



# LOUISIANA DRUG GUARD

**The Counterdrug Task Force Newsletter of the Louisiana National Guard**

**Special Edition Special Edition Special Edition Special Edition Special Edition Special Edition Special Edition**

## **New coordinator named for Counterdrug Task Force**

JACKSON BARRACKS---The Adjutant General of the Louisiana National Guard, Maj. Gen. Bennett C. Landreneau has approved the appointment of Maj. Pete Schneider as the new Counterdrug Coordinator for the state effective March 12.

In a letter written by the Chief of Military Support, Col. Thomas Rodrigue states, "based on Maj. Schneider's involvement over the past four years, as the Operations Officer for our Counterdrug Program, this transition should be seamless."

Schneider leaves his traditional guard position as commander of the 159th Fighter Wing Services Flight to assume full time staffing as the coordinator.

He enlisted with the Louisiana Air National Guard in 1984, one month after graduating from West Jefferson High School. While working in aircraft maintenance for the Air Guard, Schneider attended the University of New Orleans and was commissioned as an officer in December 1991.

His enthusiasm of military service earned him the Louisiana Air National Guard's Out-

standing Commander of the Year award for his role with the 159th Services Squadron. His accomplishments and self propelled programs with the squadron is now a benchmark for other units in the Air National Guard as well as the Air Force in general.

He accepts his newest assignment with the same enthusiasm, "We are building cases, running computer intelligence, and providing linguistics specialists, we have National Guard people at every level of law enforcement in the state,"

Schneider said, "and we will continue to bring the military out to the community with the same professionalism we have in the past."

He is determined to keep the program staffed at its current level and insure quality performance from every member of the Counter Drug Task Force.

Schneider is married to Francesca Vial. Together they have two children, 5-year-old Emilie, and 2-year-old Will.

He replaces Lt. Col. Ron Johnson, who assumed a federal technician position within the Plans, Operations and Training Office.



## Ribbon recognizes contributions to law enforcement



Since Maj. Gen. Bennett Landreneau, Adjutant General for the Louisiana National Guard authorized the wearing of the State Counter Drug Service Ribbon, countless hours have been spent preparing paperwork for its distribution.

After researching past and present records, Staff Sgt. Peggy Migues identified all personnel who are eligible and personalized letters went out last week.

All qualified members will receive this letter awarding the ribbon to them. Bring your letter to your readiness NCO or your personnel office. The ribbons were sent through your MACOM for distribution. It will be up to your unit if you can pick up your

ribbon then, or wait until an official awards ceremony is held. The ribbon is not a standard issue and cannot be found at the PX.

The ribbon is considered a service ribbon that denotes honorable performance of military duty within specified limited time period or circumstance.

The ribbon, currently in use by Arkansas, Tennessee and Georgia, displays multi-colors of orange, gray, red, white and blue.

The order of precedence for the ribbon is to be placed below the La. Longevity Ribbon.

It is a onetime retroactive ribbon and will not have appurtenances.

## Williams wins GEICO military award

Government Employees Insurance Company (GEICO) has announced the recipients of the 1999 GEICO Military Service Awards and a member of the La. Counter Drug Task Force was one of the six winners.

Staff Sgt. Errol M. Williams, Jr., was awarded for his work in drug and alcohol prevention. Williams works for Project STAR in Jefferson Parish.

The Project STAR is geared toward ridding neighborhoods of drug dealers and actually getting out into the community and educating the public about the dangers of drug use.

The awards were established in 1988 to honor the nation's enlisted military members and the contribu-

tions they make to the public good as "citizens and soldiers."

All active-duty and reserve enlisted members were eligible for the awards which are given for achievements in the fields of drug and alcohol abuse prevention, fire safety and fire prevention, and traffic safety and accident prevention.

Williams will be sent to Washington D.C. on May 1, 2000 to an award ceremony. GEICO will host the recipients and their spouses for a special weekend in Washington. Each recipient will receive a plaque to commemorate his or her achievement and a \$2,500 honorarium from the GEICO Philanthropic Foundation.

### Leave it or lose it

As of March 2000, the leave balance you currently have is the number of days you will have to use before the end of the fiscal

year. You see, you will earn 15 days between now and the end of September. Don't get caught with having to practically take the month of September off.

## Safety Issues

What should you do if you so happen to break your leg while on duty, or perhaps get in a fender bender during a lunch run?

Well, besides seeking medical help or calling your insurance agent, you need to contact your Team Leader, and in turn he contacts the Safety Officer.

Most everyone remembers Senior Master Sgt. Ron Alexis, he was the CDTF Safety Officer for years.

Well, since Alexis retired and hit the high road, Sergeant 1st Class Robert Leonard has been appointed to be the current safety guy.

It is Leonard's job to keep a log of all injuries and accidents for the La. CDTF.

In order to do this, everyone needs to report any incident as soon as possible to their Team Leader.

You may reach Leonard at U.S. Customs RAIC/Lafayette, 337-262-3361 ex 22.

## Congratulations

Lt. Donna Chetta Jones has been named the new Operations Officer for the La. Counter Drug Task Force. She will assume the role Maj. Schneider left when he was appointed as Coordinator.

There will be a slight delay with the edition of the April Drug Guard newsletter. I will be assisting the Army National Guard on a rotation to Belize as part of Joint Task Force Pelican. Look for the next issue around the 15th of April. Please continue to send any and all information you have to Tech Sgt. Suzanne Chaillot at Shyobro@aol.com or fax 337-262-6647.