cauliflower
Corn on the Cob
Lima Beans

Wednesday

- Lunch:**
Mexican Chicken
Mexican Pork Chops
Chicken Enchiladas
Mexican Rice
Refried Beans and Cheese
Mexican Corn
- Dinner:**
Pita Pizzas
Country Style Steak
Fried Chicken
Oven Brown Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes
Fried Cauliflower
Bean Combination
Cabbage

The Aragon Dining Facility announces new hours of operation, effective Oct. 1
Weekdays/Weekends: Breakfast 5:30 - 8 a.m.; Lunch 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Dinner 4 - 6 p.m.;
Holidays/Down days: Supper 11 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; All carry out times 7 - 9 p.m.

Team Colorado conquers Air Force Marathon

In what was the largest participation level ever for Air Force Space Command, 14 members of the Peterson community were among more than 1,500 runners at the eighth annual Air Force Marathon held Sept. 18 at Wright Patterson AFB, in Dayton, Ohio.

The Peterson contingent turned in many outstanding performances and even more impressive, each of the runners that completed the 26-mile marathon race did so in less than 4 hours and 30 minutes.

This year's event was the largest ever for the Air Force marathon that is held each year on the Air Force's anniversary at Wright-Patterson AFB. In addition to the runners for the event, more than 2,000 volunteers supported all events associated with the marathon.

Lou Johnson and Dave Kinton turned in two of the best performances by AFSPC participants. Johnson completed his 57th lifetime marathon, which includes participating in all eight Air Force Marathons. Kinton finished the half-marathon portion of the race in 1:28, which earned him a 15th place overall finish. Kinton also placed fourth in his age group, and second among military participants.

The runners representing AFSPC ran under the title, "Team Colorado." Some of the runners, Ken Wright, Manny Feliz, Dale Van Dyke, ran their first-ever Air Force marathon. Feliz said it was a memorable event. "We started out running together and made it to the

15 mile point before our various training levels took over. It's hard to explain what 26 miles feels like on your body until you've done it," Feliz said.

Carl Frohman battled through muscle cramps in completing his second marathon in 3:51. The only disappointment Frohman had was that his time was 10 minutes away from his goal. "I trained to beat my previous time of 3:41 hours, but in spite of missing my goal, it was still a great course and enjoyable day though I had to slow down and stop to stretch several times after the 23rd mile because of cramps," Frohman said.

In addition to the full marathon participants, five Team Colorado runners finished the 13-and-a-half mile half-marathon course in under 2:30 hours.

One of the runners Kasey Fry, who shaved 18 minutes from last year's time, said training in Colorado, helped her a lot. "I owe it all to running the incline in Manitou Springs twice a week."

Katie Bailey ran her second ever half-marathon, improving her time by one hour, while Kelly Sullivan doubled her longest previous race distance. "It was a great day and the atmosphere was electric. I wouldn't mind going back next year for the full marathon if I can get in that kind of shape," Sullivan said.

Scott Evens who is getting ready for the Marine Corps Marathon in late October said the half-marathon was a perfect tune-up for him as he gets ready

for the challenging race. "With my first full marathon quickly approaching, the half-marathon provided a perfect opportunity to test myself in a real race like conditions," he said.

In the most popular event, three Team Colorado runners ran the

Marathon Relay, each running a leg between five and seven miles. Jason McCain, Kevin Sorrels, Brian Mitchell and Eileen Hendee, finished the full marathon in 3:30. *(Information courtesy of Centralized Intergration Support Facility)*



Courtesy photo

A member of Team Colorado completes the first half of the eighth Air Force Marathon Sept. 18 at Wright Patterson AFB, in Dayton, Ohio. This was the largest participation level ever for Air Force Space Command, 14 members of the Peterson community were among more than 1500 runners.



Can-Am golf tourney brings competition, fun

By Capt. Charity Stephenson
1st Space Control Squadron

Canadians and Americans from the North American Aerospace Defense Command teed off together in their 26th annual CANAM tournament at the Silver Spruce Golf Course here Sept. 17.

Lieutenant Gen. Eric Findley, NORAD deputy commander, welcomed the 34 teams prior to kicking off the tournament with a drive on the first hole. The tournament is a long-standing event designed to bring together both countries that are working toward a safer North America.

The competition was intense due to the high

stakes: many coveted prizes awaited the winners and of course, bragging rights until next year.

Some teams created their own motivating team motto like "No wasted shot" and "Slow is fast." Other participants relied on what works for them: aiming at the control tower or keeping their lucky squirrel in tow.

Still other teams relied on tricky tactics, like a mysterious marshmallow depositor, in an attempt to trick the oncoming team of the whereabouts of their shot.

But, fun prevailed, especially when it came to the special holes.

Many participants cringed when they rolled a "10" at the Vegas hole where they had to use their wedge.

Everyone was able to try out their hockey and golf skills simultaneously at the 11th hole by using hockey gloves during the drive.

After a few hours in the 80-degree weather, it was time to tally up the scores. Kevin Motokado, Ken Korpak, Al Korpak, and Dan Fox officially won the tournament with 10 under par. The team members were presented with a trophy and golf statues donated by the Air Force Association.

Prizes were also given for the longest drive, closest to the pin, longest putt and closest to the centerline. Even the lowest scoring team received a prize. Proceeds from the 26th Annual CANAM Golf Tournament are going to the Peterson Airman's Attic.



Photo by Dennis Plummer

Team Pete demonstrates Team-Fit mentality

Members of the 21st Space Wing take part in one of the many circuits during the Wing Fit to Fight Sept. 23. They work out together as a wing the fourth Thursday of each month as part of their Fit to Fight agenda.

