

BRIDGING

THE GAP



ISSUE 23 ❖ AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2010



**Veteran's Memorial Garden
WWII Women Service Pilot's Memorial**

Page 16



Literacy

Page 4



Women's History Month Page 23



Maj Gen Holm

Page 8



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Protocol: Understanding How to be Proper Around the World by Allen Beerman	3
International Literacy Day.....	4
Movie Review: Lioness.....	6
Maj Gen Jeanne Holm.....	8
Keys to Success: Attitude, The Glue That Binds by MAJ Steven Collins	10
The Fusion Project and Celebrate Lincoln	13
Children's Book Review: Nana's Garden	13
Standing Bear Commemoration	14
Trivia Questions: Russia.....	15
Veteran's Memorial Garden 21st Anniversary Celebration & the Dedication of Nebraska's WWII Women Service Pilot's Memorial	16
2010 Juneteenth Celebration in Omaha.....	18
Diversity Dates	19
Website Review: Grace After Fire	20
SEP Member Highlight: Jessie Bockelman	21
Oktoberfest.....	22
Women's History Month Celebration 2010	23
Russian Trivia Answers	24
2010 FEW Women's Annual Training Day	26
Diver-cipe Corner: Reynold's Enchiladas.....	27

PUBLISHER

Special Emphasis Program (SEP) Group

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Mary Schmidt-Rodriguez

EDITORS

MSGt Paul Dion

CSM Mark Felker

SSgt Kevin Krausnick

Pam Makovicka

LaVonne Rosenthal

Mary Schmidt-Rodriguez

ASSISTANT EDITORS

Karen Jordan-Anderson

Sharon Rezac

THE NEBRASKA MILITARY DEPARTMENT

VALUES DIVERSITY

The purpose of the SEP Group is to work with leadership and management in carrying out their joint responsibility to identify barriers to the recruitment and advancement of special emphasis groups, devise solutions, and draft plans to implement the solutions.

In addition, the SEP Group provides opportunities for positive exchange among diverse groups through community outreach, education and cultural diversity awareness.

MESSAGE FROM BTG'S CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Recently I had the opportunity to watch an HBO movie entitled *Taking Chance* starring Kevin Bacon. All I knew about the movie was from the short description provided on the cable menu. It is about a Marine Lieutenant Colonel escorting a fallen Marine home to his final resting place: *one of the silent, virtually unseen journeys that takes place every day across the country.*

The movie is very simple as it traces the steps taken by Lieutenant Colonel Michael Strobl to escort Lance Corporal Chance Phelps home; from his motivation as to why he volunteered for this duty (since he didn't know him personally) to Strobl returning home to his family after a trip of honor and self discovery.

This movie is tastefully presented as it focuses on people and their emotions, and respect for the fallen and the escort. We come to know the fallen Marine from insights into his personal journey from overseas to his final resting place, and from glimpses of his family and friends at home. We also become intimately involved in the life and emotions of his military escort; Strobl's motivations,

fears and great love for his fellow Marines and his own family.

Although the movie focuses specifically on these two men, I also felt that it honors all of our fallen military heroes: men and women from all backgrounds and histories. It is a very emotional movie as you realize this is just one story like that of so many men and women in our armed forces. It brings to light the sacrifices being made daily to protect our freedoms here at home, freedom to be individuals, freedom to be who we are because of our ethnic backgrounds, our religious beliefs, our political beliefs and many other freedoms we enjoy in this great land.

I am proud to serve our military men and women in my own small way. I say *Thank You* for all you do to make this such a great and free country.

<http://www.hbo.com/movies/taking-chance/index.html#/movies/taking-chance/index.html>

<http://www.chancephelps.org/>

Bridging the Gap welcomes your submissions of article ideas and written articles.

To have your upcoming event published in Bridging the Gap, please notify us by September 3, 2010 for Issue 24: October/November 2010.

All article submissions, due August 9, 2010 for the above issue, will be considered for publication. We reserve the right to edit submitted material.

Please send your submission to Mary Schmidt-Rodriguez at m.schmidtrodriquez@us.army.mil

SPECIAL EMPHASIS PROGRAM (SEP) GROUP MEMBERSHIP

MSGt Paul Dion	paul.dion@us.af.mil	Mary Schmidt-Rodriguez ..	m.schmidtrodriquez@us.army.mil
Pam Makovicka.....	pam.makovicka@us.army.mil	LaVonne Rosenthal	lavonne.rosenthal@us.army.mil
BG Roma Amundson	Kari Foote	SSgt Winston Sanniola	
Denise Anderson	Capt Amy Johnson	Susan Stevens	
Jessie Bockelman	MSG Colin Jones	TSgt Casey Svitak	
CPT Dale Burrage	MAJ Richard Jones	CPT Carlos Van Nurden	
MSG Reynold Castaneda	Karen Jordan-Anderson	SGT Adrian Velez	
MSGt Kim Davila	SFC Kim Moore	CPT Juan Vidal	
LTC Shawn Edwards			

Interested in becoming a member of the SEP Group? Please contact one of the members with an email address listed above.



PROTOCOL

By *Allen J. Beermann*
Executive Director
Nebraska Press Association

UNDERSTANDING HOW TO BE PROPER AROUND THE WORLD

International behavior is governed by the practice of proper protocol in business, government and, in some cases, social interaction. Some argue that proper protocol is an art form using benchmarks of courtesy, common sense, and the rules of decency and good behavior, with an ample dose of etiquette!

It has been my good fortune for more than 40 years to travel to all the states in our country and more than 35 countries around the world. These travels have been in government, business and social settings. During these travels, I have learned and practiced the rules of protocol and appreciated the importance of using good protocol in all venues.

Most business, government and social engagements involve an invitation or appointment. This brings into account the first rule of protocol. Punctuality is the Protocol of Kings and Queens. In most countries, being punctual is the first clue of the visitor's behavior. In some areas, being late is just unacceptable.

Almost all of the formal and practical rules of protocol and etiquette can be found in manuals from the White House, Department of State and the United Nations. The military in most countries has its own set of guidelines regarding interaction with civilians, rank and ribbons and ceremonies. In fact, each branch of the American military has its own set of rules, protocol and military parade.

The practice of presenting and exchanging business cards has been around for a very long time. Care and preparation in printing a business card is important. If foreign travel is involved, it is a wonderful courtesy to have the card printed in both languages - English on

the front side and the "other" language on the reverse (well translated). When cards are exchanged, pay attention to the card, read it and carefully place it in a prominent place in your clothing. Some cultures expect or require a slight bow when presentation is made and to clutch the card in both hands. You are actually presenting your credentials.

Encountering Royals can be exciting and tricky. Royalty has its own set of rules and protocol, along with a long tradition of etiquette set in place by centuries of tradition. It is comforting to know that if you have the opportunity to mingle with royalty, the Royals and staff will guide you, prompt and prepare you on proper protocol and royal etiquette. Usually involved are such things as bowing, who speaks first, and who extends the hand first for a greeting. Photos require permission and autograph seeking is usually out of bounds!

Waving, bowing and standing all seem to generate misunderstanding and intrigue. In these three areas, tradition, courtesy, etiquette and protocol come together. Bowing and standing are usually done out of respect and courtesy. Many religions and royalty usually command some form of bowing or standing. Heads



Linda and Allen Beermann

of state, presidents, governors, senators and congressional representatives usually are given the courtesy of the audience standing when they are introduced. A firestorm arose when the U.S. President bowed to a King. Many felt that while it may have been custom and proper, the USA should bow to no one. This is where politics meets protocol.

Waving also has a set of customs and protocol. While waving usually is not studied or watched closely, there is a very definite protocol involved. Citizens and most government officials just wave merrily and with gusto. The Pope waves with a hand straight ahead, showing neither palm nor outer hand. The Queen and most royals wave with palm inward and outer hand facing the audience.

Flags and seals pose the most difficulty for those who must handle the protocol of display, hoisting and flying of flags.

Continued on Page 7



INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY

By LaVonne Rosenthal

Can you read this?

If so, you are one of 80% of American adults who are considered literate (according to Thinkquest.org). The 1991 Adult Literacy Act defines literacy as “An individual’s ability to read, write and speak in English, and compute and solve problems at levels of proficiency necessary to function on the job and in society, to achieve one’s goals and develop one’s knowledge and potential.” The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) defines literacy as the ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate, compute and use printed and written materials associated with varying contexts.

International Literacy Day is annually recognized on September 8 as a result of UNESCO’s efforts in the 1960s to bring attention to the world’s problem of illiteracy. This date was selected as it coincides with the beginning of school in many countries, highlighting the importance of teaching literacy skills to our children.

There are different levels of literacy, as some adults are able to read and write at a fourth-grade level, while others are comfortable writing a dissertation to complete an advanced college degree. Functional literacy is being able to read and write to the point of being able to manage daily living and maintain employment, with reading skills beyond a basic level. Literacy requirements vary across the continent, as a farmer in the rural area of a developing country doesn’t need the same reading and writing skills as a business leader in the urban area of a



technologically advanced country. The World Factbook from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) lists countries around the world and their definition of literacy. From

Albania (age 9 and over can read and write) to Zambia (age 15 and over can read and write), criteria varies in determining the percentage of population classified as literate. In today’s information-laden society, literacy can be expanded to computer literacy, defining who can easily maneuver through the internet.

The ability to communicate through the written word has long been a powerful tool, to the point of determining who can and can’t vote. During the Civil War, White citizens in many areas banned teaching slaves to read or write. Thus, after the Civil War, the ability to read or write determined whether one had the right to vote. This prevented former slaves from joining the electorate and being heard. Literacy tests were implemented to test the literacy of potential voters at the state level. The Federal government first employed literacy tests as part of the immigration process in 1917. Southern state legislatures employed literacy tests as part of the voter registration process as early as the late nineteenth century.

As used by the states, the literacy test was applied in an unfair manner, as it was

used to deprive many literate Southern Blacks the privilege to vote while allowing many illiterate Southern Whites to vote. The literacy test, combined with other discriminatory requirements, effectively disqualified the vast majority of African Americans in the South from the 1890s to the 1960s. In a typical Alabama literacy test, Part A required you to read out loud to the registrar’s satisfaction a section of the Constitution (and in some cases verbally interpret it to his satisfaction). The individual then had to write out a section. After that, Part B included two sets of four written questions that had to be answered. For example:

1. What body can try impeachments of the President of the United States?
2. If a person charged with treason denies his guilt, how many persons must testify against him before he can be convicted?
3. What officer is designated by the Constitution to be President of the Senate of the United States?

(See answers at the end of this article.)

In 1964, the Civil Rights Act prescribed that literacy tests used as a qualification for voting in federal elections be administered wholly in writing and only to persons who had not completed six years of formal education. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 suspended the use of literacy tests in all states or political subdivisions in which less than 50 percent of the voting-age residents were registered as of 1 November 1964, or had voted in the 1964 presidential election. In a series of cases, the Supreme Court upheld the legislation and restricted the use of literacy tests for non-English-speaking citizens.

There are many stories of individuals who grew up, became prominent citizens of their communities, and yet never learned to read or write in school. One such

Continued on Page 5



International Literacy Continued from Page 4

person is Barrie Hughes, who at 58-years-old, learned to read and write. During his school years, he was allowed to slide through class as teachers during that time didn't know how to deal with him. He was diagnosed as a "blind reader," which today would be considered dyslexia. One of his elementary school teachers told his parents he'd never do any good and never amount to anything. For a young child to hear that remark from a teacher is devastating, and set the pattern for Barrie's lack of ambition to learn to read and write. His father tried to help him, but grew frustrated, as did Barrie when he tried to read on his own.

The big love in Barrie's life was music, and he taught himself to read music and play the drums, landing him a job in a band. Later he would work with his father as a grave digger, and tended the grass and shrubs in cemeteries. He became quite creative in his ability to get around having to read. But the moment of truth came when he had to take a literacy and numeracy test in a digger course. He gathered up his courage and told the entire class that he was unable to read and write.

Some of his classmates were also friends, and they were completely surprised at this revelation.

After revealing his secret, Barrie was tested and discovered he was severely dyslexic. He began one-on-one literacy classes and continued to enroll in classes. Barrie found a passion for learning that had been buried all his life. His enthusiasm and confidence has grown to the point where he is reading and writing poetry, as well as helping others learn. Barrie said, "There are so many things I want to do. I would like to write more poetry and

get it published, that's how good I want to get. I want to read more books. I want to help more people."

If you have a desire to help others such as Barrie, you can volunteer with the Lincoln Literacy Council. This group works with those who are unable to read and write English at the basic level, as well as helping immigrants learn English as their second language. Volunteers are required to complete initial training prior to being matched with a student. I recently completed my training and now tutor a Vietnamese couple as they work to improve their English speaking skills. This dedicated pair meets with me on a weekly basis to talk about family activities such as fishing, shopping excursions and traveling. While I've just begun my tutoring experience, it is very rewarding and truly fun to spend time with them. I strongly encourage anyone to consider spending an hour each week (plus about 30 minutes preparation time) with a willing learner. The Lincoln Literacy Council provides excellent training and continual support to its tutors.

Clay Naff, Executive Director of the

Lincoln Literacy Council, provided these insights about International Literacy Day and local area residents: "International Literacy Day is meaningful to Lincoln Literacy Council, because more than 90% of the people we serve are refugees and immigrants from other countries. Although our local adult literacy rate is above 98%, this is far from true among our growing international population. In Lancaster County, more than 10% of households are non-English speaking, according to the Census American Community Survey. Many of the refugees and immigrants we serve had little education in their own country. This is especially true of the women from countries like Afghanistan that deliberately withheld education from girls. It is our privilege to have so many wonderful volunteer tutors who work with our international clients to help them gain the blessings of literacy."

How did you do on the voting literacy test? The answers are:

1. What body can try impeachments of the President of the United States? Senate

U.S. LITERACY BY THE NUMBERS

44 million: Number of adults who have difficulty using reading, writing and computational skills needed in everyday life.

20: Percentage of adults who read at fifth-grade level or below.

53: Percentage of 3 to 5-year-olds who are read to daily.

77: Percentage of 3 to 5-year-olds who are read to more than three times per week who could read, or at least pretend to read, a storybook.

57: Percentage of 3 to 5-year-olds who are read to less than three times per week who could read, or pretend to read, a storybook.

39: Percent of adults needing help with everyday literacy tasks.

68: Percentage of women on welfare with below average high school reading skills.

\$45,610: Average household income with the highest literacy levels.

\$15,480: Average household income with the lowest literacy levels.

101: Total number of hours spent reading books, per person, in 1995.

86: Total number of hours spent reading books, per person, in 2004.

1,580: Number of hours spent watching television, per person, in 1995.

1,673: Number of hours spent watching television, per person, in 2004.

2. If a person charged with treason denies his guilt, how many persons must testify against him before he can be convicted? Two
3. What officer is designated by the Constitution to be President of the Senate of the United States? The Vice President

References:

Literacy by the Numbers, Publishers Weekly, June 27, 2005
Answers.com, literacy test

Get up, Stand up, Adults Learning, December 2009

The World Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>





MOVIE REVIEW: LIONESSES

*Movie Review By
LTC Elizabeth Cisne*

*Directed by Meg McLagan, PhD, and Daria Sommers
A Room 11 Productions Film*

<http://www.lionessthefilm.com/>; <http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/lioness/teamlioness.html>

Lioness captures the thoughts and experiences of five female Soldiers who were tasked to perform alongside combat arms forces in Iraq, and how that experience changed them. Woven into the narrative are scenes and interview segments with close family members, giving insight into their pride and fears, especially when discussing how the deployment experience changed their loved one.

The female Soldiers selected for the first Lioness teams were drawn from Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team (BCT), 1st Infantry Division. They were called upon to perform various missions whenever contact with Iraqi female civilians would be expected. For example, the Lionesses were embedded into combat arms formations as they conducted home raids or search operations. Their role was to identify themselves to the Iraqi females in the homes, search them, and then try to calm the women and ensure that they did not interfere with the ongoing operation. The work of the Lioness teams was deemed critically essential to the success of operations in Iraq.

Of the approximately 20 original



members of Team Lioness, the women featured in the film represent a broad spectrum of female Soldiers and the society they are drawn from. We first meet Specialist Shannon Morgan, an adopted only-child raised by an older couple in rural Arkansas, a typical tom-boy who readily adapts her squirrel hunting skills to combat operations in Iraq. Leading Team Lioness is Major Kate Guttormsen, a steely red-headed engineer officer and West Point graduate, whose post-deployment shows her softer side as she tends her horse. Among the other team members is Specialist Rebecca Nava, a supply clerk who takes you on a tour through her arms room, describing in detail the different weapons systems in a voice that makes you think she's simply describing the contents in her childhood bedroom. We also meet Sergeant

Viewer tip: Be sure to watch the extras bonus footage.

Ranie Ruthig, a mechanic and mother, and Captain Anastasia Breslow, the daughter of a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel.

The directors also attempt to address how the Lioness' mission could potentially change the role of women in the military. As the docudrama wanders from Soldier to Soldier, it casts an overall ambivalent tone to the ongoing political and

philosophical debate on the issue.

The fact that the Lionesses lived to share their experiences speaks volumes for their identification as Soldiers and their adaptability to accomplish any task or mission. At some point in watching the documentary, I had to ask myself if I would have done as well as these women had. As a female combat support troop, I can only guess that the limited combat skills training I've received would have enabled me to survive and accomplish the mission.

However, I can't say that my fellow male combat support Soldiers are any better prepared than I. Nowhere along my career path have I been gendered-out of any male-only training. I was quite annoyed by the retired female Navy Captain (an O-6) who repeatedly and plaintively argued that the women

Continued on Page 7



Protocol by Allen Beerman Continued from Page 3

Seals represent the highest authority of a state, nation or special unit of government. Both flags and seals command respect at all times as to when, where and how to display. The rules for flags and seals are widely published in manuals and are available from various sources such as veterans groups, etc.

Seals are usually placed before a meeting or event begins, such as the Presidential Seal, which is attached the last moment before the President arrives. Usually this procedure is followed around the world, at least for heads of state.

The U.S. Military, the Department of State and the White House Protocol Office all have the complete rules and customs for display of flags and seals from around the world. The United Nations also has an excellent guide. For persons who are participating in an event, one must always stand when colors are presented or paraded. Usually, caps or hats are removed, except for the military...they have certain rules and military etiquette. Funeral flags also have rules for presentation, folding, display and commentary when they are presented to family. Usually military rules govern in these situations. The art of flag folding could be another article by itself. Flag folding can even be a part of the ceremony. Color guards spend a lot of time practicing the proper folds for a flag.

Gifts are very much a part of protocol and has very different rules in each country. For example, in China for many, many years, gifts in the color of green or green wrapping would be in very poor taste. Years ago, the color green was like the scarlet letter. Today, the Chinese culture does not seem to be much concerned with this anymore. In some cultures, gifting is done privately. In some cultures, gifts are not opened when presented, rather the gift is to be opened in private. The gift is between the presenter and the person receiving the

“Protocol is etiquette with a government expense account!”

Judith S. Marin

gift. Care is also given to the time when the gift is to be presented. Is the gift an arrival gift or a gift of appreciation? Persons in charge of gift selection, wrapping and presentation must pay attention to gifting details.

Toasts present and cause complications at many events. Some events are both civilian and government, some mix civil government with royalty, and some events are a mixture of many cultures and governments. Issues of who gets toasted first and who gets toasted last, and how many toasts should be offered, have given protocol officers headaches for years. Issues of rank, gender, age and custom all must be taken into account. Etiquette also plays a major role in the art of toasting along with what is said as part of the toast and who offers the toast. Rulebooks in this area of protocol read like the rulebooks of the NCAA.

The final category of protocol and etiquette centers around other considerations such as food, dress code, seating assignments, rank, titles, and religious customs. For example, does the Queen sit beside or across from a President? Where does a General sit in relation to a Cardinal of the Church? It is really important to understand the event and the people involved. Background, history, preparation and homework becomes very important. It is a near fatal error to confuse the ROC with the PROC for example. The ROC is the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the PROC is the People's Republic of China (Mainland China).

Proper protocol and etiquette solves many problems and can help put people at ease. The protocol officer becomes the most important player in the event. Following the rules can be complicated. Preparation and understanding are key elements. 

Lioness Continued from Page 6

tasked for the mission were, by policy, forbidden from getting the training they needed, and that they simply weren't ready for the combat conditions they faced. Undoubtedly, these Soldiers were not ready, as any combat support Soldier would not have been ready, regardless of the policy.

I fully respect the unique situation these female Soldiers found themselves in, and I am humbled by the ingenuity and mission focus of these Soldiers and thousands of other Soldiers who have risen to the challenges of adapting to the operating environment we all were not well prepared for. However, I will not discount the training that they did receive and rely on, nor discredit the many female Soldiers who have received direct combat skills training and trusted their training to assist them in performing incredible feats of heroism. The actions of SGT Leigh Ann Hester come to mind. In Iraq, she employed her skills as a combat military police (MP) when insurgents fired upon a supply convoy her squad was supporting, earning her the Silver Star.

The bottom line is that this docudrama is worth putting on your list of movies to watch. You could stop by the headquarters building and borrow it from Ms. LaVonne Rosenthal, the State Equal Employment Manager.

The film tells the timeless story of ordinary young adults becoming Soldiers and performing beyond what they thought they were capable of, or ever thought they would be called upon to do. The fact that they were young women only enhances this classic ideal, once again proving that truth is far better than fiction. For all the support troops out there, I challenge you to watch this and ask yourself if you, too, could rise to the challenge. Could you have seen yourself among this Band of Sisters?

Lioness was the winner of the 2008 Full Frame CDS Filmmaker Award, an Official Selection of the 2008 Tribeca Film Festival and an Official Selection of the 2008 Human Rights Watch Film Festival. 



By MSgt Mary Baker

MAJ GEN JEANNE HOLM

Air Force history is full of people who did something first. The first African American enlisted pilot was Corporal Eugene Bullard in 1915. The first aerial refueling mission was in 1923, and the first American fighter ace was Frederick Libby. Staff Sergeant Esther McGowin Blake has the distinction of being the first woman in the Air Force. She enlisted in the first minute of the first hour of the first day regular Air Force duty was authorized for women on July 8, 1948. In 1966 the first Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force was Paul W. Airey. As one of the youngest sister services our list may not be as long as the others but I dare say it is just as impressive. We learn of these historical events and the people who made them in our Air Force history lessons at basic training and at our professional military education courses; much as our sister services also learn of those who blazed the way in their respective branches.

So why is it important to note such people and events in our military history? Each branch of the Armed Forces has their institutional milestones or members who have stood out as point people for their division. So what is it about being first that is ultimately so important to us? Is it because our society rewards those doing something first? We give medals and trophies to those who win in different types of events, such as sports, etc. We acknowledge those who graduate from schools as "distinguished graduates" if they have a certain GPA or ranking in their class. Our society as a whole encourages competition among us by making it clear that those who finish first get potentially the "best-things" out of life.

It is also said that the military is a microcosm of our culture as a whole, and to some degree that is true. We in the

military see these first-individuals as trailblazers for others of us to follow. At the time someone does something first we see them as a hero or in some cases even a revolutionary. We seldom acknowledge the second or third person to do the same thing, as if the novelty of the event has worn off. But I believe each of these individuals can have a significant influence on us all. One of those Air Force Airmen (for me) is Retired Major General Jeanne Holm, who passed away February 2010.

Maj Gen Holm was a lady who lived her life full of firsts. She was one of the first women to enlist in the U.S. Army during WWII and one of the first to enlist in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, WAACs. General

Maj Gen Holm was a lady who lived her life full of firsts.

Holm was the first woman to attend Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama. She was also the first woman in the U.S. Air Force to achieve the rank of General Officer in 1971 and in 1973 received her second star, another mark she obtained ahead of the rest.

As a woman in the military it would be easy to understand why this trailblazer would be an inspiration to me. But actually I owe women like Maj Gen Holm more than just my opportunity to serve my country. General Holm opened the door for women like me to be able to serve in the aviation field in the Air



Force and the Air National Guard. In the 1970s General Holm served as the Special Assistant for Women to President Gerald Ford. In 1976 she used her position and influence to ensure that women were admitted to the first flight training classes. Less than two decades later I was flying my first flight on a KC135R model tanker, and loving every minute of it! At the time I had no idea who Maj Gen Jeanne Holm was or that she even served in the Air Force and the Army. When she served our country, I wonder if she realized how her actions would affect Airmen like me almost twenty years later and beyond. As one of the first female boom-operators for the 155 Air Refueling Wing I didn't think my actions would have an influence on anyone who comes after me as well, but you never know.

When we are in the current moment we rarely see who might be watching us, to see what direction we might take or how we will react to the circumstances dealt to us. And we don't normally have the

Continued on Page 9



Maj Gen Jeanne Holm Continued from Page 8

foresight to consider what it might be like for those who follow after us ten or twenty years from now. I know during the years that I was flying I never really thought about being a trailblazer or how my actions might affect women in the future. Perhaps General Holm did not think about it either, but I would venture a guess that she did. I picture her as a woman who lived her life full of purpose; someone who intentionally chose a certain path or made a decision knowing that she was making a difference. She had the guts to go where no woman had gone before and endured the ridicule and biases of others to forge a way for other women to be able to serve in more critical roles in the Air Force and in all branches of the armed services.



I imagine General Holm was pleased when in 1990 she witnessed Marcelite J. Harris become the first Black female Brigadier General in the Air Force. And I bet she was especially pleased in June of 2008 when Lieutenant General Ann E. Dunwoody was promoted to the rank of full General in the U.S. Army, only one of eleven four-star generals authorized for the Army Active Duty Forces. The following year she saw the Marines promote Mary Ann Krusa-Dossin to the rank of Major General, as one of only six female generals at that point in their history. Also last year she saw another general in the Air Force become the first female dean of the faculty for U.S. Air Force Academy, Brigadier General Dana H. Born. I really believe she knew that the paths she saw others take after her had something to do with the path she once took when she served our country.

Being intentional about how we live our lives and serve our country, our community and our families is definitely

<http://www.greatwomen.org/women.php?action=viewone&id=78>

Upon her retirement from the military, Holm served President Gerald Ford as a Special Assistant focusing on women's issues. She initiated a Justice Department review of all laws and policies discriminating against women. As a member of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, she advocated the need for the removal of artificial barriers to military women's careers. She continued these efforts during the Carter Administration as a consultant on military women to the Under Secretary of the Air Force. During the Reagan Administration, she became the first chairperson of the Veterans Administration's Committee on Women Veterans, successfully advocating parity for women veterans, their benefits, and needs.

General Holm is recognized as the driving force behind the successful movement for women achieving equal opportunities and equal rights in the military. Her challenge to the military leadership to utilize the talents of military women was the foundation for sweeping increases in the numbers of, and opportunities for, women in the military.

a good path to take. It is so easy to get caught up in all the business of life and the daily grind of trying to make ends meet, that we can easily overlook how our lives are being read by those around us. Unless someone points it out to us, it is difficult to see the perspective we should have on how we live our life. I'm the first to admit I've made a lot of mistakes in my life, and I dare say I'll make a lot more before I leave this world. But if I strive to do better each and every day I may just be helping someone else along the path behind me. Maj Gen Jeanne Holm was a woman who not only blazed a trail but, she left a path for others to follow; other women like me in the Armed Forces who want to serve their country and their communities in special ways.

This type of purpose-filled living takes the perspective off of ourselves and helps

us focus on the Airmen and Soldiers around us. When we focus on others and not ourselves it is easier to be more deliberate in how we live. In the Air Force this type of living is summed up in one of our core values: Service Before Self. No matter what it is called in any of the sister services, they have the same quality listed in their code of conduct as well. It is one of the traits that sets a military member apart from other citizens in our nation, and one of the main reasons why we all serve our country. I believe this core value is what drove Maj Gen Jeanne Holm to achieve all the firsts that she is credited for in her career. It was not about her - ever. Her life was about all the Airmen who would follow behind her. May we all follow her lead and do all we can to prepare the path for those who will come after us. Thank you General Holm; I'm a better Airman because of you.



KEYS TO SUCCESS: ATTITUDE, THE GLUE THAT BINDS

By MAJ Steven Collins

Assistant Professor of Military Science at Creighton University

As I write this, the first thing that strikes me is the great opportunity this presents for me to reflect on my life and those things and people who have contributed to the many successes of my life. I recall when first asked to write this article, I had to double check with the team to ensure that they meant me! Honestly, I am honored and grateful to the team for selecting me to share with you, the reader, my experiences and opinions. Thank you very much.

I'll spare you the dictionary definition of success, but will say that numerous references cite it as possessing a record of achievement. I am a firm believer that where you come from has a strong influence on where you are going. This is not to say that coming up against adversity and facing it head on will necessarily lead to failure. The people throughout my life who I consider successful seem to have a common set of characteristics. I'm obviously in the military and as is custom, we use acronyms for everything! Here's one more to add to the never-ending list: ASSETS (Attitude, Strong drive, Skills, Experience, Timing, Self-confidence).

In my opinion, attitude is the most important of all the characteristics. Many self-improvement/self-actualization style books and motivational speakers will never commit to one attribute over another when discussing success, but rather opt for a balanced approach overall. I boldly commit to this characteristic; not to say that the other characteristics aren't important. Yet



I consider it the glue that binds the other five and it sets the foundation for any endeavor, be it in one's personal life or in a military setting. I have seen average people do tough things in an exemplary manner because they had the right attitude which started with their leaders and permeated throughout the organization.

A person in my life who provided a great example of this was my Company First Sergeant during one of my deployments, First Sergeant Sid Vose. My company was highly trained, had the will to fight and win, and was the best-equipped unit in the battalion. I knew this and everyone around us knew it. I sat back and thought to myself, "of all the things the Army

teaches us, they never teach attitude or the benefits of the right attitude." You'll learn about tactics, the latest and greatest equipment, and know everything about the enemy through outstanding intelligence. Not teaching attitude is almost criminal. I think the problem is that it falls into the section of the art of leadership and war and it's very hard to quantify something that's difficult to measure.

My First Sergeant understood the importance of sharing a strong positive attitude with every Soldier in our Company and did so every chance he could. Temperatures would drive well into the 100s. We faced a highly determined enemy whose efforts destroyed and damaged tens of millions of dollars of our equipment. We suffered physical injuries and faced a realistic mortal threat daily. There were plenty of reasons to have a bad attitude! The First Sergeant maintained a strong positive attitude and it showed as it spread across the unit. You'd never hear anything other than a positive outlook on things or a positive comment and it transferred to our Troops. There were some very dark times and I am convinced that attitude was the driving force behind our success

in dealing with them.

Strong drive. Essentially it comes to knowing what you want and going after it. The slogan used by Lexus comes to

mind; *The Relentless Pursuit of Perfection*. You hear the stories of countless immigrants who come to America and

Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.

~ Winston Churchill

Continued on Page 11



Keys to Success Continued from Page 10

work their fingers to the bone to get ahead. When most of the other variables align, a strong inner drive is a difference maker. It's this drive that pushes the world-class athlete to spend the extra time in the gym when their competition is taking a day off. It's this drive that puts goals under a laser-type focus and provides perfect clarity to a oneness of thought. A wordy description of it, but you know when you have it!

This single-mindedness has been demonstrated by great men and women. A couple of examples that come to mind are President Ronald Reagan with his drive to defeat Communism and uplift the American spirit with his *Shining City Upon a Hill* speech, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with his *I Have a Dream* speech. A personal example for me is my father's story. My father is a descendant of slaves and sharecroppers and a son of two illiterate parents. My father wanted more from life than our forefathers had. He saw the only way to reach this and his full potential was through education. Nothing would stop him from being an educated man. Following a 26-year career in the military and achieving a doctoral degree, my father wanted to share his experience with others and chose to become an educator in Omaha. Considering the wholeness of his story, one would understand if he followed in the path set forth by his parents and our family before them. This push to not settle for what could reasonably be expected from him is a shining example of success through drive.

Skills. There's a lot to be said about seeing a Jennie Finch, LeBron James, or Tiger Woods in the application of their trades. The level of development of their skills obviously surpasses those around them. They are simply the best of the best in softball, basketball, and golf respectively. Getting those skills to that level has to require a drive that most people simply do not have. Some people are born with all the abilities in the world but most of us aren't. Obviously, what one does with those abilities says a lot about them and

what motivates them. For the majority of us, setting a world record, winning Olympic gold, or signing a multi-year mega-million-dollar shoe deal isn't reality. For us regular folk what drives us is a steady commitment to continue to develop the skills we have and developing new ones as our job responsibilities or other external factors change. We, like technology, can easily and quickly become obsolete.

“Any fact facing us is not as important as our attitude toward it, for that determines our successes or failure.”

~Norman Vincent Peale

I've always had the desire to learn new things. In both my personal and work life I've always strived for understanding first, then mastery. Of all the characteristics this one speaks the loudest to your potential. No matter what your trade, a strong set of skills is usually evident immediately and makes a strong first impression. The first company commander I had as a young Second Lieutenant, CPT Patrick Rimron, hammered a strong point into me from the day we met. That lesson was essentially that in combat arms you never know when you'll be called to take charge and you may only get one chance; lives may be on the line. Make that opportunity count by having your skills sharpened and be ready the first time. “In our line of work, there usually aren't second chances,” he once said to me. I look back on the many lessons he taught me as I developed, and credit him for the outstanding successes I experienced as a Company Grade Officer. A former Chief of Staff of the Nebraska National Guard once told me that I better get comfortable with military writing as a field grade officer as that would be what I would do most. I took his advice to heart and have found doing staff work easier due to polishing that skill set. Needless to say, I

have a very long way to go!

Essentially, the skills you possess must be developed and maintained over the course of your life. Skill development and maintenance doesn't end with a class or a position assignment. It is a lifelong endeavor.

Experience. Where wisdom can be defined as making the best use of available knowledge you possess, experience comprises the practical or hands-on application of knowledge. In our line of work, experience can quickly grant you the reputation of expert. One other thing to consider about experience is that it comes in many different forms and can vary significantly from person to person.

Experience comes in physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual forms, which arguably comprise the majority of what we consider the human experience. Experiences are your own. They cannot be taken from you and like your DNA are unique to you. Unfortunately, the interpretation of experience can be highly subjective. One must embrace his or her experiences whether they are good or bad. They make us who we are and play a significant role in how we operate and how we react to a situation. No matter what the case, you have to be at peace with and be able to make sense of your experiences.

In my eyes, wisdom is the accumulation of experience and the intellectual act of reflecting upon it. Skills, as mentioned earlier, are the application of experience. I believe you don't go through something and gain wisdom, you gain experience. Good or bad, you are more experienced from the event. A key to my success over my career is that I have had the opportunity to work in numerous positions with high degrees of variability. I by no means consider myself wise, but practically applying what I learned in similar events of the past when dealing with new problems today has certainly helped me make better decisions. You

Continued on Page 12



Keys to Success Continued from Page 11

cannot insulate yourself from the full spectrum of your experiences.

Timing. I was once told by a wise Sergeant Major, "Sir, I'd rather be lucky than good." That may sound cliché but there's a great deal of wisdom in those words. Being in the right place at the right time can make a world of difference. Timing can be both your friend and worst enemy.

As a child, one wouldn't want to ask dad for a raise to their allowance following dad's arrival home after a long week of work only to find that the water heater blew up and the car was ready to die. You could also find it tough to be assigned to a position where the person you are replacing was considered the best in that position. Unless you are a fan of the sport or related to one of the competitors, many of us would find it hard to name a single Silver Medalist swimmer who finished

behind Michael Phelps. As he was smashing various world records the whole world

looked to him and no one else. The sad reality is that many of those Silver Medalists' times were good enough for world records as well! If Phelps would have had an off day or was born ten years before or after, they would be the current holders of these world records.

The take away on timing is that you must always put yourself in the position that should you be called to do something great, you will be ready. There are no do overs, there are no second runs. Timing that you can control relies on skills, experience and self-confidence. When a tough job opens up, you grab it. If it doesn't present itself, seek it out. Work hard for every boss, keep them informed and settle for nothing less than success.

Self-confidence. There is a very thin line between confidence and arrogance. The confidence I am talking about is the inner confidence that doesn't require

one to tell everyone about it. Nobody likes a blowhard but they sure do admire a cool and composed person who seems to always make the right calls. Self-confidence is the result of the first five of these characteristics and the level of self-confidence one has will vary depending on the first five.

Oftentimes self-confidence can depend on one characteristic more than another. Confidence should never rely on only one characteristic. Just because you have the right attitude about it doesn't necessarily mean you should be performing your parent's open heart surgery! To me, self-confidence is that quiet, steady-headed-knowledge that guarantees you can do the job no matter how hard it is because

you have what it takes and want it.

The Human Resources Specialists I had the honor of leading

during my time in the Human Resources Department are perhaps the perfect example of this. I would consider all of them experts in their specialty with years of experience backing this up. They have the right attitude about serving the force and knowing that what they do does, in fact, matter to their customers. They have the drive to get it right and to always get the right answer for the technicians. They possess skills which would lead to them regularly being asked to help train at the National Guard Bureau level in their respective disciplines. Soldiers and Airmen or their supervisors would come to them with a question and want an immediate answer.

It would amaze me how, when I would take an issue to the team collectively that within a matter of moments they would throw the components of the issue around to each other like a lightning



fast game of catch. Whoever's area was mostly related to the problem would then face me, and with the collective input of the group, share the solution to the problem. Honestly, it was humbling to see this process on a nearly daily basis as I knew I was in the presence of greatness.

The solution was given in such a matter-of-fact approach that one simply could not deny that it was absolute truth. This was classic confidence. It was confidence knowing that if I checked the facts, if I sharp shot it, if I asked clarifying questions, the results would be the same. This is the level of confidence one should aspire for. This is what I aspire for in everything I do professionally. It is a very strong lesson in leadership I was taught by those I led, for which I am grateful.

The success I have experienced in my life has been a blessing. I was raised by two loving parents who remain together to this day and are as much in love with each other as ever. They have been highly supportive of me choosing a career in the military. I have a supportive set of siblings who have challenged me to grow and stood by my side growing up. I have been blessed with outstanding military leadership since the day I raised my right hand at age seventeen to this very day. I have been blessed with the honor and privilege to work with and lead the very finest citizens of our great nation in times of peace and now during a time of war. I have the blessing of being married to the most beautiful and soul-filling woman God could have given me. I can say that my life is complete now that I am her husband.

In closing, I'd say that there are many Keys to Success. The key is realizing all those little things that make up your success and working to recognize the great many things and people around you. Be grateful every day. Thank you for reading this article and I hope it helps you as it has helped me. 



*By Angela Gunther
Fusion Project Coordinator
Asian Community
and Cultural Center*

THE FUSION PROJECT AND CELEBRATE LINCOLN

This June, during the Celebrate Lincoln International Festival, the Fusion Project shared a variety of foods from cuisines around the world.

The Fusion Project helps refugees who are building a new life in Lincoln after escaping war, or political or religious persecution, to become self-sufficient and integrate into their new home. They also focus on educating the mainstream about the new refugees who are living in the community. This summer they did this through food. They served Sambosa's from Sudan, Egg Rolls from Vietnam, Kurdish Dolma and Falafel from Iraq, Kaw Sway from Burma and Baklava from the Middle East and

Eastern Europe.

This was the first year the Fusion Project coordinated food sales, and were met with adventurous Lincolniters who thoroughly enjoyed the worldly selections. It also offered the



*Liliya, Ha, Angela (Fusion Project Coordinator),
Zainab, Khamisa, and Linh*

refugee staff of the Fusion Project the opportunity to talk with Lincoln natives about their home countries, cultures and the work they do.

The Fusion Project is housed at the

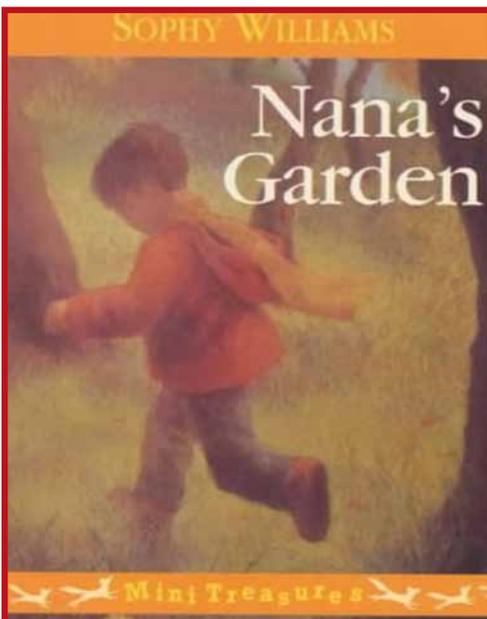
Asian Community and Cultural Center, 2615 O Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

CHILDREN'S BOOK REVIEW: NANA'S GARDEN

Review By Denise Anderson

Written by Sophy Williams

Publisher: Red Fox; Published: February 3, 2000



In this book, a little boy named Thomas wants his Nana to play outside with him. She tells him no because she is too old. He decides to play alone in her garden but feels a presence there. He looks around and eventually finds her old shed. In the shed he discovers an old stuffed rabbit which is well worn with love. He takes the stuffed rabbit outside to play in the garden and feels a tap on his shoulder. It is a little girl who tells him that the rabbit's name is Joshua and that this was her garden. She asks if he wants to play with her.

They play all kinds of children's games (I Spy, statues, hide and seek, etc.) and talk. She tells him about the pets she buried in the garden and how she planted a rose in her garden because her

name is Rose. He tells her that Rose is the name of his Nana. Eventually Rose has to leave because she is tired. She asks him to take care of Joshua and fades away. He goes inside and hugs his Nana and tells her that he loves her.

This book meant a lot to me because my oldest daughter's middle name is Rose, which is the same as my mother's middle name. My mother is able to spend a lot of time with my girls and they are able to create lasting memories with her.

I do not have a lot of memories of my grandmothers. My mom's mother died when she was sixteen-years-old, and my dad's mother just seemed old to me and I didn't spend a lot of time with her.



STANDING BEAR COMMEMORATION

By MSgt Mary Baker

On May 14, 2010, I attended the sixth annual commemorative celebration of Chief Standing Bear and his fight for equality before the law in the State Capitol Rotunda.

This was one of several events in the month of May that were held to honor the Ponca Chief who changed history for his people and for all of human kind in our nation. For those of us who do not remember our history lesson from fifth grade, here is the rundown of Chief Standing Bear and his people.

In the late 1800s there were many treaties being drafted between the U.S.

Government and chiefs from many different Native American tribes. The Treaty of 1868 mistakenly gave land rightfully owned by the

Ponca tribe along the Niobrara River in Nebraska to the Sioux Indians. In 1876, the Ponca were forced to leave their homeland and travel on foot to their new land in Oklahoma. In 1879 Chief Standing Bear and many others tried to return to their homeland to bury Standing Bear's son, only to be arrested on the Omaha Reservation and detained by Brigadier General George Crook. The General made sure the Chief and his fellow Indians were fed and taken care of despite the order to return them to the



“That hand is not the color of yours, but if I pierce it, I shall feel pain. If you pierce your hand, you also feel pain. The blood that will flow from mine will be the same color as yours. I am a man. God made us both.”

Indian Territory in Oklahoma. The Ponca Tribe's story also made its way to a writer for the Omaha World Herald, and before long the entire nation was following the plight of the Native Americans.

While being detained by General Crook, Chief Standing Bear petitioned the U.S. District Court by writ of Habeas Corpus, and brought the Ponca Tribe's case before Judge Elmer Dundy. Judge Dundy heard the case and the Chief's passionate message, which included this famous quote by Standing Bear: “My hand is not the color of yours, but if I pierce it, I shall feel pain. If you pierce your hand, you also feel pain. The blood that will flow from mine will be the same color as yours. I am a man. The same God made us both.” Judge Dundy found

in favor of the Ponca Chief and his people and ruled that “an Indian is a person” within the meaning of habeas corpus and that the federal government failed to show bias under the law in arresting the Ponca tribesmen and holding them captive. Chief Standing Bear and those with him were

freed and eventually allowed to return to their homelands along the Niobrara River.

Chief Standing Bear traveled for many years telling his story and educating the people of our nation about the Native Americans. In 1908 he passed away and is buried on the hill overlooking the place of his birth here in Nebraska. Many places are named after this well-known Chief in his memory and all his life stood for. There is a primary school in Omaha named Standing Bear Elementary and several parks in Nebraska with his namesake. His legacy of learning is carried on today in the annual essay contest held on his behalf as today's youth are challenged to not only learn of his life but tell what Chief Standing Bear means to them.

Four essays were honored during the May 14th celebration at the State Capital. In

addition to the students being honored for their essays, there were organizational awards presented to four groups in our community that also espouse the ideals and tenets that Chief Standing Bear taught and lived. The culmination of the event was the presentation of the



St. Augustine Children's Drum Group

Continued on Page 15



TRIVIA: RUSSIA

- Catherine II is one of the most noted Russian monarchs despite the fact that she was of foreign birth. From what country did she hail?
 - Sweden
 - Germany
 - Britain
 - France
- Russia is the world's largest country in terms of geographical area. How many time zones are there in Russia?
 - 6
 - 7
 - 8
 - 9
- Who became the first Russian Czar (Tsar) in 1547?
 - Peter I (Peter the Great)
 - Alexander II
 - Ivan IV (Ivan the Terrible)
 - Catherine II (Catherine the Great)
- The Winter Palace in St. Petersburg, Russia was the official residence of the Russian Tsars. Today, the restored palace forms part of the complex of buildings housing what museum?
 - The Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts
 - The State Hermitage Museum
 - The National Gallery for Foreign Art
 - The Brohan Museum
- Every Russian name consists of three names: a first (given) name, a patronymic name and a surname.
 - True
 - False
- Who became the first person to conduct a spacewalk?
 - Yuri Gagarin
 - Valentina Tereshkova
 - Sergei Krikalyov
 - Aleksei Leonov
- Situated in Siberia, this lake is one of the oldest and deepest lakes in the world.
 - Lake Elton
 - Lake Abrau
 - Lake Baikal
 - Lake Karachay (sometimes spelled Karachai)
- This notable actor was born in Vladivostok, Russia and is best known for his role as King Mongkut.
 - Yul Brynner
 - Sergei Bodrov
 - Yakov Smirnoff
 - Rudolf Nureyev
- This Romantic Era Russian composer became famous for his ballets including Swan Lake and The Nutcracker.
 - Sergei Rachmaninoff
 - Pyotr Tchaikovsky
 - Igor Stravinsky
 - Mily Balakirev
- Who was the General Secretary of the Communist Party during the collapse of the USSR?
 - Leonid Breszhnev
 - Yuri Andropov
 - Konstantin Chernenko
 - Mikhail Gorbachev

Trivia Answers on Page 24

Chief Standing Bear Continued from Page 14

2010 Chief Standing Bear Humanitarian Award to the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community for their selfless service and support of all Native American tribes. The Shakopee's Chief, Keith Anderson, gratefully accepted the award on behalf of his people. Two blankets were also bestowed on the honored Chief, one of which was a buffalo skin with a painted medallion on it from the Ponca Tribe. The ceremony also began and ended with the Winnebago Veteran's Association presenting and retiring the colors, including the



Honoree Chief Keith Anderson of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Tribe accepts the 2010 Chief Standing Bear Humanitarian Award on behalf of his people. Presenters Judi Gaiashkibos and Oscar Harriot.

American flag and all five branches of the military. They were accompanied by the St. Augustine Children's Drum Group, which performed a couple of musical selections.

As the drums sounded throughout the State Capitol Rotunda it was hard to believe that this year is the 131st anniversary of the historic court decision by Judge Dundy. It is

equally difficult to believe that anyone would have ever considered that Native Americans were not persons within the meaning of any law. But had Chief Standing Bear not stood up to the White-man and fought for what he knew to be right, perhaps even today we might not be so quick to condemn such a biased and ignorant thought. The Ponca Chief's words still ring true today and support a holistic law of equality that simply points out that we all bleed the same. On the inside we are the same no matter what our skin or hair color is or how we speak. We are ultimately designed the same from the inside out, and that is the true beauty of diversity; to be so vastly different while being so much alike all at the same time. Thank you, Standing Bear, for standing your ground and educating us all.



VETERAN'S MEMORIAL GARDEN

21ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND THE DEDICATION OF NEBRASKA'S WWII WOMEN SERVICE PILOT'S MEMORIAL

By Mary
Schmidt-Rodriguez



Saturday, June 12, 2010 started out with a good amount of rain in the morning hours. As this was the day of the dedication of the Nebraska WWII Women Service Pilot's Memorial, I wondered if it was going to take place as scheduled. With a few minor adjustments the dedication was moved from outdoors to inside the Auld Recreation Center. This was a good decision on someone's part as the ground was so wet, if we had sat outside on chairs during the hour long ceremony, our chairs would have sunk into the ground leaving unsightly holes in Memorial Garden!

The ceremony began with Edwin Mukusha playing the bagpipes. This is one of my all time favorite instruments and as soon as he started to play, tears came to my eyes. I don't know what it is about the bagpipes, but I cry even if *Amazing Grace* is not the featured

selection. Of course, during the course of the program, Mr. Mukusha did honor us with the playing of *Amazing Grace*.

At about 9:50, Mr. Keith Fickenschcer (the Master of Ceremonies) had all of us leave our seats to go outside and witness the flyover scheduled at 9:55. At this point, the sky had begun to clear and three of the five scheduled planes were able to make the flyover. We witnessed a PT-17 (piloted by Larry Bartlett of Lincoln), an AT-6 (piloted by Mark Novak of Dawson) and a P-51 (piloted by Harry Barr of Lincoln) fly over Memorial Garden. It was beautiful. The other two scheduled planes, a BT-13 (Kurt Muhle of Columbus) and a P-38 (Rob Ator of Granite Fall, Minnesota) were not able to

make it due to a low ceiling. All of these planes were flown by women pilots during World War II.

Once we were all back in our seats, the program commenced. The Nebraska Air National Guard Base Honor Guard Team presented the colors after the singing of the *National Anthem* by Trudy DuMay.

Reverend Don Coleman led us in the invocation. We were welcomed by both Keith Fickenschcer and Lynn Johnson, Director of Lincoln Parks and Recreation.

During the program we were also honored to hear

a song by Ms. Cross which she wrote after the Traveling Vietnam Memorial came to Lincoln in honor of Veterans entitled *Tears on the Wall*. Keith Barrett gave a brief history of the poem *In Flanders Fields* and followed with a reading of the poem (<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/flanders.htm>).

Diane Bartel (author of *Sharpie: The Life Story of Evelyn Sharp, Nebraska's Aviatrice*) then read us a letter from Congressman Jeff Fortenberry commemorating the memorial and gave a talk on the women pilots.

Continued on Page 17



Veteran's Memorial Garden Continued from Page 16

One of the highlights of the day was when Ms. Bartels acknowledged the presence of one of the women pilots being honored:

Ms. Mary E. Williamson of Omaha, Nebraska. On March 10, 2010, the women Air Force Service pilots were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for their service in WWII. As Ms. Williamson was unable to attend that ceremony, Ms. Bartels had the honor of presenting this medal to Ms. Williamson during the ceremony at Veteran's Memorial Garden. Ms. Williamson was very emotional as she received this high honor. In addition to Ms. Williamson, three other women who are still living were honored with this memorial: Lois A. Bristol, Bayard; Millicent A. Peterson, Chappell; and B. Kristin Swan, Minden. There are fifteen other women whose names appear on the memorial.

Once the ceremony was completed inside, those of us who were able, made our way to the Garden to witness the unveiling of the actual memorial dedicated to the WWII women pilots. Ms. Williamson, with the assistance of Ms. Bartels, pulled the flag off the memorial to let us all have a good look at this very beautiful memorial that was appropriately added to the Garden. Ms. Williamson gave a brief speech and then had her picture taken with the memorial.

Between 1942 and 1944, 1,102 women served as civilian service pilots for the U.S. Army Air Forces. They participated in instructor training, towed targets for air-to-air

gunnery and ground-to-air anti-aircraft practice, transported personnel and cargo, and ferried airplanes to training fields and embarkation points. This freed male pilots for combat.

The original group, the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS), proved women could fly Army airplanes.

Evelyn Sharp from Ord, Nebraska, was the 17th of its 28 members. In 1943, the women pilots were redesignated Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). By December 1944, when they were

unceremoniously disbanded, the women had logged more than 60 million miles in military planes.

In 1977, Congress granted veteran status to this group of pioneering women whose contributions had largely been unrecognized. Their groundbreaking steps, however, had paved the way for all women who serve valiantly in the U.S. military today.

Veteran's Memorial Garden was brought to life after over 80,000 people in Nebraska came to the park to see the Traveling Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall as it made a stop in Lincoln. The women pilot's memorial is the 24th memorial to be dedicated in the garden.

Located east of Auld Recreation Center at 1650 Memorial Drive, the Garden has more than 21 memorials and over 4,500 "Bricks of Remembrance" honoring veterans of foreign wars; 142 bricks were added between June 2009 and May 2010. Memorials include World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Pearl Harbor, Airborne, Air Force, Coast Guard, Disabled Veterans, Ex-Prisoners of War, K-9 Corps, China-Burma-India, Medical, Purple Heart, Military Women, Special Forces, Merchant Marines, Seabees, Naval Armed Guard and Tuskegee Airmen/ Buffalo Soldiers. 



IN FLANDERS FIELDS

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN McCRAE, MD
(1872-1918); CANADIAN ARMY**

*In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*





2010 JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION IN OMAHA

By 1LT Ron Jones
67th BfSB, HHC Executive Officer

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. Originating in Galveston, Texas in 1865, Juneteenth is observed as the day of Emancipation for African Americans.

When I was asked to represent the Nebraska Army National Guard (NEARNG) in the Omaha Juneteenth parade I was quizzed on my knowledge of Juneteenth and its importance. After several failed guesses, I was given an assignment to research why it is celebrated in the community. I was surprised and amazed at what I discovered.

There is a common misconception among Americans that Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation (effective January 1, 1863) freed the slaves. In reality the

Emancipation Proclamation had little impact on the quarter-million slaves residing in Texas. It wasn't until two and a half years later on June 19, 1865 that Union Soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that all slaves were now free. It's likely that none of them had any idea that they had actually been freed more than two



years before. It was truly a day of mass emancipation. It has become the day known as Juneteenth.

Later attempts to explain this two-and-a-half-year delay in the receipt of this important news have yielded several versions that have been handed down through the years. Often told is the story of a messenger who was murdered on his way to Texas with the news of freedom. Another is that the news was deliberately withheld by the slave masters to maintain the labor force on the plantations. And still another is that federal troops actually

waited for the slave owners to reap the benefits of one last cotton harvest before going to Texas to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation. All or none could be true. For whatever the reason, conditions in Texas remained status quo well beyond what was statutory.

Today Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement. It is for many African Americans a de facto second Independence Day, commemorating the end of slavery and a first step toward inclusion in the greater American dream.

Although it is celebrated in most, if not all states and territories, only one actually celebrates it as a legal state holiday: Texas. In 1979, Texas state legislator Al Edwards introduced a bill to make Juneteenth a state holiday; the first state-approved celebration took place the following year. Edwards, sometimes referred to as the father of Juneteenth, is one of many who have been working to make it a national holiday.

As a native Omahan, I am truly humbled and ashamed of my ignorance regarding Juneteenth. This was a positive learning experience for me, one that will be passed down to my kids and their kids and so forth. According to news reports, this was the largest Juneteenth celebration in Omaha's history. I was honored and proud to be a part of it. To see how the North Omaha community came together



Juneteenth Continued from Page 18



of the military service that was represented in the celebration was the NEARNG. Although I will be deployed next year and unable to participate, this is a celebration we (the NEARNG) must continue to support. It impacts diversity by increasing the visibility of the NEARNG in the North Omaha community and shows that the NEARNG supports all Soldiers, regardless of race or color.

in unity to celebrate this day was tear jerking. I shook a lot of hands and accepted thanks from community leaders, parents, grandparents, children, business owners, fraternities, sororities, retirees and veterans.

It amazed me that the only component

References

<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1815936,00.html#ixzz0rEhQZJef>

<http://www.elecville.com/juneteenth.htm>

<http://www.juneteenth.com>

<http://www.juneteenth.com>



General Order Number 3

The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor. The freedmen are advised to remain quietly at their present homes and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts and that they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere.

DIVERSITY DATES: AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2010

August 1.....	Confederation Day (Switzerland)
August 1.....	Emancipation Day (Trinidad and Tobago)
August 1.....	Lughnasadh or Lammas Day (Celtic, Pagan)
August 2.....	August Bank Holiday (Republic of Ireland)
August 2.....	Illinden or National Day (Macedonia)
August 2.....	Independence Day (Jamaica)
August 2.....	Verslunarmannahelgi (Iceland)
August 3.....	Independence Day (Niger)
August 5.....	Independence Day (Burkina Faso)
August 6.....	Independence Day (Bolivia)
August 9.....	International Day of the World's Indigenous People (U.N.)
August 9.....	National Day (Singapore)
August 10.....	Independence Day (Ecuador)
August 10-11.....	Ramadan (Islamic)
August 11.....	Independence Day (Chad)
August 13.....	Independence Day (Central African Republic)
August 13.....	O-Bon (Japan)
August 14.....	Independence Day (Pakistan)
August 14.....	V-J Day (U.S.)
August 15.....	Assumption of the Virgin Mary (Christian)
August 15.....	Brazzaville (Congo)
August 15.....	Independence Day (India)
August 15.....	Korea Liberation Day (North and South Korea)
August 16.....	Restoration of the Republic (Dominican Republic)
August 17.....	Proklamasi Kemerdekaan (Indonesia)
August 19.....	Jeshn (Afghanistan)
August 24.....	Independence Day (Ukraine)
August 25.....	Independence Day (Uruguay)
August 26.....	Women's Equality Day (U.S.)
August 27.....	Independence Day (Moldova)
August 30.....	Summer Bank Holiday (United Kingdom)
August 30.....	Victory Day (Turkey)
August 31.....	Constitution Day (Kazakhstan)
August 31.....	Independence Day (Trinidad and Tobago)
August 31.....	Merdeka (Freedom) Day (Malaysia)
August 31.....	Solidarity Day (Poland)
September 2.....	Independence Day (Vietnam)
September 2.....	Janmashtami (Hindu)
September 3.....	Independence Day (Qatar)
September 4-5.....	Lailat ul-Qadr (Islamic)
September 6.....	Labor Day (U.S.)
September 6.....	Labour Day (Canada)
September 6.....	Somhlolo (Swaziland)
September 7.....	Independence Day (Brazil)
September 8.....	International Literacy Day (U.N.)

Continued on Page 23



WEBSITE REVIEW: GRACE AFTER FIRE

Review By BG Roma Amundson

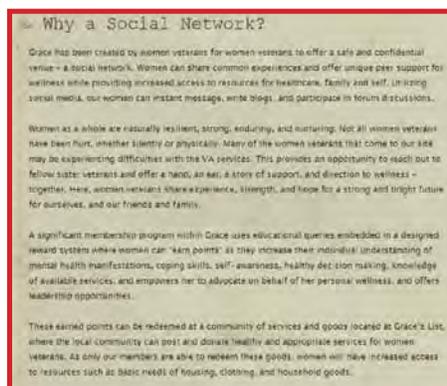
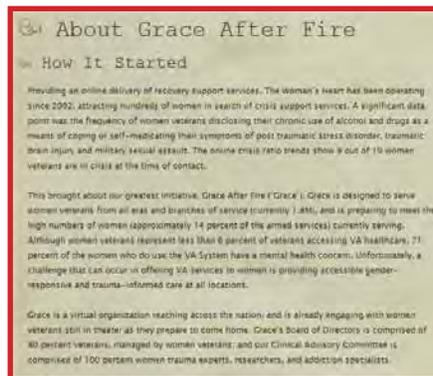
www.graceafterfire.org

BG Roma Amundson serves on the National Board of Directors of Grace After Fire as an advisor of veterans' issues.

Grace After Fire is a website dedicated to "the amazing women who served from Vietnam to Iraq and Afghanistan who gave their time, heart, and soul so you would have a home to call your own." The website is a place where women service members and veterans can meet online to share experiences of mobilization and deployment, find resources for counseling and healing, and encourage one another in times of personal difficulties. The website has reached many women by providing the opportunity for expression and assistance, and in my opinion, meets its stated goal—providing a means of obtaining personal rest through sharing of experiences with others and offering benefits to the members.

The site is easy to navigate. Its primary buttons include Forums and Members, Community, Resources, and Grace's List.

Forums provide opportunities to communicate with other women veterans regarding such topics as relationships, loneliness and depression, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), lack of recognition for being a Soldier, substance abuse and alcoholism, problems at homecoming, sexual assault and general issues dealing with experiences in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). People who write in tell of their experiences, and in the telling, relate how they've overcome or are overcoming their problems. Often, I believe, just writing about experiences helps to relieve personal tension by offering the opportunity for expression. Knowing that others have experienced many of the same problems assures one that the experiences are not unique but



are felt by many other people.

Especially for women who live long distances from other women who have deployed and returned, this site provides the means to communicate with others and share their thoughts and feelings—anononymously, if one chooses.

The website also has resources for women to turn to in regard to housing, legal assistance, employment and education, and physical and mental health situations.

The families and friends of these women can also obtain information in dealing with women veterans coming home and what they might expect in changed viewpoints and family roles.

The Community button provides access to blogs where women can converse online, find out news of legislation affecting women veterans, and search calendars for events pertinent to women veterans.

Online access for professionals is available in areas of physical and mental health, legal and financial concerns. Names, addresses and contact information of professionals who partner with *Grace After Fire* are available, and they will help women veterans obtain support and help, either free or at a nominal charge.

When women veterans need assistance in obtaining household items, books, clothing, vehicles, access to apartment rental and housing lists, *Grace After Fire* provides such information.

In short, www.graceafterfire.org offers a wide range of services, information, communication possibilities and personal assistance to women veterans. Additionally, it's attractive in appearance, easily navigable, and filled with significant information written by knowledgeable and professional contributors with backgrounds in psychology, mental health, financial and legal fields—not to mention the military. For a listing of members of the organization's national Board of Directors, go to the button About Us to see its membership. These are the people focused on providing support and assistance to women who have deployed in defense of our nation. They are truly dedicated to their mission of serving women veterans. 



SEP MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

JESSIE BOCKELMAN

STATE HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANT

You could say that I haven't moved much in my life. I was born in St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Lincoln, Nebraska and in 2006 my husband and I bought a house about two blocks from that same hospital.

When I was a baby, my parents bounced around a bit until my mom convinced my dad to settle back in her hometown of Wisner, Nebraska in our family's farmhouse. I grew up in the house that was built by my great-grandfather, Christian Lorensen, in 1906. I have many fond childhood memories of playing in that large farmhouse and the surrounding trees and pastures.

Christian Lorensen came to the United States from Copenhagen, Denmark and settled in Wisner. That side of my family is mostly of German and Danish descent. My dad is originally from Louisville, Colorado. His family settled there because, at the time, Louisville was largely a coal mining community and many of my ancestors were coal miners. My grandfather came to the United States from Italy as a baby, and the makeup of that side of my family is mostly Italian and German.

We moved to Wisner when I was five, and that's where I lived until I went to college in Lincoln. My parents still reside there. I enjoyed growing up in a small town and appreciated the safety and closeness you feel in that type of environment. I also worked at the local grocery store as well as being a lifeguard, swim team coach, and swimming lesson instructor at the Wisner Pool. With that said, I was more than happy to get



to Lincoln where there's a little more excitement and activity.

I moved to Lincoln to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) where I majored in Business Management. While in college, I met my husband Brian through a mutual friend. Brian was a graduate student in the Math department at UNL where he became acquainted with my friend from high school, Greg. Greg hosted a weekly movie night at his apartment and invited Brian to join us one night. We met and began to chat with each other every week, and as they say, "...the rest is history."

A few months after we met, Brian's family was scheduled to go on a cruise to the Bahamas to celebrate his grandparents' fiftieth wedding anniversary and I was able to go along. Part of me had reservations about going on a trip with someone I barely knew AND meeting more than 20 of his relatives all at once, but I'm very glad that I did. I can remember calling my Mom and asking for her advice and if she thought I should go. Her response was, "Well, when I was

in college my boyfriend invited me to go to Florida. Your grandma told me not to go. I went anyway." Brian still tells people that the cruise was our first date.

After only eight months of dating, Brian proposed. We were on our way to Miami for a quick vacation and had stopped at his grandparents' house in Sebring, Florida along the way. He was too anxious and nervous to wait until we got to Miami and he popped the question right on his grandparents' front porch. I graduated college in May of 2006 and we married July 15, 2006. We have no kids

so far, but we do have two very spoiled cats. Since we've been married, we've both discovered just how much we love to travel. We took a cruise on our honeymoon to Italy, Greece, and Croatia. Since our wedding, we've traveled to Las Vegas, Puerto Vallarta, Maryland, Minnesota, San Diego, and took a trip to Europe stopping in Paris, Berlin and Dresden as well as doing a Caribbean Cruise. By now you've probably figured out why we're waiting on having kids.

Prior to becoming a State employee at the Military Department, I worked for an accounting firm in downtown Lincoln. My dad is a State employee working for the Agriculture Department and my father-in-law is the director of the Veteran's Hospital in Sioux Falls, so they both encouraged me to get a job in State or Federal government. When I finally succeeded in doing so, I was welcomed into the Military Department as a Human Resources Assistant. I have greatly enjoyed the two years I've spent here so far and look forward to the challenges that lie ahead. 



OKTOBERFEST

By *Jessie Bockelman*



Oktoberfest at night with view of Löwenbräu tent

The crisp fall air, leaves changing colors, days getting shorter, nights getting colder... These things may make some think of football season or the approaching winter, but to me it can only mean one thing: Oktoberfest. Oktoberfest is a 16-day festival that's held each year in Munich, Bavaria, Germany and it runs from late September to early October. Oktoberfest is one of Germany's most famous events, drawing more than six million attendees per year and boasting the world's largest fair. Cities across the world hold similar events during this time, but all are modeled after the original event in Munich.

The very first Oktoberfest was held in Munich on October 18, 1810. This event marked the marriage of King Ludwig I and Princess Therese of Saxe-Hilburghausen. The marriage was celebrated by a great horse race as well as a full-blown festival. The following year, Oktoberfest was cancelled because Bavaria had become involved in the Napoleonic War. Carnival booths later appeared with prizes of silver, porcelain and jewelry around 1816.

In 1819, the citizens of Munich took full responsibility for management of this festival and decided it would be a yearly event with the dates lengthened and pushed back to enjoy the beautiful

September weather in Bavaria. A short while later a parade was added to honor King Ludwig I and Therese of Bavaria. Today, this parade consists of native Bavarians clothed in traditional costumes walking through the center of Munich.

This festival has been through a lot. Outbreaks of cholera in 1854 and 1873 cancelled it, as well

as the Austro-Prussian War in 1866 and the Franco-Prussian War in 1873. But the festival endured, bringing over 400 booths and tents in 1880, adding bratwurst in 1881 and serving beer from glass mugs for the first time in 1892. The festival was re-organized at the end of the 19th century. Before then, the festival consisted of games, large dance floors and trees for climbing, all contained in the beer booths. Organizers of the festival desired more room for patrons and musicians, and the booths became large beer halls.

Oktoberfest was put on hold yet again from 1914 to 1918 because of World War I. It continued to suffer for the next several years due to inflation and economic instability throughout Germany. Again from 1939 to 1945, World War II prevented Oktoberfest celebrations from taking place. And from 1946 to 1948 Munich only held an Autumn Fest, which was a scaled-down version of the original. The sale of the traditional Oktoberfest beer was not allowed. Guests were only allowed to consume beer with an alcohol content of less than 2%. Since its origin, Oktoberfest has been cancelled 24 times due to war, disease and other types of emergencies.



The festival has had a traditional opening since 1950. The first keg is tapped after a twelve gun salute at 12:00 by the Mayor of Munich. The Mayor gives this first ceremonial beer to the Minister-President of Bavaria to kick off the celebration. By 1960, Oktoberfest celebrations became more world-wide as foreigners began to picture Germans wearing the Sennerhut (hats for men), Lederhosen (shorts for men), and Dirndl (dresses for women). In the early days, it was customary for Oktoberfest patrons to wear cowboy shaped hats containing a tuft of goat hair. Goat hair was highly valued in Germany, and one could show their wealth by the number of tufts of goat hair they possessed. This tradition has been ending due to cheap imitations and changes in perceptions of wealth.

This joyous festival isn't without its problems. Every year many young people overestimate their ability to handle large amounts of alcohol, particularly German beers with higher alcohol content. Many pass out due to drunkenness. These patrons are often called *Bierleichen* which is German for *beer corpses*. The people of Munich are prepared for this and any other medical emergencies that may come their way during Oktoberfest. The German Red Cross operates with over 100 volunteers and medics ready to treat ailing patrons. Police officials, fire department personnel and others are also available should celebrations turn sour.

In 2005, it was decided that Oktoberfest should be friendlier towards families and older people. They began the concept of a "quiet Oktoberfest" with softer music, such as traditional wind music, played up until 6:00 pm. This is also meant



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION 2010

By Pam Makovicka

The Nebraska Military Department's celebration of Women's History Month started with lunch catered by The Blend, a woman-owned business. They provided us with a wonderful lunch and are very easy to work with. Thank you to the Blend, and make sure you stop by their restaurant at 4900 North 26th Street, #102, Lincoln, Nebraska to enjoy the great selection of food, coffee and other beverages they have available.

The main speaker for the day was award-winning teacher, humorist and author, Juli Burney, who entertained us with humor and motivational-style speaking.



Juli has an amazing connection to her audience. She is able to make you laugh while you learn. I especially enjoyed her reminder that everyone has the strength to face life's challenges and the importance of finding joy in each moment. Juli provides you the opportunity to

think and makes you feel good.

I heard many in the audience comment that they wanted to hear



more and that her presentation seemed to go too fast. Juli Burney is an inspiring teacher and we enjoyed every minute.

BG Roma Amundson and LaVonnie Rosenthal presented Juli with

a thank you gift after her talk.

They then honored me with a presentation of the Army National Guard Individual Excellence in Diversity Award. I am truly touched to have won this award. I know that the Nebraska Military Department supports diversity and we all support the future success of our organization. 

Oktoberfest Continued from Page 22

to discourage the over-the-top party mentality among younger patrons and keep the traditional beer tent atmosphere pleasant. A new Bavarian law was enacted in 2008 prohibiting smoking in public places, even beer tents. Munich had difficulties enforcing this law and local elections targeted the smoking ban as a main issue. Now, smoking is allowed, but non-smoking areas are available.

This celebration will turn 200 years old in 2010.

Oktoberfest celebrations are held worldwide, including in the United States. German Americans are currently the largest ethnicity in the United States, so naturally there is no shortage of places to celebrate Oktoberfest. Patrons can enjoy traditional German foods such as bratwurst, sauerkraut, potato pancakes, pretzels and many more. Beer is the prominent feature of this celebration and

Diversity Dates Continued from Page 19

September 8-9.....	Eid al-Fitr (Islamic)
September 8-9.....	Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
September 11.....	Enkutatash (Coptic and Ethiopian Orthodox Christian)
September 11.....	Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)
September 11.....	Patriot Day (U.S.)
September 12.....	Grandparents Day (U.S.)
September 13.....	National Boss/Employee Exchange Day (U.S.)
September 15.....	Hispanic Heritage Month begins (U.S.)
September 15.....	Independence Day (Central America)

it is typically served in large liter mugs.

So when the heat of summer is fading away and Husker football is on your mind, also think of the rich German heritage surrounding Oktoberfest. It's a great time to immerse yourself in German culture, enjoy some traditional foods and beer, and appreciate its lively spirit and all that this festival has endured.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oktoberfest> 

September 16.....	Fiesta Patrias (Mexico)
September 17.....	Citizenship Day (U.S.)
September 17-18.....	Yom Kippur (Jewish)
September 18.....	Independence Day (Chile)
September 18.....	Oktoberfest (Germany)
September 19.....	National Deaf Awareness Week (U.S.)
September 20.....	Keiro-no-Hi (Japan)
September 21.....	Independence Day (Armenia)
September 21.....	International Day of Peace (U.N.)
September 22.....	Chung Ch'iu (China)
September 22.....	Ch'usok (North and South Korea)
September 22.....	Equinox (International)
September 22.....	Mabon (Celtic, Pagan)
September 22-23.....	Sukkot (Jewish)
September 23.....	National Day (Saudi Arabia)
September 24.....	Heritage Day (South Africa)
September 24.....	Our Lady of Las Mercedes Day (Dominican Republic, Peru)
September 27.....	Maskal (Ethiopian Orthodox Christian)
September 28.....	Confucius' Birthday & Teacher's Day (China, Taiwan)
September 29-30.....	Shemini Atzert (Jewish)
September 30.....	Botswana Day (Botswana)
September 30.....	Simchat Torah (Jewish)





Continued from Page 15

RUSSIAN TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. B. Catherine II was born Sophia Augusta Frederica in the German city of Stettin, Prussia (now Szczecin, Poland), on April 21, 1729. She was the daughter of Prince Christian August of Anhalt-Zerbst and Princess Johanna Elizabeth of Holstein-Gottorp.



2. D. Russia has nine time zones. In Imperial Russia, most of the nation observed solar time. During the late 19th Century, Moscow Mean Time was introduced, originally at UTC+02:30. However, when the Soviet Union was created, Moscow Time became UTC+02 and the various other time zones were introduced throughout Russia and the rest of the USSR. On June 21, 1930, the Soviet Union advanced all clocks by one hour, effectively making the nation run on daylight savings time all year. Russia and most republics in the Soviet Union turned their clocks back one hour on March 31, 1991, but Russia reversed this the following year.

Time Zone Name	Zone Abbreviations (Standard/Summer)	Time difference (Standard)
Kaliningrad Time	USZ1/USZ1S	UTC+02
Moscow Time	MSK/MSD	UTC+03
Yekaterinburg Time	YEKT/YEKST	UTC+05
Omsk Time	OMST/OMSST	UTC+06
Krasnoyarsk Time	KRAT/KRAST	UTC+07
Irkutsk Time	IRKT/IRKST	UTC+08
Yakutsk Time	YAKT/YAKST	UTC+09
Vladivostok Time	VLAT/VLAST	UTC+10
Magadan Time	MAGT/MAGST	UTC+11

The only federal subjects to be in more than one time zone are the Sakha Republic, which is separated into areas which observe the Yakutsk, Vladivostok and Magadan time zones, and Sakhalin Oblast, which is in the Vladivostok (island Sakhalin) and Magadan time zones (Kuril Islands). To learn more about UTC time zones, please see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coordinated_Universal_Time

3. C. Ivan IV. In 1547, Ivan IV became the first crowned Czar of Russia. He was known to be extremely, perhaps



even insanely brutal, hence his nickname of Ivan the Terrible. Czar (or Tsar as it is also spelled) is a title used to designate certain monarchs or supreme rulers. Czars were the official title of Russia's rulers from about 1547 until about 1917.

4. B. The State Hermitage Museum. The Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia is one of the world's foremost houses of art, consisting of six buildings along the embankment of the Neva River. Its central building, the Winter Palace (erected 1754-62 by Czarina Elizabeth and the traditional winter residence of the czars) was damaged in 1837 by a fire and then reconstructed in the neoclassical style in the 19th century from the original pavilion palace. The Hermitage Museum's magnificent collection began as the private collection of Catherine II (Catherine the Great). There are now over three million items in the Hermitage collection.



5. A. True. Every Russian name consists of three names. The first name is the main name of Russian people and most Russian names have a variety of forms. For example, the name Mikhail is the full form of the name – this is used for official documents and in formal relationships. The short form, Misha, is used by family members and friends. The affectionate form, Mishenka or Mishunya is used by parents or grandparents. And finally the rude form, Miska, is impolite.

The patronymic name is derived from the father's name according to rule: The Russian male patronymic forms by adding the ending –evich, -ovich (Nikolaevich, Mikhailovich). For example: Lev Nikolaevich Tolstoy – The name of Lev Tolstoy's father was Nikolay, so Lev Tolstoy's patronymic name becomes Nikolaevich). Russian females names are formed by adding –ovna, -evna (Nikolaevna, Mikhailovna). For example: Raisa Maximovna Gorbacheva – Raisa's fathers name was Maxim, so Raisa's patronymic name becomes Maximovna. Russians use first and patronymic names in formal relationships, with unfamiliar people, with doctors, teachers, and other respected people. The surname (family name) generally functions in the same manner as English family names. Russian surnames usually end with –ov (-ova for female); -ev (-eva); -in (-ina). Ukrainian surnames generally end with –enko, -ko, -uk, and –ych (these endings do not change based on gender). The ending –skiy or –sky (-skaya) is common in both Russia and Ukraine.

6. D. Aleksei Leonov. Soviet/Russian cosmonaut and Air Force General Aleksei Leonov became the first human to conduct a space walk on March 18, 1965. Leonov was one of the

Continued on Page 25



Trivia Answers Continued from Page 24

twenty-five air force pilots selected to be part of the first cosmonaut group in 1960. His space walk occurred on the Voskhod 2 flight. He was outside the spacecraft for 12 minutes and nine seconds. Leonov's spacesuit had inflated in the vacuum of space to the point where he could not re-enter the airlock. He opened a valve to allow some of the suit's pressure to bleed off, and was barely able to get back inside the capsule.



Valentina Tereshkova was the first woman in space, Yuri Gagarin was the first human in space and Sergei Krikalyov spent the most time in space (803 days).

7. C. Lake Baikal. Located in the south of Eastern Siberia, in the Buryat Autonomous Republic and the region of Irkutsk, Russia, Lake Baikal covers 31,500 square kilometers (approximately 19,573 square miles). Also considered the deepest lake in the world, Lake Baikal's average depth is 730 meters (2,395 feet) and its maximum depth in the middle is 1,620 meters (5,315 feet). The water basin holds about one-fifth of the world's reserves of fresh surface water and over 80 percent of the fresh water in the former Soviet Union. Lake Karachay is considered to be one of the most polluted lakes in the world (from radiation waste).



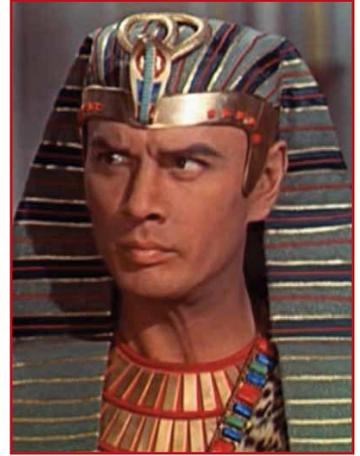
Lake Baikal in the winter, as seen from the tourist resort of Listvyanka. The ice is thick enough to support pedestrians and snowmobiles.



Lake Baikal in the summer, as seen from Bolshiye Koty on the southwest shore.

8. A. Yul Brynner was born Yuliy Borisovich Brynner in 1920, in Vladivostok, Russia. Brynner's best known role was that of King Mongkut of Siam in the Broadway production of Rodger's and

Hammerstein's musical *The King and I*, in which he played 4,525 times on stage over the span of his career. Brynner died of lung cancer on October 10, 1985, in New York City. Sergei Bodrov is a two-time Academy Award nominated Russian filmmaker, Yakov Smirnoff is a Russian comedian who was popular in the 1980s, and Rudolf Nureyev is a famed Russian dancer who defected from Russia in the 1960s.



9. B. Pyotr Tchaikovsky. Tchaikovsky was a Russian composer of the Romantic Era. His wide ranging output includes symphonies, operas, instrumental, chamber music and ballets. He wrote some of the most popular concert and theatrical music in the classical repertoire including *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, and the *1812 Overture*. Born into a middle-class family, Tchaikovsky was educated for a career as a civil servant, despite his obvious musical precocity. He pursued a musical career against the wishes of his family, entering the Saint Petersburg Conservatory in 1862 and graduating in 1865. This formal, Western-oriented training set him apart from the contemporary nationalistic movement embodied by the influential group of young Russian composers known as The Five, with whom Tchaikovsky's professional relationship was mixed. Although he enjoyed many popular successes, Tchaikovsky was never emotionally secure, and his life was punctuated by personal crises and periods of depression.



Sergei Rachmaninoff was a Russian composer, pianist and conductor. He was considered

“Every man is free to rise as far as he’s able or willing, but the degree to which he thinks determines the degree to which he’ll rise”

~ Ayn Rand

Continued on Page 26



2010 WOMEN'S ANNUAL TRAINING DAY

By Pam Makovicka

The Nebraska Federal Women's Council and the Heartland Federally Employed Women's Chapter sponsored a training day April 15, 2010 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) Agriculture Research Center in Mead, Nebraska.

Our first training session was on resume writing led by Jean Niemann. She told us about USAJOBS resume builder located at <http://www.resume-place.com/tag/usajobs>.

This includes all the crucial data required for Federal applications. If you prefer using a resume or KSA (knowledge, skill and abilities) format, you have to select key words that show you are the most qualified person for the job. An example she gave was the key word analyst, which shows you have experience in collecting data, evaluating effectiveness and researching and developing new processes. Just one



key word can have tremendous power and deliver a huge message. Jean also encouraged us to display our selling credentials on the first page because applications are quickly skimmed on the first pass.

Susan Brown, a retired UNL Extension Educator Professor, inspired us with her presentation on laughter, which taught us the importance of joy and laughter in our life. She suggested that everyone keep a journal of things that make us laugh or give us joy. It is easy to forget the happy times and being able to read them will give you great joy.

Xuan Hong Nguyen gave a presentation on tea, explaining the different types of tea and their uses. *Tealightful Treasures* promotes making memories and moments that matter. They encourage everyone to share the simple idea of taking time for tea. They

have some treasured dessert teas that are made with all natural ingredients and have no added sugar.

Deb Taylor, PA, from Contemporary Healthcare for Women, spoke on women's health issues. She specializes in obstetrics, osteoporosis, gynecology, female cancer detection and menopause. She opened the floor to questions and provided all with invaluable information.

Our final presenter was Catherine Mills on Adobe Acrobat training. She provided easy to use short cuts to make Acrobat user friendly. I was amazed at all you can accomplish using this program.

The training day was a great success and the money collected from registration fees and a silent auction will be used for scholarships for Federal employed women. Watch *Bridging the Gap* newsletter for an announcement on the next scholarship application.



Trivia Answers Continued from Page 25

one of the finest pianists of his day. Igor Stravinsky, also a Russian composer, pianist and conductor, was widely acknowledged as one of the most important and influential composers of 20th century music. He achieved international fame with three ballets – *The Firebird*, *Petrushka* and *The Rite of Spring*. Mily Balakirev was a Russian pianist, conductor and composer and the head of the group of young Russian composers known as The Five.

10. D. Mikhail Gorbachev. Gorbachev, a communist reformer, was appointed General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1985. His appointment followed the



death of three previous Soviet leaders in three years. Leonid Brezhnev was first to go, followed by Yuri Andropov and Konstantin Chernenko. Not being able to afford another short term leader, the old guard appointed the youthful 56 year old Mikhail Gorbachev as General Secretary.

<http://www.russia-ukraine-travel.com/russian-time-zones.html>

www.foreigndocuments.com/russian_names.html

www.funtrivia.com/quizzes/history/european/russian.html

www.encyclopedia.com

www.thenagain.info/webchron/easteurope/octrev.html

www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/winterpalace

www.irkutsk.org/baikal

www.historyorb.com/russia/intro.shtml

www.en.wikipedia.org

BTG
DIVER-CIPE
CORNERSubmitted by
MSG Rey Castaneda

This recipe was given to me by my mother who in turn received it from my Grandmother Narcissa Castaneda on my father's side. My mom gained all of her cooking skills from my grandmother and she would be the first to tell you this lady was one of the best cooks ever. These enchiladas were part of the first Mexican meal I made for my wife, and she and my son enjoy them greatly. In fact they are both still alive and my wife is still married to me! My wife has given this recipe to her sisters who prepare them for their families. COL Neumann has tried these same enchiladas at my mother's house and has given them his approval.

Hopefully you will try this recipe, but more important try it and like it.

REYNOLD'S
ENCHILADAS 

Ingredients

- | | |
|---|---|
| 15 ounce can of tomato sauce | 16 ounces of shredded cheddar cheese |
| 1/2 can of water (7 - 8 ounces) | Vegetable oil for frying (start with a couple tablespoons and add more as needed) |
| 3 tablespoons of chili powder (Gephardt chili powder is our favorite brand) | 1/2 of a small onion, diced |
| 8 - 12 flour tortillas | |

Mix sauce, water and chili powder into a large bowl (big enough to dip your tortillas in).

Heat a large frying pan (medium heat) and add 2 tablespoons of oil. Dip a tortilla in the sauce then fry in the pan. Flip the tortilla after about 30 seconds (it will start to bubble). Fry for an additional 30 seconds on the other side.

Remove the tortilla from the frying pan and put a handful of cheese in the center of the tortilla and roll. You may add some diced onion on top of the cheese if you like. We usually make some with onion and some without.

You can also add hamburger meat to make beef/cheese enchiladas. Instructions for preparing the beef are below.

This recipe will make about ten enchiladas depending on the size of the tortillas. When they are all assembled I usually pour any leftover sauce on top and sprinkle with any remaining cheese and bake in the oven for 10 to 15 minutes.

You can place these in a 9 x 13 pan and keep them warm in the oven until ready to serve. Sometimes I use a disposable foil pan to transport these to a potluck or a food day at the office. They are very easy to reheat. If you are going to bake them, make sure you use non-stick cooking spray on your pan so the enchiladas don't stick.

Word of caution: they are very messy when frying; my wife and I put on old clothes when cooking.

Ingredients - Reynold's Seasoned Beef for Enchiladas or Tacos

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1-2 lbs ground beef | 1 teaspoon pepper |
| 1 teaspoon salt | 1 teaspoon cumin |

Put all the ingredients into a frying pan and cook on medium heat stirring the ground beef until browned. Drain the grease off the beef through a strainer.

For tacos, fill a tortilla with the seasoned beef, fold in half and pin with a couple of toothpicks. Deep fry the stuffed tortilla with beef till the tortilla is browned, then pat with a paper towel to remove any excess grease. Remove the toothpicks and fill with cheese, chopped lettuce and diced tomatoes. It's your choice as far as what ingredients you want to stuff your enchiladas and tacos with.

