

# T.E.A.M. CENTS

## December 2009

Sixteen Years and Counting

Page 1

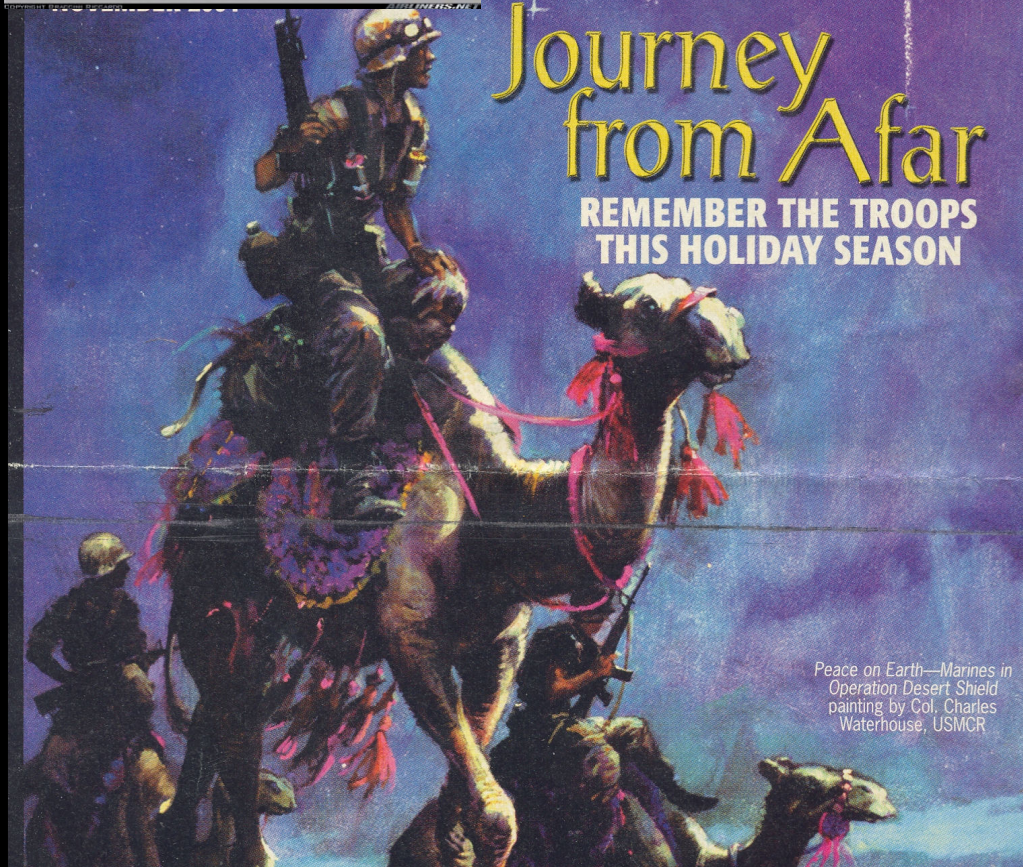
December 1-31

Volume XVIII Issue 12

### 9/11/01 Remember and Never Forget!



*Remember the Soldier's and their families this Holiday!*



# Journey from Afar

REMEMBER THE TROOPS  
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

*Peace on Earth—Marines in Operation Desert Shield painting by Col. Charles Waterhouse, USMCR*



[www.ansoldier.com](http://www.ansoldier.com)



[AnySoldier.com](http://AnySoldier.com)

**GIVE2 THE TROOPS**



[www.give2thetroops.org](http://www.give2thetroops.org)

# December 2009

**ALL EMPLOYEES ARE REQUIRED TO WORK ONE SHIFT ON BLACKOUT DAYS!!**

Sun



		1	2	3	4	5
		KISS at Jobing.com			<b>Glendale Glitters</b>	
					<i>Festival of the Arts</i>	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Festival of the Arts</i>					<b>Glendale Spirit</b>	
13	14	15 Brian Setzer at Dodge	16	17	18 Christmas Pudding at Dodge	19
					<b>Glendale Jingle Bell's</b>	
20	21	22 Moscow Ballet at Dodge	23	24	25 Suns at USAC	26
27	28	29	30	31 Joel McHale at Dodge		

**DISCLAIMER**

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T.E.A.M. Cents encourages all staff and employees to submit an article about your work experience, suggestions and ideas. E-mail your letters to:

elizabeth@teamsecurity.net

Or FAX to:

(480) 736-8252

Management has the right to review and approve all written material. Any article deemed inappropriate will not be published

*anniversaries*

Jerry Deines	7 years
Steve Ortega	6 years
Candy Ortega	6 years
Jon Bearup	6 years
Rachel Anderson	4 years
Jill Walz	4 years
Tod Walker	2 years
Luis Brown	2 years
James Commack	2 years
James Donner	2 years
James Bonser	2 years
Mike Hammerand	2 years
Don Gillespie	2 years
Kent O'Neil	1 year
Brandon Perez	1 year
Chad Stoddard	1 year
Chris Craig	1 year
Dennis Milford	1 year
Alberto Valenzulea	1 year
Linda Rhyan	1 year
Dennis Shaffer	1 year

*Ashleigh Gaylord*

It's holiday time! I love the holidays, and all the warmth it brings. I'm a big fan of Christmas lights (they are oh so pretty and twinkly!) and the fall flavors (Hello Bliss! I can't wait to have a chai tea latte!). I also love all the time we get to spend with family during these times, even if it is just my in-laws.

So, while spelunking the internet caverns, I found some interesting things. First of all...did you know there is a city in Arizona called Christmas? Yep! It's in Gila County, in the Payson metro area and was named by a local miner that learned his claim had been confirmed on Christmas Day.

The song White Christmas, by Irving Berlin was thought to be written by in Arizona as he was lounging by the Biltmore pool in 1939/1940. Apparently he would visit Arizona in the winter to get away from New York, and found that writing music came easy when he was visiting out here. Who would have known a song regarding snow would have been written here in the desert? Especially with the lyrics "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas" when you are in the desert to get AWAY from the snow!

The other interesting thing I found was that WE are proving the tree for the State Capitol this year! They found a tree in the White Mountains and it is being delivered Washington where it will be presented to the US Congress on November 30th. There is a website solely dedicated to this tree, called [capitalchristmas-tree2009.org](http://capitalchristmas-tree2009.org) where you can track the route the tree is going, and see all kinds of pictures of its stops through the state and even the place where they picked it out. I thought it was pretty cool.

I hope all of you have a great holiday season and don't forget to tell the people you love how thankful you are for them! J

Merry Christmas!

Ashleigh

*Steve and T.J. "Give from the warehouse"*

We appreciate all the hard work you do out in the field! We know how difficult it is to do your job with equipment that is not up to par. We will be among the first to admit that sub par equipment occasionally gets send out to your events. It's difficult for us to fix these things if we don't know they are broken. Most of you do a very good job about telling us when there are radios and such that "Need a Hug." We have a lot of equipment going in and out of the warehouse so simply telling us these things is great but they will get forgotten about and overlooked. The best way to notify us of damaged equipment is to write a note and put it with the item that is damaged. This will help us to separate the item when we check in the order. The sooner we know about a particular item that is no good, the sooner we can repair it and get it back into circulation.

Things in the warehouse have changed as of late and we are doing our best to make this transition as smooth as possible. We would like to do anything we can from our end to make your job easier. Any suggestions can





# POST ORDERS

be sent directly to us. Our e-mail addresses are

**Steve@teamsecurity.net** and **TJ@teamsecurity.net.**

Or if you're at the office, you can certainly come back and talk to us in person.

Keep in mind that the cold weather is well on its way, so be sure to dress warm for your shifts. We have started sending out jackets to the calls but please don't rely on there being one for you in the order. Please come in and sign one out. The last thing you want on a cold night is to try to get a jacket from the order and they've all been taken.

*Richard "Taz" Zahn*

### TAZ THOUGHTS

Only two defining forces have ever offered to die for you:

1. Jesus Christ
2. The American G. I.

One died for your soul, the other for your freedom.

### TAZBOX

If you can help someone and don't, you are worse off than those you reject.

If you have the opportunity to say something nice and choose not to, you are worse off than the deaf mute.

If you have something and are selfish about it, you are worse off than the true homeless person.

Look inside, find a piece that will. Too many people are fake and won't.

When your time comes will someone be there to help you?

If case any of you are confused, it is and always will be MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Go tell everyone.

Remember.... TAZ

### TAZ TOOLBOX

I can appreciate everyone's opinions and the "freedom of speech" that is allowed in The United States. However there is a very definitive line that NEEDS to be addressed. I am very busy with life. I don't have much "free" time, however lately I have been able to turn on the TV a couple of times and flip through the channels and ended up on something that was about our president or 9/11. So, why are we rehashing one of the worst days in history??!!!! Momentum, Beliefs, Opinions, Attitude or ????. As I watched the interviews with prominent people about 9/11 and its horrific reality to many families as well as a nation, it triggered some of my own thoughts of reality on where I live and what The United States of America means to me. We are United not divided, we are States made up of many individuals with own ideas, thoughts and process of life, we are America...where many of the World dies attempting to get here to live. So what is it that made 9/11 SO important that day....maybe it was the fact that we are The United States of America, and we believe! The Strongest, the Best! Most must think so, they live here. So why is it that people can sit back and second-guess how this Nation is run. Perfectly, I would say not. What is? I would say personally that I may not agree with everything all the time (States) however when it

comes to defending my Rights and Freedoms (America) in which I live, I will defend and fight to the end!!!(United)

### DID YOU KNOW?

As you walk up the steps to the building which houses the U.S. Supreme Court you can see near the top of the building a row of the world's law givers and each one is facing one in the middle who is facing forward with a full frontal view ... it is Moses and he is holding the Ten Commandments!

### DID YOU KNOW?

As you enter the Supreme Court courtroom, the two huge oak doors have the Ten Commandments engraved on each lower portion of each door.

### DID YOU KNOW?

As you sit inside the courtroom, you can see the wall, right above where the Supreme Court judges sit, a display of the Ten Commandments!

### DID YOU KNOW?

There are Bible verses etched in stone all over the Federal Buildings and Monuments in Washington, D.C.

### DID YOU KNOW?

James Madison, the fourth president, known as "The Father of Our Constitution" made the following statement:

"We have staked the whole of all our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government, upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

### DID YOU KNOW?

# Birthdays

Steve Ortega	12/3
Derek Armstrong	12/5
Debbie Wagner	12/5
Nicholas Conroy	12/6
Robert Achas	12/8
Paul Cuevas	12/8
Deborah Long	12/11
Mike Bruner	12/15
Eric Campbell	12/16
Dan Carey	12/16
Shawn Riggs	12/19
James Geddes	12/22
Stephanie Abbot	12/23
Derek McClure	12/24
Brandon Thorton	12/29
Dennis Milford	12/30
Donald Alexander	12/31

Patrick Henry, that patriot and Founding Father of our country said:

"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists but by Christians, not on religions but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ".

DID YOU KNOW?  
Every session of Congress begins with a prayer by a paid preacher, whose salary has been paid by the taxpayer since 1777.

DID YOU KNOW?  
Fifty-two of the 55 founders of the Constitution were members of the

established orthodox churches in the colonies.

DID YOU KNOW?

Thomas Jefferson worried that the Courts would overstep their authority and instead of interpreting the law would begin making law. an oligarchy ... the rule of few over many.

DID YOU KNOW?

The very first Supreme Court Justice, John Jay, said:

"Americans should select and prefer Christians as their rulers."

How, then, have we gotten to the point that everything we have done for 220 years in this country is now suddenly wrong and unconstitutional?

Please forward this to everyone you can. Lets put it around the world and let the world see and remember what this great country was built on.

Thank you!!  
Chamber, US House of Representatives

it is said that 86% of Americans believe in God. Therefore I have a very hard time understanding why there is such a mess about having the 10 commandments on display or "In God We Trust" on our money and having God in the Pledge of Allegiance. Why don't we just tell the 14% to Sit Down and SHUT UP!!! Or go back to their country to live.

If you believe, make a stand, if not get out of my way, you might get hurt!

...TAZ



# Dear Frankie

DEAR FRANKIE ME BOY:

I be patrolling a property when a man there reminisces about the 10 points he knew as a sentry. I didn't let on that I didn't know any 10 points a sentry should know and wasn't too sure thinking about it later if he has said 10 POINTS a sentry should know or 10 PINTS a sentry should know (off duty of course). Could you set me straight on this? I think you'd be the man to know. IN DOUBT ON POINTS AND PINTS

DEAR DOUBT:

The only "points" I can think of would be the 11 (not 10) General Orders that I learned while I was in the Navy. The General Orders were drilled into our heads during boot camp and were essentially standing orders for any watch stander. They are 11 basic rules that apply to every post and all personnel who stand posts. They have stood the test of time for the military and would be excellent to keep in mind while working any of our accounts. They are:

- To take charge of this post and all government property in view.
- To walk my post in a military manner, keeping always on the alert, and observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing.
- To report all violations of orders I am instructed to enforce.
- To repeat all calls from posts more distant from the guard house than my own.
- To quit my post only when properly relieved.
- To receive, obey and pass on to the sentry who relieves me, all orders

# POST ORDERS

from the Commanding Officer, Command Duty Officer, Officer of the Deck, and Officers and Petty Officers of the Watch only.

- To talk to no one except in the line of duty.
- To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.
- To call the Officer of the Deck in any case not covered by instructions.
- To salute all officers and all colors and standards not cased.
- To be especially watchful at night, and, during the time for challenging, to challenge all persons on or near my post and to allow no one to pass without proper authority.

Now, as for the 10 "Pints", that might be little trickier. I am not very well versed in the ways of the pint, but here it goes:

- Guinness (of course)
- Bass
- Black and Tan (Guinness over Bass)
- Cider (Woodpecker or Strongbow)
- Strongbow with a shot of Chambord (personal favorite)
- Snake bite (Cider and Lager)
- Black Velvet (Guinness and Champagne)
- Black and Blue (Guinness and strong Lager)
- Smithwick's (New personal discovery)
- My all time favorite pint, hands down....Ice cold 2% Milk

**DEAR FRANKIE:**

I have been with the company for a little over 6 months. At several of the accounts that I have worked we have had Roamers, Lead Guards, and Supervisors. I have

asked how do I get to be selected for any of these positions and was told the quickest way NOT to be selected was to ask. I have worked many accounts and done everything I was asked to do, but have not been given the opportunity. So if I am not to ask, and I am not getting noticed, how do I get into these positions? IN A QUANDRY

**DEAR QUANDRY:**

I see your dilemma. Well truth of the matter is that we (management and supervisory staff) tend to pick people for those positions based on whether we feel that they can handle the job. Obviously, people in these positions should be professional, self-motivating, and responsible. They should be the ones setting the example for the other employees. These are things that we look for when we are filling those key positions. In addition to that, have they attended the appropriate training. We prefer roamers to have attended the Hands class. It doesn't always turn out that way, but it's another aspect that we take into account. My suggestion to you would be to make sure that you are calling in and speaking with the schedulers on a regular basis. If the schedulers get to know you and know that you are a good guard, they may recommend you to the supervisors or the Director of Operations for these positions. Additionally, if you are doing a good job and the Director of Operations is aware that you would like to take on additional responsibility, you may get that opportunity. Feel free to drop her an e-mail and let her know that you are interested. (Elizabeth Gill: [elizabeth@teamsecurity.net](mailto:elizabeth@teamsecurity.net) ) Hope this helps.

**DEAR FRANKIE:**

So there I was, sitting in the DMV when a jolly old fat guy with a snow white beard, wearing a red suit sat down next to me. I tried not to notice, but he was looking right at me. I

turned to look at him, and when I did, he let out this huge jolly laugh "HO HO HO". I said hello and went back to waiting for my number to be called. This guy just kept staring at me. Finally, I turn to this freak and ask what his problem is. He gives me this strange look and asked if I wanted to sit on his lap and tell him what I wanted for Christmas. At first I was like "ummmm, No", but then I got to thinking, what could it hurt. It's not like I was going anywhere soon, and I like presents. So I did. Do you think he was the real Saint Nick? WISHED FOR A PONY

**DEAR PONYBOY:**

Soooo...let me see if I got this straight. You, a presumably grown man, are approached by another grown man dressed as a fictional character, who asks you to sit on his lap, which you do and now you're asking me to tell you if this guy was or was not the real Saint Nick? Dude, I bet you are the life of your company's Christmas party. It does however remind me to let everybody know about the different scams that come up during the holiday season. There are too many to list, but please be careful. There are several good causes that are worthy of your charity, just beware of anything that sounds hinkey. They're out there dressed up in their finest Santa suits trying to get your hard earned money. Don't be a victim. Have a safe and happy holiday season. P.S.



look out for the 6 foot tall bunny in the spring, he'll want you to sit on his lap and play with his eggs.

*This Month in History*

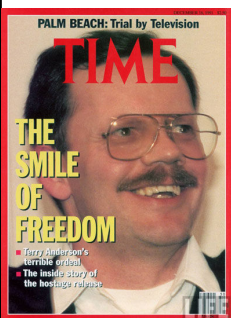
## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

**December 1, 1955** - The birth of the modern American civil rights movement occurred as Rosa Parks was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to give up her seat to a white man and move to the back section of a municipal bus. Her arrest resulted in a year-long boycott of the city bus system by African Americans and led to legal actions ending racial segregation on municipal buses throughout the South.

**December 2, 1942** - Physicists led by Enrico Fermi carried out the world's first successful nuclear chain reaction at the University of Chicago.

**December 3, 1984** - A deadly gas leak (of methyl isocyanate) at a Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India, killed at least 3,000 persons and injured more than 200,000.

**December 4, 1991** - The last American hostage held in Lebanon was released. Journalist Terry Anderson of the Associated Press had been kidnapped on March 16, 1985 and



held for 2,454 days by Islamic Jihad (Holy War) captors. He was one of 15 Americans held hostage for periods ranging from two months to over six years. Three of the hostages; William Buckley, Peter Kilburn and Lieutenant Colonel William Higgins, were killed during their captivity. The others were released one or two at a time.

**December 5, 1791** - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart died a pauper at age 35 in Vienna, Austria. He had become seriously ill in the fall and rapidly



declined, leading to speculation that he had been poisoned, although this was later proven false. During his brief life, he created over 600 musical compositions and is widely considered one of the finest composers who ever lived.

**December 6, 1877** - At his laboratory in West Orange, New Jersey, Thomas Edison spoke the children's verse "Mary had a Little Lamb..." while demonstrating his newly invented phonograph which utilized a revolving cylinder wrapped in tinfoil to record sounds.



**December 7, 1941** - The U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, was attacked by nearly 200 Japanese aircraft in a raid that lasted just over one hour and left nearly 3,000 dead.

**December 8, 1980** - Former Beatle musician John Lennon was assassinated in New York City.

**December 9, 1993** - A five-day repair job in space on the \$3 billion Hubble Space Telescope was finished by U.S. astronauts.

**December 10** - American librarian Melvil Dewey (1851-1931) was born in Adams Center, New York. He invented the Dewey decimal book classification system, advocated spelling reform, and urged use of the metric system.

**December 11, 1901** - The first transatlantic radio signal was transmitted by Guglielmo Marconi from Cornwall, England, to St. Johns, Newfoundland.

**December 12, 1998** - The House Judiciary Committee approved a fourth and final article of impeachment against President Bill Clinton, charg-

ing him with making false statements in his answers to written questions from Congress.

**December 13** - Mary Todd (1818-1882) was born in Lexington, Kentucky. She became the wife of Abraham Lincoln, the 16th U.S. President.

**December 14, 1962** - The Mariner II space probe sent back information from the planet Venus, the first information ever received from another planet.

**December 15, 1791** - The Bill of Rights (first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution) became effective following ratification by Virginia.

**December 16, 1773** - The Boston Tea Party occurred as colonial activists disguised as Mohawk Indians boarded English ships anchored in the harbor and dumped 342 containers of tea into the water.

**December 17, 1903** - After three years of experimentation, Orville and Wilbur Wright achieved the first powered, controlled airplane flights. They made four flights near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the longest lasting about a minute.

**December 18, 1865** - The Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified abolishing slavery, stating, "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, save as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction."

**December 19, 1946** - War broke out in Indochina as Ho Chi Minh attacked the French seeking to oust them from Vietnam. This was the beginning of a thirty year conflict which eventually led to heavy U.S. involvement and ended in 1975 with U.S. withdrawal from South Vietnam.

**December 20, 1860** - South Carolina became the first state to secede from the Union in a prelude

to the U.S. Civil War. Within two months Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas seceded. In April of 1861, Virginia seceded, followed within five weeks by Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina, thus forming an eleven state Confederacy with a population of 9 million, including nearly 4 million slaves. The Union had 21 states and a population of over 20 million.

**December 21** - Winter begins in the Northern Hemisphere, lasting until March 20, 1999. In the Southern Hemisphere today is the beginning of Summer.

**December 22, 1783** - Following a triumphant journey from New York to Annapolis, George Washington, victorious commander in chief of the American Revolutionary Army, appeared before Congress and voluntarily resigned his commission.

**December 23, 1987** - Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager set a new world record of 216 hours of continuous flight around the world without refueling. Their aircraft Voyager traveled 24,986 miles at a speed of about 115 miles per hour.

**December 24, 1814** - The Treaty of Ghent between America and Britain was signed, officially ending the War of 1812.

**December 25** - Christmas Day, commemorating the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. Although the exact date of his birth is not known, it has been celebrated on December 25 by the Western (Roman Catholic) Church since 336 A.D.

**December 26, 2004** - An estimated 230,000 persons were killed and 1.5 million left homeless when a magnitude 9.3 earthquake on the seafloor of the Indian Ocean set off a series of giant tsunami waves that smashed into the shorelines of a dozen countries including Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, India and Somalia.

**December 27, 1831** - Charles Darwin set out from Plymouth, England,

aboard the ship HMS Beagle on his five-year global scientific expedition. Darwin collected fossils and studied plants and animals, gradually beginning to doubt that many diverse species of living things had sprung into existence at one moment (creationism). In 1859, he published *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection*.

**December 28, 1832** - John C. Calhoun became the first American ever to resign the office of vice president. He served under Presidents John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson and resigned after a series of political disagreements with President Jackson. He went on to become a U.S. Senator from South Carolina.

**December 29, 1890** - Members of the U.S. 7th Cavalry massacred more than 200 Native American (Sioux) men, women and children at Wounded Knee Creek, South Dakota.

**December 30** - Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936) was born in Bombay, India. He was an English poet, novelist, short story writer, best known for his children's stories such as the *Jungle Book*.

**December 31** - New Year's Eve, the last evening of the Gregorian calendar year, traditionally a night for merry-making to welcome in the new year.

*Steve Vanegas*

Alamo Lake State Park is one of Arizona's best kept secrets. The stark desert beauty is reflected off the water. Cacti dot the mountainous landscape that surround the lake. Nestled in the Bill Williams River Valley away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, Alamo Lake State Park offers outdoor fun, premier bass fishing, rest and relaxation. For nature lovers, spring rains bring an abundance of wild flowers and the lake environment attracts a variety of wildlife year round, including bald and golden eagles, waterfowl, foxes, coyotes,

mule deer and wild burros. Stargazers are sure to enjoy the unbelievable view of the night sky with the nearest city lights some forty miles away!

Alamo Lake, located on the Bill Williams River where the Big Sandy River and Santa Maria River come together, was created with the completion of Alamo Dam in 1968. The Army Corps of Engineers designed the earthen dam primarily for flood control. During flood events, the lake basin is capable of "capturing" large amounts of water in a relatively short time. The lake has been recorded rising 11 vertical feet in one night! Unusually high flows during the late 1970s and through the 1980s have increased the average size of the lake, helping to create one of Arizona's best fishing holes. Fishing tournaments are common at the lake and anglers have an excellent opportunity to catch bluegill, largemouth bass, channel catfish, and black crappie. Remember, the desert can be harsh and dangerous, but it is also very fragile. Help us protect it, and yourself, by camping in the designated camp areas and keeping vehicles on maintained roadways.

<http://azstateparks.com/Parks/ALLA/index.html>

The earth has grown old with  
its burden of care But at  
Christmas it always is young,  
The heart of the jewel burns  
lustrous and fair And its soul  
full of music breaks the air,  
When the song of angels is  
sung."

*Mick Hirko*

I recently attended the Air Force retirement ceremony for a friend of mine and old time T.E.A.M. employee, Tim Roberts. It was very moving ceremony, in a hanger, surrounded by the F-16's that for many years he was tasked to keep in top shape. Tim (Mr. Roberts now) received many commendations, awards and honors during this ceremony, and part of the celebration was a ceremonial folding and presentation of the flag by an honor guard. For those of you who are not familiar with a military honor guard, every movement they make is calculated and means something. If you get a chance, youtube the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns to give you an extreme understanding of the importance and meaning of an honor guard. Anyway, before the honor guard came out to fold the colors, Master Sergeant Dave Miller of the 756th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron read a short history of the American Flag. He was a good presented and after the ceremony, I asked him for a copy of his speech, which he generously gave me. It is one of the best histories of our flag I have ever heard, and I wanted to share it with you. As Americans we take a lot of things for granted, including our flag. I do not know if any other flag ever has been able to stir patriotism, emotion and motivate people as much as our Red, White and Blue Ol' Glory does. As we celebrate the holidays, let us all thank our wonderful troops for the sacrifices they make, especially as so many celebrate Christmas in lands far away. The American flag leads them into battle so that we can be free, and many are motivated by words similar to the words below to describe why they do what they do:

For more than 200 years, the American flag has been the symbol of our nation's unity, as well as a source of pride and inspiration for millions of citizens. Born on June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress determined that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes alternating

between seven red and six white; and that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation.

Between 1777 and 1960, the shape and design of the flag evolved into the flag presented before you today. The 13 horizontal stripes represent the original 13 colonies, while the stars represent the 50 states of the union. The colors of the flag are symbolic as well; red symbolizes hardiness and valor; white signifies purity and innocence; and blue represents vigilance, perseverance and justice. Traditionally, a symbol of liberty, the American flag has carried the message of Freedom and inspired Americans, both at home and abroad.

In 1814, Francis Scott Key was so moved at seeing the Stars and Stripes waving after the British shelling of Baltimore's Fort McHenry that he wrote the words to The Star Spangled Banner.

In 1892 the flag inspired Francis Bellamy to write the "Pledge of Allegiance," our most famous flag salute and patriotic oath.

In July 1969 the American flag was "flown" in space when Neil Armstrong planted it on the surface of the moon. Today, our flag flies on constellations of Air Force satellites that circle our globe, and on the fin flash of our aircraft in harms way in every corner of the world. Indeed, it flies in the heart of every Airman who serves our great Nation. The sun never sets on our US Air Force, nor on the flag we so proudly cherish.

Since 1776 no generation of Americans has been spared the responsibility of defending freedom ... Today's Airmen remain committed to preserving the freedom that others won for us, for generations to come. By displaying the flag and giving it a distinctive fold we show respect to the flag, and express our gratitude to those individuals who fought, and continue to fight for freedom, at home, and abroad. Since the dawn

of the 20th century, Airmen have proudly flown the flag in every major conflict on lands and skies around the world. It is their responsibility ... our responsibility ... to continue to protect and preserve the rights, privileges and freedoms that we, as Americans, enjoy today.

The United States flag represents who we are. It stands for the freedom we all share and the pride and patriotism we feel for our country. We cherish its legacy, as a beacon of hope to one and all... Long may it wave.

"The United States flag represents who we are" – Those words keep echoing in my head, thinking of how it represent the military. It is very true. I chose this month to write about this because obviously it is recent on my mind not just because of Tim's retirement ceremony, but because I always think about our troops around the holidays. I absolutely love the cover of our newsletter this month, because it so profoundly describes our military's role in the world. I also felt compelled to write something in the memory of the members of the military and the civilians who died or were injured in the recent cowardly terror attack at Ft. Hood. Every one of those dead represent another family that will suffer an unimaginable pain this holiday season. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

I wish you all the very best for the holidays, a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. 2009 was a tough year for many people. I hope for a more prosperous 2009, more honor among people, more understanding and tolerance among people and less noise coming from Clear's office. Keep the peace, be safe, and I will see you all on New Year's eve!

Mick Hirko  
 President  
 Total Events And Management  
 T.E.A.M. Security