



AIRSCOOP

104TH FIGHTER WING • MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD
Pride, Professionalism, Patriotism *Barnes Air National Guard Base*

December 2008



January



February



March



April



May



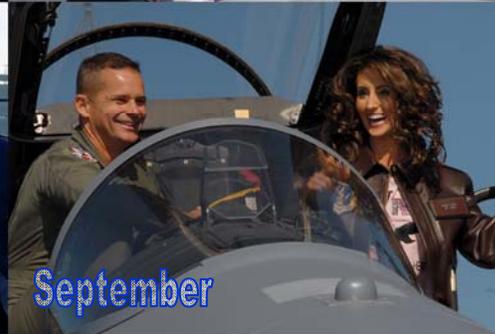
June



July



August



September



October



November



December

Photo collage of events throughout 2008. (Photos by Capt. Matthew Mutti, Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis, Master Sgt. Mark Fortin, Tech. Sgt. Melanie Norman)



Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

AIRSCOOP

**104th Fighter Wing
Barnes Air National
Guard Base**

Barnes Air National Guard Base
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Westfield, MA 01085

Wing Commander
Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

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Lt. Col. James J. Keefe

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Chief Master Sergeant**
Chief Master Sgt. Al Reale

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Commander's Column

By Col. Robert T. Brooks

On Dec 7th 1941, a day which President Roosevelt said would “live in infamy,” the Japanese Imperial Navy attacked US forces in Hawaii. This Sunday of our December UTA, is the sixty-seven year anniversary of that historic day. The Japanese sunk four Navy battleships and damaged four more. The Japanese also sank or damaged three cruisers, three destroyers, and one minelayer, destroyed 188 aircraft, killed 2,402 citizens and wounded 1,282 more. You never know what tomorrow holds. As airmen we must do everything in our power, every single day, to make sure the 104th Fighter Wing is ready to deploy and employ in combat. Next week, next month, or next year, we may be called upon as a unit to deploy. Our expeditionary combat support airmen have done just that, and we must be ready with our aviation package as soon as feasible.

The blueprint to success has not changed. Do things right at all levels. Make sure your processes are sound, and in accordance with proper technical orders or regulatory guidance. If something does not feel right, pull the chain and stop the assembly line. As we dive into our self-inspection Compliance and Standardization Requirements Lists, let those help you measure your processes and see if you have been doing the right things. If you have dropped something out of your cross check, now is the time to fix it. Make sure you are not only getting the job done, but you owe it to the team effort to make sure you are doing things smartly and efficiently.

Shop chiefs and commanders need to ensure you are steering your organization in the right direction and helping efficiencies of those beneath you. Having your finger on the pulse of the unit is vital as we move in one direction as a unit and a Fighter Wing. Everyone needs to understand their piece of the puzzle; when everyone understands their responsibilities, efficiency occurs. Proper communication is critical throughout the organization just as it is across organizations working together toward a common goal.

As we get ready for the winter holidays, I want to thank everyone for their effort, service, and devotion to duty. Enjoy your well deserved time with your families and friends. Remember those who are serving in combat areas of responsibilities away from their families this Christmas Season. I look forward to working with each and every one of you in 2009 as part of the best Fighter Wing in the Combat Air Force.

Happy Holidays



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Alcoholism is treatable!

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Command Chief's Column By Chief Master Sgt. Al Reale

The Airman's Creed

Part II

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN

MY MISSION IS TO FLY, FIGHT AND WIN

I AM FAITHFUL TO A PROUD HERITAGE,

A TRADITION OF HONOR

AND A LEGACY OF VALOR

When I think about this verse it reminds me of the critical role each of us have in accomplishing our mission. Our mission is to do our job to the best of our ability. Every job helps us fly, fight and win... or as Staff Sgt. Matt Slaydon stated, each and every airman is needed to "move the battlefield forward."

For over sixty years Airmen have dominated the battle space, many paying the ultimate price in combat or in training to ensure that we maintain that dominance. That is the heritage that was forged by those before us, the heritage that we are challenged to maintain. From Chief Paul Lankford enduring the Bataan death march in 1942 to Staff Sgt. Matt Slaydon's courageous service and inspiration after sustaining serious injuries in 2007, airmen have demonstrated a tradition of honor and created a legacy of valor.

Remember, they served then as we serve today. They were "just doing their jobs" when unforeseen circumstances changed their lives forever. They

were ordinary Airmen who chose to do extraordinary things, they are true leaders, their actions are a template for each of us to follow.

We too are American Airmen. We must serve proudly and do our best; doing so pays homage to those that have served before us. It sustains our heritage, our honor, our legacy of valor.



Col. Robert Brooks, Mrs Annette and Staff Sgt. Matt Slaydon and

Wounded Warrior Slaydon Inspires Barnes By Staff Sgt. Rosanne Frieri

Last drill weekend I had the distinct privilege of escorting SSgt. Matthew Slaydon and his wife Annette throughout Barnes to various shops. Those fortunate enough to hear his message saw the strength and positive attitude this young hero displayed.

Staff Sgt. Slaydon was extremely explicit and concise about taking care of people, he was on his third tour of duty as an EOD team leader when the worst possible incident took place - the IED detonated two feet way from his face causing his blindness and the loss of his left arm.

That was one year ago, Oct 2007. The men in his unit didn't skip a beat; from the time the medivac landed, Staff Sgt. Slaydon was taken care of.

During his keynote address at Barnes, at the Chief induction of Galen Wilson, Slaydon spoke of the importance of having that hard talk with your loved ones about what to do if something happens to you. He spoke posi-

tively, about his care once he arrived at Walter Reed, then on the Brooks Burn Unit in San Antonio, Texas. Upon arriving at Brooks, he and Annette were told by his commander as they got off the plane, "You are in Air Force country now, you will want for nothing."

Slaydon's love for his country and the Air Force is strong. When asked what will you miss the most, he thought for a moment and said that he would miss not being able to return to Iraq with his men. He plans to retire next year, after which he will return to school to pursue a doctorate degree in clinical psychology, specializing in PTSD.

Senior Master Sgt. Bill Butman was instrumental in the effort to enable Slaydon's visit to Barnes, along with Senior Master Sgt. Joe Delaney and Command Chief Master Sgt. Al Reale. Together, they planned every detail for the arrival of our guests.



Mrs Annette and Staff Sgt. Matt Slaydon and Staff Sgt. Frieri

After their weekend visit to Barnes, Staff Sgt. Slaydon and his wife returned to their home in Arizona. They plan to continue fulfilling their speaking engagements. As we said our goodbyes at the airport that evening I extended my hand to bid farewell. SSgt. Slaydon handed me his coin with the Purple Heart. I have never been so moved. It has been six days and I still carry his coin. In my heart, I know I have met an American Hero.



First Sgt.'s Column

By Master Sgt. Todd Canedy, SFS First Sgt.

Soon the holidays will be in full swing. People will be decking the halls, visiting with friends and family and eventually ringing in the New Year. It is the time of year when people are at their best and on their best behavior.

We like to believe that during this wonderful time of year nothing can or will go wrong. The simplicity of the season keeps away all the negative forces of the universe. Unfortunately, there are situations that people face during this season, that for them, are unavoidable. People experience sadness, despair, uncertainty and depression. The loss of a loved one, being forgotten or excluded from a party, shunned by a loved one or even something as simple as not receiving a card at Christmas could lead to bouts of depression for some individuals.

It is our job as Wingmen to check on one another. We must step back and consider the feelings of others within the Unit. If you notice that one of your fellow Wingmen is not acting like themselves, speak with them. Find out what is going on. They may open up to you. That simple gesture of concern could rescue someone from the swirling wave of despair they may be experiencing.

If you have been through a life changing experience and found a way to cope, you may be able to assist someone else who is having trouble coming to grips with their own experiences. Take the time to pull them aside. Offer assistance to your fellow Wingman. It costs nothing to listen. It never hurts to be a friend. Reach out to your members at this special time of year. Take the time to hear and understand what they are saying. As always, you can direct them to a First Sergeant or Chaplain. You never know when you may need the support of your Wing-

man, so be there for them in their time of need.

Switching gears slightly; Christmas is the traditional one time a year that we have the opportunity to acknowledge individuals for the great things they do. Like the mailman, for delivering the mail in the most foul of weather, or the cop for dealing with peoples' problems, the military member who is away from their family; the teacher for educating your children all year long. It is the one time of year the paperboy actually gets a tip, because normally he gets the shaft.

Barnes is no different. We take the time to acknowledge the individuals who went above and beyond all year. We give them a ceremony, where they are paraded in front of their fellow Airmen and rewarded for their accomplishments. It has become a tradition at the 104th to recognize these outstanding individuals for their commitment, dedication and their ability to set the bar that challenges all others.

But I ask you, have you recognized your Airmen, Supervisors or fellow Wingmen? Have you pulled them aside and offered a simple thank you, for something they may have done? It starts there folks! We cannot be expected to motivate troops without giving them the understanding that they are doing a good job or that we appreciate the job they do. It costs nothing; it does not require a lot of time and simply needs to be heartfelt.

If you feel a troop has performed above and beyond their fellow members, do a little extra for them. There are ways to recognize individuals formally. You can write a formal Letter of Appreciation, submit them for a Quarterly Award or put them in for a Decoration. There is no cost to anyone to recognize a fellow member.

I realize it takes time to write that

stuff. But it takes more time to bring another individual into a squadron, train them, get them up to speed on what we do and they still will not have the knowledge of the individual who left because they never were recognized for doing the right thing, time and time again. It takes time to go above and beyond week in and week out. It takes time to show up for drill with a positive attitude, military bearing and motivation. It takes time for these members to be away from their families, miss functions, lose out on overtime, lost opportunities and anything else that I dare say can be frustrating.

We have all heard the statements, "I have to be at drill. They aren't doing anything that I don't do. Why should I do that for them? No one does it for me!" I can assure all of you that it will not change, unless we change it. We need to set the standard now. We need to implement the change, so when the new Airmen come online, it is the norm and not the exception. I challenge all of you to make the effort to change the way we recognize one another. I do not mean saying good job for the sake of saying good job. I mean a, "No Kidding; that troop did exceptionally well, I need to recognize them." When it comes to recognition, let's not degrade the tool, let's utilize it!

In closing, as you sit down this Holiday season with your family and friends, enjoy one another. Spend a little extra time playing with your children, call your parents and kiss your spouse. But before the day has ended, say a prayer for your fellow Unit members, say a prayer for all our heroes still fighting, wish them a safe return home, home to the ones *they* love..... I hope everyone has a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!! I hope to see everyone in January.



EAC Column

By Staff Sgt. Dominic Rizzo, EAC Representative

For the past couple of months, the Enlisted Advisory Council has been slowly working to put together a program known as "Pilot for the Day". This program is derived from a similar program at Otis ANGB, where as the wing sponsors a young child who is ill and brings them on base for a day where they can be a "Pilot for the Day".

One of the goals of the program is to make them feel like part of the organization by providing them a flight suit, and other base trinkets. We would show the child around base and give them a behind-the-scenes tour

of some of the unit's shops. After the tour, and a chance to pet-a-jet, we would make them an honoree member of the 104th. To conclude the visit we would have a nice lunch with them, allowing them to interact with other Airmen from throughout the wing.

We hope after reading this article, we will receive some feedback on our plan, specifically we would like to find out if anyone has connections to the area children's hospitals or would like to help out with this program. Please feel free to contact the



EAC through either Staff Sgt Dominic Rizzo, at extension 1779, or Tech. Sgt. Wade Rivest at extension 1370. Thanks for the help!

2009 ESGR Freedom Award Nominations

Nominate your employer for the 2009 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award at www.FreedomAward.mil. The 2009 nomination season is November 3, 2008 to January 19, 2009.

The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their outstanding support of their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.

If your employer does not meet the strict criteria to be considered for the Freedom Award, nominate him/her for the Patriot Award. It is the easiest way to reward your employer. Just go online at www.esgr.mil and complete the form. It only takes about 5 minutes.

This is a great opportunity to show your civilian employer how much you appreciate the support given during your military career.

The 2009 recipients will be announced in the spring and honored in Washington, D.C. at the 14th annual Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award ceremony September 17, 2009. Recipients of the 2008 Freedom Awards met with President George W. Bush and Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England.

Please take the time to go online and nominate your employer for the award you feel he/she has earned.

Thank you,

Bill Hebert,
Military Outreach Director
Mass ESGR Committee



DECEMBER is AF Responsible Alcohol Use Month

By Maj. Anita Compagnone, Nursing Services

Designating a sober driver before the party begins is just one of several, simple steps to remember to help avoid a tragic crash or an arrest for impaired driving.

Don't even think about getting behind the wheel of your vehicle if you've been out drinking; If you are impaired, call a taxi – use mass transit – or get a sober friend or family member to come and get you;



Or just stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober;

And remember – *Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk*. Take the keys and never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive while impaired.

Don't be "that guy" when it comes to alcohol use. Visit www.thatguy.com for more ways to ensure you're not "That Guy".

Jingle Bell Run for Hope 5K Run/Walk

Come out and run or walk to raise awareness for the
National Marrow Donor Program and the National Organ
Donor Program

7 December 2008
0900
Barnes ANGB, Westfield MA



Register by e-mailing or calling

SMSgt Tom Orifice x-1353 or SSGT Jay Kinney x-1170



OrganDonor.Gov
Access to U.S. Government Information on
Organ & Tissue Donation and Transplantation



NATIONAL MARROW DONOR PROGRAM®

What's My Line? Winner



Photo by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau

Winner: "I feel like the kid in 'A Christmas Story'" - Staff Sgt. Vondee Martin
Runners Up:
"Security Forces: So easy a dummy can do it!" – Tech Sgt. Joel Christofori, 104th SFS
and
"...and you thought MREs were bad." - Ken Reed

What's My Line?



Photo by Mrs. Donna Gwosch



Come up with a funny, clean and creative caption for this photo.

We will run the winner and a runner-up in next months AirScoop.

Submit your entry to
PA.104fw@mabarn.ang.af.mil

Spotlight on Airman First Class Jesse Edwards

By Ross Larson, Westfield H.S. Intern

As one of the many necessary departments and offices included in the 104th Fighter Wing, Munitions keeps the F-15s missiles, bombs, and other air combat equipment dialed and ready for any mission. Airman First Class Jesse Edwards, munitions apprentice, is one of the members that makes this possible.

Airman Edwards of Greenfield, Mass. has been building and servicing missiles in the munitions department for two years. Disappointed in his civilian job, Airman Edwards was curious to what else the Guard could offer. After observing the different fields that were available, he decided munitions was his calling. He liked the group of people, and of course, the bonus as well.

"I looked at a few jobs," said Edwards, "and this one really appealed to me. I wanted to do something that was different than my civilian job, all while having a chance to advance."

Along with his wife, Airman Edwards is a Traditional Guardsman. He is a part of the



Airman Edwards inspects the serial number off a practice bomb. Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin

Honor Guard and is very proud to be so. One of Airman Edwards's hobbies and side jobs is welding, in which he owns his self-operated Edwards Welding Service. Four-wheeling, hunting, and going to the range firing handguns are some of his other hobbies and interests.

In five to ten years, Airman Edwards sees

himself as a Tech. Sergeant and attending Airman Leadership School. He also plans to participate in the "Top Gun" for Ammo Troops, the Air Force Combat Ammunition Center, working with live simulations. Upgrading his training from a variety of different shops is another goal of Airman Edwards, who would eventually like to become a part of inspection or line delivery.

"In being a part of munitions, I am proud to help the pilots achieve their missions," said Edwards. Along with helping the pilots, Edwards strives to help out the community as well. He will be participating in the annual Ammo Can Drive, which collects monetary donations, canned goods, and other food. Last year over \$4,500 was accumulated during the December drill. With the money, turkeys were purchased to give to low income families.

Airman Edwards takes pride in his job, maintaining the necessary equipment that contributes to protecting our country and freedom. This is the inspiration and mindset that keeps him working hard and motivated.

Two Holiday Concerts from Air Force Bands

Date/Time: December 6, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Westfield State College's Dever Auditorium, located in Parenzo Hall

No tickets necessary, just come early for a good seat

This holiday season, the ANG Band of the Northeast brings you a wide variety of traditional holiday music, as well as a salute to those in uniform serving our country overseas. No matter what your musical tastes, from the classics to pop, from Broadway to swing, this talented group of musicians will certainly delight and entertain. With a mix of dazzling vocalists and instrumental soloists, this is a once-in-a-lifetime show you won't want to miss. So, support your troops by attending this celebration suitable for the entire family, this performance is a high-energy extravaganza guaranteed to leave you on the edge of your seat.

The band is composed of 39 Air Guard musicians working in support of Air Force and Air National Guard recruiting and community relations objectives. The band is located at Joint Force Headquarters in Milford, MA.

For more information on the band, visit <http://www.angbne.org>



Date/Time: December 12, 2008 at 7:30PM

Location: Springfield Symphony Hall, 1801 E Columbus Ave

Springfield, MA 01103

Tickets available through: Spirit of Springfield: (413) 733-3800

Mercy Medical Center: (413) 748-9000 or

at any O'Connell's convenient plus gas station

The United States Air Force Band of Liberty has been entertaining audiences throughout New England for over thirty years. Under the direction of 1st Lt David A. Alpar, this outstanding group of professional musicians supports the Air Force mission by providing world class musical performances in support of troop morale, recruiting, community relations, and the preservation of our national heritage.

Visit us on the Web at <http://www.bandofliberty.af.mil>

Vigilance, Intelligence and Information Exchange: Three critical keys to terrorism detection

By Lt. Col. Pete Green, Wing Anti-Terrorism Officer



I recently attended the Massachusetts Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council (ATAC) meeting held at The Raytheon Company in Tewksbury, Massachusetts. This group of state, federal, local law enforcement and private industry professionals meet a few times during the year to review the latest efforts in combating terrorism in the Commonwealth.

These men and women are all looking for new or better ways they can assist in the early identification of possible terrorist pre-planning actions in their respective communities and the best way to quickly share information with each other. They are on the front lines of our efforts to prevent terrorism and they take the role seriously.

The United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts, Michael J. Sullivan, chairs this group. In his opening statement, he cited there is no "credible threat to the homeland" at this time but that continued vigilance is required from all sectors, including the private sector and organizations in our community.

He stated no "credible" threat. He did not say there were "no" threats. We know everyday our enemies are trying to find ways to attack us and our allies around the world through their foreign entities or domestic sympathizers. The threats exist, but our agencies have been fortunate enough to dismantle them before they have moved to the operational stage.

I think this current "safer" status in our country is partly due to the world's efforts to maintain its vigilance and share intelligence and information. The rest is a credit to the world's law enforcement and military forces involved in the global fight against terrorism; helping to track down and capture/kill the terrorist, keep them off balance and out of our countries. Closer to home, it is due to the actions of the men and women of our local law enforcement agencies. They are out on the streets, 24/7, looking for things that are indicators of terrorist in their pre-planning stage.

In the September/October 2008 issue of "The Counter Terrorist" counter terrorism expert Richard Marquise states, "There have been many successes in America and around the world since the events of September 11, 2001. Law enforcement and intelligence

agencies have disrupted dozens of planned attacks, and many arrests have been made. However, disruptions get far less attention than successful attacks, and it would be incorrect to assume the problem of terrorism has gone away."

The threat is real and the key is vigilance and intelligence sharing. Here in Massachusetts and in many other states, the local and federal agencies have formed Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTF) to be the hub of their counter terrorism efforts. These JTTF's have all the right players involved to share information quickly. It is a two way street. Information moves from the local police officer on the beat up to the JTTF and from JTTF the local Police Chief.

Marquise reinforces this point stating, "Throughout our nations history, terrorism has been prevented by state and local officers. The local police officer is the key to detecting things that look or feel out of place and stating that information exchange that has led to the capture of terrorists herein our country."

So how can you help with these 3 key areas? Think like a police officer! Look out for anything that seems out of place or suspicious on or off base that may affect our mission here at Barnes. So what should you be on the look out for?

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) EagleEyes program instructs us to keep an eye out for the following:

Surveillance: Someone recording or monitoring activities. This may include the use of cameras (either still or video), note taking, drawing diagrams, annotating on maps, or using binoculars or other vision-enhancing devices.

Elicitation: People or organizations attempting to gain information about military operations, capabilities, or people. Elicitation attempts may be made by mail, fax, telephone, or in person. Examples could include being approached at a gas station (or mall or airport or library, etc) and asked about what's happening at the base; getting a fax (or an e-mail or a telephone call, etc) asking for troop strength numbers... or the number of airplanes on base... or deployment procedures etc.

Tests of security: Any attempts to measure reaction times to security breaches or to penetrate physical security barriers or procedures in order to assess strengths and weaknesses.

Acquiring supplies: Purchasing or stealing explosives, weapons, ammunition, detonators, timers, etc. This also includes acquiring military uniforms, decals, flight manuals, passes or badges (or the equipment to manufacture such items) or any other controlled items.

Suspicious persons out of place: People who don't seem to belong in the workplace, neighborhood, business establishment, or anywhere else. Includes suspicious border crossings and stowaways aboard ship or people jumping ship in port. This category is hard to define, but the point is that people know what looks right and what doesn't look right in their neighborhoods, office spaces, commutes, etc, and if a person just doesn't seem like he or she belongs, there's probably a reason for that.

Dry run: Putting people into position and moving them around according to their plan without actually committing the terrorist act. This is especially true when planning a kidnapping, but it can also pertain to bombings. An element of this activity could also include mapping out routes and determining the timing of traffic lights and flow. Take note of people moving around from place to place without any apparent purpose and doing it, perhaps, many times

Deploying assets: People and supplies getting into position to commit the act. This is a person's last chance to alert authorities before the terrorist act occurs. Look for people loading up vehicles with weaponry/explosives, etc, and/or parking that vehicle somewhere, or people in military uniforms (who don't look right) approaching an installation or getting into a vehicle, or people who seem out of place standing by at a certain location as if waiting for something to happen.

Terrorists are opportunists and will strike where they see vulnerabilities and inattentiveness. Remember to stay vigilant, report suspicious behavior to your local police departments or on base to Security Control.

Explosive Ordinance Disposal Exercise By Staff Sgt. Greg Pauli, EOD

The 104th Flight Wing participated in an Explosive Ordinance Device (EOD) Exercise on 23 Oct, 2008.

The Agencies involved included Westover (host and Team Chief of Operation)-Air Force Reserve EOD; Barnes (Range Safety Officer)-Air Guard EOD; Camp Edwards-Army National Guard EOD; Nashua, NH-Bomb Squad; and representatives from the Transportation Security Administration (TS)-a trainer and two bag checkers.

The vehicle was hit by a half pound explosive charge to demonstrate to TSA agents the importance of their jobs. A half pound of explosives is very concealable and this exercise was done for increased vigilance.

Total Containment Vessels (TCV) blast was used to display the capabilities of the TCV. Five pounds of explosives were used.

The exercise provided valuable practice of general demo procedures for all bomb techs involved.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis

Student Flight Gets Schooled By Master Sgt. Douglas Daponde, Retention NCO

“ARE YOU EYEBALLING ME?!”
“NO, SIR!” these are phrases most of us remember as new recruits during our initial moments getting off the bus at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

On November 2, 2008, Barnes was host to Tech. Sgt. Brian Simeone, a Massachusetts reservist from Framingham Mass. Tech. Sgt. Simeone is currently a Civil Air Patrol Liaison NCOIC and former Military Training Instructor (MTI) at Lackland, AFB. Tech. Sgt. Simeone volunteered his time and talent to address the Student Flight members. “What you are about to learn is invaluable information that 99% of the recruits are not privy to”, Sgt Simeone started out saying.

The former Military Training Instructor, donning his Smokey Bear hat took on the demeanor of a protective father figure rather than the screaming nightmare machine that most of us remember. Calm, cool, and collective was the tone that Tech. Sgt. Simeone displayed during his 5 hours on base.

The goal of this training was to give these new recruits a heads up as to what to expect during their stay at Lackland, and why the training is laid out as it is. Tech. Sgt. Simeone started with a slide presentation

addressing the new 8.5 week course that began on November 5th, 2008. He explained to the student flight members that with today’s challenges that Airmen are facing the Air Force needed to revamp basic training to produce “global airmen”. Airmen are ready to deploy at a given



Tech. Sgt. Simeone applies positive reinforcement to a member of the student flight. Photo by Master Sgt. Daponde

notice and will have the training to contribute to the overall mission.

Student Flight members had the privilege to eat lunch with the MTI, something I believe that none of us would be too comfortable with even today. Once lunch was

over, we went to the Army Aviation facility so that Tech. Sgt. Simeone could teach a few basic facing movements and marching techniques. Before we knew it Tech. Sgt. Simeone had the members outside marching up and down the parking area. It seemed like he had flashbacks himself as he was barking orders to control the flights movements. Those of us watching could not help but be caught up in the moment and did not want to get in his way.

Tech. Sgt. Simeone not only addressed the 104th student flight members but the 102nd student flight members as well. This was the first integrated training event between the two student flight programs in the state and it will not be the last. The 104th Student Flight is looking to drill at Otis ANG in the second quarter of the calendar year. This will be an overnight adventure in which we will challenge the student flight by the tackling obstacle course and partaking in team building exercises. Utilizing the National Guard facilities at Camp Edwards we will be able to integrate our training between the two wings.

Maj. Mendoza, 104th Mission Support Flight Commander and Officer in charge of the Student Flight would like to extend a hearty thank you to Tech. Sgt. Simeone for his commitment to the MA ANG and we plan to have him involved in our curriculum as long as he is willing.



AFSO21 Needs You!

By Maj. Coulette Lioce, Wing Inspector General

You may not know, but the Department of Defense has undertaken Continuous Process Improvement (CPI) and all the services have developed programs to support CPI. The Air Force has designed AFSO21 as the CPI approach of choice.

AFSO21 is a composite of industry proven techniques such as Lean, Six Sigma, Theory of Constraints and Business Process Reengineering. This initiative is a Total Force including both the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserves.

A simple definition of AFSO21 is.....

AFSO21 is an approach to Air Force operations that seeks to eliminate waste from our activities while increasing the capability of our warfighter.

The ANG AFSO21 Mission is to...

Provide a standard approach to continu-

ously improve all processes that drive our capability to deliver effects.

Develop a culture which promotes elimination of waste, sharing of best practices, and reduction of cycle times across the ANG.

Ensure that all Guardsmen understand their role, develop the ability to affect change and continuously learn new ways to improve processes in their daily operations.

By doing this we hope to achieve at least one of these five desired effects:

- Increase productivity of our people
- Enhance operational availability of High Value Assets
- Accelerate response times and agility
- Sustain flight and workspace safety
- Improve energy efficiency

In building the program for the ANG, we have an added capability over the active Air Force. Many of our citizen airmen have been exposed to process improvement in the civilian sector. A part of our program is to train and certify facilitators in the hopes that your wing will decide to participate in continuous process improvement and they will have the assets available to facilitate events as they deem fit. Another way to get certified is through a grandfathering process.

In this process, we take individuals who have a reasonable amount of experience in process improvement and facilitation of events from their civilian employers and get them certified.

If you are interested in being grandfathered as an AFSO21 Level I facilitator and become a part of the ANG's AFSO21 program, please contact the AFSO21 Project Officer, Maj. Coulette Lioce via e-mail or at ext. 1799.

131st Fighter Squadron F-15 T-Shirts for sale

Black shirts with 131st patch, Gray shirts with 131st patch and the Barnestormers F-15 logo, and Red shirts with the F-15 Silhouette are on sale for \$15 each. Shirts are available in sizes Medium—Extra Large

Supplies are limited



Please contact of the individuals listed below:

- 1) Lt. Nate "Sniper" Oswald at Nathaniel.oswalt@mabarn.ang.af.mil
- 2) Capt. Neal "Rug" Byrne at Neal.byrne@mabarn.ang.af.mil
- 3) Lt. Corey "Tin'em" Mackey at Corey.mackey@mabarn.ang.af.mil

New Wing Coins in Stock



The new 104th Fighter Wing coins are on sale for \$5.00

To purchase, please contact your first sergeant.

Family Support Raffle

Family Support Readiness Group is raffling the following prizes at the Children's Christmas Party:

- Signed DC United Freddie Adu Jersey
- Signed Chris Capuano baseball
- A Radio Controlled Silverado
- An Air Force Bear
- Scented Candle Bears



Tickets are \$1 each or 7 for \$5.

Also there will be a **Free** Raffle for 1 of 25 4-pack of Springfield Falcon Tickets, donated by the Pioneer Valley USO. Sign-up at the Dining Facility Saturday for a chance to win. All Drawings to be announce Sunday Dec 7.

Veterans Part of 104th Family By Capt. Matthew Mutti, Wing Executive Staff Officer

The U.S. population is a little over 306 million, of which 24.5 million are veterans, and of the veteran population, 9.5 million are over the age of 65, dying at a rate of 1.8 thousand each day. The later of those figures help us to realize that the veteran who are part of our lives, need to be recognized now.



As we just celebrated the 89th Veteran's Day since President Wilson established Armistice Day in 1919, the members of the 104th Fighter Wing embrace that opportunity to recognize a veteran and the impact they have had on us through participating in numerous events.

In early November, the wing hosted a

special Veteran's Day lunch for members of the Holyoke Solders Home. This annual event gives local veterans an opportunity to enjoy a holiday meal with the members of the wing.

Others participated in the "Bring a Vet to School"

day hosted by Westfield High School and the History Channel.



Nine Barnes veterans sat on a panel and told stories of their deployments and experiences in the military. The special will be aired in December

on the Comcast channel and on the local public access stations.

A group of five members traveled to Heritage Hall in Agawam to have a Veteran's Day lunch with the members of the Assisted Living Program.



While others marched in parades, spoke at events or participated in fly-overs to mark the significance of the national holiday.

In total, more then 100 members supported events in 16 communities, honoring those who have done so much for us....thank you.

Ammo Can Drive Success! By Staff Sgt. Dominic Rizzo

The Munitions Flight would like to thank everyone from the 104th Fighter Wing and the 226th Division, Army Aviation Support Battalion in advance for making the 20th Annual Munitions Charity Drive a success again. This year we hope to surpass last years record-setting Ammo Can Drive.

Your kindness and willingness to help the community is very apparent as you make very generous donations to the annual can-drive every year. The funds generated from last years charity drive went to help some great charities; including the Angel Tree program, Relay for Life, Epilepsy Foundation, and the Breast Cancer Walk for Hope.

The money raised also helped to buy 104 turkeys for the Westfield Salvation Army and 20 turkeys for Margaret's Pantry in Holyoke, totaling almost 1600 lbs. The food collected during last year totaled a little over 600 lbs. It was donated to the Westfield Open Pantry just in time for Christmas last season and was a huge help to the local community members who were in need.

So once again, thank you for all that you do during this Holiday Season.



SSgt Ryan Murphy, Ms. Gail LaGass from the Salvation Army, and SMSgt Joel Thompson (staff photo)

Angel Tree Program

The annual Angel tree program kicks-off Nov 15th.

Come by Family Support and sponsor a child for Christmas.

Be an angel, and help children in need.



Contact Ms. Sandy Wakefield

413-568-9151
x1183

Holiday Safety Wish

By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Dumais, Ground Safety Manager

The staff of the Wing Safety Office would like to wish each of you and your families a very merry and safe holiday season. To help you accomplish this we would like to offer everyone of some basic yet important items to consider to help you in your holiday safety efforts.

Busy, Busy, Busy- Many times we get so caught up in all of the hustle and bustle of the holidays we forget to take time to make sure the results of our actions and inactions are understood, executed, and properly communicated. What I mean by this is simple. Make sure you make safety one of the items on your "what ever your doing list"! Don't allow yourself to be to busy for safety.

Decorations- I think everyone can agree everyone loves holiday decorations. At the same time I think we can all agree that we do not like them when they catch on fire. Follow all of the safety precautions that come with your decorations. Items such as candles are responsible for hundreds of fires each year. The question I pose to you is a simple one. In all of the candle related fires was the candle the cause of the fire or was it the user?

Pets- We all love our creature comforts and one of them is our fellow creatures. Some of the safety issues with pets and the holidays deal with decorations and heaters. The candle that is safe in the pie tin and the heater that is positioned away from flammables suddenly takes on a new light as the family pet tips them over or finds a new home to pile their newly found wrapping paper treasures. Never leave a portable heater or candle unattended for Rex and Fluffy to get into trouble with.

Children- What would the holidays be without the cute little people we once were? The one rule to remember with kids is they just as we can and will get into just about anything just like we did! If you think they won't, think again! Every year we see the number of children who are treated in the emergency rooms rise during the holidays. Most are treated for electric shocks, burns, poisoning, and a host of other injuries associated with the holidays. The one piece of advise I will ask you to consider is get down on you hands and knees in each of your rooms and take a look or crawl around. You are now looking at the world as they see it. What a pretty plant (I can eat), I know how make the

tree blink with this plug (I can get a shock on), look at these pretty little decorations (I can choke on), what's that heavy thing on that shelf (that can fall on me).

Food- With the holidays comes some of the best food of the year. Roast beef, turkey, lamb, fish, shrimp, pies cakes and cookies of all flavors and sizes are all prepared with care. The best advice I can give you is to remember "food safety 101". Keep hot foods hot, cold food cold, avoid cross contamination and if it does or doesn't move, wash it! This includes your produce, hands, cutting boards, and countertops.

Drinking- Having an alcoholic beverage or two during the holidays is one of the many customs some people come to enjoy during this festive time of year. All I will say about this is keep it enjoyable! A lot of good things can happen when we enjoy a cup of cheer with friends and family but it is up to each of us to remember that good things can turn bad fast.



Shopping- What would the holidays be without shopping for the perfect gift? Shopping for the most part can be a safe affair but to those who consider you, your money, and your gifts a holiday blessing for their alternative motives you need to do your part to make sure you are not an easy target. Many of the experts in the field of crime prevention

will tell you your best defense is just that a good defense. If possible shop in pairs, don't park in poorly lit or blocked from view areas, and don't make yourself a target by flashing money and jewelry. Last but not least is remembering that if something just doesn't seem right it most likely isn't. Report your suspicions to security.

Travel- Traveling during the holiday season is one of the busiest times of the year. With holiday traveling come additional risks. For many of us it will be driving to or from somewhere and for others it will mean a train, bus, or plane. No matter how you will be traveling remember that the best plan to travel safely is just that; to have a plan! Make sure you allow enough time to get to where you are going, plan your route, and check out your transportation.

Clean up- Another item of holiday safety is the pile of trash that will magically emerge during the preparation, execution, and wrap up stages of any organized holiday activity. Knowing that fires are the number one cause of winter month home mishaps tells us that having a ready supply of combustible materials like wrapping paper, cardboard boxes and other easy to burn items piled high near or at the exits of our homes is probably not a good thing. Have fun but make sure you clean up and remove the trash accordingly.

Wingman - You always have a wingman to help you out, when you may be in a position to make an ill-advised decision. During the December UTA, your unit safety representatives will be emphasizing safety during many wingman day activities. Be sure you remember that not only do you have a wingman there to help you, but you too need to be a wingman to those who need your help.

As I stated above we would like to wish you and your families a safe, happy, and healthy holiday and New Year. There is a lot of work to do as we prepare for standing up our new mission and we need your help to do it. We look forward to the safe return of each of you to help us get it done! Your Safety Staff

Have a Safe Holiday Season and Happy New Year!

Traditional Job Positions

Weapons Safety Manager Position



Location- 104FW/HQ

Minimum Grade- E-5 **Maximum Grade-** E-8/SMSGT

Position- Traditional Guardsman/women position (No Technicians or AGRs)

Mandatory AFSC Requirements- Member must possess a 2W071, 2W171 or 2MXXX AFSC

Duties- Basic duties are to manage the Commander's Wing Explosive Safety Program. Basic details can be found in AFI 91-202 paragraph 10.4.

Training Requirements- Selected individual is required to take the Introduction to Weapons Safety CD Rom and attend either the Air Force Weapons Safety Course at Lackland AFB for 6 weeks (preferred) or a two week Air National Guard Explosive Safety Course. In addition to weapons Safety School the applicant will be required to attend the 1-week Lightning Protection for Air Force Facilities Course (AMMO 47). Training must be completed within 1 year of assignment based on school availability.

Application Process and deadline- Interested applicants can apply by submitting a resume or other application method via E-mail or office mail to both Lt Col Jay Davis, 104FW Chief of Safety jay.davis@mabarn.ang.af.mil and Major Jeffery Beckel, 104FW/SE Jeffery.beckel@mabarn.ang.af.mil. Applications will be accepted until 1200L on 10 January 2009.

Tuition & Fee Program Changes for Mass. State Universities & Community Colleges

Effective December 1, 2008; all applications for tuition and fee reimbursement at all Massachusetts State Colleges, Universities or Community Colleges must be submitted on-line and a "Certificate of Eligibility" will be issued to each Airman upon certification of membership in good standing with the Massachusetts National Guard. Each Airman must apply for a new 'Certificate of Eligibility' each semester. To Register for classes, go to <http://mro.chs.state.ma.us/tuition/login.aspx> and create a new user account. You will then need to complete the application and submit the e-form.

Joint Force Headquarters Education Office will review each application for verification of status and approve or deny the request of the

Paralegal

Position/Title/Grade: Paralegal/E-6

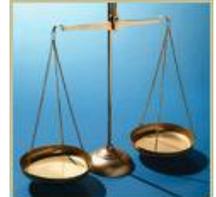
Minimum Grade eligible to apply: None—see below for Special Qualifications

Unit: 104th FW Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

Supervisor: Major Robin Peterson

Application Deadline: Until filled

POC for more information: Major Peterson, (413) 568-9151, ext 1244, email: robinpeterson@cox.net



Technical/Educational background desirable: Prior experience in legal or paralegal work desirable but not mandatory. Ability to multi-task and excellent attention to detail is mandatory. Outstanding interpersonal communications skills, untouchable personal ethics and integrity. Individual must be a self-starter, with exceptional organizational skills and the ability to manage large client loads in high tempo situations.

Duties and Responsibilities: Prepare documents such as wills, powers of attorney, promissory notes, bills of sale, etc. Process correspondence and maintain suspense files. Performs legal research. Process special and general courts-martial proceedings. Process Article 15 and UCMJ actions. Assist with investigations. Examine and process legal actions. Examine, adjudicate, process, and settle claims filed for and against the US government pursuant to Air Force publications, including agreements with foreign governments.

Special Qualifications: Individual must possess a minimum 5-level in any AFSC. Must have a minimum General ASVAB score of 50 (60 preferred) and be able to type 25 WPM.

Training: Completion of the Paralegal Apprentice course in residence is mandatory. The course six weeks at Maxwell, AFB, AL.

Application Procedures: Please submit a resume that includes all experience relevant to this position, both civilian and military, as well as a statement as to why you are applying for this position NLT the application deadline to Major Robin Peterson, Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, 104th FW/JA, Barnes ANGB, 175 Falcon Drive, Westfield, MA 01085. You may also email your resume to robinpeterson@cox.net

'Certificate of Eligibility' for the required college credits.

Airman are responsible for printing the certificate and submitting a copy to the college bursar/business office or Veteran's Agent.

The point of contact for education and benefits is Lt Mark Bennett at (508) 233-6753 or CW4 Mary Pond at (508) 233-6652.





Week of Nov. 26 – Dec. 2, 2008

Easing deployment stress through personal and family readiness

There is a very direct link between mission readiness—each base's ability to fight and win—and personal and family readiness. Deployment and temporary duty requirements result in increased family separations, and additional family care planning for single parents, dual working families with children, and individuals and families struggling with debt. Airmen with financial, family or other personal concerns may struggle to perform their duties at 100 percent efficiency at home station or abroad.

The Airman and Family Readiness Center helps equip Airmen and their families with the skills they need to deal with the unique demands of military life. The A&FRC offers education and support programs for both military and family members during deployments.

Some of the A&FRC's typical support programs and services follow:

- Mandatory pre-deployment briefings and information for military members deploying for more than 30 days. Families are strongly encouraged to attend
- Deployment information guides and other tools that provide answers to a multitude of deployment-related issues and support groups for spouses during period of deployment
- Programs and information for children
- A number of programs sponsored by Air Force Aid to include minor vehicle maintenance and child care programs
- Morale calls, e-mail and video phone connectivity between military member and family
- Family Life skills classes on a wide number of subjects
- Return and reunion briefings and information and much more

For more information on these or other A&FRC programs, contact your local A&FRC

Find Airman's Roll Call Online Here: <http://www.af.mil/library/viewpoints/>

Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.

Welcome to our newest members

- Mark Riox, MXS
- Don Teed, AMXS
- Chris Krutka, SFS
- Mike Hennessy, AMXS
- Tom Pacelchak, AMXS

Congratulations to the following retirees

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Craig Reed, SFS | 4 Dec 08 |
| Keith Parent, FW | 14 Dec 08 |
| Scott Johnson, SFS | 31 Dec 08 |
| David Bassett, CF | 31 Dec 08 |
| Marcel Kerdauid, FW | 31 Dec 08 |
| Christine Bassett, OSF | 31 Dec 08 |
| Scott Johnson, SFS | 31 Dec 08 |
| Gene Theroux, CF | 31 Dec 08 |
| Joel Thompson, MXS | 15 Jan 09 |
| Greg Henderson, FS | 30 Jan 09 |
| Mark Lavigne, CES | 2 Feb 09 |
| Dennis Bates, MXS | 23 Feb 09 |
| Charles Kronoff, MOF | 27 Feb 09 |
| Peter Lupien, MXS | 1 Mar 09 |
| Michael Vassi, CES | 16 Mar 09 |

Retirement Party Master Sgt. Lupien

When: February 20th
 Time 11:00
 Location: Westwood Restaurant
 Tickets are \$18
 Tickets available from:
 Mike Styckiewicz,
 Robert Olelksak, Elvis Martinez, and Timothy Dorman



Congratulations on your promotions

To Airman First Class

Amanda Tacy, MOF



To Senior Airman

Paul Sim, MXS



To Staff Sgt.

Daniel Sullivan, MXS

Charlene Malone, AMXS

Tom Lam, MXS

Stephanie Nugent, MDG

Ramon Lorenzi, MXS



To Tech. Sgt.

Jonathon Boucher, MXS

Joseph Sleeper, LRS

Richard Nastrom, AMXS



To Master Sgt.

Nathan Mutti, LRS

Mark Lockwood, MSG



To Senior Master Sgt.

Patrick Scanlon, FW



SMsGt. Joel B. Thompson Retirement Party

...after 37 legendary Years of service



Friday, 9 January 2009

at the Westover ARB, NCO club

Time: 6:00 pm for Hors d'oeuvres... 6:30pm dinner
 Choice's are Sliced London Broil Au Jus w/ Roasted potatoes and veggies or
 Roasted Stuffed Chicken Breastw/ Mushroom gravy, rice and veggies
 Price per ticket is \$30.00 Call CMSgt Al Reale at ext 1778 or
 Munitions Flight personnel at ext. 1779 for ticket purchase

Congratulations to our Award Nominees

Airman of the Year Nominees

Senior Airman Chris Lynch (CF)

Staff Sgt. Stephen Jeffers (SFS)

Airman 1st Class Jesse Edwards (MXS)

Airman First Class Hope Fouenier (MDG)

Senior Airman Adrienne Williamson (SVF)

Senior Airman Fabricio Ochoa (LRS)

Senior Airman Kirk Crochiere (AMXS)

Senior Airman Thomas Tedone (OG)

Senior Airman Zachary Wigham (CES)

Airman 1st Class Chadd Hammond (MSF)

Senior Airman Adam Smith (MOF)

Senior Airman Neisha Nixon (FW/HQ)

Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Nominees

Tech. Sgt. David Chapdelaine (CF)

Tech. Sgt. Ronald Brown (SFS)

Tech. Sgt. Elvis Martinez (MXS)

Tech. Sgt. Brian Redfern (MDG)

Staff Sgt. Quincy Cope (SVF)

Tech. Sgt. Yvan Wampler (LRS)

Tech. Sgt. Abdias Garcia (AMXS)

Tech. Sgt. Sandra O'Fallon (OG)

Staff Sgt. Karla Belliveau (CES)

Tech. Sgt. Nadine Bates (MSF)

Tech. Sgt. Kristin Martin (MOF)

Tech. Sgt. Frances Fredrick (FW/HQ)

Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Nominees

Master Sgt. David Diem (CF)

Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Puccio (SFS)

Master Sgt. Robert Olekask (MXS)

Senior Master Sgt. Shayne Newton (MDG)

Master Sgt. Ruth Maio (SVF)

Senior Master Sgt. Maryanne Walts (LRS)

Master Sgt. Wayne Tower (AMXS)

Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Plotniak (OG)

Master Sgt. Patrick Haggerty (CES)

Senior Master Sgt. Tina Meyer (MSF)

Senior Master Sgt. Gerald Walaszek (MOF)

Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Delaney (FW/HQ)

AGR and Technician of the Year Nominees

Senior Master Sgt. Carlene Rodrigues (CF)

Staff Sgt. Jay Kinney (LRS)

Tech. Sgt. Marilyn Morales (AMXS)

Master Sgt. Shannon Huard (FW/HQ)

Master Sgt. David Frates (CES)

Master Sgt. Ernest Smith (MSF)

Tech. Sgt. Adam Casineau (MOF)

Tech. Sgt. Shane Cekovsky (SFS)

Master Sgt. Manabu Okutani (MXS)

Senior Master Sgt. Christine Bassett (OG)

Company Grade Officer of the Year Nominees

2nd Lt. Elizabeth Mesecher (MSG)

Capt. Corey Mackey (OG)

1st Lt. Keith Tatlock (MXG)

Capt. Matthew Mutti (FW/HQ)

1st Lt. Mary Newton (MDG)

104TH FIGHTER WING

175 Falcon Drive
Westfield MA 011085

Phone: (413) 568-9151
Fax: (413) 525-1515
E-mail: PA.104fw@mabarn.ang.af.mil



*BarneStormers
Pride, Professionalism,
Patriotism.*

Were on the Web

WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL

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