



PH Hometown News

Volume 5, Issue 1

Jan-Mar 2004

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USAF Selects New SMSgts

Meet SMSgt (S) Francis (Frank) J.

Benkoski, the Superintendent 6th Aerospace Medicine Squadron at MacDill AFB, Florida. His previous assignments include:



Dyess AFB, Texas from 1982 to 1984; Kadena AB, Japan from 1984 to 1986; Mountain Home AFB, Idaho from 1986 to 1990; Howard AB, Panama from 1990 to 1991; RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom from 1991 to 1993; McChord AFB, Washington from 1993 to 1996; Aviano AB, Italy 1996 to 1999; MacDill AFB, Florida from 1999 to Present.

He has never been married and does not have any pets. His hobbies include reading and running. He has a message to share: "I have had an opportunity to see the world and work with some great Public Health people, what more could I ask for?"

Meet SMSgt (S) Basil D. Franz,

NCOIC of Human Resources, Los Angeles AFB (formerly NCOIC of the Clinical Operations Flight, Aerospace Medicine Flight, and Public Health) His previous assignments include

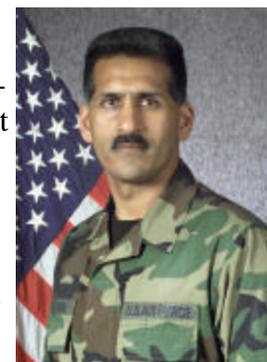


RAF Lakenheath from 1984 to 1988; Bangor ANGB (radar site) from 1988 to 1991; Brooks (Armstrong Lab) from 1991 to 1995; Kunsan in 1996; Eglin 1997 to 1999; Los Angeles from 2000 to 2004.

He shares much of his time with his six year old first grade daughter, Hope. They don't have names for all of the fish they have. They enjoy biking, surfing, and spending lots of time with his daughter outdoors. A message he would like to share with us: "If I stay around another 20 years, will I know more people in this career field or less?"

Meet SMSgt (S) Robin L.

Williams, the Superintendent, 51st AMDS, Osan AB, ROK. His previous assignments include: from Oct 1983 to Jul 1988 as an Environmental Health Technician, USAF Medical Center Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi; from Jul 1988 to Jul 1992 as the NCOIC Military Public Health, 401st Medical Squadron, Aviano Air Base, Italy; from Jul 1992 to Apr 1997 as the NCOIC, Public Health, 74th Medical Group, Wright-Patterson Air Force



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Base, Ohio; from Apr 1997 to Jan 2000 as the Superintendent, Aerospace Medicine, 61st Medical Squadron, Los Angeles AFB, California; from Jan 2000 to Jul 2003 as the NCOIC, 36th Medical Operations Squadron, Andersen AFB, Guam; and from Aug 03 to Present as the Superintendent, 51st Aerospace Medicine Squadron, Osan AB, Republic of Korea. He enjoys playing, coaching, and watching a lot of football (“Soccer for those in America - Those that know me have spent time debating that it is the #1 Sport!!”). He also spends time collecting music, part-time radio DJ (“Call me on the request line and I might just play your song”). Other hobbies include reading, traveling and doing those fix up projects around the house (“Isn’t HGTV a wonderful thing!”).

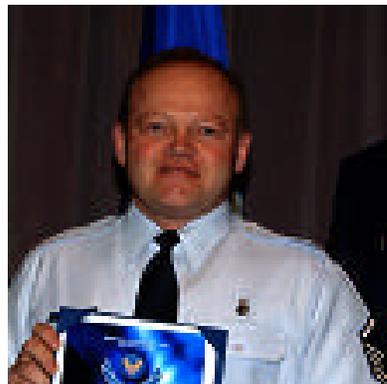
His favorite saying or quote: “Hey, enjoy life!” “The most rewarding thing is to make a positive difference in someone’s life” “Then there are also the occasional old English sayings (Since that’s where I was born) - like ‘Ere’ blimey don’t get your knickers in a twist.”

A message he would like to share with the rest of us: “Thanks to all of you that have sent me messages of congratulations, especially thanks to those that I have worked for and with; I would not be able to achieve this promotion without you all. I look forward to the new challenges and serving the PH Ca-

reer field as part of the Public Health Senior NCO Council”.

Meet **SMSgt (S) Mark Mellinger**, the Superintendent of Aerospace Operations for Air Force Medical Support Agency (AFMSA) and the USAF/SG and AFMSA First Sergeant (Additional Duty). His previous assignments include: Charleston AFB, South Carolina from 1995 to 2000; Plattsburgh AFB, New York from 1993 to 1995; Andersen AFB, Guam from 1991 to 1993; Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio from 1984 to 1991. He is married to Julie and they enjoy two children Sarah (22), April (18) and a grandson Tyler.

He enjoys intramural sports and his favorite saying is “The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him absolutely no good.”



SRB Removed ...

Here is the recent message that went out announcing the removal of our career field from the Selective Reenlistment Bonus program. The costs of the SRB program have skyrocketed over the past several years. HQ USAF directed review of the program and put out the following message announcing the changes to the program...I only included the parts that pertain to medical personnel. Here are excerpts of the message:

DTG: 292324Z MAR 04
SUBJECT: (U)SELECTIVE REENLISTMENT BONUS (SRB) ANNOUNCEMENT MESSAGE(DTG: 291825L MAR 04)

THE CURRENT SRB PROGRAM HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND THIS MESSAGE CONTAINS THE

RESULTS OF THE DETAILED REVIEW. DURING THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS, WE HAVE WORKED TO BALANCE AIR FORCE NEEDS AND DETERMINE WHICH SKILLS WARRANT AN SRB DURING THIS PERIOD OF INCREASED RETENTION AND OVER-ENDSTRENGTH. THIS LIST CONTAINS SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE CURRENT 4 JUNE 03 LIST.

THE FOLLOWING REDUCTIONS/ DELETIONS WILL BE EFFECTIVE 30 APRIL 2004:REMOVALS:4A0X1/ALL; 4A2X1/ALL; 4B0X1/ALL; 4C0X1/ALL; 4D0X1/ALL; **4E0X1/ALL**; 4J0X2/ALL; 4N0X1/ALL; 4N0X1A/ALL; 4N0X1B/ALL; 4N1X1/ALL; 4N1X1D/ALL; 4P0X1/ALL; 4R0X1/ALL; 4R0X1A/ALL; 4R0X1B/ALL; 4R0X1C/ALL; 4T0X1/ALL; 4V0X1/ALL; 4Y0X1/ALL; 4Y0X2/ALL

Meet SMSgt George Silvas—HQ ANG

SMSgt George Silvas is the Superintendent and Functional Manager for Public Health at the Office of the Air Surgeon, HQ Air National Guard at Andrews AFB, Maryland. He was just recently promoted to SMSgt while stationed at the HQ ANG Readiness Center at Andrews AFB, Maryland.

He is married to the former Ms. Raquel Moreno and they have two wonderful children, four and a half year old twins (one boy and one girl) whose names are George Junior and Alina. Their hands are full with twins.

His previous assignments include: the Non-commissioned Officer-in-Charge of Public Health and Public Health Technician for the 162nd Arizona Air National Guard Medical Squadron in Arizona from 1997 to 2002. While stationed there he administered the installation Hearing Conservation Program, performed occupational and community health programs such as, respiratory protection, fetal protection, medical intelligence briefings, food facility inspections, immunizations and health risk assessments. Other additional duties included were Medical Squadron Collateral Duty Safety officer and Medical Squadron Building Manager.

While at the 162nd Medical Squadron from 1986 to 1997, SMSgt Silvas was functioning as a Aerospace Medical Specialist (4F071), where he was responsible for performing various types of medical tests, physicals and completing the proper forms associated with a given examination. He was also the Physical Fitness Monitor where he was responsible for clinic personnel completing the annual walk/run requirement. He was also the Task Qualification Training In-

structor where he coordinated and supervised clinic personnel while-performing an annual desert litter obstacle course in full MOPP gear.

As the Alternate Vehicle Control Officer and Alternate Modular Ambulance Trainer he ensured clinic personnel were trained and licensed in a mechanically sound, well-stocked ambulance. Another full-time responsibility included being responsible for the entire record review of all 1800 medical records maintained by the 162nd Medical Squadron, which included updating, processing, and reviewing.

During this period in 1991, he deployed as a Flight Medicine Technician to Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona to provide support for the active duty forces during OPERATION DESERT SHIELD and DESERTSTORM. Thanks for sharing a piece of your life with us and for what you do for the ANG people!



Meet MSgt Cornell Johnson

MSgt Cornell K. Johnson is currently the NCOIC, Aeromedical Training Division and has been the 4E functional manager at the USAFSAM at Brooks City Base, Texas.

His assignments include: from Apr 1986 to June 1991 he was at the USAF Clinic at Lowry AFB, Colorado; from June 1991 to June 1993 he was at the 10th TFW, at RAF Upwood, United Kingdom where he was the NCOIC, Occupational Health; from June 1993 to Oct 2001 he was the NCOIC of Public Health at the 28th MDG at Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota; and from Oct 2001 to present he has been an instructor at USAFSAM, Brooks City-Base, Texas.

MSgt Johnson is married to TSgt Shanece Johnson and they enjoy spending time with their daughter Niki and their son Ja'Markki as well as their granddaughter Keriston.

During his off-duty time he enjoys going to

movies, getting out and going horseback riding, reading good books and hiking out in nature.

A favorite famous quote he would like to share with the rest of us: "Let justice run down like water and righteousness as a mighty stream," Amos 5:24.

Thanks for sharing a slice of your life with us. You are doing a great job at USAFSAM and we all appreciate what you have done for Public Health and Aerospace Medicine!



USAFSAM Updates

The new Food Code is now available on the PH web homepage. The leadership at USAFSAM have welcomed four new instructors to our staff: first is **SSgt William Reid** from Lackland AFB, Texas; **SSgt Krisanna Brothers** from Cannon AFB, New Mexico; **SSgt Elizabeth Woodland** from Peterson AFB, Colorado; and **SSgt Ramon Reid** from Dyess AFB, Texas. They will add a new Public Health Apprentice course in FY05, due to our Training Personnel Requirements (TPR) being increased. The numbers will raise from 100 to 140 new pipeline students coming into our career field each year. The course supervisor of the Medical Standards Bridge Course wants the career field to know the course is designed for traditional 4E 7-levels, some exceptions can be made for 5 levels running Force Health Management when no other 7-level can do the job. The course is not designed to replace base level training of 5 le v-

els. There are only a limited number of courses left for FY04, please obtain quotas for your 7-levels still requiring training.

RSV Web homepage: PowerPoint lessons for RSV tasks are posted on the PH web homepage.

Distance Learning (DL) courses test link: There is now a link for test questions to assess the knowledge of personnel after completion of each module in the Principles of Epidemiology and Vector Borne Disease Surveillance DL tools on the PH web homepage...OR you can use the below information:

Each DL tool has a self assessment test included in the course, Prin of Epi and Vector Borne Disease Control. In the Prin of Epi module at the end of each lesson (there are 6 lessons) there is a self assessment test, the answers to each test is located in Appendix J. In the Vector Borne Disease Control module there are 6 Manuals and each has a correspondence lesson. The manual contains the study material and the lesson contains the questions for that particular manual.

Skunkworks



DEPLOYED. SSgt Negesa Scales, Luke AFB, re-enlisted on 5 November 2003 on the roof of the Al Faw Palace, Baghdad Iraq. Major Mike Lundy, Boling AFB PH Chief, had

the honor of re-enlisting SSgt Scales and Lt Col Jay Fandel had the "flag holder" duties. All three were deployed to the 447 EMEDS, Baghdad International Airport, Iraq.

Eielson AFB, Alaska: SSgt Mary Anne Vioria (4E) is the 4th Quarter winner for both MDOS and MDG for Outstanding NCO of the Quarter. SSgt Erica Larsen (4E) is the MDG Outstanding Airman of the Year!

Offutt AFB Nebraska: Col Newton, Commander, 55 Medical Group, presents MSgt Codney with his first MSM. The MSM was earned while stationed at Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota.



Randolph AFB, Texas: Colonel Debbie Dobson recently pinned on Colonel (17 Mar 04). Congratulations!



Davis Monthan AFB, Arizona: SrA Nalani Moenoa was selected as the Airman of the Year for the 355th Medical Group and was selected for Senior Airman Below-the-Zone in December 2003. Great job and congratulations!



SSgt Stephen Garrett (AFSOC—Kadena AB Japan) A Public Health operational visit to Bangladesh. Here he is with a couple of Bangladeshi Army regulars.

ton LeMond.” Of course, this shocked SSgt LeMond...thinking he was in real trouble. His shock turned into awe when the General stated, “your now a TSgt, congratulations.” TSgt LeMond will be hard pressed to find a moment in his career that will top this. Congratulations!

Scott AFB, Illinois: CMSgt Richard Johnson retired in January after 30 years of dedicated service to our country and to our career field! Richard and his family enjoyed a wonderful retirement ceremony prior to moving to North Carolina to start the next chapter in their lives!



Canon AFB, New Mexico: Recently Lt Gen Schmidt (12th Air Force) walked into a meeting and made a

few statements and then asked, “I’m looking for SSgt Pax-



Meet CMSgt (S) Peggy Kerns

The USAF has selected one of our best SNCOs to the highest enlisted rank...Peggy Kerns. CMSgt (S) Peggy Kerns is the Chief Enlisted Manager, Aerospace Medicine Division at HQ PACAF.

Her previous assignments include: Hickam AFB, Hawaii from Jul 03 to Present; Langley AFB, Virginia from Aug 01 to Jul 03; Ramstein AB, Germany from Jul 97 to Jul 01; Barksdale AFB, Louisiana from May 94 to Jun 97; Andersen AFB, Guam from May 92 to May 94; Beale AFB, California from Feb 90 to May 92; Torrejon AB, Spain from Jan 86 to Jan 90; McGuire AFB, New Jersey from Jul 83 to Dec 85; McClellan AFB, California from Jan 82 to Jul 83; and Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio from Mar 81 to Dec 81.

CMSgt (S) Kerns is happily married to CMSgt Ray Kerns (for 21 glorious years) and they enjoy their pride and joy ...their son Nicholas (age 12). CMSgt (S) Kerns spends her time off reading

books, putting together various crafts, swimming and going to the movies.

Her famous quote she would like to share with us: "When you fight for your limitations you will achieve them. (meaning, if you constantly say you can't then you won't)".

The message she would like to share with the rest of our PH family: "Have Fun and every once in a while, dance when you're not supposed to!"

Thanks for sharing a little slice of your life with the rest of us and CONGRATULATIONS on your selection for CMSgt...

the top rung on the enlisted ladder!



Meet CMSgt (S) Theron Reed



The USAF has selected one of our best SNCOs to the highest enlisted rank...Theron Reed. CMSgt (S) Theron M. Reed is the Command Public Health

Functional Manager, HQ ACC, Langley AFB Virginia.

His previous assignments include: from 1979 to 1983 Military Working Dog Center, Lackland AFB Texas; from 1983 to 1984 Environmental Health, Andrews AFB Maryland; from 1984 to 1987 Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory, Wight Patterson AFB, Ohio; from 1987 to 1989 Military Public Health, Izmir AS, Turkey; from 1989 to 1992 Military Public Health, Shaw AFB, South Carolina;

from 1992 to 2000 Public Health, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; and from 2000 to present HQ ACC, Langley AFB Virginia.

He is married to Vivien for over 24 yrs and they enjoy time with their son, Brandon who is 21 years old and their daughter, Danielle who is 16 years old. Chief Reed enjoys spending time hunting, fishing and reading when he gets some time off from the job and family.

A famous quote that he would like to share with the rest of us: "Don't tell me what you can't do— tell me what you can do!"

Thanks for sharing a slice of your life with us and CONGRATULATIONS on your selection for CMSgt...the top rung on the enlisted ladder!

