



DMAVA HIGHLIGHTS

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Aviators from the 1-150th Assault Helicopter Battalion, New Jersey National Guard, assist West Point cadets in rappelling from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter at the U. S. Military Academy, N.Y., June 25, 2013. Three Black Hawks provided aerial support for more than 120 cadets, who in groups of four rappelled from more than 60 feet in the air on to the practice field at West Point. The cadets were finishing their air assault training prior to graduating from West Point. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen/Released)

Having a field day

By Sgt. 1st Class Kryn P. Westhoven, JFHQ-PAO

A year ago, Sgt. 1st Class John Klewicki knew little about the world of amateur radio. "I am one of those geeks now," Klewicki boasted as he stood under a fifty-foot antenna last weekend during the South Jersey Radio Association's (SJRA) Field Day in Evesham.

It was this same event in 2012 that brought Klewicki into the world of megahertz and watts, call signs and Q-signals.

For nearly a decade, Klewicki was familiar with the adjacent frequencies used by the amateur operators. Knowing the frequency spectrum was part of his responsibilities as the communications chief for the New Jersey National Guard's 21st Civil Support Team (Weapons of Mass Destruction) at Joint Base-McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

"I had no clue what they did," said Klewicki. "Started doing my research and said 'Wow, these guys could be advantageous!'"

What started as a work related curiosity turned into love affair in days, actually three days. Taking two days off from work, Klewicki studied and quickly passed both 35-question exams to earn the technician and general licenses. With the vanity call sign W1WMD, he could operate on just about any of the bands available.

And work those radio bands he did several months ago in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Participating in the Operation Tide Breaker exercise, Klewicki spent four days on a mountaintop on St. Croix. He made radio contact with 1,200 stations from all 50 states and 49 countries.

"On the uber geek factor, I worked this guy in New Zealand," beamed Klewicki as he went on to explain how the pair then turned their directional antennas 180 degrees to make contact the 'long way' around the globe.

With only months to go before the 44-year old hangs up the uniform, Klewicki has two goals.

"To start getting people to realize this could actually work if we needed to," said Klewicki, as he continues looking at how amateur radio could be an asset to homeland security first responders. Number two is pushing folks in the Guard to get their amateur radio license.

The Federal Communication Commission eliminated the Morse code requirement several years ago. The required study has



a payoff, according the Klewicki. "The people are nice and extremely friendly."

With seven radios and counting, this hobby will be a big part of his future. One ambitious plan is to build a Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) antenna array so the Tabernacle resident can bounce radio signals off the moon to anywhere on the globe.

"Look up at the moon, Sergeant Klewicki is probably trying to get in touch with you," said Klewicki about upcoming airwave adventures.

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NJ National Guard Aviation Warrant Officer Open House: 4 Tracks, 2 Paths to Pilot

Pilots with Alpha Company, 1-150th Assault Helicopter Battalion work with the ground crew to attach a load to the UH-60 Black Hawk heli-

copter at the Aviation Warrant Officer Open House June 22, 2013 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst at hangar 307.

Story and photo by Sgt. Michael Davis, 444th MPAD

LAKEHURST, N.J. – More than 20 Soldiers and Marines came to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst June 22 to learn if they have the right stuff to become New Jersey Army National Guard Aviation Warrant Officers.

The open house, hosted by the National Guard's Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 150th Aviation, was designed to explain the requirements needed to become a Warrant Officer in the aviation field and the benefits that come with the job.

Candidates learned about the two paths to becoming a warrant officer, which depends on their current military rank and experience, as well as the four tracks within the aviation military occupational specialty: Maintenance, Safety, Tactical Operations and Standardization. No matter what path or track the candidate pursues, the fundamentals are consistent: safety and training.

"Always have a level of excellence," said Chief Warrant Officer 5 James DenHartog. "It's all about planning, execution and mission. We make decisions that affect the lives of the Soldiers in the air and the ones on the ground."

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Bryan Breza wanted to connect on a personal level and shared some of his feelings about doing the job as an Aviation Warrant Officer.

"The reason we're in the air is because of the guys on the ground," Breza said. "Making sure the guys on the ground are being taken care of is the most important thing."

Candidates also learned about the 1-150th Assault Helicopter Battalion's storied history. Its lineage can be traced back to the 1960s when the New Jersey National Guard's Aviation was established with Bell H-13s at Army Aviation Support Facility No. 1 at Trenton Mercer County Airport and a limited flight facility at Linden Airport.

Since its inception, the battalion has continued to provide critical support for both foreign and domestic missions, as well as being in deployed and mobilized capacities throughout areas such as Kosovo, Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, and most recently across the Garden State during Hurricane Sandy.

After the presentations, candidates were taken for a ride in one of the Aviation Battalion's Blackhawks over the Pine Barrens area of New Jersey. The ride showcased both tactical and evasive maneuvers including low and high flying, sharp drops, steep inclines and hard banks to the left and right.

"We're excited to have this open house and also take the recruits up in Black Hawks to give them a real idea of the aviation field," said Breza, a resident of Florence, N.J.

The Aviation Battalion is looking for service members who are eager to accept the challenge to become a warrant officer and fly the military's most versatile helicopter. Contact a warrant officer recruiter today.

For more information about the Aviation Warrant Officer program, please contact Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jennifer Rice at jennifer.rice.mil@mail.mil.

W-1	W-2	W-3	W-4	W-5
				
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HIGHLIGHTS



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MEMORIAL 5K

JULY 12, 2013 • 0730 HRS

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst: Join us in coming together as a global community to run a 5K in honor of the crew of Shell 77 who lost their lives in the KC-135 crash on May 3rd, 2013

To sign up, go to www.youcaring.com/honoringshell77
Registration "fee" is a \$25 donation.
Leave your name and annotate "#racemcguire" in the comments section for an accurate head count!

100% OF THE PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE FAMILIES OF THE FALLEN

Race will start at the covered pavilion outside the McGuire Fitness Center, and will be two-loops around the golf course.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

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Staff Sgt. Juana E. Garrett, right, Headquarters, 117th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, explains how a work order is written up to Albanian Armed Forces logisticians Maj. Dritan Cami, left, Staff Sgt. Andi Dodo, center, and 1st Lt. Flogeort Tarjat, right, at the Consolidated Logistics Training Facility, located at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., June 24, 2013. Members of the Albanian Armed Forces met with the New Jersey National Guard for an operational logistical capability visit June 22-27. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen/Released)



Staff Sgt. Johnny Melendez, left, 177th Fighter Wing Aerospace Control Alert (ACA) team member, shows the emergency power unit pin to F-16 pilot Capt. Michael Nicosan, signaling that he's waiting for all personnel to clear the area, while Command Sgt. Maj. Robert W. Winzenried, center, command senior enlisted leader for North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command, and ACA chief enlisted manager Master Sgt. Chris Mock, right, look on during a practice ground scramble at the 177th s ACA facility in Egg Harbor Township, N.J., May 29, 2013. Winzenried assumed the top enlisted post at NORAD and USNORTHCOM Sept. 15, 2012. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Andrew J. Moseley/Released)

New Jersey first lady announces second annual “Heart of a Hero Scholarship” program

First lady Mary Pat Christie announced June 25 that Wal-Mart Stores Inc. is again partnering with New Jersey Heroes for the Heart of a Hero Scholarship program to help military service members pursue a post-secondary education or vocational training.

The Heart of a Hero Scholarship program provides New Jersey service members with another resource to make their higher education and career goals a reality. Wal-Mart is donating \$50,000 for the effort to fund ten \$5,000 scholarships to be awarded in time for the 2013-14 school-year.

“We must never forget the commitment and courageous sacrifice of our military service members and veterans on behalf of our state and the nation,” said Christie. “That’s why I’m so pleased that Wal-Mart is renewing its partnership with us to honor these heroes by helping to advance their educational objectives through the Heart of a Hero Scholarship. With Wal-Mart’s generous contribution, ten of our servicemen and women will have an opportunity to follow their desired professional and career aspirations.”

For Marine Corps Sgt. James B. Adams, a 2012 recipient from Colts Neck, the Heart of a Hero Scholarship has meant the completion of a Bachelor of Arts in Marketing degree, which was recently conferred from American Military University. Adams is currently pursuing his MBA with a concentration in Marketing. He said, “The ability for me to continue my off-duty education was noted by my superiors and I truly believe it was a factor in my upcoming promotion to Staff Sergeant. I plan on using the knowledge gained from college, as well as the experience and formal training I’ve received from the Marine Corps, in a way to give back to society.”

Another 2012 Heart of a Hero recipient, Airman 1st Class Vince Avallone, 177th Fighter Wing, New Jersey National Guard, is using his scholarship to help attain his career goal to become a doctor. The scholarship funding has assisted in alleviating financial burdens such as tuition fees, books, and graduate school applications. “I am working on applying for the Masters of Biomedical Sciences at UMDNJ,” said Avallone, a Mullica Hill resident. “After that I plan to further my education by becoming a candidate for medical school at UMDNJ or Rowan’s Cooper Medical School.”

Thanks to the financial assistance provided by the scholarship, Avallone was able to focus more attention on his community service, a core element of the scholarship, including his participation in Relay for Life, Back to the Boro, and Ronald McDonald House.

“Wal-Mart is proud to join First Lady Mary Pat Christie in once again funding the Heart of a Hero Scholarship Program through New Jersey Heroes,” said Jennifer Hoehn, director of Public Affairs and Government Relations for Walmart stores in New Jersey. “As one of our country’s largest private employers of veterans, Wal-Mart salutes America’s heroes by helping to prepare our troops for successful professional lives during and after their service to our country.”

Applicants for the Heart of a Hero Scholarship must meet sev-



In front of more than 100 New Jersey National Guard's Soldiers and Airmen, New Jersey's first lady, Mary Pat Christie, announces June 25, 2013 at the Hackettstown Armory that New Jersey Heroes will award, through the Heart of a Hero Scholarship, educational scholarships to 10 military service members for the 2013-2014 school year. The Heart of a Hero Scholarship is a \$5,000 scholarship awarded to both active New Jersey service members and veterans to use toward secondary education. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez, NJDMAVA/PA/Released)

eral program criteria: 1) be a United States citizen and New Jersey resident; 2) be a high school graduate or have a high school equivalency diploma (GED); 3) served in the military; 4) submit a letter stating goals and how the scholarship will be used; 5) enroll as a student at an accredited college/university or a vocational training school in pursuit of a degree for the 2012-13 school year; 6) demonstrate a commitment to volunteerism and community contribution, in the spirit of New Jersey Heroes.

Service members interested in applying for the Heart of a Hero Scholarship must fully complete the application form either online at the New Jersey Heroes website: www.newjerseyheroes.org by no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 26, 2013 or submit an application via US Mail postmarked no later than July 26, 2013 and mailed to NJ Heroes, P.O. Box 95, Mendham, NJ 07945-0095. Application deadline is Friday, July 26, 2013.

“New Jersey Heroes recognizes and celebrates the inspiring work being done by individuals and non-profit organizations across the Garden State,” noted Christie. “In that spirit, the recipients of the Heart of a Hero Scholarship will continue to embody these same ideals through volunteerism and community service.”

New Jersey Heroes is an initiative of first lady Mary Pat Christie that showcases the positive and unique ways people and organizations are impacting New Jersey and their communities. To nominate a hero, go to <http://newjerseyheroes.org> and follow the application instructions to submit the person you believe is a true New Jersey Hero.

DMAVA Highlights is published weekly by the Public Affairs Office of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force, the National Guard, Veterans Affairs or the state of New Jersey. Letters may be sent to: NJDMAVA, DMAVA Highlights, Public Affairs Office, PO Box 340, Trenton NJ 08625-0340. e-mail at pao@njdmava.state.nj.us.

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