



NOTE: The newsletter has changed format:

A web site was constructed to contain all the "Static" information that is normally in the newsletters each month. The monthly newsletter will continue to be sent out, but with just current up-dated information. The **Recall Roster** can be viewed on the Yahoo.com email site (*see bottom of this newsletter, for how to view Newsletter/Recall Roster Archives*)

924th Web site URL: <http://924tfg.izfree.com/>

History, Latest Info, Photos, In Memoriam, Guestbook, Miscellaneous, Newsletters, Links, Recall Roster

NOTE: Newsletters & Recall Roster from the web site require a Password: **outlaws** (*please keep the password in-house, we don't want outside folks having access to email addresses etc.*)
Make sure and sign the **Guestbook!!**

Thanks to Jim Houston for being the 924th Webmaster.



KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE

Distance and time may separate us but friendship and memories won't

To serve our nation, reservist make sacrifices to go above and beyond the commitments of civilian life -- balancing the demands of family, civilian employment, and military service

Dedicated to those who have invested their lives to the cause of Freedom in America! God Bless our Men and Women who are (or Have) in any way or manner served to protect our Great Nation and the freedom we have. And God Bless the United States of America.

For God and Country We Associate Ourselves Together for the Following Purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in World Conflicts; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.



We live in the **"Land of the Free"** because of the **"BRAVE"**

**Honor those who protect us!!!
Pray they may come home alive.
Remember those who sacrificed all.
Live life worthy of their legacy.**

Listen to music as you read the newsletter.

Click Here ["Somewhere Over the Rainbow by Israel Kamakawiwo'ole - listen for free"](#), and then click on the Minimize minus sign (-) at the top right corner of your screen. It will then go back to the newsletter with music playing. When finished listening to music, go to your desktop home page, on the bottom tool bar, right click [Facebook/So...](#) then select close.



924th Air Force Reserve
The Unit That Refuses to Disband

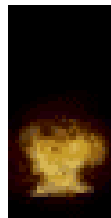
OUR PRAYER



"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us.

Amen." www.presidentalprayerteam.org

GOD BLESS AMERICA AND HER HEROS.....



Ed Copher, "924 Keeper of the Flame"

Memories glimmer and hide in the dim shadows
Daring us to '...catch me...if you can!'
As time steadily treads its own meandering path,
It's hard to trace old members of the clan.
Then someone steps up with lantern and blade
Shouting, "Let's gather them in for us all, good neighbor!
We'll bring forth those hidden in the shade, and
Share them with one and another!
"I'll keep that flame high and the blade ever sharp,
That our friends may never be lost in the dark!"

MISSION STATEMENT

To foster, encourage, and support the perpetuation of the legend, history, and camaraderie associated with the 924th FW, the greatest Unit ever.

R MOTTO

One Team, One Force, One Family...One Great Unit
The Older We Get the Better We Were!!!

What We Believe...

- **Vision:** Citizen Airmen fully engaged in Global Vigilance, Reach and Power
- **Mission:** To provide Citizen Airmen to defend the United States and protect its interests through Aerospace Power
- **Core Values:** Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in All We Do
- **Core Competencies:**
Developing Citizen Airmen, Technology-to-Warfighting and Integrating Operations
- **Distinctive Capabilities:**
Air and Space Superiority, Global Attack, Rapid Global Mobility, Precision Engagement, Information Superiority, Agile Combat Support

924 Flower Fund: "Need Donations"..... running low on funds.

The purpose is to send a nice flower arrangement to all 924th funerals.

The ribbon will read; "**924th BAFB**". A flower arrangement has been sent to the last **13** funerals.

Jim Chapman is the POC for collecting funds and sending the flowers. jchapman90@austin.rr.com

Charlie Turruella's Civilian Retirement is 3 March 2009 at Randolph AFB.

Johanna Oren's Military Retirement Ceremony is 12 March 09 at Randolph AFB.

For details about her retirement dinner and ceremony go to the 924th Web Site and click on "[Latest Info](#)".

Ron Thomas' son accepted in the US Army CID Program:

From: Ron Thomas about his son Ronny Thomas:

Ronnie has been accepted into CID (Criminal Investigation Command) of the Army. This is the Army version of NCIS. He will probably report in April to Ft Leonard Wood Missouri for 4 months training, and then await assignment. He is due to rotate back to the states next month anyway. Probably go directly to Ft Leonard Wood. Hooray. Wally and I are excited for him. He has a great future ahead. Since he is coming off a long tour, 36 months, in Germany, with a deployment to Iraq for 18 of those 36 months, we are hoping he gets stationed at Ft Hood and NOT be stationed at another overseas Post.

Regards, Ron & Wally

Mando Blanco, Promoted to Supervisor of Carpenter Shop, UT Austin:

Retired 924th CMSgt

Congratulations to Armando Blanco for his promotion to Supervisor of the Carpenter Shop of Construction Services Division of PMCS



Armando has worked for UT as a carpenter for the past 2 years. Prior to coming to UT, he worked in various maintenance shops for over 30 years. He is originally from Ft. Stockton, Texas. He has lived in Austin since 1975 and has worked extensively with Habitat for Humanity serving as both a Crew Lead Carpenter and as a House Leader. His hobbies include woodworking and motorcycle riding.

You can contact Armando at armando.blanco@austin.utexas.edu

Proposal to Change Medical Benefits for Active & Retired Military and Veterans: Submitted by Cannon Pritchard

DON'T PUT OFF ANY MEDICAL CARE.....NEXT YEAR IT MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR YOU!

Administration Proposal To Change Medical Benefits for Active Duty Military, Retirees and Veterans.

Here's some bad news about the new Budget for Veterans

PLEASE PASS THIS EMAIL INFORMATION ALONG TO ANY OF YOUR FRIENDS WHO MAY HAVE TIES TO

MILITARY MEMBERS.

The following is About Obama's Health Care proposal for Active Duty Military Families and Veterans.

My office just got word today that our new President Obama has proposed a plan to cut military health benefits! This is great news for the 99.9% Veterans and Active Duty members who are currently receiving health care benefits. The Congressional Budget Office has made public a proposal stating in part that Veterans (you know the men and women who have fought in wars and spent 20 plus years in the service) are now going to be paying up to 50% of their medical bill. That's a big jump from paying nothing for the past 30 some odd years.

The biggest kicker is Active Duty Military (yep, I said Active Duty) will now be paying 10% of their total bill. They will now be billed for their kids visiting the doctor. Again, a big jump from being free!

Another benefit subject to change is V.A. medical benefits. Everyone who is receiving a benefit from the V.A. for a service related injury will have to be re-assessed and the proposal states this will affect "90% of vets receiving V.A. benefits and will save the government \$53 Billion dollars over 10 years."

Needless to say, today is the first time I have heard from the few Obama supporters in my office say "if this gets passed they will not continue to be a supporter".

Isn't this the candidate that just a few months ago was preaching to get healthcare coverage to ALL? Isn't it ironic and moronic to steal \$53 Billion from vets and active duty military families so the Crackhead down the street will receive free medical coverage?

If you're as concerned as I am, then write your elected officials so hopefully some of the dummies running this country see the light and would never ever dream of taking away a penny from a military member!
Here are some links to the article:

<http://soldiersmind.com/2009/01/07/proposed-tricare-cuts-could-cause-problems-for-military-families-and-retirees/>

<http://www.veteranstoday...com/modules.php?name=News&file=print&sid=4305>
Feel free to Google if you're in dis-belief.

Below is a message from an Army General who also points out some links and ways how to contact your elected representative.

Subject: Tri-Care for Life's Future

To All,

This is for real. The heavy assault has begun on Veterans'/Retirees' benefits to pay for other programs. The word on the street is that these indeed are a high priority of the Obama administration. The one most of interest to Retired Military is in Article 189. If approved by Congress the first assault wave would hit the beaches in 2011 and would hit hard. It would initiate cost sharing to require retirees to pay the first \$525 of medical cost and 50% of the next \$4,725 for a first year cost of \$2,888 per person. It would be indexed to increase with inflation. A reason given for this action (for PR effect) is "overuse" by Retirees.

Clyde

For those of you who are covered by TFL you will want to pay attention to what BG Bob Clements has surfaced about the future of TFL. If you know of anyone who is Retired Military, please forward this on to them.

I don't know how many of you partake of the Tri-Care for Life program but here is a very interesting note on the subject. Seems as though our President has placed a priority on cutting it out of the budget as a means to provide funding for those things he promised during the campaign.

In any case, on page 189 of the Congressional Budget Office report, see the note below on how to get to that spot, there is a strong recommendation to eventually eliminate the program as it is too expensive.

I would ask that you contact your elected officials and register your strong opposition to the elimination of this program. Just another move to slight those of us who dedicated much of our adult lives to the defense of our country.

Thanks for listening.

Heads-up from BG Bob Clements, USAF Ret (P38 Bob)

THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE WEB SITE:

[HTTP://WWW.CBO.GOV](http://WWW.CBO.GOV) <<http://www.cbo.gov/>>

. ("BUDGET OPTIONS VOLUME 1: HEALTH CARE" (PAGE 187 OF THE PDF FILE))



Austin, Texas
Your National Weather Service forecast



NOAA/924th National Weather Service: About 15 former 924th folks work for the NOAA!!!!

Austin Current Weather: <http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?CityName=Austin&state=TX&site=EWX&textField1=30.267&textField2=-97.743&e=1>



[Vietnam War Resources, Data Site:](#)

Lot's of photos and information

Click here: <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/fac/Thomas.Pilsch/Vietnam.html>



[Statistics about the Vietnam War](#)

Interesting information about statistics and myths associated with the Vietnam War...

<http://www.vhfcn.org/stat.html>



*****MAIL CALL*****

[Message from Curtis Ursrey:](#) 10 Feb 09

Hi Ed, my name is Curtis Ursrey, Jr., everyone call me Kurt, I do not know if you remember me or not but I worked in the docks from 1970-1975 at Ellington. Instead of transferring with the 924th to Bergstrom, I went to work for Solar Turbines, Inc as a field service rep and after 34 years I am still with them and hope to retire next year. Henry Guidry has been in touch with me and told me about the web site and I would like to be added to your mailing list.

Address: Kurt Ursrey

Email: Ucurtis@stx.rr.com

4018 Sandy Hollow Crk.

Corpus Christi, Tx. 78410

Phone: 361-241-2608 (H) 361-960-2350 (C)

*****WEB SITES OF INTEREST*****

924 WEB SITE: <http://924tfg.izfree.com/>
History, Photos, In Memoriam, Guestbook, Miscellaneous, Links

C-130 Web Site Links

C-130 Fact Sheet: <http://www.af.mil/factsheets/factsheet.asp?fsID=92>
All C-130's Inventory Listing: <http://www.spectrumwd.com/c130/articles/AllHerks.xls>
C-130 Inventory Listing/AMARC/Aircraft Losses in Vietnam/Aircrew Losses in Vietnam:
<http://www.spectrumwd.com/c130/article.htm>
C-130 History: http://www.globalaircraft.org/planes/c-130_hercules.pl
C-130 Data & Unit Locations: <http://www.fas.org/man/dod-101/sys/ac/c-130.htm>
Herky Nose Art: <http://www.herkynoseart.com/links.html>
The Aviation Zone: <http://www.theaviationzone.com/factsheets/c130.asp>
C-130 History of Recent Aircraft by BuNo: <http://members.aol.com/rsacchi001/gulf/c130.html>
Sam's C-130 Page: <http://hometown.aol.com/SamC130/>
Over 2000 pictures of C-130's: www.airlines.net
C-130 Forum: History and many C-130 pictures from all over the world.
<http://forum.keypublishing.co.uk/showthread.php?s=f340075912f907df03d857a401693ea8&t=30451&highlight=herk>
C-130 Landing on Aircraft Carrier: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CfwJJD5jGXk>
C-130 Carrier OPS: <http://www.aerospaceweb.org/question/history/q0097.shtml>
C-130, Handling the "Herc": <http://www.af.mil/news/airman/0108/herc.shtml>
Airlifter Web Site: www.troopcarrier.org.home.html
C-130 Production Line video: <http://science.howstuffworks.com/airplane.htm>
Herky Birds HQ: <http://herkybirds.com/index.php>
C-130 Photo Gallery: <http://www.troopcarrier.org/gallery/>
C-130 Photos on Facebook: **BEST OF THE BEST C-130 PICTURES AND MOVIES.**

F-16 Web Site Links:

The Ultimate F-16 Reference: http://www.f-16.net/f-16_users_article31.html

F-4 Tributes:

1. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwvZN_DyRc 3:00 min video
2. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQSzBTeN8tY&feature=related> 3:42 min video
3. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CNvgW6yKgHQ&feature=related> 1:13 min video
4. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrIRKY8o-ww&feature=related> 1:29 min video
5. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DeEwRh-P6HM&feature=related> 4:57 min video

C-130 photos on Facebook.com:

Click here: **BEST OF THE BEST C-130 PICTURES AND MOVIES.**

Absolutely the Best Military Photos:

<http://www.tom-phillips.info/images/cool.pics.military.htm>

<http://www.tom-phillips.info/images/cool.pics.military.2.htm>

<http://www.tom-phillips.info/images/cool.pics.military.3.htm>

North Platte, Neb: WWII Canteen 7:04 min video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07DGeLvDw8I>

Preikestolen Norway: Know as the most beautiful place in the world 4:47 min video
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J6OtiTrPk80&feature=related>

World class trains - The Royal Orient Express: 9:59 min video
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A60eSv-Malo>

Blowing up a C-130:

Check this out...

<http://shock.military.com/Shock/videos.do?displayContent=184137&ESRC=airforce-a.nl>

US Navy Ceremonial Guard Silent Drill Team: *This was about three years ago.*

We were invited to compete in an International Tattoo in Norway. They competed against military units from all over NATO. They won first place.

http://www.whc.net/rjones/USN/USN_team.html

Bruno's Art & Sculpture Garden in Australia: This was awesome: completely destroyed on 7 Feb by the Wildfires.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hic1YnV5RMY> 3:21 min video

Mates,

This was so beautiful and now it has GONE as well as all the birds and native wildlife.

Koala bears normally would scratch the living daylight out of you but as you have seen in emails already send they are interacting with humans in these horrible bush fires like we have never seen before and Koala's really don't like drinking water all that much they get there liquid at of the Gum tree leaves, but all the tree's are gone. Our gum tree's are full of uguliptus oil and when they are in heat as this fire caused they explode like a grenade.

I am sending you the attachment to one of the world's most unique and deeply inspiring experiences for art and garden lovers of all ages created by Bruno Torfs.

On Saturday in Australia the raging fires in the state of Victoria completely destroyed his unique forest creation taking over 300 paintings and sculptures.

As you take a walk through the forest on the attachment herein, please take a moment to reflect on the beauty gone and the many people who have lost their homes, their loved ones, their livelihoods, the severely injured, the animal life and the dedicated firefighters, police, civilians, and those involved in caring for the traumatized and injured.

Regards

Bob Gibbo Gibson

Gold Coast

AUSTRALIA.

Aussie Viet Nam Veteran.

Piece of Aviation History:

Here is a film clip from the Austrian archives about the Wright Brothers demonstrating their plane in Italy in 1909. What is even more fantastic is there was an on-board camera on the Wright plane and the last part of this film shows it. Wilbur Wright is at the controls on both of the flights.

GREAT video considering that it's 100 years old and the quality/weight of the equipment of that day. Note the pitch stability and the yaw string on the canard.

You may have to cut and paste the address.

www.europafilmtreasures.eu/PY/322/fiche_technique.htm?ID=322

Born Again American: *Video & Music from around the US.*

This is pretty powerful, hope you enjoy it.

Turn speakers on! Click here: <http://www.bornagainamerican.org/>

1950 - 1982 Jukebox: *This is really cool. Have fun with it.....!!*

Click here: <http://www.tropicalglen.com/>

1960's: *Great photos, music, and facts.*

This is the one of the best presentations of the sixties. It is very well done. Just click on the link and sit back and enjoy the memories.

CLICK HERE. <http://objflicks.com/TakeMeBackToTheSixties.htm>

1950's, Take me back to the 50's:

<http://www.greatdanepro.com/50s/index.htm>

RAO BULLETIN Update, 01 MAR 2009

To read the articles go to the web site at: http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html

