

# Minnesota *Flight Log*

**E.W. Rawlings Chapter 213  
Air Force Association  
Twin Cities, Minnesota**

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**Educate ■ Advocate ■ Support ■ U.S. Air Force**

**Jan 2010-Apr 2010**

*Minnesota Flight Log* is published quarterly for the members of the Rawlings chapter of AFA. Members may view the newsletter on the Chapter website: [rawlings-afa.org](http://rawlings-afa.org). To report problems or to submit items, call Bob McGonigal at 952-884-1625 or email him at [mcgonigal67@earthlink.net](mailto:mcgonigal67@earthlink.net).

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## Community Partners

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James Industries  
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USA Today Newspaper(x2)



### AFA MISSION

The Air Force Association **educates** the public about the critical role of aerospace power in defense of our nation, **advocates** aerospace power and a strong national defense, and **supports** the U.S. Air Force and the Air Force family.

## Col. Julie Eslinger-Jensen Honored



Colonel (ret.) Julie Eslinger-Jensen was honored by being named Veteran of the month by Globe University and WCCO Radio. She was nominated by the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs.

During the month of January her interview and story could have been heard on WCCO 830 any Tues., Wed., and Thurs. shortly after 4 PM (National news, Local news/ weather and then Globe University). Originally, there was a link to WCCO's website. But, it has been deleted as of the printing of this newsletter. Go to our chapter's website to read the text of the interview: [www.rawlings-afa.org](http://www.rawlings-afa.org).



Julie (center) and nurses

## Silver Wings

“Knowledge, wisdom and the courage to serve” can be seen on the back of a Silver Wings shirt on the St. Thomas campus. While there are currently only nineteen members walking around with these shirts, all of the members are dedicated to professional development, personal development and civic awareness.

Silver Wings is a “national co-ed organization dedicated to creating proactive, knowledgeable and effective civic leaders through community service and education about national defense”. The group was created as a partnership with Arnold Air Society to extend the mission to both the Air Force and civilians.

Although it is fairly new to the St. Thomas campus, beginning in spring 2008, it hasn’t stopped Silver Wings from making a significant difference within the community. As a requirement, silver wings are required to complete five service hours per semester. However, it is not uncommon to find many members going above and beyond these requirements. In particular, in their first full semester on campus with about 15 members the group completed 158 hours of community service. Then, in spring 2009 when Silver Wings had only been an official organization for one year, the group complete over 201 hours!

The organizations that Silver Wings has worked with include, but are not limited to: Habitat for Humanity, Loaves and Fishes, ALS Association, Bridging, Rondo Community Outreach, Up ‘till Dawn, Arch March, Community Clean-up, Blood Drives, Family Retreat for the Brain Injury Association of Minnesota and Relay for Life.

To find out more information about Silver Wings please visit <http://arnold-air.org/sw/>. To contact the St. Thomas chapter, contact Luke Restad, the Development Officer at [rest3941@stthomas.edu](mailto:rest3941@stthomas.edu).



*Text by Lauren Wright*

*Silver Wings Public Affairs Officer*

**New Members  
Jan - April**

DOUG	AHLGREN	INVER GRV HTS
MARVIN	ANITZBERGER	MAPLEWOOD
ELIZABETH	AUGUSTOVIZ	COON RAPIDS
BARBARA	BENDER	EDINA
KYLE	BURKHOLDER	MAPLE GROVE
MARKUS	CARTER	BROOKLYN PK
RICHARD	CARTER	APPLE VALLEY
GLEN	CHRISTENSEN	MADELIA
HALIE	CRICHTON	MINNEAPOLIS
MARILYN	CURSKI	EDEN PRAIRIE
DAN	DIGRE	MINNEAPOLIS
JOHN	DRAIN	MINNEAPOLIS
AMANDA	FOLBERG	MINNEAPOLIS
J PATRICK	FOSS	ST PAUL
JANELLE	GATES, CAP	MAPLE GROVE
DON	GAWRELUK	ANOKA
JEREMY	HADDEN	MINNEAPOLIS
WAYNE	HAMES	ROCHESTER
JAMES	HARTZ, USAF (RET)	N BRANCH
LARRY	HELLAND	BRICELYN
ALYSSA	ITZIN	W ST PAUL
D DALE	JOHNSON	BURNSVILLE
DOUGLAS	JOHNSON	MINNEAPOLIS
ALISHA	JONES	MINNEAPOLIS
DONALD	KANE	ROSEMOUNT
AUSTIN	KLEINSCHMIDT	MINNEAPOLIS
BRIAN	LEE	PLYMOUTH
NATE	MANNING	MINNEAPOLIS
YVONNE	MAY	MINNEAPOLIS
MAURICE	MCKAY	STILLWATER
ROD	MCKAY	BLOOMINGTON
MAXWELL	MEIER	FALCON HGHTS
DANIEL	MELLESMOEN	MINNEAPOLIS
JOE	MESSACAR	BLOOMINGTON
DYLAN	MUENCH	MINNEAPOLIS
ERIC	NELSON	EAGAN
TONY	NGUYEN	EAGAN
FRANK	OURADA	MINNEAPOLIS
ERIK	PAULSEN	EDEN PRAIRIE
KEVIN	ROSE	MINNETONKA
ALYSSA	ROSS	MINNEAPOLIS
JUDY	SAMPSON	BURNSVILLE
MICHAEL	SARNO	MINNEAPOLIS
GREGORY	SCHENDEL	ANDOVER
TAYLOR	SCHLANK	EAGAN
ALEX	SMALLWOOD	MINNEAPOLIS
EUGENE	SORMAN	APPLE VLY
JOSEPH	SUTILA	EDEN PRAIRIE
MIKE	THIBODO	SHOREVIEW
BRUCE	TOLLEFSON	ELK RIVER
LINH-DAN	TRINH	ST PAUL
KEVIN	WAGNER	ST PAUL
MARTY	WEGNER	BLOOMINGTON
JOHN	WIDMER	WATERTOWN
NICOLETTE	WOLFERT	MINNEAPOLIS

**AFA Awards Banquet**

The Banquet was held on 24 April at the Forest Lake Post 225 American Legion. Our entrée was Steak and Shrimp. The University of St. Thomas' AFROTC provided cadets for the Rifle Drill Team, the Saber Arch, the POW/MIA ceremony, a soloist for the National Anthem, a cadet to give the invocation, and their Commandant of Students, Capt. Heidi Priestley as M/C. The JROTC Detachment from Park High School posted the Colors. Colonel Scott Seavers was our guest speaker for the evening. He is the son of our Chapter's current president, Col (ret.) Vic Seavers. All photos from the event will be posted on the website, [www.rawlings-afa.org](http://www.rawlings-afa.org), eventually.



Black Knights Rifle Drill Team



Silver Saber Arch Team



Col. Seavers presents award to UST cadet Andrea Gehrman. Not pictured : UofM cadet Douglas Ahlgren

**AFA Awards Banquet  
(cont.)**



CAP Awardees: Cadets Peter Mayhew, Ethan Helgager, Jasmine Sands; and, Capt. Jo Ellen Peters



JROTC Awardees: Cadets Nicole Vink, Tim Betz, and for David Vang, his father.



133<sup>rd</sup> AW Awardees: TSG Shawn Fitzhenry & MSG Douglas Ninow

Not pictured from the 133 A/W  
 SrA Allison Morris  
 MSG Brian Goebel  
 SMS David Gonsoski  
 Not pictured from the 934 A/W  
 SrA Austin Kleinschmidt  
 MSG Daniel Mellesmoen



934<sup>th</sup> AW Awardees: TSG Jeremy Hadden, SMS Vicky Kuntz, SMS Douglas Johnson, and Capt. John Drain

# Military Spouse of the year

Rawlings Vice-President Captain Heidi Priestley, created a Military Spouse of the Year contest for both the 133<sup>rd</sup> & 934<sup>th</sup> Air Wings. New Beginnings Face & Body Spa located on Grand Avenue in St. Paul sponsored prizes of manicures, pedicures and massages. Winners were announced at the Yellow Ribbon reintegration event Jan. 23 at The Grand Rios Resort in Brooklyn Park. That event provided information and activities for more than 80 returning military deployers and 150 family members. New Beginnings Spa provided gift bags to all of them.



934<sup>th</sup> AW

Jackie Newman (center) wife of Col. Brett Newman, receives the Military Spouse of the Year award, including a gift from New Beginnings spa, at the 934th Yellow Ribbon event Jan. 23. From left are Tiffany Sudbeck, the spa's customer service manager, Col. Vic Seavers, E.W. Rawlings Air Force Association president, Col. Ron Wilt, 934th Operations Group commander, and Melissa Sanchelli-Gabriel, the spa owner.



Capt. Heidi Priestley, event organizer



133<sup>rd</sup> AW

Air Force Photo/  
Capt.S.J.Brow

Kathy Morris with 133<sup>rd</sup> AW/CC, Col.Greg Haase (right) and President Vic Seavers (left).

Writes CH Lt Col. John Morris: Kathy Morris, the mother of SSGT Amy Morris, SrA Allison Morris and Anna Morris is undoubtedly the military spouse of the year. During this past year, Kathy held together our home in Afton, Minnesota while both daughters deployed to the Middle East and John began a year-long tour in Basra, Iraq. Despite losing her job the same day her husband deployed, Kathy has resourcefully found and continued a part-time job at United hospital and donated her time to helping the Karen refugee community in the Twin Cities. This has included planning a free car-seat and back-pack drive for them as well as providing free winter jackets. Kathy is a patriot who knows the meaning of sacrifice for the sake of her country and has done so with a lot of grace and deserves to be recognized for her contribution



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## Rawlings Chapter's Teacher of the Year



Jane Vail (l.), Donald Gawreluk (c) and Col  
Vic Seavers (Ret.) (r)

Donald Gawreluk has received our chapter's Teacher of the Year award. He has students compete to participate in his aerospace science sessions before and after school. He strives to engage students in science and math activities that expand their interests to the field of aviation. His enthusiasm and prior training through NASA motivate students in the areas of aviation science, physics, and math. Using hands on experiences to make connections between studies and personal interests. He uses the USA Today Newspaper along with the Visions of Exploration Program to bring science and math to the classroom on a daily basis. Mr. Gawreluk exemplifies teachers who do what it takes to engage each and every child in the classroom. When children aren't excited about a specific area of study, he looks for ways to encourage and build their interest and enthusiasm. Mr. 'G' supervises students who come up to 2 hours early and stay late to attend special classes he teaches. Our thanks and gratitude, Mr. 'G'.