

The Boar's Tale



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Dobbins ARB, GA 30069

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*Brig Gen
Robert Shannon*

Commander's Column

By Brig Gen Robert Shannon

I was asked to write this month's leadership article here in *The Boar's Tale* to offer my perspective on my recent promotion. First of all, when you reach promotion to General you have to acknowledge that you are recognized for the efforts of so many officers and enlisted men and women I have served with. Second, I am fully aware that I am a temporary occupant of my position. I fully intend to serve energetically and to strengthen our organization to meet the challenges placed in front of us by continuous combat operations; budget austerity; and mission changes within the Air Force.

Last week I attended the Air National Guard Strategic Planning System Conference for the Atlantic Region held at the Air National Guard Readiness Center. During our two day conference we had extensive discussions regarding Force Development. Moreover, we discussed the development of our mid grade and newly minted O-6s to prepare them to compete in the future for senior level promotions and command throughout the Air National Guard and the Air Force. The rules are changing and we must prepare our officers to meet and exceed the requirements.

Two years ago, I urged our officers throughout the State to review the requirements to become Joint Qualified Officers. I recommended enrollment in Joint PME. Some of the commanders may recall that two years ago I asked Lt Col Lisa Traynor, NGB J-7, to speak at our Joint Commanders' Conference at Jekyll Island. How many Officers applied for the joint credit or enrolled in Joint PME. Notwithstanding, soon, joint qualification will become a requirement for promotion to general officer. Furthermore, senior leaders in our organization have to work harder in exposing our officers to a variety of assignments and opportunities that will give them the breadth of experience to be competitive for future leadership. I believe that we are seeing a paradigm shift in Air National Guard and what we do.

Many states are losing flying wings. The loss of a flying wing is not simply the loss of the airplanes. A wing construct brings so many other support functions that service our Geographically Separated Units (GSUs) and provides capabilities to our State during contingency domestic operations. I asked the question last week: "if a state loses a flying wing and is replaced by multiple non flying units, where will the necessary support functions come from to service the Air Guard units in the state?" Obviously, we would need to work through those types of issues. We may see regional Finance and other support functions.

Please see *Commander's Column* on page 2

Commander's Column from page 1

We need to break the code on how we move our leaders into the Joint Staff and various assignments outside the State. We then need to reintegrate back into our organization after Joint and Staff duty assignments. We need to place our best and brightest into a variety of leadership positions which gives them greater exposures. We need to identify those officers who can attend in residence schools to include Advance Joint Military Education. We also need to get them the necessary joint duty assignments downrange including joint duty commands. As senior leaders we need to be more deliberate in our process in developing future leaders.

My accession to general does involve hard work. My path is a legacy path to some extent. Work hard, shine in front of the right people, and then wait in line. I have numerous deployments, accumulated over 2,000 hours in an airplane, flew as instructor, and accomplished the necessary professional military education and advanced civilian education. Whatever job the Air Force and the Air National Guard asked me to do I did to the best of my ability. There was no roadmap design, however, in my career. My career is not a template for future senior leaders. Today, we have to do a better job in developing our next level of leaders. Similarly, if you see yourself as a future leader then you must also seek out the opportunities that will prepare you to compete at each new level.

I look forward to continue working with the wings and GSUs on the issues of Force Development and preparing our young officers and enlisted to compete at the highest level. Again, thank you to all the men and women of the Georgia Air National Guard for what you do in protecting our Nation and State.



Women's History Month

Women of Distinction, By CCMSGT Betty Morgan

Housewife! Babysitter! Mother! Provider! Server! These terms once were descriptors of women. They were noted as stay at home women while the men went out to be the 'bread' winner for the family. No job could be done by a woman that was not related to household chores. At one point, men had no time to wash dishes, mop floors, change diapers, or cook dinner, but is not that way today. Today's women have changed the mindset of the job world. Society no longer sees women in the house, but out of the house with such jobs as lawyer, doctor, teacher, firefighter, police, CEO, pilot, politician, etc.

Women have been serving society through the excellence of their achievements for many years. Not all of them had the same ideals, but all of them had something in common, they decided to become 'drum majors' and serve humanity. These women found something outside themselves to use as a goal and a guide. Something that showed them a way to serve others instead of only living for themselves. Just to name a few:

- ❖ **Shirley Chisholm**, America's first Black congresswoman. She took her seat in the House of Representatives in early 1969
- ❖ **Ida Pfeiffer** needed all of her stubbornness to make her way alone in places that many people thought were off limits to women. She overcame the problem of poverty, and she pioneered independent travel for women. She also showed that it was possible for a woman to make a living as a professional traveler and travel writer.
- ❖ **Barbara Jordan**, the South's first Black U.S. Congresswoman. She became Texas' first black state senator since 1883. She prepared senate speeches that earned respect from her colleagues and the President of the United States.
- ❖ **Marguerite Baker** Harrison was an American who traveled the whole world to achieve distinction as a reporter, spy, traveler, and pioneering film producer.
- ❖ **Coretta Scott King**, Civil Rights Activist, author, lecturer, columnist, and the widow of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.
- ❖ **Elizabeth Blackwell** becomes the first American woman to receive a medical degree. This was done in 1849.
- ❖ **Rosa Parks**, the Birmingham seamstress who made civil rights history on a bus in 1955. She joined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1943 with her first assignment being to encourage local blacks to register to vote.
- ❖ **Marie Curie** was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics for the discovery of radioactivity in 1903.

As a result, these women made their marks in many different areas, illustrating their own unique talents and personalities. They persisted against odds; they dared; and they were bold when the circumstances called for boldness; they broke barriers; they challenged the status quo, often in service to others rather than for personal benefit. They truly represent Women of Distinction.

Women's History Month from page 2

By CMSGT Leslie Allen



From the days of the American Revolution to the conflict in the Persian Gulf and today, throughout the World, American women have and are honorably serving in defense of our Nation. In times of war and peace, women have willingly responded to their country's call.

I would like to take a moment to highlight a very unique memorial dedicated to Women in Military Service. This memorial is located at Arlington National Cemetery. The Women's Memorial is unique, it's a living memorial honoring all military women - past, present and future - and is the only major national memorial honoring women who have served in our nation's defense during all eras and in all services. It was dedicated October 18, 1997.

When you're in DC stop in and see it.

Women's Memorial



Tribute to SGT Leigh Ann Hester

Let us recognize one young lady who has received the Silver Star. SGT [Leigh Ann Hester](#), of the 617th Military Police Company, a National Guard unit of Richmond, Kentucky. Assigned to Raven 42, she received the [Silver Star](#), the third highest US combat decoration. While nurses under fire had received this award previously, Hester was the first woman to receive it for direct participation in combat. Sgt Hester was the first female soldier to receive the award for exceptional valor since World War II and the first ever to be cited for valor in close quarters combat.

WEBSITES

I would like to share with you a website that has been created just for women veterans.

www1.va.gov/womenvet. The most frequently asked questions from women veterans, along with the answers, can now be found on the Center's website.

<http://www1.va.gov/womenvet>

Women of Four Wars

<http://www.loc.gov/vets/stories/ex-war-women4wars.html>

Women's History Month for Teachers

<http://womenshistorymonth.gov/teachers.html>

DVD

How did a group of female support soldiers-mechanics, supply clerks and engineers-end up fighting alongside the Marines in some of the bloodiest counterinsurgency battles of the Iraq war? Find out in *Lioness*, a film about female combat veterans, *Lioness*, DVD tells stories that would otherwise have been lost to history. This narration recounts the stunning experiences of five female soldiers. Directed by: Meg McLagan – Director

Agenda

**Headquarters GA ANG
Unit Training Assembly
20-21 Mar 2010
Maj Gen Hammond Presiding**

Time	Topics/Attendees	Location
20 Mar 2010		
0700	Assemble	Finch Bldg
0700	Roll Call/and In-Brief, Finch Bldg, Staff + 1 rep each from Confederate and Oglethorpe	Finch Bldg
0930-1100	KPI Briefing/CC, CV, DS, DO, CCM, 1 st Sgt, All other available 0-6's	Conf Room, Finch Bldg
1000	PHA's (for those who need it)	Bldg 2072 RAFB, GA
1200-1230	Lunch	TBD
1300-1400	Wing Issues Maj Gen Hammond, Brig Gen Shannon and Col Ferrero	Maj Gen Hammond's Office, Finch Bldg
1300-1600	Staff Work	
1600	Release	
21 Mar 2010		
0700	Assemble	Finch Bldg
0730	Chapel Services	Chapel
0800	Enlisted Promotion Board	Conf Room, Finch Bldg
1100-1200	Lunch	TBD
1300-1500	Staff Work	
1500	Hotwash	Conf Room,
1530	Release	"Good Drill"

NOTES: None

* Schedule is subject to change due to late developments

CHAPLAINS CORNER

By MSgt Clint Smith

The Shepherd Knows His Sheep

We read the words of the Lord Jesus with great appreciation: “I am the good shepherd; and I know my sheep, and am known by my own.”

An actual shepherd in Lebanon remarked, “I know all my sheep. If you blindfold me and bring me to any of my sheep, I can tell if his mine by putting my hand to its face.” Jesus Christ felt this same closeness with his early followers.

I heard the story of a pastor who was making a survey of the community. In his interviews, he asked one woman, “How many children do you have?”

She started to name them: “Betty, Jack, John, Mary”

The pastor interrupted her and said, “I don’t want the names, just the number!”

She answered indignantly, “Sir, my children do not have numbers, they have names!”

Likewise, the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, knows his sheep by name – everyone of us.

He is longing to strengthen that relationship. That is why he sacrificed himself though the shed of blood of the cross at the first Easter.

The holy season of Easter is the perfect time to recognize the need for a lasting relationship with God’s only begotten son.

Read Luke Chapter 12: 22-31

Haiti Update:

The number of Air National Guard members supporting Operation Unified Response had dropped to less than 200 by the end of February. At the peak, approximately 500 airmen from at least 15 states were involved in the earthquake relief efforts. Airlifters, air traffic control personnel and civil engineers from the Air Guard were the most requested specialties.

Prayer requests:

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers the families of the following members of the 116 Air Control Wing who passed away recently:

Senior Master Sergeant Thomas J. McKenzie

Technical Sergeant Philip W. McNeill

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March

March 14 MSgt Laque Banks

March 27 SMSgt Richard Hamilton

March 29 MSgt Barbara Smith

April

April 19 Lt Col Rebecca Gray

Enlisted Promotion Board

President:
Maj Rob Creech

Member:
CMSgt Grover Henderson

Member:
CMSgt Ann Kane

Sunday, March 21, 2010 at 0800 hrs.
Location will be the Finch Building,
Bldg 840, 1388 First Street, Dobbins
ARB GA, Small Conference Room.

POC is MSgt Laque Banks

Officer Promotion Board

– None this drill

HISTORIAN COLUMN

THE QUEST FOR FREEDOM CREATES UNSUNG HEROES

By MSgt Clint Smith

American history includes volumes of stories of individual people who in their own modest yet determined way contributed significantly to the founding of our nation. They demonstrated strength of character, resolve in times of stress, and dignity. There are many such stories.

A close examination of our nation's past reveals that on many occasions, the courageous, level-headed sacrificial actions and wise decision-making of individual people played a significant role in the origins of a free nation.

America was founded by average people who yearned for religious freedom and despised taxation without representation. These hearty souls braved the unpredictable nature of colonial life, replete with difficulties created by tumultuous weather, hostile natives, and a small supply of food.

There was no 24 hour media, no internet, no e-mails or blogs. People made their mark and created their legacy largely in a vacuum, noticed only by the immediate people that they encountered. And so the motivation for actions and attitudes was usually based on the traits that shaped a person's character.

As it became increasingly clear that an armed confrontation was on the horizon with the mother land of England, a clarion call was made for all men – stout of limb, swift of foot, and hearty in spirit – to organize themselves into local militias - Minutemen, as many of them came to be known. The National Guard traces its origin to the Minuteman concept.

What a bold and aggressive action – to stand up to England! Our very existence as a nation and our quality of life as individual citizens are directly tied to the unselfish and altruistic actions of many unsung heroes that came before us.

Intrepid people emerged in the ensuing struggle for freedom during the Revolutionary War period. Hannah Till, a slave who cooked for General George Washington and his troops during the infamous winter at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, is one such hero. She cooked for the Continental Army for seven years. Later, she earned her freedom and moved to Philadelphia.

Seventeen year old Samuel Clark of Virginia was another unsung hero of the American Revolution. His story is an amazing example of courage and sacrifice. During the war, he was drafted twice and on three occasions he volunteered for service. He felt compelled to volunteer to replace other family members who had wives and children.

Clark fought in the 'Battle of Green Spring'. He was wounded by a saber wielded by a British soldier. He also fought at the siege of Yorktown. Later, Clark served as an officer during the War of 1812.

At the Green Spring clash, Samuel Clark was one of two-hundred Virginia riflemen deployed in the area. Because the Americans had fewer cavalry than the opposition, the riflemen were strategically placed to counter probes by the infamous 'British Legion'.

A third example of individual heroism was William Moultrie, the son of a Scots physician, who emerged as a military leader in South Carolina. He commanded a regiment of American men with several victories.

The most notable victory sent a wave of patriotic and courageous fervor throughout the south. It was the result of a decision by Moultrie to build a fort on Sullivan Island off South Carolina's coast. The difficult struggle to build the fort was a significant accomplishment alone in such wild and unstable environs.

The fort was only half completed when a British fleet attacked. The battle was waged for twelve hours. Ultimately, the British retreated. Word of the American victory carried far and wide throughout the southeast: from every watering hole to livery stable; outhouse to back porch.

The outcome made people realize that an American Revolution triumph was very much a realistic possibility! And ultimately, it became a reality.

A brand new nation! The spirit of 1776 carried forward through the uncertainty of the early years. The creation of a government was at hand.

ANG BAND OF THE SOUTH

By Julie DeMott



Arming itself with social media, the Air National Guard Band of the South is now on facebook and Twitter. According to the Consumer Internet Barometer, over 43% of all people who are online use social networking sites - an increase of 27% from last year. In fact, *The Global Language Monitor* names "Twitter" as the most used word of 2009. Using social media to reach a wider, younger audience is the goal, and our facebook group currently has over 90 fans and is growing. Thanks to an increased web presence, the Band of the South's open house has 22 confirmed guests this year. The open house is an informal event that aims to increase membership by allowing potential recruits to experience a day-in-the-life of a Georgia Air National Guard bandsman.

The Band of the South recently helped a few potential recruits reach that potential by helping them enlist into the Georgia Air National Guard. We would like to welcome our newest members; SrA Jorge Santa and A1C Tony McCarley. Welcome!

Please help the band get the word out! Follow us on Twitter - (twitter.com/BandoftheSouth), and become a fan on facebook (facebook.com/pages/Air-National-Guard-Band-of-the-South/281157533952). See you on the internet!

HQ GA ANG UNIT FUND

Thanks to one and all for your generous contributions during 2009! While 100% participation in donations to the HQ GA ANG UNIT FUND from the time we reunited in February until September 2009 would have raised \$3,600, the generous donations of those participating rendered \$1,685.00 to our fund.

Breakout is as follows:

Feb 2009 – Dec 2009 Donations: \$1,925.00
 (\$1,685 unit members' donations + \$240.00 collected at Christmas party for spouse, retirees, band members, and guests)

2009 Expenses: about \$1,795
 Retirement Ceremony flags
 Retirement Ceremony trophies
 Retirement Ceremony receptions
 HQ Family Day Picnic
 HQ Christmas Party
 Flowers for family member's loss

Please contact TSgt Darendia Rogers
 at 678-569-5713 (Work), 678-472-5093 (Cell)
 or Darendia.Rogers@ga.ngb.army.mil if you wish to know your individual balance.
*Thanks again to all for making it possible for us to celebrate together in happy times
 and support each other in sad times!!*