

THE

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FLYOVER

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2010 Air Show Recap

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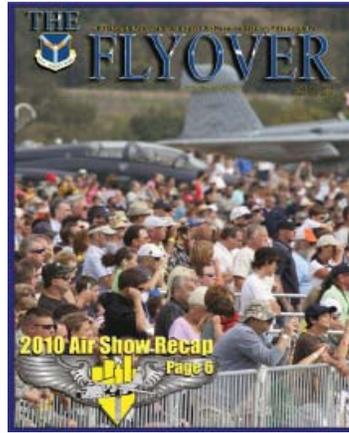
The Flyover

In the Cover

2010 Wings Over Pittsburgh recap

With a record crowd the first day, the 2010 air show was one of the most successful in the show's nine year history.

(Cover art by Lt. Shawn M. Walleck)



Commander

Col. Gordon H. Elwell, Jr.

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ASTS changes command with former unit member

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Hospitalized Vietnam Vet shares excitement for air show with unit members

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See what's on tap for Services this fall

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Month	A	B
October	2 & 3	16 & 17
November	6 & 7	20 & 21
December	4 & 5	18 & 19

Commander's Comment...

by
Col. Gordon H. Elwell, Jr.,
911th Wing Commander

“In The Blink of an Eye”

I can remember it like yesterday, the Change of Command in the hangar when Col Randy Bright handed the 911th Wing flag to Maj. Gen. Martin Mazick, then 22nd Air Force Commander who then in turn handed it to me. With those four trepid words, “Sir, I assume command,” I started down one terrific and exciting path.

There is no position in the Air Force that brings with it such a wide variety of responsibilities, and opportunities at the same time. I think back on all we have been through. I have seen two major air shows, four ORTP training sessions (with and without partner wings), ORE, ORI, and deployments too numerous to mention, both AEF and non-AEF. I have witnessed the arrival of hundreds of new 911th members from other services, the active duty, and fresh off the street. I have bid farewell to countless other members of the unit as they have transferred or retired, and I have even felt the heartbreaking loss of wing members who have passed on.

As I begin my own transition to my next assignment, I will remember most the terrific people who are the 911th Airlift Wing. The 911th is not a collection of aircraft, or buildings, or a patch of concrete adjacent to the airport. No, the 911th Airlift Wing was, is, and always will be the people who resolutely come through the front gate every month on UTA weekend, who get on the planes and deploy to so many places where they are needed all around the world, who do all of these things for love of country, dedication to the mission, and allegiance to their fellow members who will be by their side through thick and thin. It is all of you who I will remember and brag about proudly whenever I am asked what my best and most memorable assignment was.

I have said it often, and it bears repeating. This is YOUR wing. It doesn't belong to any one commander or person. This wing belongs to the people of Pittsburgh and surrounding areas who call themselves members of the 911th Airlift Wing, the very best the Air Force has to offer.

As my tenure here draws to a close, I will remember all of you, and of the rewarding challenges, good times, deployments and laughs have all shared. I consider myself lucky to have been a member of this great team, even if for just a brief period. Godspeed in continuing missions, your ongoing challenges, and your never ending for excellence in all you do.

all
we
your
thirst

ASTS holds change of command ceremony

Former base member returns; becomes new commander

by Senior Airman Jonathan Hehnlly
Public Affairs

The 911th Airlift Wing's Aeromedical Staging Squadron welcomed a former base member as its new commander during the August UTA.

Lt. Col. Richard M. Cornell relieved Col. Mona P. Ternus of command as Col. Gordon H. Elwell Jr., 911th Airlift Wing commander, hosted the event.

"Being selected as a commander is humbling enough, but it is a distinct honor to lead the 911th ASTS," said Colonel Cornell.

Colonel Cornell, a native of Cory, Pa., was formerly assigned to the 911th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. After graduating high school in 1981, he enlisted into the United States Marine Corps. He served as an artilleryman at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and later as a Marine Security Guard assigned to the United States embassies in Russia and Argentina until 1986.

Colonel Cornell was commissioned into the Air Force Medical Service Corps in October 1993. He served on active duty from 1993 to 2000 at Minot Air Force Base, N.D., and Dover Air Force Base, Del. From active duty, the colonel entered the Air Force Reserves as part of the 911th AES and remained here until September of 2008.

"My family and I are thrilled to return to the 911th Airlift Wing," said the Pennsylvania native. "Pittsburgh is our home, and yes, we are all Steelers and Penguins fans...and Pirates too."

Colonel Cornell most recently served at the Pentagon for Headquarters Air Force Reserve's Medical Directorate as the chief of plans, programs.

"I am looking forward to working with all the outstanding



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Modelo

(Right) Lt. Col. Richard Cornell, incoming 911th Aeromedical Staging Squadron commander, receives the 911 ASTS guidon from Col. Gordon Elwell, 911th Airlift Wing commander, during a change of command ceremony, Aug 8.

personnel across the wing again and am particularly excited to assume command of the 911th Aeromedical Staging Squadron," said the new commander.

After relinquishing her command, Colonel Ternus is scheduled to attend the Industrial College of the Armed Forces for senior-level professional military education. Colonel Ternus said she is slated to be there for a year studying how different industries impact national strategic policy and then placed into a new job in the Reserve forces.

Fitness program emphasizes maintaining healthy lifestyle

by 911th Airlift Wing
Public Affairs

All members of the Air Force must be physically fit to support the Air Force mission. Health benefits from an active lifestyle will increase productivity, optimize health and decrease absenteeism while maintaining a higher level of readiness.

The goal of the Fitness Program is to motivate all members to participate in a year-round physical conditioning program that emphasizes total fitness to include:

proper aerobic conditioning, strength/flexibility training and healthy eating.

Commanders and supervisors must incorporate fitness into the Air Force culture establishing an environment for members to maintain physical fitness and health to meet expeditionary mission requirements.

The official fitness assessment provides commanders with a tool to assist in the determination of overall fitness of their military personnel.

While participating in Unit Training Assemblies, unit commanders may

authorize up to 90 minutes per day of the UTA. While participating in Annual Tour and special tours, unit commanders may authorize up to 90 minutes of duty time and up to three times weekly. Unit commanders may delegate authorization authority to section or flight chiefs as they deem appropriate. These authorized times are as mission requirements allow, and those available are encouraged to participate.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact your unit fitness coordinator.

From Lockheed intern to Wing Commander: *A career in flight concludes in a familiar C-130*

by Tech. Sgt. Scott Pryor
Public Affairs

Sometimes events that happen in life are just meant to be. There is no explanation, some would call it fate, and hopefully things work out for the best.

For Col. Gordon H. Elwell Jr., 911th Airlift Wing commander, it couldn't have turned out better.

The colonel took his final C-130 flight Sept. 10, but his connection with the aircraft he was flying began nearly 30 years earlier.

"I've been the product of an amazingly lucky career that spanned building airplanes, flying airplanes and being in the Air Force," Colonel Elwell said. "Being a part of the C-130 community, I knew that sooner or later I was going to run into these planes again..

In 1979, Colonel Elwell worked as an intern in a management training program as an industrial engineering student at Lockheed Aircraft in Marietta, Ga., with supervisory duties over C-130 production for the 1978 model. These aircraft were later assigned to the Air National Guard unit at Oklahoma City, Okla. The planes were the first C-130 H2s the Air Force bought.

The next time he encountered the



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ralph Van Houtem

Colonel Elwell smiles as he greets the crowd and celebrates the completion of his final flight in the Air Force Reserve, Sept. 10, 2010. Col. Elwell will transition in October to Dobbins AFB where he will serve as the Operations Division Chief for the newly created Force Generation Center.

planes was in the summer of 2004 when he was the operations group commander for the 379th Expeditionary Air Wing. The wing had a detachment that had Oklahoma City C-130s deployed as part of its rotation.

"I was able to fly with them and fly my 1978 model C-130s for the first time. The first reason why I suspected that these were the same planes was because they were from Oklahoma City and I knew that was where the planes had gone. And then when I saw the tail numbers, that confirmed it," he said. "I thought that

would be the peak and the closing of the loop."

But again fate intervened as those same planes were transferred to the 911th in 2008, where he would not only fly them but take command of them.

"Originally being Guard planes, I thought that I was never going to fly them again. When I heard that the planes were from Oklahoma City, I knew that they would be the same ones I worked on," he said.

This possibly isn't the end of the C-130 story for Colonel Elwell's family. Any chance his son will follow his dad's footsteps and fly the same C-130s?

"It's funny. My son said, 'You know dad, I really want to fly fighters, but after 10 years of flying fighters and when I'm old like you, then I'll fly the C-130'. So he keeps in the back of his mind that one day he may have the opportunity to fly the C-130 in the future."

His son, Scott, will finish Navy T-45 pilot training in Kingsville, Texas, and pin on his Navy pilot flying wings Oct. 1, and begin F-18 training.

Maybe it's just meant to be that one day Navy pilot Scott Elwell will follow in his father's footsteps and fly a 1978 model C-130, the same ones his dad helped build and flew himself.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jamie Perry

Col. Gordon H. Elwell, Jr., flies his final flight in a 1978 C-130 H2, Sept. 10, 2010. Col. Elwell worked as an intern at Lockheed Martin many years ago, on the production of the 1978 series C-130s. It was this experience he credits to sparking his interest in pursuing a career in aviation.

2010 Wings Over Pittsburgh

by Tech. Sgt.

It had been two years, but it was well worth the wait for the Wings Over Pittsburgh Air Show, hosted by the AFRC from Sept. 11-12.

From the screaming sounds of the Air Force Thunderbirds, to the imposing static aircraft on display, the show was filled with excitement by the two action-packed days.

The air show celebrated its ninth anniversary with the theme, "Celebrating Patriotism".

An overflowing crowd of more than 175,000 spectators was dazzled from the air, while more than 100 aircraft were on display. Plans have already begun for next year's air show. See you there!



ver Pittsburgh

Scott Pryor

he wait.
e 911th Airlift Wing, thrilled old and young alike
hunderbirds, to the graceful jumps of the Army's
display, the record crowd in attendance was awed
y and was held over Patriot's Day weekend with
visitors attended the first day. Ten performers
han 40 aircraft were on ground display.
how.



Single squadron stands up to provide support

by Senior Airman Jonathan Hehnl
Public Affairs

The 911th Mission Support Flight, 911th Services Squadron and the Civilian Personnel Office are scheduled to merge as one under the 911th Force Support Squadron this Oct. 1.

Combining the similar support entities allows the Air Force to maximize customer service, modernize processes, and cut costs associated with maintaining separate organizations.

“The stand-up of a single squadron will create a synergy that will ultimately increase support to our base populace and their families,” said Lt. Col. Lowell “Buzz” Bingham, the new commander of the 911th FSS.

Upon the activation, there will be a 12-month implementation phase that will allow for some fine tuning.

“The merger will actually be transparent to the customer,” said Colonel Bingham. “The largest difference is going to be within leadership.”

Maj. Richard Frye, current Services Squadron commander, will take on the role of operations officer under the FSS. The

merger of these customer service driven organizations will not result in any change of personnel positions.

Lt. Col. Patrick S. Ryan, 911th Mission Support Group commander, said “As with any consolidation of personnel and expertise, the Air Force Reserve gains a larger talent pool from which to draw. Few is more than one, and many is greater than few - meaning that we will now have a larger sum of experts in a more varied set of specific skills upon which to pull from.”

Colonel Bingham said history is in the making with the de-activation of the 911th MSF and the re-designation of the 911th SVS as the 911th FSS.

The creation of the FSS is part of an Air-Force wide program-action decision approved by the Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

In 2008, the active duty Air Force made its transition. Recently, five Air Force Reserve Command bases have completed their one year test phase. Now the remaining AFRC wings are scheduled to follow suit and implement the merger.

“It’s an opportunity to come together as a new team and learn new things,” said Colonel Ryan.

ASTS members compete at “Super Bowl” of shooting

by Tech. Sgt. Scott Pryor
Public Affairs

“Because I love doing it.”

Maj. Warren Smith must. What else could explain why someone would enter shooting competitions despite having to pay their own way to the competitions, including food, hotels and entry fees? Also add in the cost of paying for ammunition and the price tag can get quite high. But he considers the experience to be priceless.

Major Smith, deputy administrator with the 911th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, isn’t alone in his devotion to shooting. Another ASTS member, Airman 1st Class Scott Shay, a medical technician, also enters shooting competitions.

The two members most recently competed in the National Matches shooting competition at Camp Perry, Ohio.

“It’s the Super Bowl of shooting,” the major said.

The National Matches were started in 1903 by President Teddy Roosevelt

and Congress after the poor shooting performance of volunteers in the Spanish-American War. The matches continue to be authorized by federal law.

The competition attracted approximately 5,000 civilian and military shooters from throughout the United States, and also included competitors from Australia.



This is the third year Major Smith has competed at the National Matches and the second year for Airman Shay.

“I shot the best I’ve ever shot,” the major said of one of the several matches he entered. He competed over a five-day period in the service rifle category.

In the Excellence in Competition match, Major Smith placed 64th and missed medaling by one point for the second straight year. He said he spent an average of 12 hours on the Camp Perry range every day, either shooting or

helping to score and replace targets.

Airman Shay shot for six days in the service marksman category, shooting the .22 rim fire, .38, and .45 center fire. He took first in the Marksman Service category and received the Pewter Award.

“No matter how poorly or how well you shoot,” said Airman Shay, “at the end of the day you still have a good time. You get to meet a lot of great people.”

This was Airman Shay’s second time competing at the National matches. He shot from distances of 25 or 50 yards shooting different courses of fire including slow, timed and rapid fire.

The ASTS members were two of only three from the Air Force Reserve Command to compete.

“The Reserves used to have shooting teams, but the person who ran it retired and the program stopped,” Major Smith said. “I’d like to help build a team that competes. Active duty and the Guard sponsor shooting teams.”

Airman Shay added, “I’d like to see more support given so we can represent the Reserves better.”

Air show visit makes veteran's wish come true

by Tech. Sgt. Scott Pryor
Public Affairs

All William Brooks wanted was a window with a view that would allow him to see planes flying.

That was his only request before he moved into Kindred Hospital, a long-term care facility in Pittsburgh off of Stubenville Pike.

The Vietnam War veteran got his wish when he was given a room on the top floor with a window that gives him a perfect view of the Pittsburgh International Airport.

His view became even better when a group from the 758th Airlift squadron visited him the day before the Wings Over Pittsburgh Air Show to present Mr. Brooks with a personalized leather pilot jacket, with an air show patch.

"I can't believe this, guys!" exclaimed Mr. Brooks, who served in the Air Force for eight years.

The visit was initiated by Maj. Ed Jackson, an instructor pilot with the 758th AS. The grandmother of the major's wife was also a resident of Kindred Hospital. A hospital employee mentioned Mr. Brooks to the major and suggested he pay a visit.

"I thought we could do better than just a visit," Major Jackson said.

That's when he came up with the idea of presenting Mr. Brooks with the pilot jacket. The major was accompanied by four other members of the squadron: Lt. Col. Dave Kraft, Lt. Col. Stan George, 1st Lt. Jim Heintz and Chief Master Sgt. Bruce Bair.

"You're gonna rock this place tomorrow, huh?" asked

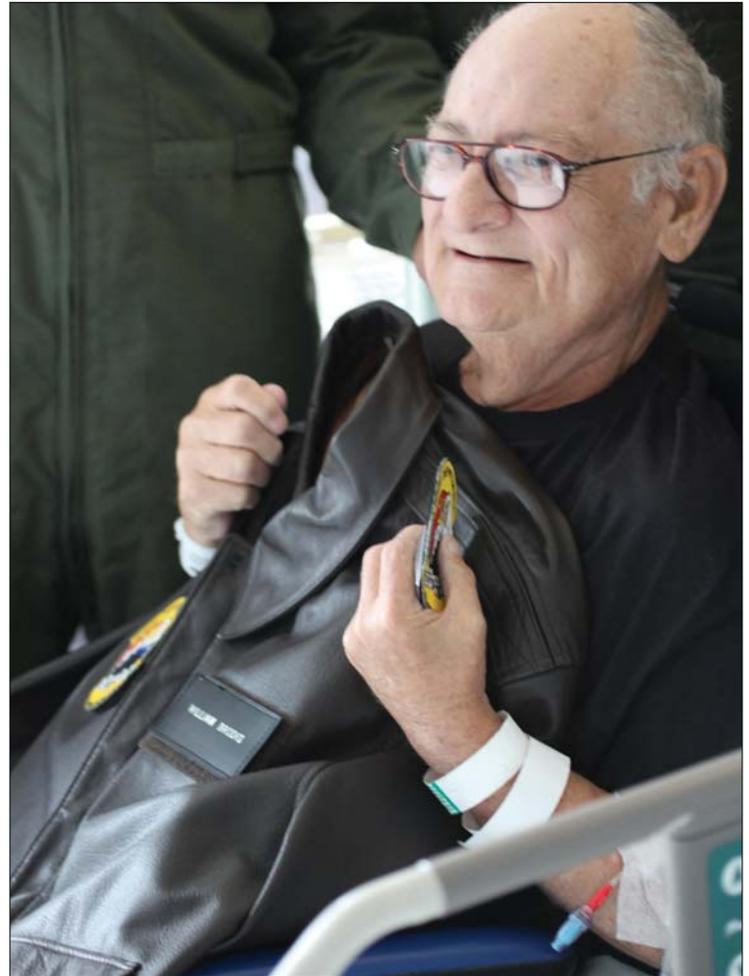


Photo by Tech. Sgt. Scott Pryor

William Brooks shows off the pilot jacket he received from members of the 758th Airlift squadron. The members visited Mr. Brooks the day before the Wings Over Pittsburgh Air Show.

the 67-year-old veteran.

Mr. Brooks just had to look out his window to answer his own question.

CFC begins with a 'Double the Donors' challenge

Every fall the 911th has the opportunity to make a difference by contributing to their local Combined Federal Campaign. Annually, our employees contribute over \$13,000 to the CFC with more than 52 911th donors and we hope to continue this success with this year's fall campaign. Our goal this year is to "Double the Donors" and raise \$18,000.00 with 104 donors....Won't you join us to make a difference?

Donations through CFC can be designated to charitable agencies that provide meals for hungry children, relief for families in need of counseling, further work on cures for diseases, comfort for the dying, access to water in the Third World, environmental protection, and better lives and renewed hope for millions of people in our global community. CFC offers federal employees a way to easily and conveniently

make a contribution to the good of society as a whole based on their own values. You can donate to many of our local charities as well.

Please remember that no contribution is too small and no act too trivial. I encourage you to participate generously in the CFC this year and to donate using payroll deduction. By spreading your gift out over a small donation per month or pay period, we can build to a larger total sum. Just \$2 per payroll is all it takes!

Please contact Casey at 8288, LuAnne at 8171 or Mark at 8408 for more information. The campaign season is October 1 – 22, 2010. All donations must be returned to Casey by Oct. 30, 2010.

Come on, be a part of the "Double the Donors" Challenge!

Promotions

CONGRATULATIONS

to our new...



Shawn T. Donahey- 758 AS
 Suzanne L. Maslo- ASTS
 James T. Moore- 32 APS
 Benjamin Rivera- MXG
 Charles E. Sargent- 758AS
 Karen B. Steiner- AES
 Kevin D. Swisher- CES
 Lowell T. Bingham Jr.- MSF
 Carla Q. Branton- AES

To Senior Master Sergeant
 Peter Rose, MXS

To Staff Sergeant
 Afshari Aazita, MSF
 Samantha Brunner, AES
 Ryan Hertrich, CES
 Benjamin Lego, ASTS
 Thomas McEachern, APS
 Darren McFarlane, AMXS
 Joyce Paiano, OG
 Jamie Perry, AW
 Edward Stormer, LRS
 Kayla Rebel, SFS

To Senior Airman
 Kala Ceryak, APS
 Jeffrey Dunlap, APS

To Technical Sergeant
 Krista Bartley, OSF
 Cyrus Eveland, AES
 John Heckman, APS
 Christopher Hooten, APS
 Robert Largen, APS
 Richard Mossor, APS
 Matthew Pifer, MXS
 Karen Ross, APS
 Gina Shaffer, AW
 Deida Sturges, AES
 Christopher White, APS

To Master Sergeant
 Maria Malkin, OSF
 Gary Mazur, MXS
 Jonathan Ballinger, MSF
 James Smith, AMXS
 James Williams, MXG



911th SERVICES
 Combat Support & Community Service

OCTOBER 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 1100-CIRCUIT	2 UTA FLAG FOOTBALL
3 UTA	4 1000-ZUMBA 1100-CIRCUIT	5 1600-SPIN	6 1100-CIRCUIT 1600-YOGA	7 1100-SPIN	8 1100-CIRCUIT	9
10	11 COLUMBUS DAY	12 1600-SPIN	13 1100-CIRCUIT 1600-YOGA	14 1100-SPIN 1130-OKTOBER FEST 3K RUN/ WALK	15 1100-CIRCUIT	16
17	18 1000-ZUMBA 1100-CIRCUIT	19 1100-WALLY- BALL TOURNEY 1600-SPIN	20 1100-CIRCUIT 1600-YOGA	21 1100-SPIN	22 1100-CIRCUIT	23
24	25 1000-ZUMBA 1100-CIRCUIT	26 1600-SPIN	27 1100-CIRCUIT 1600-YOGA	28 1100-SPIN 1130-HALLO- WEEN 3K	29 1100-CIRCUIT	30



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

EVENTS

UTA FLAG FOOTBALL
 OKTOBER FEST
 3K RUN/ WALK
 WALLYBALL TOURNA-
 MENT
 HALLOWEEN
 3K RUN/WALK

CLASSES

ZUMBA
 CIRCUIT TRAINING
 SPINNING
 YOGA
 FITNESS CENTER
 474-8245



11 OCTOBER 2010

News Briefs

New hours for finance

Please be advised that the new operating hours for the FM Military Pay and Travel Pay Offices are 08:00 to 15:30. We will also be closed from 11:30 to 12:00 each day for lunch.

These new hours were discussed and agreed upon as optimal during the AFSSO21 Event.

The contact numbers for Military Pay are x8541 and x8500.

The contact numbers for Travel Pay are x8554 and x8551.

Military/Vets' Appreciation Day

Robert Morris University will host a military appreciation day for their Nov. 6, 2010 football game against Central Connecticut State. For free admission to the game, members must show their ID.

TRICARE for 'Gray Area' Retirees

TRICARE Retired Reserve, a new program being launched in the Fall, will allow certain "gray area" retired National Guard and Reserve personnel, who are not yet age 60, the opportunity to purchase TRICARE health coverage.

Under TRICARE Retired Reserve, TRICARE Standard and Extra coverage will be available for purchase to "gray area" retirees. Other details involving specific eligibility rules, coverage and costs are still being coordinated and finalized. Potential beneficiaries who would like to be among the first to know about final details for TRICARE Retired Reserve are encouraged to sign up for e-mail updates from TRICARE by visiting the TRICARE website <<http://www.TRICARE.mil/subscriptions>> -- sign up for "Benefit Changes" for "Retired National Guard and Reserve Member."

<http://www.military.com/military-report/tricare-for-gray-area-retirees?ESR>

Military.com surveys found that most servicemembers and their families are confused by TRICARE. Get the facts and latest news on TRICARE <<http://www.military.com/benefits/tricare/understanding-your-tricare-benefits?ESRC=mr.nl>> .

General election coming up

November general election is only days away. To register, request a ballot and vote absentee by mail takes a LONG time. Go to www.FVAP.gov today, use our online registration and absentee ballot assistant, and have your forms completed, printed out and ready to send back home in less than 10 minutes.

It's simple and fast.

Most election officials are now e-mailing blank ballots. Why wait 30 days, when you can get it e-mailed.

The law has changed. You may not get your ballot automatically. Go to www.FVAP.gov and get started. Make sure you include your email address.

Help spread the word. Pass this on to other military or overseas voters, including spouses and voting age dependents.

2010-11 US Senate Youth Program

The United States Senate Youth Program for 2010-11 will be held in Washington, D.C. March 5-12, 2011. This program provides eligible juniors and seniors in DoDEA high schools the opportunity to participate in activities centered on the function of the United States government. Two students from each state, the District of Columbia, and DoDEA receive a \$5,000 scholarship and are awarded a week-long trip to

Washington, D.C. to see how the government operates.

Students are required to be elected student government or class officers/representatives to qualify for the program. Eligible students need to complete an application available from their school principal. Two finalists will be selected by DoDEA from the district nominees to be delegates in Washington, D.C. DoDEA will notify the two delegates in November 2010.

Additional information on the overall United States Senate Youth Program is available from <http://www.hearstfdn.org/ussyp/>

Veteran's Day 10K run/walk:

Bridge Street Middle School in Wheeling, WV will host a 10K run/walk at 8:30 a.m. Nov. 6, 2010. The entry fee is waived for current military and veterans with proceeds going to the Paralyzed Veterans of America. To enter see Chief Chris Dunn, AMXS for an entry application. All entries must be received by midnight Oct. 29, 2010.

Pay Dates

Primary
October 13

Secondary
October 27



FLY, FIGHT, AND WIN

LP6A golfer and U.S. Women's Open champion, Paula Creamer, returns from her thunderbird flight during the 2010 Wings Over Pittsburgh air show. Paula knows what it takes to win. You too can be a part of a winning team...call today
412-474-8555



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