



PH Hometown News

Volume 4, Issue : Special Edition I

Jun 2003

PH POCs

- **AFMOA DSN 297**
 Col Deneice Van Hook 4280
 Lt Col Dennis Fay 4269
 Maj Linda Bonnell 4216
 MSgt Mark Mellinger 4340
- **ACC: DSN 574**
 Lt Col Bill Courtney 1268
 SMSgt Theron Reed 1294
- **AMC: DSN 779**
 Col Rex Brennan 6336
 CMSgt Rich Johnson 6336
- **Space Command**
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 CMSgt Bill Babb 692-6809
- **AFMC**
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 SMSgt Annette Semasko 875-8612
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- **USAFE: DSN: 314-480**
 Lt Col Fred Kelsey 7670
 MSgt Therese Huss 2004
- **PACAF: DSN: 315-449-**
 Lt Col Paul Rehme 2332 X 269
 SMSgt Tony Labonte
- **AFSOC: DSN 579-**
 Lt Col Timothy Woodruff 2269
 CMSgt Tom Huberty 2269
- **Reserves**
 SMSgt Patricia Tooley 497-0600
- **ANG: DSN: 278-**
 Lt Col Cynthia Cogburn 8556
 MSgt George Silvas 8556
- **USAFSAM: DSN: 240-**
 Col Diana Barnicott 2269
 CMSgt Jim Cahill 1553
- **CFM DSN: 297-**
 CMSgt Jeff Strout 4250

A TRIBUTE

To all of the women and men who have sacrificed much and have deployed and put their lives in harms way...the rest of us SALUTE YOU!

We really appreciate what each of you have done for the mission.

We hope all of you make it home safe and sound.



Thanks for the pictures from MSgt Paul Williams.



PH Nominees...before you read about them...

Just a note to help explain about the write-ups contained in this newsletter...kind of a disclaimer...

Before you read these write-ups please understand that I pulled some information from their packages submitted for their award. I had to change the wording in some cases to make the wording flow better and to fit into the area I had allotted

for each person. Please do NOT compare the write-ups to see who had a better package...I did not include all information NOR did I include similar information from each person. I tried to make the reading easier and more interesting by including different information from a variety of areas...things I thought might be interesting to you the reader. I do not intend for readers to compare write-ups and think that their package was better than the others...let me know if you have questions or concerns with this issue.

ACC PH Airman of the Year- SrA Melanie J. DeBord

SrA Melanie J. DeBord is a real problem solver from Davis Monthan AFB. She was instrumental in saving over 200 manhours and over \$25,000 when she identified problems and implemented solutions to an extensive database glitch. She was a driving force behind the revamping of the Medical Right Start Program ensuring personnel were properly coded and received timely required pre-employment examinations prior to actually starting their work.

SrA DeBord dramatically improved the occupational health scheduling program resulting in a 28% increase of civilian occupational health examination compliance rates. She ensured that personnel from the 193 industrial shops received the appropriate occupational examination based on workplace exposures. She is a very versatile airman...she briefed over 200 deployers on the medical threats at the deployed location; she fitted and educated over 700 workers on the hearing conservation program with the proper earplugs; she conducted over 50 facility

sanitation evaluations and 30 food booths serving over 62,000 people at the regional air show. She put her epidemiological skills to the test when she assisted the investigation of a meningitis case and provided critical education to the local community...easing the fears of concerned citizens.

She is dedicated to achieving her Community College of the Air Force degree with a 4.0 GPA and is one class shy of attaining her goal. SrA DeBord was awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for her dedicated hours to her local community. She worked building houses for Habitat for Humanity, tutored students at the local San Xavier Mission School, provided over 100 hours of toddler care at the Pandano Christian Church, supervised a Halloween party for more than 3000 children at her church and was a mentor for the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament.

SrA DeBord was a key member of the PH office in preparing for the 2002 Health Service Inspection where the inspector stated they were "mission ready" and the office was in the top 10 percent of PH offices they have evaluated to date! Congratulations SrA DeBord...keep up the great work!

AMC PH Airman of the Year: SrA Monisha Sweatt

SrA Monisha Sweatt is a Public Health Journeyman from the 6th Medical Group at MacDill AFB, Florida. She single-handedly managed the Hospital Employee Health Program with an astonishing compliance rate maintained at a 99 percent...even for the immunization status of 818 medical/non-medical personnel. She successfully integrated the occupational health medical examinations with Preventive Health Assessment (PHA) which drastically improved exam compliance rates from 80 percent to 92 percent in just one month.

SrA Sweatt conducted an occupational health investigation of a possible lead exposure for over 50 base personnel. She rapidly scheduled blood lead tests for exposed personnel and prevented an occupational incident. During this investigation, she developed a systematic program for tracking blood-lead testing among exposed industrial workers. In the area of deployment surveillance, she spearheaded a no-notice records review for a Central Command (CENTCOM)

mass deployment. She expedited the medical clearance of over 300 deploying personnel...they were cleared within six hours of notification.

SrA Sweatt was elected by her peers for two consecutive years as the president of the Unit's Advisory Council. She also supports underprivileged children in the local community; she volunteers over 30 hours of personal time monthly as a mentor in the MacDill AFB Lunch Buddy Program for Disadvantaged Children. She was recognized as the 6th AMDS Airman of the Quarter for July to September 2002.

SrA Sweatt displayed significant self-improvement by participation in several off-duty education classes. She only needs three more semester hours to complete her Associates Degree in Public Health and Computer Analysis. She has held a 3.7 grade point average during the entire time. She not only has competed in the Wing Sports day activities...but she recruited seven others to join in as well. She has been actively involved with her church teaching youth Bible studies. As you can see, she is a valuable person to have in the MacDill AFB community and in Public Health. Congratulations SrA Sweatt...keep up the great work!

AFMC PH Airman of the Year: SrA Catherine Dienst

Meet SrA Catherine Dienst from Eglin AFB, Florida. She is an exceptionally capable, incredible versatile technician at the largest USAF base (land wise), serving five wings. She directed day-to-day operations for five Public Health programs and impacted over 66,000 beneficiaries. She eagerly accepted the challenge of educating 20 Independent Duty Medical Technicians on readiness skills. She easily accomplished this task (normally reserved for an NCO) and provided over 80 hours of top-notch instruction. She managed the more than 1,400-person Hospital Employee Health Program and impressively maintained a 95 percent compliance rating. This mark superseded the Health Services Inspection standard of 90 percent. She assisted in preparing the hospital for medical accreditation.

She was recognized by the HSI inspector as building the benchmark for Public Health worldwide, basically setting the gold standard. She is an expert instructor! She designed and taught two Respiratory Fit Testing classes designed to prevent tuberculosis cases among hospital employees. She performed on-site fit testing

and education for 70 line personnel requiring the training which saved 100 hours in hospital appointments. SrA Dienst was the Fetal Protection program manager. She provided health education to over 300 industrial work centers and her work process guaranteed pregnancy profiles were completed within 5 days of identification. She also identified 50 industrial workers pending retirement so she created an innovative solution addressing their needs for a termination occupational health examination. She saved patients and staff time by organizing and scheduling mass completion of terminal audiograms. She is a critical asset in an office with massive turnover, she maintained continuity for the Occupational Health element. She taught five cross-trainees, three of higher rank since she is the section expert in five Occupational Health programs. In the area of deployment surveillance, she acquired and briefed medical intelligence for Operations BRIGHT STAR and ENDURING FREEDOM. This in-depth effort resulted in education of over 500 personnel. She graduated from Okaloosa Walton Community College with an Associates Degree and is working on a Nursing degree. She was selected as the AMDS and Medical Group Airman of the Quarter for July-September 2002. She either leads efforts or significantly contributes to several organizations on and off-base. Congratulations SrA Dienst...keep up the good work!

SPACECOM PH Airman of the Year: SrA Terry Kincaid

Meet SrA Terry Kincaid, a Public Health Journeyman from F.E. Warren AFB, Wyoming. He is the cornerstone of the Occupational Health Exam program at F.E. Warren. He ensured a fully capable force of 253 shop personnel. He is a super strong airmen who singlehandedly increased the occupational health examination compliance rate from 54 percent to over 90 percent. He was individually responsible for the Hearing Conservation Program that monitors over 800 base personnel. He oversaw administration, documentation, tracking and command reporting of over 150 hearing tests. He corrected critical program shortfalls; identified 28 members requiring follow-ups due to potential abnormal results in audiograms. He assured personnel received further medical attention by audiologists. He has outstanding organizational skills. He directed and performed food safety inspections for 20 missile alert facilities covering over 12,600 square

miles in WY, CO, and NE. There were no cases of illness and troops are fit to fight.

During a base-wide drinking water crisis, he rapidly delivered water samples to the Wyoming Health Department laboratory for analysis. His efforts led to a rapid turn around which allowed the majority of the base population to return to normal water use. He also coordinated over 600 blood lead results in compliance with a short-notice EPA inquiry. He directed the distribution of over 500 housing notices which allayed base and other federal employees concerns and fears.

SrA Kincaid is the Vice President for 90th Medical Group Airman Advisory Council which raised over \$1000 in local fund raisers. He also stood in as acting president for two months and assured wing information flowed to airman in the medical group and voiced concerns of those he represented. His efforts were praised by the council president. He was also named Captain of the 90th Medical Group Competitive Ski Team for Snofest 2002. As you can see, he is a hard worker who is a valuable asset for F. E. Warren AFB and the Public Health Career Field. Congratulations SrA Kincaid...keep up the great work!

AETC PH Airman of the Year: SrA (SSgt) Irene Schwaninger

Meet SrA Irene Schwaninger, a Public Health Journeyman from Laughlin AFB, Texas. She is a superb airman...she earned the Medical Group and Wing Airman of the Year for 2001 and the Medical Group Airman of the Year for 2002. She made SSgt the first time testing and was named "Outstanding Performer" by the HQ AETC/IG during a recent Operational Readiness Inspection. She single-handedly increased the occupational health examination compliance rate 26 percent through the revamping of the local scheduling process. She is an ingenious administrator. She rapidly took charge of 112 patients during a real-world foodborne illness outbreak. Her coordination efforts with Public Affairs resulted in remarkable investigative case histories for municipal and state health departments. She is remarkable, she never misses a training opportunity. She imparted real time training lessons on Salmonella to newly merged Aeromedical Technicians. She generated weekly

high-visibility "Commanders' Lists" which highlighted members overdue for medical requirements. This was critical to the wing's deployment readiness this effort increased the overall compliance by 30 percent in two months--a phenomenal achievement.

SrA Schwaninger earned 18 credit hours through Southwest Texas Junior College with an impressive 3.5 GPA. She was easily accepted into Phi Kappa National Honor Society. She was voted as Phi Theta Kappa's International Honor Society's President of Volunteer Coordinations. She managed several events and over 100 volunteers across Del Rio and at Southwest Texas Junior College. She consistently exceeded all standards...she even completed her Career Development Course Exam and was awarded the 5-skill level in Public Health in less than five months...a full seven months ahead of peers. She is also a phenomenal singer! She has been requested by name to sing the National Anthem at various on-and off-base events. She is a topnotch Air Force ambassador. She has been highly praised by numerous patients for professionalism and outstanding service. Congratulations SrA Schwaninger...keep up the great work!

AF Academy PH Airman of the Year: A1C Tyllyana Aquino

Meet A1C Tyllyana Aquino, a Public Health Journeyman from the USAF Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado. A1C Aquino was selected as the Airman of the Quarter Oct-Dec 2002 for the Medical Operations Squadron and was responsible for a 20 percent increase in the Occupational Health examination compliance rate getting it up to over 95 percent. She conducted daily illness and injury surveillance and daily inspections of food facilities, rest rooms and obstacle courses during Basic Cadet Training 2002 for over 1200 cadets. As the coordinator of Occupational Health Working Group that facilitates discussion of occupational health, she identified six workers receiving unnecessary medical exams saving over \$500 in lost time and supplies. As a vital component in the merging of a part of the flight medicine career field into public health, A1C Aquino created a seamless transition by acquiring all needed training to process and assist in the

completion of over 300 initial flying physical exams.

A1C Aquino completed the Navy's 10 credit on-line Sexually Transmitted Disease Module and completed 13 hours of credit towards her Nursing degree. She passed the Department of Defense Language Proficiency Test in Tagalog with an astounding 97 percent. She identified nine susceptible cadets during a recent varicella outbreak and ensured all received vaccinations. Her quick thinking and deterrent actions led to a potential savings of over \$60,000 to the USAF Academy. She helped supply an early warning system for detection of possible terrorist attacks and disease outbreaks in the local community. She gathered and scrutinized daily diagnosis information from laboratory and emergency departments. She managed the epidemiology section that assembled diagnoses from four other primary care departments as well.

A1C Aquino is a self-less volunteer...she donates significant off-duty time helping the homeless, raising money for children's charities and the prevention of heart disease. Congratulations A1C Aquino and keep up the great work!

PACAF PH Airman of the Year: SrA Ashlea Wilmoth

Meet SrA Ashlea Wilmoth, a Public Health Journeyman from Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. She is an exemplary airman who showcased her technical talents on many occasions. She flawlessly executed the Occupational Health Program for the wing's 3,524 industrial workers and enthusiastically tackled the arduous task of coordinating baseline blood testing for local lead/asbestos workers. Now, 51 personnel are qualified to perform abatement projects. She meticulously investigated 14 occupational illness claims with her coordination efforts mitigating wing liability. She authored a 15 page Composite Health Care System quick reference guide catapulting database usability. SrA Wilmoth is the lifeblood of the organization. She expertly maintained 400 staff members on generation and mobility missions. She provided flawless support to over 185 medics for deployments to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Laos, East Timor, Vietnam, South Korea. She kept medics informed about disease and health

threats while at the deployed location. She is a hard charger who vigilantly sustained the Hospital Employee Health Program with over 850 members, with compliance rates above 98 percent. In food safety, she quickly revised the ALFOODACT Program and enabled all food recall and food alerts to be acted upon and tracked in an expeditious manner. She ensured 100 percent contact of 52 food serving facilities and was the catalyst for the Food and Public Facility Sanitation Program. She completely updated the inspection tracking database and ensured 100 percent accountability of 212 food serving facility and 73 public facility inspections. She masterfully orchestrated the monthly sanitation inspection of 52 food serving and 17 public facility evaluations between 17 staff members. SrA Wilmoth managed two full time semesters of college courses with the University of Alaska. She achieved a 4.0 Grade Point Average for 24 credit hours towards a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. She also completed all necessary requirements for an Associates Degree from CCAF in Public Health Technology. Congratulations SrA Wilmoth and keep up the great work!

ACC Colonel Parker Award NCO Nominee: SSgt Jasmin Stewart

Meet SSgt Jasmin Stewart, the NCOIC of Communicable Disease Control at Offutt AFB, Nebraska. She is the program lead for the prevention and control of Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) program. She proactively managed and ensured 140-plus STD patients were educated and treated in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. Her intervention reduced the risk of re-infection and further spread. She is an exceptional speaker, she educated over 725 first-term airmen in STD awareness, prevention strategy, and sexual responsibility. She was highly praised for her ability to deliver a difficult message on very delicate topic. Her efforts resulted in Chlamydia rates being lowered by 7 percent over the previous year. This exceeded the local rate reduction goal of 5 percent. She created an STD training presentation on the impact of alcohol and drug use and STD prevalence

in the local area. She led the effort to transfer the communicable disease program tracking and follow-up responsibilities to the PCM teams. She trained team members on STD and TB clinical follow-up requirements and assured a seamless transition. She developed a comprehensive communicable disease clinical follow-up training guide for PCM use. She also compiled a database spreadsheet and numerous follow-up laboratory tests are now tracked to all the way to completion.

She volunteered her skill and knowledge in support of a 2-day, Defenders of Freedom air show. She ensured safe food and foodhandling practices for 84 food booths and a healthy visit for more than 170,000 visitors. She has completed 10 semester hours towards her Master's Degree at the University of Oklahoma with a 4.0 GPA. She was elected for the second straight term as the Offutt Mid-Tier Advisory Council Finance Accounting Officer. She was also selected as the 55th AMDS NCO of the Quarter for the third quarter 2002. She was recently STEP promoted to TSgt. Congratulations TSgt Stewart...keep up the great work!

AMC Colonel Parker Award NCO Nominee: TSgt David Brown

Meet TSgt David Brown, the NCOIC, Occupational Health at Scott AFB, Illinois. He was previously assigned to the Airman Leadership School and was awarded the ALS Instructor of the Year for Aviano AB, Italy. He managed the 375th Medical Group's Hospital Employee Health Program (HEHP) and achieved an unprecedented 99 percent compliance rate with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) policy. He flawlessly sent monthly notifications to 1,200 hospital members; tracked results, prevented disease transmission, and ensured the highest standards of health and safety and infection control precautions. He is the HEHP master guru and was handpicked by MDG commander to brief all newly assigned hospital personnel. He dramatically increased the total occupational exam compliance rate for the base from 56 percent to over 87 percent.

He not only successfully completed the Keesler Noncommissioned Officer Academy but he maintained a 92 percent academic GPA. TSgt Brown is a phenomenal leader! He utilized his prior Professional Military Education Instructor skills to tutor other students in writing and speaking fundamentals. His class average on exams rose from 75 percent to 89 percent. His informal leadership led to the nomination of the Commandant's Award for Thunderbolt Flight. He led the flight study group during the 6-week training with 100 percent of flight successfully completing the course. He received a second Associate's Degree from the Community College of the Air Force. He maintained a 3.4 GPA while finishing the coveted Instructor Technology and Military Studies degree. He has since completed 6 hours towards his Bachelor's Degree in Computer Information Systems Management. He is a quick thinker and responder...he aided a fellow student during a heat-related casualty situation where he administered self-aid and buddy care until medical authorities arrived. His actions were lauded by the schoolhouse instructors and classmates for expedient care. Congratulations TSgt Brown...keep up the great work!

AFMC Colonel Parker Award NCO Nominee: SSgt Lisa Padberg

Meet SSgt Lisa Padberg, the NCOIC, Food Safety and Sanitation at Hill AFB, Utah. She was a vital contributor to the success of 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City. She conducted multiple after hours and weekend inspections in the Joint Task Force housing services area and ensured over 1,000 soldiers stayed healthy. She performed unannounced food inspections which kept support personnel alert and ensured healthy security forces. She was the primary choice to work with Weber County Health Department for Olympic venue food inspections where foodborne illness was averted in the Olympic athletes' tent by correcting unhealthy handling practices.

SSgt Padberg oversaw and mentored seven new 3-level crosstrainees and monitored core tasks and acted as both trainer and certifier. She published a

monthly newsletter to inform over 250 food service personnel and managers of up-to-date regulations for safe food practices. She also developed a Food Security Checklist in response to the Sep 11 attacks and Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. This checklist helped to ensure the base food supply was safe from terrorists and that all food facility supervisors were thoroughly trained on food security and random anti-terrorism measures. Her extensive efforts were praised by supervisors; and a local Office of Special Investigation (OSI) who stated that her message on anti-terrorism measures hit home!

SSgt Padberg was the Food Safety and Sanitation Program Manager OJT Program Manager, Customer Service and Cost Center Manager for nearly \$15K equipment account. She designed and presented training for the PH OJT program increasing the compliance from 50 percent to over 95 percent. She has completed over 6 hours towards both her Associates Degree and her Bachelors Degree. She was selected as the NCO of the Quarter for the 75th Medical Group from January to March 2002. Congratulations SSgt Padberg...keep up the great work!

SPACECOM Colonel Parker Award NCO Nominee: TSgt Anita Washington

Meet TSgt Anita Washington, the NCOIC of Public Health at Buckley AFB, Colorado. She managed the newest Public Health (PH) section "Force Health Management" and ensured medical readiness. Buckley stepped to the plate and accepted the "Test Base" task of merging 4E/4F/4N career fields. She navigated the section's road to success and arranged several meetings with all sections to ensure a smooth transition. She was the Resource Coordinator for Aerospace Medicine and managed 5 different cost centers with amounts totaling over \$190K. She collected, compiled and reported Aerospace Medicine fund requests for TDYs, baseline & IMPAC transactions. She implemented tracking procedures for deployed personnel which decreased follow-up manhours by more than 20 percent. She briefed over 200 deploying individuals on specific medical threats & provided health care instructions to ensure their protection while de-

ployed. Her goal was to maintain healthy troops before, during and after deployment and have units mission ready 100 percent of the time. TSgt Washington significantly improved Occupational Examinations by developing a fail safe lab & x-ray order process using standardized CHCS lab orders. These were recognized as an outstanding practice by three Career Field Managers and recommended for use AF-wide.

TSgt Washington learned Spanish and earned 5 credit hours at the Community College of Aurora. She also earned 3 credit hours in Managing Internet Information which her knowledge saved countless hours surfing for web facts. She continued to earn 6 credit hours in humanities & philosophy courses, pursuing an Occupational Safety and Health Degree. She maintained a 3.5 GPA through 14 hrs earned and she was accepted at Regis University Accelerated Nursing Program. She is the Vice Chairperson of the Buckley AFB Multicultural Committee and Chaired the Base Black History Program. She donated, prepared & delivered food items to 75 homeless people on the streets of downtown Denver. She is big hearted...she unselfishly collected money for a Christmas gift for housekeepers. Congratulations TSgt Washington...keep up the great work!

AETC Colonel Parker Award NCO Nominee: SSgt John Fenwick

Meet SSgt John Fenwick, the NCOIC of Occupational Health at Tyndall AFB, Florida. He streamlined the Sexually Transmitted Disease program, simplified tracking of patient follow-up and slashed laboratory test completion times. He completely revamped the Tuberculosis Detection and Control Program documentation. The base's patient medication compliance soared from 84 to 100 percent. He is a natural leader, he excelled as PH Flight Chief during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM deployment. He independently built and refined the required PH programs in just one month which was essential to force protection. He hit the ground running and investigated 70 gastrointestinal infections in first week of duty assignment. He dedicated 90 exhausting man hours utilizing his management skills to coordinate with dining facility and medical

personnel to identify the source of illnesses and break the chain of infection. His efforts led to the halting of further outbreaks that almost certainly would have caused a work stoppage. SSgt Fenwick spearheaded the Anthrax vaccination program which surpassed every other deployed installation in this arena. He ensured accurate support for over 1,500 base personnel. He also coordinated with base personnel to ensure rosters of all individuals due for vaccine were identified and vaccinated. He worked hard to increase post-deployment follow-up and he achieved an incredible 100 percent. He ensured documentation distribution to home station. This allowed prompt identification and treatment of adverse medical effects associated with deployments. As the PH Flight Information Systems Security Officer, he ensured that all computers were upgraded to needed criteria...resulting in more efficient work processes throughout the PH office. He has attended several training courses in contingency operations to improve his capability and is a avid volunteer in his local community. Congratulations SSgt Fenwick and keep up the great work!

AF Academy Colonel Parker Award NCO Nominee: SSgt Rosemary Howard

Meet SSgt Rosemary Howard, the NCOIC of Deployment Medicine at Peterson AFB, Colorado. She organized and coordinated deployment medicine and communicable disease control activities for Peterson AFB, Schriever AFB, and Cheyenne Mountain AFS for over 20,000 beneficiaries. She is an exceptional leader! She took the initiative to organize a base-wide deployment processing improvement team for Aerospace Expeditionary Force deployments. Her efforts increased the overall efficiency of deployment processing. She corrected several discrepancies with pre-deployment health questionnaires not being accomplished within 30 days from deployment. She coordinated with base unit deployment monitors to ensure compliance. She audited over 60 records to ensure compliance with pre-deployment and post-deployment require-

ments. She redesigned the Tuberculosis Detection and Control Program and enabled public health technicians to access the flight surgeon's appointment system. She reduced patient scheduling time and increased compliance. SSgt Howard developed and implemented policies and notification procedures that increased tuberculosis skin test evaluation compliance rates and the number of skin tests placed versus the number read increased from 70 to 95 percent. Her superb contribution to the Air Force mandated merger of the 4E and 4F career fields at Peterson AFB allowed for a smooth transition of preventive medicine and deployment medicine programs. She provided training for 5 new public health technicians. The merger was completed two months ahead of AF goal. She completed a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Management at Colorado Christian University and is pursuing a Master's Degree in Management through Webster University. She is a dedicated volunteer throughout her community as exhibited through her helping feed over 700 homeless at the Marion House Soup Kitchen. Congratulations SSgt Howard...keep up the great work!

USAFE Colonel Parker Award NCO Nominee: TSgt Ronald Hay

Meet TSgt Ronald Hay, NCOIC of Force Health Management at Aviano AB, Italy. He is a tremendous problem solver who aggressively managed and tracked the wing Occupational Safety and Health Program. He relentlessly tracked and scheduled 621 overdue exams and raised compliance to all-time high of 96 percent. He provided critical leadership during the 4E/F/N merger in Aviano's selection as one of eight test bases AF wide. His impressive technical expertise allowed him to provide a template "lessons learned" CD-ROM to every MTF in AF. Locally, he initiated seven new Force Health Management Operating Instructions with the tools being posted on USAFSAM webpage as the AF model. He is a vibrant communicator, he briefed merger concept to over 90 PH senior leaders in a management symposium. He was selected as the

AMDS NCO of Quarter for Jul-Sep 2002. TSgt Hay formidably attacked a poor post-deployment questionnaire return rate forcing results up from 42 percent up to over 94 percent. He developed an automated tracking database for post-deployments and reduced the technician query time by over 50 percent. He was the Medical Group PIMR manager who patiently trained clinical staff from only a PHA mindset to an operational medicine focus. He was the primary driver in skyrocketing Individual Mobility Rates to 82 percent. These rates were first in USAFE and third in USAF. TSgt Hay graduated from the three-week Public Health Bridge Course at USAFSAM and was the first to meet the local OJT requirements. He took the Seven Habits of Highly Successful People seminar and completed a course in speaking Italian. He volunteered at the Bella Befana Bazaar which raised over \$60,000 towards base scholarships. He aced the six-volumed Centers for Disease Control Self-Study Tuberculosis Module and was the first prior 4F to be competing for this award. Congratulations TSgt Hay...keep up the great work!

PACAF Colonel Parker Award NCO Nominee: TSgt Keven Ward

Meet TSgt Keven Ward, NCOIC of Public Health at Misawa AB, Japan. He managed a \$27M food safety program and identified/mitigated safety risks with no food illness trends. He led the tracking and quarantine of \$256,000 of suspect poultry during global embargo. He executed USAF's 1st force health readiness report card and fused mobility ready, appointment no show, ergocurrent/pass & body mass rates into one monthly "e-report" putting unit readiness data on each commander's desktop. He incorporated PACAF's first FHM element into PH and molded the concept of operations used PACAF and USAF wide. He developed a FHM financial plan; researched spending requirements; and trimmed \$2,500 off projections. He targeted 28 unnecessary occupational health (OH) exams given to 305 people annually saving over \$6,000. He re-

duced overdue OH exams by 30 percent which impressed USAF/IG inspectors. TSgt Ward crafted PACAF's first 4F-4E rotation plan; ensured cross-functional training and again this was sent USAF wide. He reduced the pregnancy profile processing time by more than 80 percent. He led the training of seven Primary Care Manager (PCM) teams after FHM stand-up and 4N-4F-4E merger. The training plan covered physical standards, profile management and optimized access. He led the development of Web-enabled hearing conservation training making it easy and effective for wing wide use. He received high marks from 84 workplace supervisors and increased compliance from 80 percent to over 94 percent. TSgt Ward amassed six credit hours toward Community College of the AF Associate's degree in PH Technology and completed 30 credit hours in pursuit of the Bachelor of Arts in Theology from the University of Maryland. He is a compassionate leader dedicated to service in the Misawa community, he founded & pastored local church of 31 parishioners and provided to each spiritual guidance, support and friendship. Congratulations TSgt Ward...keep up the great work!

11th Wing Colonel Parker Award NCO Nominee: TSgt Sharon Thompson

Meet TSgt Sharon Thompson, Assistant NCOIC of Public Health at Bolling AFB, D.C. She was the "NCO of the Quarter," Oct-Dec 02 and the 2002 "NCO of the Year". Her keen technical abilities led to the accurate development of OSHA mandated tuberculosis assessment where she monitored and managed 27 patients in the Latent Tuberculosis Program with 100 percent clinical compliance. She designed an innovative follow-up mechanism where patient care management is now flawless...100 percent accurate. She improved the patient screening and saved 480 man-hours a year while cutting administrative time by more than 50 percent. She tenaciously managed 250 personnel in the Hospital Employee Health Program with the compliance rate at 98 percent. She was selected to be group's Security Manager and performed detailed assessment

of group's security program. She completely overhauled the program in preparation for ORI/UCI and created the first-ever MDG continuity book. She handled 210 medical group security packages with zero UCI discrepancies noted. She was solely responsible for food inspection activities for over \$2 million per month in Commissary subsistence products. She educated all Commissary dock workers on proper inspection of incoming food to ensure a safe food supply and to prevent returns.

TSgt Thompson is a hard charging NCO! She completed her Career Development Course in 8 months with an end of course score of 89. She earned an Allied Health Studies Associate Degree from the Community College of the AF in under 18 months. She is a devoted student who completed 18 semester hours at the University of Maryland with a 4.0 GPA. She attended the Non Commissioned Officer Academy and maintained a 90 percent overall academic average during the course. She is actively involved in the local community, base and unit functions. Congratulations TSgt Thompson...keep up the great work!

AFSOC Colonel Parker Award NCO Nominee: SSgt Stephen Garrett

Meet SSgt Stephen Garrett, NCOIC of Public Health for the 353rd Operational Support Squadron located at Kadena AB, Japan. He was the first ever PH person assigned to this unit. He built the programs from the ground up. He deployed in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM-Philippines. He expertly conducted an in-depth preventive medicine site survey at three front line operating locations. He implemented and managed deployed pest management program which was lauded by the Philippine Commander. He created an effective Occupational Health Program, identified and fixed hazards and secured the health for 660 personnel. He was selected by 353 SOG Surgeon to implement Ciprofloxacin ground trial for all assigned aircrew with world-class program management...the first AFSOC unit to reach 100 percent compliance despite HIGH OPS TEMPO.

He was deployed to Daegu, Korea in support of on-going operations and validated the new PH concept of operations. He identified, ordered, and packed all necessary equipment for successful Public Health field operations. SSgt Garrett elevated a previously non-existent capability to one that is a robust yet small operational footprint. He discovered and fixed deployment issues with pre and post deployment questionnaires. He stopped duplication, contacted the Army counterparts, negotiated remedies, instituted new procedures; and cut process time by more than 50 percent.

He pursued two bachelor's degrees from University of Phoenix in public health and business management, amidst a heavy deployment schedule and managed to complete six semester hours towards both degrees. He completed the Medical Readiness Planner's Course and Status of Resources and Training (SORTS) class and immediately applied this knowledge. He was the group Air Force Ball coordinator who supervised 15 volunteers, organized fund raisers, garnered \$600. He always fosters a positive AF image to all he meets. Congratulations SSgt Garrett...keep up the great work!

ACC Colonel Parker Award SNCO Nominee: MSgt Larry Bean

Meet MSgt Larry Bean the NCOIC of Force Health Management at Offutt AFB, Nebraska. He is a brilliant leader and conscientious SNCO! He led the PH office for a wing with 94 tenant units serving a beneficiary population over 54,000. He was hand-picked to stand-up new 20-person Force Health Management (FHM) element, the largest in ACC. He tackled a Preventive Health Assessment (PHA) office turnover and trained 3 new 4E's. His knowledge and personnel skills ensured a seamless transition. The installation PHA rate soared to an all time high of 77.4 percent. He streamlined the scheduling process for over 7,000 PHA's annually. He trained Primary Care Managers (PCM) on clinical responsibilities; eliminated duplication; and guaranteed the Wing a fit/ready force. He has high customer service standards. He scheduled over 3,000

wing deployers for predeployment clearances and administered pre/post deployment questionnaires and verified the immunization status of all deployers. He overhauled the Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) collection procedures; coordinated efforts with laboratory and ensured 100 percent accountability for sample submissions. The process was fixed with a compliance rate of over 97 percent for more than 7 thousand people.

MSgt Bean was awarded the CCAF degree in Public Health Technology and he earned 12 hours of credits for a Bachelors Degree in Science in Education with a 3.43 GPA. He was selected as the Unit Medical Liaison (UML) Program representative...he represents two base units; resolved four patient inquires concerning their medical care and supported over 500 active duty members and their families. He kept units on front edge of TRICARE issues and briefed After Hours Access to Care/Tricare for Life. He is also an active member of Tuskegee Airman, Alfonso W. Davis Chapter. Congratulations MSgt Bean...keep up the great work!

SPACECOM Colonel Parker Award SNCO Nominee: MSgt Phillip Davis

Meet MSgt Phillip Davis, the NCOIC Public Health at Vandenberg AFB, California (but has since PCS'd to the USAF Academy as the NCOIC of Public Health there). He is a talented, charismatic, energetic leader directing the largest Public Health (PH) Flight in Air Force Space Command (AFSPC). He is a true 14th Air Force Flying Tiger! He is an integral part of the readiness vanguard ensuring 30 Space Wing's expeditionary roles. He promoted the warfighting capability by enhancing the health of 3K+ space warriors through prevention programs that also ensured safe graduation of 700+ space operators, and 15 successful launches.

He leveraged a \$150K PH budget and contributed to Vandenberg's AFSPC's Installation Excellence Award. His contributions to Population Health programs helped garner a score of 95 from

the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations surveyors. He also formulated functional doctrine to identify superior retraining candidates into PH career field which was adopted AF wide and lauded by AF PH Career Field Manager. This process is a great piece of work which made everyone's job easier. He orchestrated the overwhelming task of moving occupational health exam accomplishment to six Primary Care Teams while maintaining >90% exam compliance rate. He deftly operated Communicable Disease and Deployment Medicine Programs for over 12K beneficiaries. These programs had perfect AF/SG HSI ratings! He reengineered the INH follow-up process to where PCM nurses are more engaged with their patients' healthcare management. MSgt Davis served as Top 4 Vice-President, emceed a group promotion ceremony, and oversaw and coordinated the Airman-of-the-Month Award. He supervised Air Force's only marine biotoxin surveillance program and coordinated with Santa Barbara County Health Department to warn general public of harmful conditions along Vandenberg's coastline. Congratulations MSgt Davis and keep up the great work!

USAFE Colonel Parker Award SNCO Nominee: MSgt Jeffery Maberry

Meet MSgt Jeffery Maberry, the NCOIC of Public Health at Aviano AB, Italy. He is the ringmaster of USAFE's most prestigious Public Health flight. He was a catalyst for 4E/F/N enlisted merger. He led a pilot program merging three medical career fields; established prototype out of eight test bases and was handpicked by the CFM to teach merger issues at HQ USAFE and USAF level management courses. He was a key member of USAF career field merger group completing eight TDYs to develop key AF policy and processes. He personally traveled over 50,000 miles to CONUS to develop these policies and processes for the merger. He led the charge on a Legionnaire's disease investigation he ruled out a BW attack within hours and panic was averted. He solved a long standing deficit of a poor post deployment questionnaire return rate...he raised it up from 42 percent to over 94 percent. MSgt Maberry imple-

mented a one-stop medical deployment processing to prevent the run around for over 1200 deployees. This simple idea got troops back to work faster to concentrate on the mission...ready rates went up over 14 percent.

He also fought for better working conditions for his people and won! He spearheaded a remodeling from decrepit, cramped office conditions to a state-of-the-art facility and negotiated over \$160,000 in renovation funds which was just in time for the 50 percent increase in manning and workload This also upgraded the patient accommodations to meet new HIPPA privacy requirements.

MSgt Maberry earned 12 semester hours through combination of CLEP tests and traditional studies at the U of M. He holds a perfect 4.0 GPA in 84 semester hours towards a Bachelors in Science degree. He completed the Senior NCO Academy by correspondence. He is an Aviano Top Three Officer representing 419 SNCOs. He mentors youth in "Adopt-a-Grade" reading program and is a Senior briefer at FTAC. Congratulations MSgt Maberry and keep up the great work!

PACAF Colonel Parker Award SNCO Nominee: MSgt (SMSgt) Phillip Jelks-Browning

Meet MSgt Phillip Jelks-Browning, the Superintendent of Aerospace Medicine and Flight Chief for Public Health at Misawa AB, Japan. He was hand-picked to lead PACAF's first Force Health Management (FHM) standup. He blazed the trail for the new PH mission. He championed the 4E-4F-4N merger test for AFMOA/CC & PACAF/SG. He was a key AFMS Merger Team rep who helped build the lessons learned and who helped shape AF policy. His efforts directly led to three AFI re-writes, a cross-functional training plan and a FHM execution scheme used AF wide. He oversaw the training of the MDG's seven Primary Care Managers (PCMs) on medical standards and profile management. He web-enabled the unit individual medical readiness (IMR) data for unit commanders to review which put mobility readiness command and control on every CC's desktop. He made the AF's first force health readiness (FHR) report card for CCs happen with coordinated FHM and HAWC

inputs. He fused mobility ready, PHA no show, ergo current/pass, and body mass index rates into one monthly electronic report. He was the PH champion for DoD's first automated, real-time, syndromic bio-terrorism surveillance tool, providing world class "epi". He provided the first in-garrison use of the Global Expeditionary Medical System (GEMS) electronic medical record and analysis tool. MSgt Jelks Browning was the driving force in scrubbing 12,000 medical records which led to 100 percent PIMR and DD Form 2766 updates leading to the warriors and their records "medically ready". As the PH Flight Chief, he flawlessly led 13 troops and directed all programs in Flight CC's 90-day absence while consistently working squadron superintendent duties.

MSgt Jelks-Browning was awarded not one but two CCAF degrees, both complex specialties, yet maintained a stellar 3.8 grade point average. He then completed and passed one CLEP in English Literature and gained three credit hours toward a Bachelors Degree in Science in Business. Congratulations SMSgt (S) Browning...keep up the great work!

ANG Colonel Parker Award SNCO Nominee: MSgt Richard Clampitt

Meet MSgt Richard Clampitt, the Superintendent of Public Health at Kulis ANGB, Anchorage, Alaska. He served as Chairman of the Squadron Deployment Committee which oversees the planning of all unit deployments ensuring that effective AFSC specific and contingency training is accomplished. His outstanding communication skills and wing reputation led to his appointment as the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program spokesperson and attendance to the DoD Spokesperson Training course. His leadership skills were invaluable to the professional development of squadron personnel and to the advancement of the 176th Medical Squadron. He helped turn this squadron into a viable military unit capable of any tasked mission. He increased deployment specific training requirement compliance by more than 40 percent which was paramount to the 176th Medical Squadron achieving a 90 percent

during the September 2002 HSI. He increased the compliance rate for Occupational Health Physical Examinations to over 90 percent, an increase of over 20 percent, while ensuring timely evaluation and protection of workers exposed to specific health hazards. He assisted Elmendorf Air Force Base in the epidemiological investigation of a dependent diagnosed with necrotizing fasciitis, or the flesh eating bacteria. He solidly performed the duties as the Medical Intelligence Officer providing briefings to wing personnel deploying to numerous locations in support of AEF and contingency operations, and peacetime deployments.

MSgt Clampitt completed a Bachelors Degree at Wayland Baptist University with a grade point average of 3.75. He is now working hard to fulfill the requirements for a Master's Degree. He also completed the CDC's at a staggering pace, seven volumes of five level CDC's in less than three months. He served as Leader of Men's Ministry at Faith Christian Community facilitating family growth. Congratulations MSgt Clampitt...keep up the great work!

AFMOA Staff PH NCO of the Year Nominee: MSgt Mark Mellinger

Meet MSgt Mark Mellinger, the Superintendent of Operational Health Support Directorate for the Air Force Medical Operations Agency (AFMOA). He is one of a very few enlisted action officers. He developed benchmark health promotion and disease prevention programs for 110 Air Force and DoD installations with over 600,000 AD and Air Reserve Component forces. He is the Resource Manager for \$15M directorate budget. He planned and programmed resources for four SG divisions. He was handpicked as the only AF enlisted representative on essential DoD working group for Joint Service Deployment Health Surveillance designed to overhaul the entire method of monitoring the health of our deploying forces (at home and abroad). He is the Work Group Manager, Functional Systems Administrator, and Computer Systems Security

Officer for AFMOA. He coordinated the totally revamped 4E0X1 Career Field Education and Training Plan and 4N/4F/4E Merger Policy Guidance. He masterfully organized two DoD and 19 AF level conferences, five Integrated Product Teams, and corporate level meetings for over 550 attendees for critical meetings which went off like clockwork. He championed the AF Deployment Health Surveillance program and co-chaired the Air Staff Integrated Process Team (IPT), was the co-author of new AF policy to capture all vital potential exposure data. This program advancement awed the GAO inspectors. He helped develop first-ever DoD Food/Water Security Guide.

MSgt Mellinger was elected as the SG Booster Club President and the Enlisted Voice VP. He single-handedly raised over \$1200 for SG Booster club. He is a Kingsview Homeowners Association Architectural Review Board Panel member where he reviewed 34 requests for additions to homes throughout his community. Congratulations MSgt Mellinger...keep up the great work!

USAFSAM Staff PH NCO of the Year Nominee: TSgt Annette Reid

Meet TSgt Annette Reid, an Instructor at USAFSAM who teaches topics mainly in the Communicable Disease and Epidemiology area. She was handpicked as Public Health (PH) Team Aerospace Operational Solutions (TAOS) Course Supervisor. Her superior organizational skills helped her manage daily conference schedule for over 400 attendees. She flawlessly provided eight separate medical service career fields valuable cutting edge information. She was the commander's choice to coordinate implementation of the Homeland Security Leadership course. She swiftly organized materials and subject matter experts to communicate guidance on this evolving topic. This high-profile course trained 81 wing/civic leaders. She also reengineered 12 division courses revamping contents, delivery, and method of evaluations to ensure student centered instruction and best possible training for all attendees.

She was instrumental in launching of USAFSAM's entry into technologically advanced course delivery methods. She was selected to implement LearnLinc—a distance learning tool that increases availability of courses, reduces travel and schedule inconveniences for students and is projected to save over \$500K in the next 5 years. She developed a new 7-level office management distance learning tool for PH technicians using LearnLinc. She created a superb plan of instruction for newly developed PH Skills bridge course which consolidated 64+ instructional hours down to 16 in record time.

She completed 12 credit hours towards a double major in challenging on-line programs, earned 4.0 GPA. She was selected as the Wing NCO of the Quarter (Jan-Mar 02). She was an energized participant in Habitat for Humanities housing project, along with fellow staff and students. She impressively transformed a dilapidated home into a shining showcase. She is the Treasurer, Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA), Brooks AFB Chapter 1077 and single-handedly raised over \$500 towards Texas flood relief fund. Congratulations TSgt Reid...keep up the great work!

ACC PH Officer of the Year Nominee: Capt James Coker

Meet Capt James Coker, the Flight Commander of Public Health at Davis Montham AFB, Arizona. He eagerly volunteered to deploy in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM and accomplished back-to-back bare base preventive medicine risk assessments in austere environments. He was the critical driving force in two site surveys and recognized, evaluated and launched aggressive public health campaigns to educate and protect over 4,500 deployed U.S. and coalition forces. CENTAF/SG, stated his actions were "remarkable." He was selected by CFACC for a lead ADVON team as the first U.S. military presence in a former soviet state and teamed with CE on \$17.6M campaign to position key sanitation assets and establish medical operations. He directed the health and safety oversight for the largest CENTCOM supply of \$12M food product (over 280,000 meals). He supervised the #1

ACC Hospital Employee Health program which tracked 99.1 percent compliance of standards and protected the staff. He is a true visionary, leading the MDG into the future. He directed the planning, coordination and institution of the local merger of three AFMS career fields. He established the team built the plan and policy for the entire re-organization. He developed a 16-hour course for 124 physicians, nurses and technicians and assured a smooth transition for all. He avidly managed the Public Health performance improvement initiatives; directed 18 Health Services Inspection elements which the IG claimed were, "mission ready" and were in the "top 10 percent of Public Health offices he's evaluated." Capt Coker was picked as #1 of 76 Company Grade Officers and named the Medical Group CGO of first quarter for 2002! He provided the U.S. Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan vital information on approved food sources and sanitarly approved restaurants in the area. He was selected for an AFMOA Fellowship and for an AFIT course. He is now prepared for Ph.D. in epidemiology. He is also an avid intramural bowler. Congratulations Capt Coker...keep up the great work!

AFMC PH Officer of the Year Nominee: Capt Janet West

Meet Capt Janet West, the Chief of Public Health at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma. She directly supported operations NOBLE EAGLE/ENDURING FREEDOM with public health functions where over 2,500 troops deployed with no known adverse trends for related disease and non-battle injuries. She led the implementation of Bioterrorism Medical Response Plan. She perfected the Deployment Medicine Element within Public Health Flight where all requirements are now more easily tracked. She showcased real world proficiency during ORI; united immunization and deployment medicine processes where 800 personnel processed with only 8 shots given. She vastly improved Clinic Employee Health Program where compliance increased to 97%. She is the founding member of a benchmark Integrated Safety and Workers Compensation Action Committee. Her

active leadership involvement decreased CY02 occupational injury/illness compensation \$1.3 million.

Capt West averted mass hysteria with her consummate risk communication skills which she provided to the public during a meningitis outbreak. Her renowned Biological Warfare (BW) casualty care expertise is both recognized and sought for MDG-wide training. She designed realistic BW symptoms and scenarios with effective and unique training approach which was lauded by MDG/CC. While deployed, her skillful control of deployed sanitation directly led to food-borne illness (FBI) outbreak-free AEF rotation. When she was notified of animals in the flight kitchen, she rapidly coordinated thorough facility cleanup and repair. Her superb risk communication skills were exhibited during educational portion of the anthrax vaccination campaign. She allayed the fear of over 900 deployed Air Force and Marine personnel with 100% program compliance in 1st week. Capt West was selected as the medical group and wing Company Grade Officer of the Quarter for the first quarter FY 02. Congratulations Capt West...keep up the great work!

PACAF PH Officer of the Year Nominee: Capt Chad Claar

Meet Capt Chad Claar, Deputy PH Flight Commander at Yakota AB, Japan. He masterfully directed the AF IG/Joint Commission (JCAHO) plans for 4 months while flight/CC was deployed. He led the flight to zero Type I or Type II findings and was pivotal for JCAHO 92 percent IG "Mission Ready" rating. He is the Public Health authority on tuberculosis (TB). He revised MDG policy for administering TB skin tests. He eliminated unnecessary tests; decreased the total testing by 60 percent and recouped over \$10,000 in annual healthcare costs. He investigated a possible TB exposure for 73 employees in the dental squadron and enhanced their infection control practices. Capt Claar's leadership and expertise was a cornerstone for enhancing PCO concept at the MDG. He keenly trained over 50 clinical personnel on occupational

health, profiles, and hearing conservation. He also expertly instructed multiple seminars with seven PCM teams primed to give care to latent TB patients. He expertly performed a food vulnerability study of Yokota AB and overlapped findings with four USFJ bases. These actions ensured the food supply for 13,000 personnel were safe from theft or attack with biological/chemical weapons.

Capt Claar sustained an awesome 3.7 GPA in MBA degree at Colorado State University. He completed 30 percent of requirements at a program ranked as one of the top distance learning programs in the country. He spent countless hours this year preparing over 2,000 hot meals for the homeless ministry program. He performed in a Japanese ceremony with the CGOC that honored those killed in action during WWII. This event was covered by the Japanese press and Capt Claar provided a positive image of the U.S. military presence in Japan. He is the coach of the MDG volleyball team and was selected as MDG and AMDS CGO of the quarter, first quarter 2002. He was hand-picked as the MDG alternate executive officer. Congratulations Capt Claar...keep up the great work!

AMC PH Officer of the Year Nominee: Capt Tracy Middleton

Meet Capt Tracy Middleton, the PH Flight Commander for Fairchild AFB, Washington. She is a superb leader! She was chosen by AMC to deploy with the Medical Global Reach Laydown Team (MGRLT) to Tajikistan in support of OEF. She was commended by AMC SG for expert handling of precarious food and water vulnerability issues noted during deployment. She exhibits outstanding management of 22 preventive medicine programs and led the MDG Employee Health Program to 100 percent compliance rate with over 330 staff trained and medically protected. Her leadership led to a 99 percent flu shot compliance in active duty despite vaccine delay and the program was rated #1 by AF. She cultivated a liaison between the MDG and Spokane County Health District. She coordinated the MDG response during a Spokane County E.coli outbreak. She provided bioweapons expertise to development

of a training program for local law enforcement agencies. She was hand-picked to perform essential airfield assessments throughout Vanuatu Island. She revamped the occupational health examination program and pushed the compliance rate from a marginal 69 percent to an astonishing 96 percent which is one of highest rates in AF. She reviewed and classified over 200K medical diagnoses for Bioterrorism Medical Surveillance Initiative. She led the charge in Individual Medical Readiness rates which reached the outstanding rate of 90 percent; #1 in AMC; #3 in AF. She worked hard to relocate her office personnel from several diverse locations to one effective operating office which drastically improved customer service.

Capt Middleton completed the Squadron Officers School via correspondence course. She is an accomplished speaker when she talks to the University of Washington ROTC cadets. She established an effective base level mentoring program. She is also an active member of the Inland Empire Veterinary Medical Association. Congratulations Capt Middleton...keep up the great work!

USAFE PH Officer of the Year Nominee: Major David Duque

Meet Major David Duque Jr. the PH Flight Commander at Spangdahlem AB, Germany. His stellar flight leadership during the Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) and dedicated 55+ hour weeks led to monumental achievement, over 2 thousand pre-deployment health assessments cleared for deployment. These clearance compliance rates were astounding at 99 percent accurate...only four errors found from over 400 records reviewed. He expertly led the interface of FW Unit Deployment Managers and medical staff. He supervised the FW use and optimization of Preventive Health Assessment and Individual Medical Readiness (PIMR) Program. The FW medical readiness leapt to 80 percent with 988 more warriors ready! He jump-started the state-of-the-art Disease Non-Battle Injury (DNBI) surveillance system which minimized disease impact to the FW by identifying health threats. His critical

role kept mission on track for the EUCOM directed deployment of 112 people from 3 continents to the Republic of Uganda. All service branches and 8 partner nations participated in MEDFLAG FY 02. He optimized over 35,000 patient annual visits accounting for \$6 million in outpatient care and ensured the right care at right time while lowering the clinic's utilization by 4 percent saving \$125K in less than 180 days!

Major Duque served as the MDG Biomedical Science Corps Chief and mentored 18 career officers. He is an active participant in the Spangdahlem Middle School mentor program and a prominent member of the Herforst Music Society. He contributed an impressive 120 plus hours to this local German organization where he actively promotes international relations through cooperative efforts in the area. He was chosen to serve as a guest conductor and helped fill a critical void which epitomized American volunteerism. He volunteered more than 50 hours of private instruction to Herforst musicians and was praised by the group's conductor and community leaders for immense altruistic dedication to their group and community. Congratulations Major Duque...keep up the great work!

SPACECOM PH Officer of the Year Nominee: Capt Pauline Lucas

Meet Capt Pauline Lucas, the PH Flight Commander at Patrick AFB, Florida. She commands an 18-person flight which is AFSPC largest. She led the flawless execution of preventive health care for over 43,200. She set the benchmark during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM deployment. She raised the force health protection rate and enhanced health surveillance and educated 1,000 warriors. The DNBI rates plummeted 40 percent which is phenomenal. She skillfully managed the mobility required vaccines which led to a 83 percent PIMR rate the best in AFSPC and #2 AF-wide! She is results oriented; she investigated 2 shop mold-induced respiratory complaints and established an action plan. She was the impetus behind cleanup and remediation in 2 buildings which prevented further exposure of over 800 workers. She is a keen inspector whose

decisive action salvaged food items from 3 freezer outage incidents saving more than \$11,000. She is a forward-thinker; her early notification and script letter for over 3,000 flu high-risk patients saved 400 man-hrs. She traced tent city nail cellulitis cases to TCN beautician. She endorsed the TCN removal which led to 100 percent case decrease. Capt Lucas educated 25 supervisors and 46 TCN workers on food safety techniques with zero food-borne-related cases reported. She directed the MDG merger planners where Force Health Management was created with no patient care interruptions. She researched and monitored the 'Red Tide' state results; updated community; and eased local fears and concerns. She developed a West Nile Virus monitoring program. She completed a course on Biological Warfare and Terrorism: The Military & Public Health Response. She is a Habitat for Humanity project participant and keyworker to the wing Women's History Month and was the squadron morale coordinator during deployment and was twice the winner of EMEDS CGO of the Month in 2002. Congratulations Capt Lucas...keep up the great work!

Lt Col George Prascsak Award Nominee (PH Staff Officer of the Year): Major Nancy Fagan (PHSD)

Meet Major Nancy Fagan, a Public Health Consultant at the Population Health Support Division at Brooks City Base, Texas. She is the recognized expert and was selected by-name to congressionally mandated DoD National Quality Management Program's Scientific Advisory Panel. She helped assess DoD quality of care for the congressional report. She is the founding member of a community injury prevention study...a broad look at all-cause injury in AF. She broke new ground in the dental arena...achieved maximum utilization of three years of dental records. She examined over 260,000 records and identified high-risk personnel for focused dental interventions. She created the first blueprint for dental health metrics provided vital data for commanders on personnel readiness. She

coauthored a dental epidemiological study, the first to describe periodontal disease and caries risk in AF. She consulted on dental student's epidemiological study examining relationship between periodontal disease and low birth weight in ADAF women. She was pivotal in the development of clinically-based performance measures using Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS) which is a key for production of vulnerable patient action lists. Examined and dissected HEDIS measure "Antidepressant Medications After Mental Illness." She analyzed 3.8 million beneficiaries' computerized medical records to establish measure in DoD comparable to civilian healthcare management organizations for performance measuring. She wrote the program with Structured Query Language (SQL) to extract coded data from eight data sets. She identified patients discharged with major depressive illnesses from direct and private sector care.

Major Fagan was qualified and accepted as a diplomate into the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. Congratulations Major Fagan...keep up the great work!

Lt Col George Prascsak Award Winner (PH Staff Officer of the Year): Capt Juan Ubiera (USAFSAM)

Meet Capt Juan Ubiera, an instructor for communicable disease and epidemiology at USAFSAM, Brooks City Base, Texas. He is a stellar USAFSAM faculty member, an inspiring officer, instructor, and leader. He consistently exhibits a flawless performance. His teaching style, course content and delivery are consistently rated 5.5 out of 6 on student critiques, which is absolutely outstanding! He is the subject matter expert (SME) for Public Health (PH), International Health, and Expeditionary Medicine. He has delivered more than 970 hours of training to over 1000 aerospace medicine students and provided over 300 field and base level PH consults. His knowledge, skills, and attitude are critical for effective warfighter support! He developed over 270 hours of superb teaching materials for training more

than 90 career field leaders. He quickly streamlined PH technical training materials and plans of instruction for a new PH skills bridge course which consolidated over 64 teaching hours down to 16 in record time. This action was crucial to spin up 350 new PH technicians. He expertly trained over 500 AF physicians on outbreak investigations as the Global Medicine course director. Students and USAFSAM leadership said his expertise and superb teaching were keys to success of this cornerstone operational medicine course.

Capt Ubiera completed the LearnLinc Train the Trainer course and attended the CDC Public Health Epidemiological Surveillance methods course. He is an assistant coach in National Youth Sports Winter Basketball League. He was recognized by the local Habitat for Humanity for his continuous support and contributions. He frequently volunteered preparing and serving meals at St. Vincent DePaul Homeless Shelter and earned the 2002 Toastmaster's International Communication and Leadership Achievement Award. Congratulations Capt Ubiera...keep up the great work!

Lt Col George Prascsak Award Nominee (PH Staff Officer of the Year):

Lt Col Debbie Dobson (AETC)

Meet Lt Col Debbie Dobson, the Chief of Public Health Operations at HQ AETC, Randolph AFB, Texas. She is a HQ AETC IMA ordered to extended active duty supporting OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. She served at 59th Medical Wing, Lackland AFB, from 29 Oct 01 - 8 Apr 02 and then was redeployed to HQ AETC. She is the HQ AETC expert for immunization programs and the "go-to" POC for anthrax, smallpox, and national shortages of vaccines. She catapulted the command average for childhood immunization compliance from 58.1 percent to 63.8 percent in just 4 months...the "best ever" for AETC, and well on the way to Healthy People 2010 goal. She formed a working group with members from Basic Military Training, Wilford Hall, Reid Troop Health Clinic, and AFMS Population Health Support Division to address BMT medical readiness. Lt Col Dobson

provided Primary Care Optimization Staff Assistance Visits to Tyndall, Altus, and Keelser AFBs. At these locations she assisted with immunizations and PIMR issues and moved these MTFs to the USAF/SG Population Health goal. She revised the metrics for the MAJCOM/CC which tracks medical readiness of over 41,000 AETC troops at 13 bases. Upon being activated to extended active duty status and assigned to Lackland AFB, she provided Public Health support to the 59th Medical Wing, the 37th Training Wing, and several Lackland AFB tenant units. She monitored disease trends in over 10,000 active duty members and more than 190,000 TRICARE beneficiaries. She ensured more than 5000 MDW active duty/contract medics were current on OSHA required exams.

Lt Col Dobson completed 17 hours of Continuing Medical Education to maintain her state Veterinary license. She is the assistant team manager for two girls' soccer teams and is the founding member of New Creation United Methodist Church. She provides financial support to San Antonio Mission Ministries. Congratulations Lt Col Dobson...keep up the great work!

Lt Col George Prascsak Award Nominee (PH Staff Officer of the Year):

Capt Matthew Shim (AF Safety Center)

Meet Capt Matthew Shim, an Injury Epidemiologist with the USAF Safety Center at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. He provided operational and epidemiological analyses that influence the development of USAF safety policies. He audited and reconciled a \$3.5M contract from 1997 to 2002 which solved a chronic \$300K budget discrepancy. He meticulously coded over 3500 private motor vehicle (PMV) mishaps for injury study, the first in USAF. This was a groundbreaking study with DoD-wide impact. It provided a single focus for Traffic Safety Working Group. He led the analysis of manpower "stressed" USAF career fields and coded duty AFSCs for over 1300 records. He performed a 25-year look back at Flight Class A fighter mishaps and total airframe

flying hours. He was handpicked to spearhead the new AFSC Mission Brief presented it to visiting foreign AF dignitaries. Capt Shim supported numerous Safety and Mishap Investigation Boards and provided just-in-time data to investigators. He provided manning coverage for civilian data analysts and performed essential data pulls and critical analysis. He gets high marks for his Flight Safety Officer Course briefing where his students apply basic epidemiologic skills to their duties. He is the section Government Purchase Card Administrator and he reviewed and approved \$25,000 in annual purchases. He is a compassionate volunteer with the Italian Greyhound Club of America, a rescue group for abandoned animals. He reviews potential rescue dog adopters, conducts home visits and transports dogs throughout the West. He is a contributing member of Historic Hawaii Association and Volcano Arts Center, Kilauea, Hawaii. He is a student at the National Martial Arts Academy and a member, NM representative and Fundraising Coordinator for Ohana Hawaii Association of Texas. Congratulations Capt Shim...keep up the great work!