



AIRSCOOP

104TH FIGHTER WING • MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Pride, Professionalism, Patriotism

Barnes Air National Guard Base

December 2009



Cargo is being palletized in preparation for processing through the "mobility machine" during the November 2009 UTA.

(Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)



Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

AIRSCOOP

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

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Commander's Column

By Col. Robert T. Brooks

Barnestormers, as we wind down 2009 and look ahead to 2010, I want to thank all of you for your service to this great nation. The Air Force has been engaged in combat operations continuously since 1991, and many of you have served multiple times in combat operations, in harm's way. One such individual who served and placed service above self was MSgt Jim Lindsey. On 2 December we buried Jim in Chicopee, it was a humbling time. As the 104th Fighter Wing Barnestormers exited the Church, The Battle Hymn of the Republic was played. The words of that song were very fitting for a warrior; they spoke volumes of what this country is all about, and what men like James Lindsey have sacrificed to make it such. I realize many of you were very close to Jim, and thank you for being strong for the family and taking care of them. Also on 2 December, Brian Redfern buried his wife Pamela, again with members of the 104th present. I ask all of you to keep these 104th family members in your thoughts and prayers, especially during this Holiday Season.

We want to congratulate SMSgt Shane Newton from the Medical Group. Shane was selected as our new state command chief, and will pin on the rank of Chief over Dec UTA. Congrats to Shane, we know he will do a fantastic job as our new state command chief. A big thanks is also in order for our CCZ team of Major Halasi-Kun, TSgt Menwer, SrA Grimaldi, and Dave Basset as we just passed a major milestone with a Pass no discrepancies in our CCZ inspection. Lt Col Haldopoulos also played a big part as our previous program manager. I want to thank all of the award winners in advance for their desire to excel. The persistent pursuit of perfection leads to excellence, and that is the type of effort we need day in and day out to achieve our vision of being the most respected fighter wing in the Combat Air Force.

Most of you have probably already heard, but we have cancelled the planned March Key West deployment. I made the decision with much regret, but felt we needed to "Laser Focus" on Air Sovereignty Alert standup. We are approximately three and a half months out from a major inspection, our first ever Alert Force Evaluation. In addition to simply standing up alert, we are also preparing for this inspection. Make no mistake; our focus is now zeroed in on this endeavor. There are many, many, moving parts included in the overall picture. One such animal is the daily flying schedule, ensuring our pilots meet their Combat Mission Ready rating each month. Other facets include our 24/7 command post, maintenance training, proper training of our security forces, and proper interface and execution of the ASA and daily fly schedule

(just to name a few). In essence, what we do daily at the 104th is not a lot different than what we do in combat (for the most part). I am sure I echo most of your sentiment in that when deployed to combat, we can focus in on our AFSC training vice all of the associated ancillary training. I want to thank all of the commanders and supervisors who juggle the balls and get the job done.

Lt Col "Hatman" Fedora, Major Bill "Howdy" Leahy and Major Matt Mutti have the overall lead for the wing for our August 2010 air show. They will be working with many of you as we prepare to host the best air show in the New England area for this upcoming summer. Please ensure your area gives them the support they need to get the job done. Also, ensure your area is crossing off any fixes from our last ORE, it is important we fix any problem areas so they do not come back in our May ORE.

Lastly, I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas. I hope you all have a safe Holiday season and Happy New Year. Please be a good wingman to your fellow airman, continue to watch each other's back, and thank you for your persistence during this conversion. Winston Churchill once said: *"We shall not flag or fail. We shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender."*

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Command Chief Master Sgt.'s Column

By Command Chief Master Sgt. Al Reale

Major General Richard Platt is to be recognized and honored for his past accomplishments as Commander of the 104 Fighter Wing on the 6th of February 2010 at Tekoa Country Club. He will be the second individual formally inducted into the "Order of the Musket", a very prestigious award. Major General George Keefe was the first individual inducted into the Order on 8 October 2005. What? Never heard of the "Order of the Musket"! Then let me give you some basic background information and refer you to BI 36-2801 for a more in-depth look including a sample script of this very formal, mess/semi-formal dress attire affair.

The 104FW "Order of the Musket" has been established by the 104FW Chiefs Council as a means of recognizing and honoring individuals, both military and civilian, for conspicuous and significant contributions to the welfare and prestige of the noncommissioned officer corps of the 104FW and the military establishment. The "Order of the Musket" is patterned after the Air National Guard and USAF "Order of the Sword," which are still in existence. The 104FW Chiefs' Council, as a method of paying tribute to personages whom they hold in the highest esteem and whom the NCOs choose to honor, has adopted the "Order of the Musket Award". Any individual, regardless of status, who has not previously been honored, may be inducted into the Order by the 104FW Chiefs Council in accordance with procedures prescribed within BI 36-2801.

The symbolism of the musket is taken from the minuteman statue at Concord, Massachusetts, which represents one of the highest standards of volunteerism and service to our nation. The common militia musket at that time was the British "Long Land Musket", better known as the "Brown Bess". Just prior to the Revolution, France sent muskets to the colonies, which were found to be far superior to the "Brown Bess." The colonial government then adapted the Model 1766 French Charliville Musket as the pattern for many of the arms produced prior to and during the revolution. The musket chosen as the "Standard" for the 104FW Order of the Musket is an Americanmade copy of the MLE 1766 Charliville Flintlock Musket. This symbolic musket will be displayed in the entrance way of the 104FW Headquarters building sometime this fall. The display will include an encased replica musket, identification plate, name plates of award winners and more. The display will be a lasting reminder of those whose contributions stood above all others as well as a reminder to us to honor those who contribute to the noncommissioned officer corps above and beyond the call of duty in the future. For More Information, please see your sections' Chief or the ad on page 12.

In Memoriam, Master Sgt James Lindsay

March 1958 ~ November 2009

Master Sgt. James W. Lindsay, 51, a native of Chicopee, passed away with his loving wife Andrea, their daughter Sheridan, and other family members who had cared for Jim during his courageous battle with cancer, by his side. Born March 26, 1958, Jim was educated in Holy Name Grammar School and was a graduate of Cathedral High School, Class of 1976. He received his arborist's license from Umass/ Stockbridge School of Agriculture. Jim served 27 years in the United States Air Force with the 104th Fighter Wing at Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield, MA, attaining the rank of Master Sergeant. He was the Weapons Loading supervisor for the 104th Aircraft Maintenance squadron. His leadership professionalism and sense of humor were instrumental in the success of the 104th Weapons Element during numerous deployments, many of which were voluntary, and U.S. Air Force inspections. He was deployed several times in support of Operation Deny Flight and Deliberate Force during the conflict in Bosnia (1995). He participated in Operation Allied Force (1999) and was awarded the Kosovo Campaign Medal. He also participated in Operation Southern Watch in Kuwait. Jim was also a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom while stationed at a classified location in 2003. Jim was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Kosovo Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor to name a few of the honors bestowed upon him.



An avid sports enthusiast, he worked to instill the qualities of good sportsmanship and healthy competition in his players as the co-founder and a coach for the Chicopee Chix Softball Org. He took particular pleasure in coaching his daughter Sheridan for several years. He was a member of the New England Youth Sports Assn. (NEYSA), where he also served on the Board of Directors. Jim also gave of his time to various projects in the schools here in Chicopee, with his favorite hobby being home improvement and remodeling, whether it be in his own home or to help a friend with theirs. He was a nature lover who enjoyed landscaping, following the weather, tracing genealogy, coin collecting and watching the Red Sox. He especially loved to vacation on Cape Cod. Jimmy was the cherished husband to his wife Andrea, and deeply devoted father of Sheridan who he loved with all his heart. Jimmy's loss will also be greatly felt by his parents, James R. and Marcia J. Lindsay, all of Chicopee, his brothers, John S. Lindsay of Chicopee and Michael P. Lindsay and his wife Corinne of East Longmeadow, his sisters, Suzanne Stockley and her husband Paul of Longmeadow and Donna Berneche of Chicopee.



First Sgt.'s Column

By Master Sgt. Todd Canedy, Security Forces Squadron First Sgt.

Over the course of the last 68 years, our country has faced challenges regarding those who would choose to harm us. Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 was a day that changed America forever. That day in history sparked an alarming wave of mistrust and contempt for those Americans of Asian heritage. This distrust was sparked by the uncertainty of how the Japanese Navy was able to complete an attack of Pearl Harbor's magnitude, without the assistance of spies within the American borders.

As America was thrust into World War II, millions of citizens either volunteered or were drafted into military service. The majority of newly recruited citizen soldiers did not have the basic idea of how to conduct themselves to prevent inadvertently disclosing important information to the enemy. The government provided new recruits with established guidance or rules of engagement. The following is a brief excerpt from a document received by each soldier as he entered the battle area:

WRITING HOME

THINK! Where does the enemy get his information -- information that can put you, and has put your comrades, adrift on an open sea: information that has lost battles and can lose more, unless you personally, vigilantly, perform your duty in SAFEGUARDING MILITARY INFORMATION?

The government reinforced these rules of engagement by utilizing catchy slogans which were printed on war posters, placed into newspapers and inserted into newsreels. One example of these slogans was,

"Loose Lips Sink Ships." These simple, but effective, words reminded soldiers and sailors that the enemy was always listening. The country, as a whole, was very invested in winning the war and maintaining secrecy. It was unheard of for individuals to openly discuss troop movements, let alone speaking negatively about America, its soldiers and sailors, or its way of life. Times were tough, but the "Greatest Generation" was tougher and charged through it head on!

The world has changed exponentially since the end of World War II. Troops can be transported anywhere in the world within 48 hours by aircraft, instead of spending weeks at sea. The postal service can have packages all over the globe within days, down from the months it took in 1941. Information is available almost instantaneously today. Email is sent and the recipient is reading it within sixty seconds. Bob Smith may log onto Facebook to let his buddies know that he shot himself in the foot while he was hunting. Not only do his friends see that he is an idiot, but their friends now know to stay out of the woods when Bob goes hunting.

If I were a terrorist, a malcontent or someone who just disliked the military in general, I might want to gather information about Barnes Air National Guard Base. How would I do it? How could the increase in technology and information accessibility help me to gather information about an intended target? Well, if I were a halfway intelligent malcontent, I would first log onto the internet and do a web search for anything involving Barnes Airport and Barnes ANG Base. If nothing

came up, I would begin my searches on individual web sites, starting with You Tube. If I was lucky enough, I could find videos or pictures of the Municipal Airport. At the very least, I may find videos from one of the air shows. If I am really lucky, someone has posted an unauthorized video they took of the installation and posted without thinking of the ramifications.

Now that I have my information, I need to start scanning MySpace and Facebook for any insight on the bases morale: Are people complaining about their bosses? Are they satisfied with their jobs? Are they working long hours or are they getting released early? This information will help determine the weakness or strength of my target. If you take the time to look at what you or your friends may be posting on these social web sites, you may be surprised how much information that may be available for the enemy to gather. The more we break it down, the easier things get brought to light. The country is still at war. There are still people who want to harm us. Every time we put information on an unsecure internet site, we jeopardize our safety. With all the expanding technology, immediate dissemination of information and the uncertainty of who may be listening, it is imperative that we, within the walls of military service, follow the examples set by the heroes of World War II and remember, "Loose Lips, Sink Ships!"



Turkey Drop

The 104th Fighter Wing donated 104 turkeys (1564lbs) to the Westfield Salvation Army, and has kept up the tradition of donating 104 turkeys for the past five years. Funds to support these Thanksgiving Day gifts are collected from all members of the 104th Fighter Wing during the annual "AMMO Can" drive. The

21st annual "AMMO Can" drive will take place again on Saturday and Sunday morning of the December UTA. Non-perishable food items and cash are welcome.

Right—TSgt Meelroy, Luz from the Salvation Army, and SSgt Decesare deliver 104 turkeys to



Social Sites Risk Security Clearance

By Mr. Greg Rinckey, Former Military and Federal Attorney

If you hold a security clearance or if you ever want to apply for one, be mindful of your postings and contacts online, particularly on social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter. These sites pose risks to gaining and keeping a security clearance. Question 14 of the National Agency Questionnaire (SF-86) asks for names of your relatives and associates.

The term “associate” is defined as any foreign national that you or your spouse “are bound by affection, obligation, or close and continuing contact.”

Continuing contact with a foreign national used to include a clear exchange between both parties—visits outside the country, mail, phone calls or e-mails. Social networking sites bring a gray area into the definition of an associate and continuing contact. Your list of friends on Facebook may include foreign nationals, or you could have foreign followers on your Twitter page. Is giving a foreign national access to your social networking page as a “friend” contact even if you never directly message the? Is having access to your updated information enough for a person to be considered an associate? Unfortunately, this uncharted territory can ensnare a potential or current clearance holder.

Foreign intelligence agencies issue social networking sites. They have been known to be-

friend Facebook users who automatically accept their “friend” requests.

I had a client who lost her security clearance after using an online chat room. She was seeking advice on how to beat a computer game while attending a gaming convention. The “gaming” experts she chatted with online were foreign intelligence agents working out of China.



You may want to eliminate any foreign nationals from your social networking sites to eliminate any potential security concerns. A clearance holder also needs to be responsible for what he or she posts online. These sites are considered “open source intelligence,” and mining information from them is simple. Anyone can do a Web search and bring up postings from Twitter and Facebook. Technology companies are developing more sophisticated ways to monitor social networking sites, offering the ability to scan millions of online social conversations at once. Intelligence agencies around the world are taking advan-

tage of this technology to gain valuable information.

Social networking sites are creating new territory for many workplaces. Just this month a Staten Island, N.Y., judge had to be transferred to a new location because of his Facebook use. The judge reportedly used the site to update his whereabouts and post pictures of his courtroom. The Pentagon also is weighing if troops deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan should continue to have social networking access.

When dealing with security clearance, keep in mind the HAM principals: honesty, accuracy and mitigation. Honesty and accuracy are the most important factors when filling out an SF-86 questionnaire. It is always better to report a contact that could jeopardize your clearance, than to appear evasive or dishonest.

During an interview following your SF-86 submission, you’ll be asked more questions about your background. Discuss any concerns with an attorney before the interview. An attorney’s advice can give you a better chance at reversing an adverse determination. If a disqualifying condition as found, you want to show that the issue is not as severe as it appears. If you receive a letter of intent to deny or revoke a clearance, you could have as little as 45 days to respond. The appeal must be a thorough brief that emphasizes mitigating factors and cites relevant legal precedents.

New Physical Fitness Standards Effective July 1, 2010

By Master Sgt. Russell P. Petcoff, Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON— Maintaining peak combat readiness begins and ends with healthy, motivated and well-trained Airmen.

On Nov. 19, the Air Force's deputy chief of staff for manpower and personnel announced the new Air Force fitness standards will officially begin July 1, 2010.

Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III said the services top leaders sought feedback from commanders and senior NCO leaders throughout the Air Force when deciding to execute the updated program that will test Airmen twice during calendar year 2010 - once under the current program and once under the new program.

"Based on feedback from the field, we are implementing the July start date so Airmen have the opportunity to excel," General Newton said. "This implementation strategy will allow for a smoother transition of the new Air Force Instruction and afford commanders adequate time to establish installation fitness assessment cells to include adequate manning for the FACs."

According to General Newton, a new AFI detailing the new fitness standards is due out within the next few weeks. This fitness AFI is the first to cover the total force of active duty, Guard and Reserve.

The general added that the July start date will provide commanders and Airmen plenty of time to

be prepared and in compliance with the new AFI.

"We want to do this right," General Newton said. "It's about readiness and our continued commitment to ensure we have a Fit Force, ready to perform its global mission."

Col. Joan H. Garbutt, chief of military force management for Air Staff Manpower and Personnel, said the new start date for the new fitness standards will "set our Airmen up for success." She believes Airmen will excel with the new standards.



"Every time you raise the bar, our Airmen reach higher to meet the standards," Colonel Garbutt said.

Biannual physical fitness testing will begin Jan. 1 using current fitness standards. Units with FACs will use them to conduct the assessments. Units without FACs will continue to use their physical training leaders, or PTLs, to assess Airmen. Enlisted

and officer performance reports will reflect fitness training scores based upon their reports close out dates, General Newton added.

According to the change, during the Jan. 1 to June 30 testing phase, unit PTLs will provide two scores -- one for the current system and one for the new standard so Airmen can gauge their performance. Starting July 1, Airmen will officially test under new requirements with the new scoring. Scores will be annotated on EPRs and OPRs accordingly.

Under the new standards, the aerobic run will count for 60 percent of the test. Body composition will count for 20 percent. Under the current standard, they count for 50 and 30 percent, respectively. The sit-up and push-ups remain at 10 percent each. The new standards have differently valued waist measurements and 15 seconds, rather than 30, separating run scores.

Passing the test will require a composite score of 75 while also meeting a minimum level for each component. The new physical fitness test will place Airmen in one of five age groups: less than 30, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60-plus. Results will fall into one of three categories: 90 and above, excellent; 75-90, satisfactory; and under 75, unsatisfactory.

Information on the Air Force fitness program is online at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/affitnessprogram/index.asp.

Deployment Exercise

By Senior Airman Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs

426 members of the wing were mobilized and all unit members played a role in a two-day deployment exercise during the November drill that was designed to prepare Airmen for the process if they and the wing's aircraft were called to active duty.

"Pax in, Pax out," became a familiar refrain to anyone who participated in the simulated deployment. The phrase was the signal for the next individual to proceed into the 'Amnesty' tent and allow the line to snake forward. Bags were packed with designated items, tagged and turned in to personnel acting as transport handlers. Participants processed through deployment stations as if leaving on a real world expedition. Legal, family and medical representatives were on hand to assure that 'deploying' personnel were squared away. Idling busses acted as departing aircraft as members boarded to a forward destination.

Airmen who participated in a 'chalk' or deployment group experienced early mornings and long days. A degree of patience was required but the process was considered efficient, thorough and well organized considering the number of airmen involved.

Lt. Col. Joseph Daley of Chalk 7 felt it was a worthwhile endeavor. "I saw a lot of the young troops learning during the exercise and stepping up. They were solving problems in their immediate areas."

A veteran of countless deployments, Daley observed, "People realize that in war time, a real world deployment is very different from the challenge presented by an inspection team. Especially, considering when an inspection team has not been here since 1998."

"We need to focus our efforts on the rules, regulations and source documents that provide the grading criteria for the upcoming inspection in 2011. It definitely served its' purpose. We showed significant improvement and people demonstrated positive attitudes."

Identifying challenges associated with deploying is a key component of the drill. "You don't know what you don't know. This exercise helped identify what we didn't know," noted Daley.



Cargo palletized and ready to be mobilized during the November UTA. (Photo by SMSgt. Robert Sabonis)

Master Sgt Denis Brennan was in Chalk 5A. "I think things are coming into shape. We could always do better, but a few things need to be kept in mind. Since we did these Phase one's on a regular basis, the personnel turnover has been tremendous, and we're flying a different airframe," he said. "Not everyone can see the big picture and realizes how important it is to listen to their superiors and follow directions with detail in mind. With that said, things will improve, and Barnes will do well as always," said Brennan.

As the passengers were moving through the processing line, the aircraft were processing as well. This exercise was designed to evaluate the way in which our maintenance members were able to prepare the aircraft to travel overseas in support of a federal activation. The aircraft were generated, and flew a mission to simulate the trip overseas. Once the aircraft returned, the maintenance teams that went through the deployment process the day prior, simulated that they were overseas and had to accept the jets and prepare them to fly combat missions. The generation and regeneration process is orchestrated over a 48-hour period and is designed to resemble the actual strain of a real-world deployment.

At the conclusion of the four-day exercise the exercise evaluation team which grades the wings activities conducted a 2-hour out-brief; detailing what areas that went well and identifying areas that required attention. The EET identified 20 members as superior performers and assessed the functional areas against grading criteria outlined in Air Force Instructions. During this practice inspection, the wing received a less than "satisfactory" grade, but the value of this learning experience cannot be overlooked, said Col. Robert Brooks, Wing Commander. "We should be very proud of ourselves... remember, we are still a unit in conversion status, so this exercise helps us learn a great deal about ourselves as a unit. This exercise and the ones to follow will get us ready for our inspection in 2011, it will be hard work, but we will get there."

The wing will conduct another mobility and aircraft generation exercise in the spring and fall of 2010 and again in the spring of 2011 prior to their Phase I Operational Readiness Inspection.

Family Bonds at the 104th

By Senior Airman Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs

'I just wanted to make my parents proud,' is a common sentiment shared by military personnel when asked about their inspiration for joining the military.

Military members serve for many reasons; duty, honor and country are always a common thread. However, for many Massachusetts Guardsmen serving in uniform is a family tradition that spans generations.

Here at the 104th, several members boast a family legacy that runs deep. The unit has many families who have served including the Martin/Crowther family, the Bolducs, Chapmans, Krutkas, Mutti's, Cekovsky's, Keefes and many, many others. The legacy is found at many Air Wings but the bonds in Westfield are particularly strong.

One of the more notable 104th families is the Keefes. Following in the foot-steps of Maj. Gen. George Keefe, retired Adjutant General, his 4 sons have also chosen to serve. Two, Tim and Pat, work full-time as law enforcement officers. Patrick and his two brothers Gary and Jim are serving in the National Guard.

Currently Col. Gary Keefe, the Assistant Adjutant General for the Mass Air National Guard, and newly promoted Col. James Keefe, the 104th Fighter Wing Vice Commander are serving in the Massachusetts Air National Guard while Maj Patrick Keefe is an officer in the Army National Guard.

Gen Keefe was very candid in his interview stating, "Their mom (deceased) and I are extremely proud of our sons and their accomplishments in life as outstanding members of the military and their communities all involved with youth programs, members of organizations and devoted family members with outstanding wives and children, 11 total."

The family history is not just extended on through the officer corps; Tech. Sgt. Kristin Martin has been part of the Wing since she was 5 years old. Although she didn't officially join the unit until she graduated high school, Martin can recall accompanying her mother Master Sgt. Terry Crowther, to drills

from the earliest age. "Sometimes we would go to meetings in the morning, then my sister and I would sleep in the hygienist chair," she fondly remembers. "We regularly attended family days and air shows-I was always on the base."

A Goshen native, Martin always knew that she would join the military. "I was 17 when I enlisted in the Wing, I didn't want to join the clinic, I had already done 10 years," she laughed. "I needed a change of scenery."

- Martin ultimately enlisted and serves as a production control specialist with the
- Maintenance Operations Flight and has over 10 years of service. She was recognized as the NCO of the year for 2008.

Master Sgt Terry Crowther, Martin's Mom, always encouraged her kids to look at the Guard as a career option. "Their whole lives, they knew about the Guard-they knew I went on trips and I always made it a positive experience. Things have changed and the training pace is such that today you can't bring your kids to drill—back then we were able to and I think it helped influence them," she said.

Kristin observed, "I grew up here, I just turned 28 and people here have known me since I was a kid. The responsibility you take on here as a 17 year old is awesome. You are taking on that responsibility in an environment where people are mentoring you and showing you how to deal with problems. I have gone through tough times over the last ten years and my colleagues have always been there to help."

She considers the 104th a part of her family. "I had no idea that I had pneumonia and one day I fainted at work. My co workers took me to the hospital and made sure I was OK-they were worried about me and continued to check on me," she said.

"You don't see that sort of camaraderie in a civilian job," she added. "Colleagues become lifelong friends." A younger sibling, Aimee, looks up to Kristen and will consider joining the unit when she graduates high school.

"I was so proud of Kristin when she joined the Guard and graduated basic

training," said Master Sgt. Crowther. "We are very close and it is great to be able to work with her," she said.

1st Sgt. Lynne (Foley) Bolduc hails from a military heritage that is typical of a 104th member. Her brothers, Ronny a retired Tech Sgt. and Major Scott Foley, a Security Forces Squadron commander at Eglin AFB, provide a wealth of experience and a source of support to 1st Sgt. Bolduc.

"My brother Ronny joined me when I decided to enlist in the Wing," she said. As a commander, Scott can give Lynne Bolduc insight when dealing with issues relative to the leadership of the Wing. "I can talk to him about various issues and I benefit from his experience and insight," she said. I am able to ask him what he looks for in a 1st Sergeant and bounce ideas off each other.

"We can discuss situations relative to officer and enlisted matters as well as the distinction between active duty and Guard," she related. "Of course, here we have the Guard perspective, but it is important to be aware of how active duty approaches things. Having a resource that you trust on active duty and is in a command role is helpful. You ascertain information much easier and I know that I am getting the most accurate and timely information," observed Bolduc.

A 19 year member of the 104th, Bolduc always considered herself the "Private Benjamin" of the family and never thought she would make it this far. "I was the little girl with long nails and all the jewelry," she recalled. "Earning the diamond and becoming a 1st Sergeant was like fulfilling a dream."

Having family members in the same unit has its pros and cons and can present some command challenges. "I can't supervise by husband and 1st Sgt Tim Mutti cannot be a first shirt to his brothers but overall it is an asset," she said.

"It is a great Wing and we are lucky to have a mission here," she said. "I love my job, love what I do and hope to do it for many more years."



Safety, 'How Goes-It?'

By Master Sgt. Shannon Huard, Safety

November

Injuries

1. Worker injured; twisted knee; slipped and fell; restricted duty

2. Worker injured; sprained arm; slipped and fell; lost time

Worker injured; lacerated head; impacted pavement; greater than first aid

Mishaps

F-15 tow; damaged building; broke floor drain grate; \$300 damage

The Wing Safety Staff would like to wish you and you families a happy and safe holiday season. If you have not yet done so, we ask that you check your smoke detectors, install a CO detector, and make sure everyone in your home knows what to do in the event of an emergency. Holidays traditionally bring increased risk due to decorations, furnaces, heaters, candles,



warming up of cars, alcohol use at parties, and slippery roads and walkways. Please make sure you take the appropriate actions to control these risks. We would also like to thank you for everything you do each day to make sure our people don't get hurt, and our equipment doesn't get damaged. Together we can make sure we keep making it happen, SAFELY!

ESGR Presentation

By Maj. Matthew Mutti, Wing Executive Staff Officer



Capt Jason Roberts recognized his employer Mr. Dave Smith at Tell Tool through the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

Capt. Roberts, a traditional member of the Maintenance Group, works as the Director of Operations at Tell Tool, a manufacture who makes parts for the F-15 and other military aircraft.

The ESGR Award program is designed to allow traditional members a mechanism to thank and recognize their employers for the support they have received to complete their military duties.

This award recognizes a new initiative by Tell Tool which allows its employees a chance to visit the Guard base to learn first-hand the importance of their quality control measures.



History of the F-100 Memorial ~ Part V

By Army Spc. Lisa Pauli

Major Richard W. Mahoney died when his jet flamed out and crash-landed near the New Orleans Naval Air Station, New Orleans, LA on April 22nd, 1961. He and his passenger, Major Philip B. Burke, were returning home from a commander's conference at Ellington AFB, Houston, Texas. Burke walked away from the crash with numerous cuts and mild shock. Mahoney was married and served as chairman for the reception and guest committee for the 10th anniversary ball on 19 Oct 1957. 16 April 1956 he became the Commander of the 131st FS. In April 1952, Mahoney competed in the national gunnery competition for guard

units in Victorville, CA. The team, which included Capt. Grabovsky, Lt Barus and Lt Matera placed 3rd. They flew the F-51-H and the competition consisted largely of individual and formation attacks on towed targets. The team was beat by two California teams which made them the highest ranking out-of-state team. He had been operations officer of the 131st Tactical Fighter Sq, MANG, for many years. Mahoney, a lifelong resident, was first cousin of Mayor John D. O'Connor of Westfield, MA. Mahoney was a WWII Air Force veteran and was assigned in Europe during the



late stages of the war. He was a graduate of Westfield High School and a member of the Kiwanis Club. His flying career stretched back over 19 years. He enlisted in the flying cadet program in June of 1942 and after graduation he continued training and assignments in this country. He had been with the 131st MANG unit since Dec of 1947.

December Air Force Responsible Alcohol Use Month

Since 1981, every President of the United States has proclaimed December "National Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month" to help underscore the public's commitment to preventing impaired driving and promoting the use of designated drivers and sober ride programs.

- Driving impaired or riding with someone who is impaired is not worth the risk. The consequences are serious and real. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash and an arrest can destroy your military career.

- Please designate a sober driver before all holiday season and New Year's festivities.



Friends
Don't Let
Friends
Drive Drunk.



Military Family Appreciation Week 2009

by Michael G. Mullen, Admiral, U.S. Navy, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

As we count our blessings this month, America's Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen serve day and night around the globe to defend our Nation. We are all very proud of them, and yet we should never forget that none of them do it alone. The extraordinary families who support them sacrifice every bit as much to make their service possible. In the spirit of giving thanks, we devote this week to honor and appreciate our military families.

Our families serve as the bedrock for our Nation's defense. Family members may not shoulder a weapon, drive a ship or fly combat sorties, but their commitment, support and endur-

ance is a source of great pride and inspiration for us all. From care packages to emails to invaluable friendship, your love and devotion helps our forces do their very best. I can think of no better words to express this than those spoken by a Soldier from the 25th Infantry Division upon his return from Afghanistan. Reflecting on his family's help while deployed, he said "just receiving letters... seems to give you the motivation needed to stay upbeat.... I couldn't do this without your support."

Our combat readiness stems from readiness at home, and America's might is a reflection of the power of

military families. As a Nation, we can certainly never say or do enough to express our gratitude for their devotion and sacrifice, but this week is one way in which we show our appreciation.

On behalf of my family and those of the Joint Chiefs, to all our military families, past and present, we thank you for your service and for your love. Our Nation's strength and honor depend upon you. Because of you, we truly accomplish far more than we ever could alone.

Family Programs News

Air National Guard (ANG) Yellow Ribbon Support Specialist

Location: Numerous States and Territories

Salary: \$44-46,000 Annual

Availability: For Immediate Placement

The Military Personnel Services Corporation (MPSC) is seeking qualified, trained and capable individuals to serve as Yellow Ribbon Support Specialists within the Air National Guard throughout the States and Territories. The ANG Yellow Ribbon Support Specialist position is designed to provide outreach, communication and coordination for programs that will educate ANG Members and their Families about assistance and services available to them under the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program. The ANG Yellow Ribbon Support Specialist will provide day-to-day liaison and continuity of operations, programs, and initiatives. ANG Yellow Ribbon Support Specialists will be formally supervised and provided program direction by MPSC, the contract company, but will also receive technical guidance from a state or territory government point of contact.

Toll Free: 877.336.0800; www.mpscsrc.com

Angel Tree Program



Come by Family Support and register an angel. Every angel identifies a child in need who could use the support

of an angel at Christmas.

The Angel Tree program began 17 November, and ends 18 December.

Sign-up with Ms. Sandy Wakefield in Family Support office or call her at x1183.

For Your Information

Jingle Bell Run For Hope

**5K Run/Walk to raise awareness
for the National Organ
Donor Program**

When: Sunday, 6th December

Where: Starting point, Security Forces Parking Lot

Race Start: 0900

Register with 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



E-mail Taglines Prohibited

**By Maj. Robin Peterson,
Staff Judge Advocate**

All personnel should remove "tag lines" from their military e-mail signature blocks:

Taglines provide space for a unit motto, personal slogan, or just some clip art to lighten the day. However, these are prohibited under AFI 33-119, paragraph 3.7 as they may not present a professional image and can take up too much bandwidth on the AF GIG. Paragraph 4.2 provides examples of authorized signature blocks for all military, DoD civilians, and contractors. All official electronic messaging must include "//SIGNED//" in upper case before the signature block to signify it contains official Air Force information. Air Force Instruction 33-119, Air Force Messaging.

Alumni News

December 9th at the Runway Restaurant the 104th Alumni will hold a "Thankmus" breakfast reunion at 9:30 a.m.

'Thankmus' is an unofficial holiday sometime between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

RSVP with Ted Gloss at Woronoco01097@aol.com if you have any interest in attending.

Air Show News

The Westfield International Air Show is back, it is scheduled for August 21 & 22, 2010.

Check the shows website at www.westfieldairshow.net for updated information on acts, sponsors & promotions.



Order of the Musket Dinner

for Major General Richard A. Platt

Presented by the Enlisted Members of the 104FW

Sponsored by

the 104FW Chiefs' Council

Saturday evening, 6 February 2010

at Tekoa Country Club

Cocktails 1800 - Dinner and ceremonies 1900

Ticket Prices Enlisted \$35.00 / Officers \$50.00

Formal Attire

Military: Mess Dress or Semi-Formal

Civilian: Formal/black tie

For more information contact your Chief Council Rep



What's My Line Winner!



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis

Last month's winners are:

"And finally, does your four fingered doctor's touch make your heart skip a beat.....Story at 11"
Submitted by SSgt. Josh Darling

"If I only had a heart"
Submitted by TSgt Charlean Malone

"Wait a second... this feels a little too much like government run healthcare."
Submitted by MSgt David Frates

Submit your funny, creative and appropriate caption for this photo.

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

Submit your entry to:
104fw.pa@ang.af.mil

What's My Line?



Photo by Ms. Sandy Wakefield

Welcome to our Newest Members

KEENAN, JOSEPH	MDG
STINEBRICKNER, ALEX	AMXS
WASHBURN, ANDREW	AMXS
LORENZATTI, DANIEL	MXS
NIHILL, NATHAN	AMXS
ZANCHI, AARON	MDG
TORRES, ANGELICA	MDG
SILVA, THOMAS	MXS
HUARD, RICHARD	MXS
GINGRAS, CHRISTOPHER	MDG
DEVITO, FRANCESCO	AMXS
LEFTON, JENNIFER	FW

Congratulations to our Retirees

Conboy, Thomas	CES	27 Feb 10
Favreau, John	CES	9 Mar 10
Henderson, Paul	CES	9 Mar 10
Morabito, Anthony	AMXS	17 Mar 10
Trombley, Robert	CES	22 Mar 10
Harmat, James	CES	5 Apr 10
Buckowski, Richard	LRS	14 May 10

Traditional Officer Openings

Position Title : Maintenance Officer & Executive Officer
Grade: O1 - O4 (Major)

Depending on circumstances, one or both positions may be filled. This will be known by the board date. Please let Major Mendoza know which position(s) you are applying for.

Minimum Grade Eligible to Apply: O-1 or Eligible for Commissioning

Application deadline: Dec 18th 2009 / **Projected Board Date:** Jan 2010

POC for more information: Col. Tony Gwosch @ Ext 1175

Position: The required AFSC for the Exec position is 96U0, which can be any officer AFSC, but must have executive officer training. If the selected person requires commissioning, the AFSC selected will be a Maintenance Officer, with follow on Executive Officer training. The required AFSC for the Aircraft Maintenance Officer is 021A3.

Education: An undergraduate degree specializing in business administration / management or sociology, psychology, public administration, human resource management, or education is desirable. Appointment is contingent upon completion of the Academy of Military Science (AMS).

Note: Verification of AFOQT scores is required upon interview.

Application Procedures: Please submit a resume that includes all experience relevant to this position, both military and civilian NLT the application deadline to Major Dave Mendoza, 104th Mission Support Flight. You may submit copies of any certifications that are required or that apply to the position. Please make note of any special qualifications listed above. Non-members of the 104th Fighter Wing must submit references from their previous three military supervisors. **Additional Instructions:** The board will make a selection based on the demonstration of the core competencies most valued by wing leadership. You will be notified by letter of the time and place of your interview and of any other instructions. If you are not eligible to meet the board, you will be notified by letter.

Congratulations on your Promotions

To Airman 1st Class (E-3)

AB Van Beek, 104 SFS



To Senior Airman (E-4)

A1C Tacy A, 104 MOF



To Staff Sgt. (E-5)

SrA Lummus, 104 MXS



To Technical Sgt. (E-6)

SSgt Freeman, 104 FSS



To Senior Master Sgt. (E-8)

MSgt Frates, 104 CES



To 1st Lt. (O-2)

2nd Lt Mesecher, 104 FWHQ



To Major (O-4)

Capt Mutti, 104 FWHQ



This Month in History

The back cover of the Airscoop will now be dedicated to the history of the unit and the Air Force. We will feature historic covers or articles from the archives and highlight a few historic December headlines.

(side note) From 1947 to 1954 the Base Newspaper was named the Thunderbolt. The first official Copy of the Airscoop was published in January 1954.

December Headiness:

Wright Completes First Flight
1903

Orville Wright completes the world's first powered, sustained, and controlled airplane flight. The Flyer rises into a 27 mph wind after accelerating down a level launch track, and remains aloft for 12 seconds. Three other flights are made over the next several hours, the last by Wilbur Wright, covers 852 feet in 59 seconds. A wind gust then upsets the Flyer, seriously damaging it; it never flies again.

US Army Selects First Jet Fighter
1945

The Lockheed P-80 Shooting Star became the U.S. Army Air Force's first jet fighter. Final version of the plane was the T-33 trainer, which remained in continuous production until August 1959.

YA-10 Ready for Night Combat
1982

The YA-10 completed its last test flight in a single-seat night attack evaluation program at Edwards AFB, Calif.



THE MOST popular aircraft on the base, this Lockheed T-33 jet trainer is almost in constant use as one eligible pilot after another anxiously 'checks out' in anticipation of the day when this unit's operational jet fighters will arrive.

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**MASSACHUSETTS
AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

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www.westfieldairshow.net



PRIDE,
PROFESSIONALISM,
PATRIOTISM



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