



AIRSCOOP

104TH FIGHTER WING • MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Pride, Professionalism, Patriotism

Barnes Air National Guard Base

October 2010



Members of the 104th Fighter Wing proudly march in the Westfield Day Parade at the Big E on Thursday, September 30, 2010. (Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Robert J. Sabonis)



Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

Commander's column

By Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

Fiscal Year 10 was a historic time for the 104th Fighter Wing. We achieved every goal we set out to accomplish and crept closer to achieving our Vision of being **the most respected Fighter Wing in the Combat Air Force (CAF)**. We completed our conversion to the F-15, we have achieved IOC, we stood up ASA, we passed the AFE with flying colors, over 65 airmen volunteered and deployed for combat tours in harm's way, our recruiting continues to be strong, our retention rate is good, and in August we partnered with the local community for our open house, where on the order of 180,000 people in one day and another 100,000 plus backed up the Mass Pike for 28 miles.

Our vision remains unchanged, and our 2011 goals are somewhat similar to 2010; but are worth reviewing:

- Be environmental friendly
- Minimize noise impact to our community
- Provide AF North Commander with highly Trained and Reliable Alert Forces
- Fill 100% Tasked ASA Requirements
- 100% Response Time < 1 AF/CC required RPI
- Zero Safety or Security Violations
- AFE Min Rating of Mission Ready

No doubt 2011 will bring many opportunities for us to shine. We will have no less than 5 inspections, 2 deployments, and probably several real world ONE taskings. As many of you know, last month we had a change of command in which Maj. Gen. Akey relinquished command to Brig. Gen. Rice as Commander of the MA ANG. We will certainly miss Maj. Gen. Akey, but as he stated at the COC, Brig. Gen. Rice is ready to take over. In talking with Brig. Gen. Rice, his highest priorities are mission accomplishment and successful inspections. ...Continued pg. 3

AIRSCOOP

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

Barnes Air National Guard Base 175
Falcon Drive
Westfield, MA 01085

Wing Commander
Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

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Photo and Graphic Support
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- Maintain the Highest Degree of Combat Capability
- Meet 100% Global War on Terrorism and Homeland Defense tasking
- Promote Safe, Secure Working Environment
- Zero Human Error induced mishaps
- Zero Security Infractions and Incidents
- Develop & Take Care of our Airmen and Families
- Properly Support Family Programs and Readiness
- Promote and Develop a robust Mentorship program at all levels
- Prepare for inspections and evaluations in a manner which will ensure success and a rating of Outstanding or equivalent
 - LCAP (March 11)
 - UCI (June 11)
 - 9th AF Stan-Eval Inspection (Jul 11)
 - ESOCAMP (September 11)
 - Alert Force Eval (October 11)
- Maintain Unit Strength Numbers Above 100%
- Retention > 98%
- Recruiting Production: fill targeted AFSCs (Med Grp/Officers)
- Continue to recruit a Diverse Workforce
- Partner with the Local Community
- Foster strong community relations through an active Military Affairs Committee and Public Affairs Program

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Alcoholism is treatable!
Need help? Call 1-800-410-2560

Commander's column continued

The UCI will certainly be our biggest challenge. The IG agreed to slip our ORI due to the condition of the Golden Eagle fleet we are receiving, but they placed a UCI in the ORI's spot. All sections on base need to run their self-inspection checklist NLT 31 Dec. Each section will need to have a minimum of two SAVs prior to the June UCI. Time is short, and this inspection truly comes down to individual responsibility. Make sure you are doing your part and helping the overall TEAM effort. While NGB had to put us in "conversion" status for the Golden Eagles/ORI slip/UCI reshuffle, we are still performing our assigned missions with ASA & ONE.

We also had success in 2010 as our own sharpshooting team carried second place overall in the state. Team members and awards are as follows: SGT Matt Chapman - 3rd place Novice Pistol EIC, SRA Scott Schuster-2nd place Novice Rifle EIC, SSGT Sue

Fopiano -3rd place Novice Combat Pistol, SRA Brandon Basso -2nd place Open Rifle Reflexive Fire, MSGT Casey Walsh -2nd place Open Pistol EIC & 2nd place Overall Individual; TSGT Chris Cekovsky -2nd place Open Combat Pistol & 3rd place Open Rifle Reflexive Fire. Congrats to these individuals for representing the 104th.

In November we will deploy to Nellis AFB to support the USAF Fighter Weapons School F-16s and possibly the 422 Test & Evaluation Squadron. While there, there will be no November drill, but there will be a Veterans Day Ball on 6 November for those interested in attending. We will depart via a bus from here and return to the base in the evening; it should be a great time for those who can attend.

Details for this and other events can be found on the 104th FW Share Point Homepage under 104th FW Read File. The 104th FW Read File will be a spot on the share point page for

airmen to gain 'Situational Awareness' on important events going on in the wing.

With hard work and dedication, just as in FY10, 2011 will lead to many success the 104th Fighter Wing.

"Our goals can only be reached through a vehicle of a plan, in which we must fervently believe, and upon which we must vigorously act. There is no other route to success."

- Stephen A. Brennan

Babson College Basket Ball Coach
5-time conference coach of year

Thanks for all you do. the price of victory is high, but so are the rewards.



Chief Master Sergeant's column

By Chief Master Sgt. Al Reale, Command Chief Master Sgt.

Step one - Get organized.

Websters dictionary has several definitions for "Organization", but I am concerned with the two that will help us accomplish our mission and set us up for success with the June 2011 Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI)

Definition 1- a group of persons organized for some end or work.

As members of the 104FW, we belong to an Organization, but in order to be successful at that work, we need to also employ an additional definition of organization -

Definition 2- the act or process of organizing.

We all form first impressions when we visit a home or business, or watch someone go about their work. Whether that initial impression is positive or negative has a lot to do with the

organization of that environment...or lack thereof.

We can quickly get lost in the timelines, milestones and a myriad of details that are involved in any large scale project or inspection, such as UCI. Trying to define the path to success can be overwhelming. The best way to start is by getting organized. Organize your thoughts, your plans and your work environment.

Good organization equates to establishing a solid foundation which can then be used to support plans, programs and facilitate productivity. Organization helps you stay grounded and focused as part of a group, it gives you routine, it gives you structure, it ensures accountability at all levels because you know where the responsibility lies.

When things are organized, people know where to look for items and information. It lets them know if they

are competent. They know what is expected of them at their respective level, where those expectations fit into the "big plan", and if they are meeting those expectations.

So start today, organize your environment. Look at your goals and work backwards to organize your thoughts and actions to ensure you meet those goals. Good organization will lead to a solid plan that will help you identify, assess and correct any obstacles to success, one at a time.

Organization in all facets of your life will lead to more productivity while incurring less stress. I think you get the message. It's simple. Get organized, and it will be the first step in guaranteed success, or fail to get organized, and move just as surely to failure. Try it, you'll see immediate results...all positive.



A commander's message to the Mass Air Guard

By Brig. Gen. L. Scott Rice, MA ANG/CC

Change is the one constant we can always count on in the military; change in our mission, our tasking, our leadership. As the new commander of the Massachusetts Air National Guard (MA ANG), with the confidence and support of The Adjutant General (TAG), Maj. Gen. Joseph Carter, I look forward to the challenge of leading our Air Guard into the future. Our continued success will be built on our trained, resilient and diverse airman, our outstanding achievements of the past, our growing experience in current operations, and our potential for new mission sets. Given many challenges and opportunities ahead, we indeed face a positive future.

I thank Maj. Gen. Michael Akey for his five years of insightful command leadership. Gen. Akey brought the MA ANG successfully through numerous and very disruptive changes. His command began with a congressionally mandated, Air Guard changing BRAC, affecting the lives of every guardsman in the commonwealth. This change forced a difficult transformation. He did not choose this BRAC mandated path for our units or state, yet, through this remarkable turbulence, Gen. Akey led our Air Guard transformation and built enduring missions for our units. His vision gave us direction and renewed stability across the state; within intelligence, air operations control, air sovereignty, cyber integrated communications and engineering, band operations, expeditionary combat support, and joint force headquarters taskings. His foresight and strategic planning will positively impact our future for years to come.

As I reflect on how change will affect us for the next few years, I see an honorable history and many constructive achievements upon which we will build our future. The 63 year old Air Force and Air National Guard (ANG), has supported our nation through wars, humanitarian relief missions, and complex operations in air, space and cyberspace. Our MA ANG airman are an integral and distinguished part of our nations operations from the Berlin Airlift, to the Korean and Vietnam wars, to Desert Storm, Allied Force, Enduring Freedom, Nobel Eagle, Iraqi Freedom, and now, Operation New Dawn. Our airman responded without hesitation to our nations call.

We were there in minutes during the unimaginable attacks on the twin towers in New York. We deployed rapidly and effectively for Hurricane Katrina. We left our families, homes and jobs for our own state emergencies from ice storms, floods, and a huge water pipe failure. The past professionalism, training, integrity, dedication, selfless service and drive for excellence of each and every Massachusetts Air Guardsman is our strength to consistently overcome an uncertain and changing future and conduct our military business with such distinction.

Our future will certainly present many new challenges. Our state is entering a two to three year period of higher headquarters testing through numerous inspections and evaluations, while continuing to meet the demands of current operations for the state and nation. Successful inspection and mission accomplishment is our **Number One Priority**. Every air guardsman will have an important role to play in the 102nd IW, the 104th FW, and the 253rd CCG's upcoming UCIs, ORIs and accompanying evaluations. This is a daunting task, to thoroughly meet the demanding Inspector General's team requirements, given only a handful of drills and annual training days over the next few years. A plan for success will come one step at a time, through strength as professional airman. As the inspection cycle grows in intensity, we all will face an increasing mission demand from the state and nation. The Massachusetts Army National Guard is currently heavily mobilized, with almost 50% of the MA Army Guard's personnel deployed. Our state Joint Task Force Commander, Brig. Gen. Tom Sellars, will task the Air Guard heavily over the next year. Our 2200+ Air Guard personnel, will be ask to fill more than the usual number of state active duty days to cover unknown homeland emergency missions. Our unit commanders will employ our personnel across the state, fill federal missions while working to reach unit FOC (full operational capability) in DGS, AOC and ASA operations, all at the same time. The strong, proactive ANG unit leadership of Col. Schiavi, Col. Brooks, Col. Green, and Lt. Col. Kelley, plus the strong, adaptive, yet changing Command Chiefs; Chief Master Sgt. Newton, Chief Chief Raymondo, Chief Lucas and Chief Reale, give the MA ANG a very positive

future outlook. These officer and enlisted leaders know how to adapt to our changing environment and are the right people, in the right positions, at the right time.

Given the upcoming inspection cycle and current operations, recruiting diverse and skilled airman is our very important **Number Two Priority**. We've had several years of outstanding recruiting under Chief Johnson's guidance, taking us from 90% to 96% manned in two years. Given our retention at an all time high, we are in a very strong position for the future. Truly amazing what our airman have accomplished. Yet, we must remain focused on recruiting to 100% of our authorized strength. As we continue to grow and seek new missions, in areas such as cyber warfare, our recruiting becomes much more focused and selective. We will need precision recruiting to continue to attract and hire the best skilled airmen possible. Officers, communication specialists, medical professionals, and air operations personnel are just a few of the expertise we must all vigilantly recruit, in order to grow to ever changing mission sets. In fact, future mission growth is our **Number Three Priority**. Our state strategic planning team, of Col. Green, Col. Stevens, Col. Keefe, Lt. Col. Kelley, and Chief Newton, all assisted by Lt. Col. Cuttle, are diligently revising our vision, mission statement, priorities, unit goals and objectives to build options for our future. TAG led congressional visits and public affairs program, base (MILCON) master plans, and the ANG Future Mission Database (FMD) for our state are all part of the process to make future mission changes; open, understandable, and attainable.

I am truly excited about our MA ANG future. Change is inevitable, yet well within our ability to productively absorb and successfully adapt. Our future is full of more change and challenges, yet our history of success, our outstanding airman and our proactive integration of evolving missions, has built stability and predictability for us all. Our current success in accomplishing and fulfilling state and federal missions is impressive. We can be proud of our service as airman and citizens of this great commonwealth and nation, and look to the future with confidence.



First Sergeant's column

By Master Sgt. Tony Dultz, Civil Engineer Squadron 1st Sgt.

Ready or not, New England is preparing itself for the transition to winter. The pools have been covered, the patio furniture is packed away, the lawn has a fresh coating of fertilizer, and has been over seeded. The roads, on the weekend, are packed with leaf peepers heading north to check out the latest colors. The smell of cider and wood burning fills the air. Packs of diehard motorcyclist head out on what could be the last ride of the season. Some people may say that this past summer had one of the best weather conditions in a few years. For this reason, many people have had a hard time accepting the colder weather, and procrastinating in preparing themselves and their house for the long winter ahead.

Have you taken the steps to properly prepare yourself for winter? Have you begun preparing to heat your home, and keep the heat in? What have you done to prepare your bank account for the increased spending during the holidays? If you haven't begun to think about these future stressors, maybe now might be a good time.

Many people have exercising outdoors either by doing yard work or per-

haps a daily run. How are you going to maintain this program now that the cooler weather is here? Are you one of those people who will run outside year 'round, or do you join a gym for the winter? If you are a Westfield resident keep in mind that Westfield State has a great indoor track. Barnes has put a lot of money into our gym here and is free to use 24 hours a day. Many gyms and health clubs are running specials to gain your business. Check out the Planet Fitness \$10 Judgment Free Zone.

Have you been adding a little extra into your savings for the Christmas expense? This is one of the leading stressors that we deal with. If you haven't already started planning, then you might find yourself with a little added anxiety. Be careful not overspending or maxing out credit cards with high interest rates. A good rule of thumb is if you can't pay cash, then maybe you shouldn't buy it. Talk to your family and friends about limiting spending or gifts if you are worried about not being able to buy for everyone. One thing we do in my family is to pull names out of a box at Thanksgiving for secret Santa. This way everyone saves and you can focus on one present. We also put a spending cap on the gift

to even the field. That way you don't buy the \$100 Beagle's collection for your uncle, and you get the \$15 Peppercorn Farm gift pack in return.

What have you done to prepare your house for winter? Oil prices are starting to climb again, and many of us haven't thought about buying oil, gas or propane to heat our homes. Shop around to get the best rate, get your heating source tuned up so it can run most efficiently. There are many ways to insulate your home to keep the heat in and the cold out. A quick visit to the local hardware store can yield a shopping cart full of window and door sealing kits. If you are at Home Depot or Lowes, remember to ask about your military discount. If you do find yourself in need of fuel assistance, contact the Valley Opportunity Council to apply for assistance.

A little planning can make a smooth transition from fun in the sun, to sitting by the fireplace watching it snow. Have a plan to make it through the winter with a little less stress this year. Ask for help if you need it; look out for those who may need yours. In the mortal words of Jerry Springer; take care of yourself and each other.

Big Brother / Big Sisters looking for volunteers

WHO: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampden County (Larry Leak, Joel Morse and Aidanira Rolon)

WHERE: Dining Facility

WHEN: Saturday, October 23rd 11am-1pm and Sunday, October 24th 11am-1pm

WHAT: Information table – Being a Big Brother or Big Sister Makes a Big Difference

WEB: www.bigbrothers-sisters.org

Check out the hilarious "Men in Need" video: <http://www.bigbrothers-sisters.org/participate/info-for-volunteers>

How can the 104th Fighter Wing get involved and help Hampden County kids and families thrive? Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampden County is teaming up with the 104th FW to find more Big Brothers and Sisters for our community's kids. There are options to fit anyone's schedule and you can learn more by talking to Larry, Joel or Aidanira on 10/23 or 10/24 when they set up a table with us during lunch.

Mentoring works. Be a kid again! We've all had someone we looked up to—someone we had fun with, but also turned to for friendship and a little guidance. It's a different way to serve. A little time spent playing basketball, losing at Wii Sports or having a slice of pizza can influence a Little Brother or Sister to make positive choices, work harder in school or stay out of trouble. Who knew? Check out the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampden County website (www.bigbrothers-sisters.org) to learn more and bring your questions on 10/23 and 10/24 when Larry, Joel and Aidanira stay for lunch. Can't make it to lunch on 10/23 or 10/24? Call Big Brothers Big Sisters at (413) 781-4730. They are happy to tell you about their programs and answer your questions anytime.



Big Brother Big Sisters

Think Green, Build Green, Fly Blue

By Ms. Jennifer Elmore, HQ AFCEA/CEBH

October is a time to change the clocks, rake the leaves, and ring doorbells in search of sugary treats. It's also a time when every Airman, civilian, and contractor should "Think Green, Build Green, and Fly Blue," which is this year's Air Force facility energy awareness month theme. It challenges us to look for ways to conserve energy and be more efficient.

Since 2005, the Air Force has reduced its facility energy consumption by nearly 12 percent with more than 5 percent of its power now being generated from renewable energy sources. We're also increasing energy security by making bases more efficient, identifying alternative fuel sources for aircraft, and educating Airmen about the importance of efficient energy use.

The overall Air Force Energy Plan is made up of three goals or "pillars:" reduce demand, increase supply, and change the culture. In regards to facility energy, Maj Gen Timothy Byers, The Civil Engineer, says that to meet these goals, we should work towards "leaner installations, cleaner sources, and smarter decisions."

Leaner Installations

The Air Force is improving building envelopes (walls, windows, floors and roofs), installing more efficient lights, and decentralizing heat plants. Energy consumption is down 38 percent at Minot Air Force Base, N.D., where engineers replaced an old central heat plant and distribution system with ground source heat pumps and high-efficiency boilers. The project also reduced water consumption by 13 percent. And Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., has constructed a new state-of-the-art fitness center that will use 40 percent less energy than a typical building its size. It's expected to become the first Department of Defense facility to reach the U.S.

Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, platinum level.

Cleaner Sources

The Air Force has renewable energy projects (solar, wind, landfill gas, ground source heat pumps) in operation on 45 bases. Engineers at the Air Force Facility Energy Center, located at the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, Tyndall AFB, expect the number of projects to double by 2015. AFFEC engineers also anticipate expanding into the biomass arena. Two wood waste plants, each with capacities of 15 to 25 megawatts, are being considered for Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., and Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Smarter Decisions

It's estimated that 30 percent of energy conservation can be derived by simply changing the culture. It starts with education. The Air Force Academy's Falcon Green program, for example, brings energy into the curriculum, ensuring that all future Air Force leaders embrace energy awareness from the very beginning of their careers. Culture change is also a priority for major commands and installations.

Air Combat Command developed its own energy awareness program that includes an "Energy Proclamation" and encourages competition among squadrons for energy efficiency and conservation. ACC also developed the "Do One Thing" program, which challenges Airmen to make one significant change in their energy use. The energy manager for Air Force Special Operations Command distributed an "Energy Footprint" questionnaire to personnel to increase energy awareness and encourage everyone to reduce their energy footprint. At the installation level during Energy Awareness Month, Tyndall energy experts plan to hold an Energy Expo, publish energy articles in the base newspaper, send out energy-related emails, and host a day of educational displays at the base elementary school.

The Air Force has made progress

in reducing facility energy usage, but needs everyone's help in meeting federal mandates. Do your part: Examine your facilities and surroundings and report energy-saving suggestions to your base energy manager.

MAJCOM Incentive Programs Encourage Energy Reduction

The Air Force uses incentives such as awards, recognition, and money to motivate individuals and installations to reduce facility energy consumption.

ACC provided \$1M to a Facility Energy Award Program in 2009. All ACC bases that exceeded the energy reduction goal received a fair share of the incentive money. Award funds may only be used on energy related projects. More than 30 were funded in 2009.

ANG started an incentive program in 2009 to identify and reward those installations that exceeded the 3% reduction goal for energy and 2% reduction for water conservation. Electrical intensity reduction between 3.01% and 6% earned \$30K, between 6.01% and 10% earned \$50K, greater than 10% earned \$75K. Water intensity reduction greater than 2% earned \$10K. Nearly \$3M in O&M dollars were distributed to 80 bases in 2010 for FY09 reductions.

AMC started a non-metric based award program in 2009 to reward individuals and groups who excel in promoting energy conservation and culture change at their bases. The "individual" category is based on initiatives and programs that encourage energy savings and culture change. The "group" category is based on programs such as vehicle fuels initiatives, cultural change initiatives, and pursuit of renewable energy technology and water conservation. Plaques are given to individual winners and group winners receive cash awards ranging from \$50K to \$100K.

OPSEC, Facebook, and the 104th Fighter Wing

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

The emergence of Facebook, and associated media, has pervaded every aspect of society and transcended the way we live and communicate. This global phenomenon, that was initially conceived by Harvard undergraduates to keep apprised of parties, has spanned generations, altered institutions and crossed borders.

With over 500 million users and growing, the influence of Facebook cannot be underestimated. Although every age bracket is engaged, it is individuals under 25 who use this vehicle as a primary source of communication. For some, Facebook has become an indispensable part of their lives.

For the members of the US Military, Facebook has allowed deployed members to stay in contact with family members, helping to

maintain those strong bonds while boosting morale. However, the unintended operational security consequences of such openness expose the individual and affiliated organizations to potential malicious intrusion.



Members of the 104th Fighter Wing have a long tradition of adhering to OPSEC guidelines. With the Air Sovereignty Alert mission, a critical homeland security component, the need for vigilant operational security becomes even more acute.

Members need to be mindful of

what they post on their Facebook pages, and who they have on their "friends" list. Several security clearances have been revoked due to foreign contacts on an individual's pages. Deployments, exercises and all **Wing related missions should NOT be posted.**

Do not give our enemies information that may prove helpful to them, and make sure you never post base related business. We do not work for a typical company, and seemingly innocuous information could prove harmful in the wrong hands. Facebook is public information, and easily monitored.

"When in doubt..don't post! Your post, albeit unclassified, might be the piece of the puzzle the enemy needs," said Tech Sgt Yasser Menwer, 104th Wing Security Manager.

New process for federal benefit selection (EBIS)

Beginning 1 October 2010, the National Guard will transition to the Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS)/ Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) serviced by the Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C) located in Fort Riley, KS.

EBIS is an automated, secure, self-service Web application that will allow you to make health insurance, life insurance, Thrift Savings Plan contribution elections, military deposits, review general and personal benefits information, and calculate retirement estimates using a computer.

IVRS is an automated self-service program you will access from a touch-tone telephone system. Unlike the web-based EBIS, IVRS will allow for transfer to a benefits counselor for additional assistance.

Presently, when you want retirement or benefit information, you contact a specialist in your human resources office (HRO). When you elect to enroll, terminate or change coverage to your Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI), Federal Employees

Health Benefits (FEHB), Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) account, wish to make a service credit payment (military deposit), or retire, you complete the appropriate form and send it to HRO for processing.

On 1 OCTOBER 2010, the above process will allow all technicians to accomplish these actions through EBIS or IVRS.

In order to access EBIS, all Technicians (AIR and ARMY) will need to have a current Army Knowledge Online (AKO) account/email address. Therefore, if you do not have an AKO account, it is imperative that you register and obtain one. The AKO account/registration will provide ANG Technicians a way to get your certificates captured in an Army system, which will be used for authentication and security purposes allowing you to use your smart card (CAC) to access EBIS. The only other AKO activity ANG Technicians would have would be to change their password every 60-90 days. AKO can be accessed by CAC or password. Note:

If you do not establish an AKO account, you will not have access to EBIS and will be restricted to making your benefit changes through IVRS, the interactive voice response system.

Technicians may register for an AKO account at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/login/login.fcc>. Then choose the register with a CAC option under the NEW USER.

These systems are a more efficient way for you to manage your benefits and require that you become familiar with the EBIS/IVRS as you take control of your benefits. Remember, you are already using outside agencies to elect your Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and Federal Dental and Vision (FEDVIP) coverage. This is the next step in putting you in complete control of your benefits.

Also provided is the link to the Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C) where you can get more information and become familiar with their website prior to implementation.

<https://www.abc.army.mil>.

Runway Incursions get attention by Air Force officials

Submitted by Master Sgt. Christine Bassett (Ret.)

The majority of runway incursions throughout the USAF involve vehicles that enter the protected runway environment without approval.

The protected area is known as a Controlled Movement Area (CMA). At Barnes, the CMA includes the runways, taxiways, and other areas of the airport which are utilized for taxiing, takeoff, and landing of aircraft. Aircraft, vehicles and people must remain outside the CMA until approval is requested and granted by the Air Traffic Control Tower.

"All must have two-way radio communications with the Control Tower to enter the CMA and maintain constant communications with the Control Tower while operating within the CMA. As you can imagine, the potential for disaster is huge when any unauthorized aircraft, vehicle or person is on a runway that is being used for

landing/take off of aircraft.

Anyone driving on the airfield must be trained and certified on proper procedures. Training involves taking the Airfield Driving CBT on ADLS, classroom instruction and hands-on experience. Each driver must successfully pass the written exam and conduct a day and/or night orientation ride.

Most runway incursions were the result of typical human errors cited in Air Force and FAA statistics, i.e. communications; situational awareness; and training. For example, a driver misunderstands instructions from the control tower that were meant for another vehicle, or if a driver mistakenly enters an active runway without clearance. Penalty for the driver starts with suspension from driving on the airfield and a possible fine from the FAA.

Driving on the airfield is serious

business. It takes a concentrated effort not only on the part of trainers and drivers, but also with commanders and supervisors. Everyone must be actively involved in their unit's airfield driving program to make it a successful program.

"We can keep Barnes Airport safe by working closely together to ensure drivers are limited to the minimum number essential for mission accomplishment; appoint dedicated airfield driving program managers to run unit programs; ensure drivers are properly and thoroughly trained; and conduct periodic reviews of our unit programs," said Chief Master Sgt. Brian Maple, wing airfield manager. "Zero runway incursions should always be our benchmark."

Any questions, please contact the Airfield Management Office – x-1524 or 1720.

USERRA questions and answers from ESGR

Submitted by Earl Bonett, ESGR Western Mass Area Chair

Question: I have just returned from a year of active duty and my employer tells me that due to downsizing of the company, I have been laid off. I thought they had to guarantee me my job back when I returned. What are my rights?

Answer: Reemployed service members are entitled to the seniority and all rights and benefits based on

seniority that they would have attained with reasonable certainty had they remained continuously employed.

A right or benefit is seniority-based, if it is determined by or accrues with length of service. On the other hand, a right or benefit is not seniority-based if it is compensation for work performed or is subject to a significant contingency.

Simply put it is this: If you had not left for service to our country, but remained at your job, would you have been laid off? If yes, then you are out of luck. If the service in the military is one of the reasons, then you may have a case, and should contact Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) If you have questions, you can always call Earl Bonett (413) 267-4037.

TSA Secure Flight Program

By Master Sgt. Nathan Mutti, Traffic Management Office NCOIC

All government travelers are reminded that as part of the Transportation Security Administrations (TSA) "Secure Flight Program", the following must be entered into the passenger name record at the time of booking:

- Name as it appears on government-issued I.D.

- Date of Birth
- Gender
- Redress Number (if available)

Currently, the contracted ticketing office (CTO) will not book travel reservations for anyone missing this infor-

mation. Please ensure that all travel requests (BAF Form 2) submitted to the Passenger Movement Section contains this information to facilitate the booking process. Missing or incorrect information will cause delays for travelers at the airport.

Joint Ethics Regulation and You: Limits on Accepting Gifts

By Maj. Sean Lardner, Deputy Staff Judge Advocate

The approaching holiday season is sure to be a time for giving and receiving gifts and, therefore, a time to review the Joint Ethics Regulations (JER) limitations on giving and accepting gifts. This is not because JAGs want to prevent you from having any fun or from enjoying the holidays but because as military members we are in positions of trust and the public expects us to conduct ourselves free from appearances of impropriety – such as allegations of favoritism or even corruption. This article will review rules on receiving gifts from outside sources and the rules on gifts between employees.

GIFTS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES

The general rule prohibits DoD employees from accepting or soliciting gifts from “prohibited sources” or from receiving gifts that are given due to their official position. Since the JER was written by attorneys, this general rule is subject to multiple legal definitions and exceptions. A “gift” is any item having a monetary value; however it does not include modest food items or refreshments or other items of little value such as greeting cards, plaques, certificates or trophies. The JER also exempts prizes won at public events as non-gifts.

A “prohibited source” is defined as a person who seeks official action by the employee’s agency, is doing or seeking business with the employee’s agency, is regulated by that agency, or has interests that might be affected by that agency. The most common example of a prohibited source is a contractor on base but many other individuals may be considered prohibited sources. If in doubt, please contact the legal office.

This general ban on gifts covers not just gifts given directly to you but also “indirect” gifts, i.e. gifts given to your spouse, family member or to another person or charity for your benefit. In other words, you cannot get around the gift restrictions but redirecting the gift to someone else.

There are several exceptions to this prohibition, some of which will be discussed here. Gifts below \$20.00 in value can be accepted even if from a prohibited source or given because of your official

position, so long as the amount accepted from that source does not total more than \$50.00 in a calendar year. However, you may not accept the \$20.00 value and pay for the remaining value of the gift.

A second exception allows military members to accept discounts or other benefits offered to the general public or to all employees equally. This would allow you to accept military discounts at restaurants or other businesses. If a business only offered the discount to a limited number of people (a discount only for General officers or only for commanders), that gift must be declined. The donor cannot discriminate based upon position or rank.



A third exception is for gifts solely based upon family relationship, personal friendship or outside business or reemployment. If a military member had a long standing friendship with a person who happened to be a major contractor on base, the member can accept a gift if the gift is based upon the friendship and not because the contractor is seeking favorable treatment in his relationship with the base.

There are several other limited exceptions to the prohibition rule. Please contact the legal office whenever you have a question about accepting a gift.

GIFTS BETWEEN EMPLOYEES

The guiding principles for dealing with gifts in workplace is the need to avoid favoritism and to avoid abuse of supervisor/subordinate relationships. Therefore two general rules have been

created in the JER. First, employees may not give gifts to their superiors or solicit a gift/donation from another employee to give to either employee’s superior. Second, employees may not accept a gift from another employee who earns less than him or her unless there is no superior/subordinate relationship and there is a personal relationship that justifies the gift.

The JER does not prohibit a supervisor from giving gifts to subordinates but supervisors should be careful to avoid any appearance of favoritism.

Although there are some exceptions to the general rules there is never an exception to the rule against coercion – no circumstance ever justifies coercing people into giving gifts or donating towards a group gift.

A DoD employee may give a small gift (\$10 or less) to their supervisor on an occasional basis, such as during a holiday. Employees may give food or refreshments to a supervisor when shared amongst the office employees. Or the employee may provide “personal hospitality” at their home if it is of the kind normally provided to friends who visit their home.

Additionally, there is an exception for “special occasions.” A special occasion includes marriages, births, illnesses, graduations, promotions, and retirements, but does not include birthdays or routine anniversaries. The same \$10 limit applies and there is a group limit of \$300. While there can more than one group giving group gifts of up to \$300, an individual can still only give up to \$10. In addition to the \$10 contribution, employees can also give a donation towards food, refreshments or entertainment for the event where those items are shared amongst the special occasion attendees.

CONCLUSION

Although applying common sense and integrity should normally allow you to navigate through the gift acceptance rules of the JER, members are encouraged to contact the legal office any time there is a question about the propriety of accepting a gift from an outside source or from a fellow Barnstormer.



Our new chaplain is a married priest?

By Fr. Kenneth DeVoie (Capt)

Greetings!
Firstly, I would like to say a great big thank you to

everyone here at Barnes ANG for the very warm welcome that I have received in coming aboard as a new Wing Chaplain.

Last Drill, at a Staff meeting, I was introduced as the new Catholic Chaplain here at the 104th Fighter Wing. While it is 100% accurate to introduce me, and describe me as a Catholic Priest, a little clarification is needed, and it has to do with “adjectives.” The two descriptive adjectives at play here are the words; *Orthodox* and *Roman*. I am a Priest in the Orthodox Catholic Church (a.k.a. The Eastern Orthodox Church). Most of you would be familiar with ethnic names like Greek Orthodox, or Russian Orthodox, etc. **Orthodox** describes what kind of Catholic Priest I am, just the word **Roman** would describe what kind of Catholics others may be like. So the question at hand is:

What is the difference?

To best explain the difference, we need to look briefly into history... Firstly, Orthodox Christians are not Protestant. In that Orthodoxy is over 2,000 years old, it pre-dates the ideas of denominations (divisions) which began solely in the Western Church in AD 1517. In the first 1,000 years of the Christian Church, there was just **one** Church and the **one** Faith of that Church, which was descriptively described as “Catholic” (two Greek words meaning “according to the whole”). The words *Orthodox* and *Roman* were not used to describe the Church – that came later. This united Church was comprised of five (5) ancient Patriarchal cities (Rome, Constantinople, Antioch, Jerusalem & Alexandria). This unified *Catholic* Church of the first 1,000 years defined and defended the Christian Faith, gave us the canon of the New Testament (AD 397) and the proper forms of liturgical worship, along with all the essential and critical Christian

doctrines (i.e. Trinity, Salvation, Human & Divine Natures of Christ, Church Government, etc...), all of which we hold onto to this day. The Christian Faith was defined and defended against heterodox teachings and claims by Seven (7), in what are described as, Ecumenical Councils of Bishops representing the entire Christian Church, East and West.

In the year AD 1054, a terrible event occurred in response to many geo-political factors (language, commerce, secular governmental influences, etc...) and tension on how theology was to be done in the Church; most particularly over the Western Church’s insertion of three words (“and the Son” – the *filioque* clause) into the Nicene Creed without the approval of an Ecumenical Council of the entire Church. This terrible event is called **The Great Schism** of East & West; an event in which the Church of the West, under the Patriarch (Pope) of Rome, excommunicated the entire Eastern Church, while at the same time, the Eastern Church excommunicated the entire Western Church. So this Great Schism resulted in four (4) of the ancient Patriarchal cities (Constantinople, Antioch, Jerusalem & Alexandria) staying together in the East, with Rome alone in the West.

After this Great Schism of East & West, Rome, without Eastern Church representation, continued to have “Ecumenical” Councils adding doctrines and teachings to the original Faith of the once united Church. This Faith, in the West, became known as Roman Catholicism. In the East, the Church, recognizing that Rome was no longer at the “table” so to speak, did not hold further Councils to add anything to the original united *Catholic* Faith. This Faith became known as Eastern Orthodoxy or simply Orthodoxy. In short, the Orthodox Catholic Church (Eastern Orthodoxy) is comprised of fifteen (15) Canonical Jurisdictions (i.e. Greek, Russian, Antiochian, Romanian, etc...) throughout the world, each under a respective Patriarch (Archbishop). The

Orthodox Church is the second largest body of Christians in the world, approaching ¼ of a billion people world-wide. All Reformed Protestant denominations came into existence through a break with the Roman Catholic Western Church which began in the year AD 1517 with Fr. Martin Luther. The Eastern Orthodox Church had no Protestant Reformation and therefore views the Christian world from a different vantage point and perspective.

The Orthodox Church has seven (7) Sacraments, worships God in the Ancient Liturgies of the Church (East & West), has a Government of Bishops, Priests & Deacons all possessing valid Apostolic Successions, has both married & celibate Priests (most Priests marry), has Monasteries, Monks & Nuns throughout the world. Eastern Orthodoxy and Roman Catholicism share a great deal in common, and are most closely aligned in doctrine, worship and theology of all Christian communities. For more information, you can go to:

www.gettoknowtheoriginal.net

I hope this helps clarify and remove some confusion as to my being the new “Catholic” Chaplain here at the 104th FW. I am very excited to be here and look forward to meeting all of you!

Regardless of my religious affiliation, I am here to serve all of you equally. I am here to encourage you as men and women serving our country and state, to pray for you and your loved ones, and to serve your spiritual needs. If you need anything (advice, council, prayer, confession J, etc...), please do not hesitate to call me or Chaplain Misarski at extension 1057, or drop in when we are here. You will see us walking around more to introduce ourselves and we will be scheduling regular worship & prayer services for you to take advantage of. Please be assured of my thoughts and prayers for you all.

Most humbly,

Fr. Kent

Professional Military Organizations

by Col. Stephen E Baggerly, I83rd Vice Wing Commander

Did you know that nearly all "quality of life" enhancements we receive as military members come from Congress-not the Department of Defense (DoD)? Did you know that many of our normal benefits are continually being challenged by many lawmakers to reduce costs? Military coalitions, or Professional Military Organizations as we call them, lobby (fight) for these perks and continued benefits at State Capitals and on Capitol Hill. They speak daily to our U S Representatives in the House and the Senate on legislative initiatives on our behalf. Their agendas focus on "improved" and "continued" benefits for members of the National Guard. And the first two questions always asked are:

(1) Who do you represent? and
 (2) What is the strength (in numbers) of your organization? This is why membership numbers in professional organizations are vital to improving and sustaining benefits for all military members- and this includes retired members as well.

Organizations such as the National Guard Association of Illinois (NGAI), which is a state organization for both officers and enlisted federal organizations such as the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) (for Officers) and the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) (for enlisted), are our Professional Military Organizations. They are non-profit, non-commercial

Organizations that exist to support, promote and develop the interest of all Army and Air National Guard members.

Now, more than ever, they need our help. In addition to the normal lobbying taking place at the national level, the "Commission of the National Guard and Reserve" delivered their report to Congress on 31 Jan 2008 - after two years of deliberation. There are numerous recommendations that, if enacted, would be harmful to the Guard.

In a macros sense, NGAUS and EANGUS disagrees with many of the Commission's recommendations and they are hopeful Congress gives little credence to them. One of recommendations-Duty Status Reform- mandates we will be paid for one day per UTA day, versus the two days per UTA day we now receive. This would not only negatively affect your pay, but it also reduces the retirement points you earned and eventually, our retirement compensation. There are many additional findings that are equally damaging to the way we

perform our missions and ultimately reducing current benefits.

As you can see, there are many issues being worked, continues to be challenged, on our behalf; however, our professional organizations are only as effective as their numbers and finances allow. These are turbulent and financially trying times. Everyone in our business is fighting for the same DoD dollars, an increase in membership numbers in Illinois is extremely vital right now. Large membership numbers will only enhance our voice at the State Capital and on Capitol Hill.

If you are interested in joining one of these three organizations, there are applications throughout the base. Please contact your supervisor or your Orderly Room. Over the past few years, these three organizations have made numerous contributions to your "quality of life" and include but not limited to the following:

This Feature was published in 183rd Falcon's View newsletter in September 2008 (page3). It is as true if not more true today than ever in our history.

Quality of life contributions include but are not limited to:

2009 EANGUS Accomplishments:

- Pay increase 3.4% (.5% more than requested by the President)
- No TRICARE fee increase
- TRICARE Standard for 'Gray Area' retirees under 60
- Reserve Component Pre-Mobilization Health Care* - doubles from 90 to 180 days the amount of time a Reserve Component member is eligible for TRICARE coverage prior to mobilization
- More full-time support
- New GI Bill education benefits (tuition, stipend, books and tutors)
- Lower TRICARE Reserve Select fees
- Additional National Guard member on the Defense Military Family Readiness Council
- NG Youth Challenge: Increases DoD share of program from 60% to 75% of the costs; includes **\$110.8 million** for the National Guard Youth Challenge
- Program, which is **\$15 million** above the President's request of **\$95.8 million**
- AGR PAY INCREASE Additional (.5 Percent above Presidents Request)
- Mil-Tech Pay Increase
- Two Year advance VA funding
- Variance in Reserve Component End Strength* - allows the Service Secretaries to waive Reserve Component end strength by

up to two percent if such a waiver would enhance manning and readiness in essential units or in critical specialties

Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence - allows up to **\$200** for each day of Administrative absence that a member would have earned between January 19, 2007, and the date of the implementation of the PDMRA program had the program been implemented during that time

Stop Loss Special Pay - authorized for any month, or portion of a month beginning October 1, 2009, and ending on June 30, 2011, for a Reserve Component member who serves on active duty while the member's enlistment or period of obligated service is extended, or has the member's eligibility for retirement suspended due to Stop Loss

Continued Service after AGR Retirement - includes provisions allowing for recomputation of retired pay and election to receive Non-regular retirement pay after qualifying for regular retirement

Military Construction - authorized **\$585 million** in Army National Guard Military Construction (\$156 million above the President's Budget Request) and **\$236 million** in Air National Guard Military Construction (\$108 million above the President's Budget Request.)

\$50 million for state specific National Guard counter-drug programs as well as an additional **\$15 million** to sustain current levels of staffing for High Priority National Guard Counterdrug Programs. This continues the elevated funding for National Guard state plans nationwide which Congress has provided in recent years; includes **\$1.1 billion** for Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug activities, Defense-wide. Fully funds the request of **\$166.5 million** for National Guard State Plans that support domestic law enforcement efforts and counter-narcoterrorism schools

An additional **\$20 million** for Yellow Ribbon Reintegration and Outreach programs .

For additional information please consult following websites:
 MNGEA: www.mngaweb.org
 NAUGUS: www.NGAUS.org
 EANGUS: www.EANGUS.org
 BOTTOM LINE: Have you taken



Safety: How goes it?

By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Dumais

It has been a long stretch, but we have almost made it through another year. As we progress forward, our outlook has never been busier. In 2011 we will be faced with several major inspections. The one closest to our door step is the Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI), and quickly followed by the external Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Compliance Management Process (ESOHCOMP). What this means is now more than ever is the time to put your safety foot forward. Do you have an AF Form 55? Is your safety training and documentation up to date? If you drive a forklift or operate lift device, is your 3-year training and evaluation current? If you are required to have CPR, is your certification current?

Items such as these are not only important for inspections; they are critical elements of our safety posture. With that said, I ask for your help. If you think you need something, remind your supervisor so they can get you scheduled and documented. The last item that I would like to bring up is a

general safety item. In the local area we had a 20-year old male get crushed under a car in a mall parking lot. I don't have all of the details, but from what I understand, he jacked up his car to get underneath to secure his muffler, and somehow the jack failed causing the car to pin him underneath. Needless to say the result was him being a fatality! In the blink of an eye things can go bad, and at times do. Please use this for yourself, and if you have young drivers at home, make sure you tell them about it. If you're getting under a vehicle, make sure you have one of two things. 1. You can bench press the weight of the vehicle off your chest should it fall, 2. If not, ensure you place a tire or brace under the vehicle so that if the jack fails or slips, the vehicle falls on the item instead of you!

The unit experienced 5 injuries since the last UTA.

- Pliers struck mouth while twisting safety wire; Chipped tooth; Wire broke; No lost time.
- Worker struck head on air-

craft; Head laceration; Situational awareness; No lost time.

- Worker cut finger with knife; Lacerated finger; Risk management; No lost time.
- Worker bruised knee; Impacted trash receptacle; Situational awareness, No lost time.
- Worker bruised foot; Dropped filing cabinet; Moving office furniture; Not greater than first aid.

The unit experienced 4 mishaps since the last UTA.

- GMV damaged; Impacted bollard; Operator error; \$645 damage.
- PMV4 damaged; Impacted guardrail; Operator fell asleep at the wheel; Minor injuries.
- PMV2 damaged; Loss of control; Slippery surface; Minor injuries.
- Aircraft door opened in flight; Gun door broken; Unknown cause; \$28,000 damage.

Change of command

By Maj. Matthew T. Mutti, Wing Executive Staff Officer

On September 12th, at the Massachusetts National Guard Museum in Worcester, Brig. Gen. Leon Scott Rice accepted command of the Massachusetts Air National Guard from Maj. Gen. Michael Akey. Maj. Gen. Akey served with distinction as the commander for the past 5 years.

The governor, and other state and federal legislators, family, friends and members of the Massachusetts National Guard were in attendance for this event.

The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Joseph C. Carter, officiated the ceremony. He praised the vision of Maj. Gen. Akey, highlighting the accomplishments of the Mass Air Guard under his steadfast leadership. He highlighted the transitions due to the BRAC conversions, he spoke to the

increased state relevance as the Air Guard accepts more state support missions than ever before in history.

Maj. Gen. Akey spoke candidly during his remarks, highlighting what his fondest memories were as a guardsman, and as an Active Duty member. He also spoke of how proud he was of his son Michael for his service, and thanked his wife Linda, and daughter Jennifer for her support.

Brig. Gen. L. Scott Rice accepted the command following a tour as both the commander of the 104th Fighter Wing, and the Assistant Adjutant General for the Mass Air National Guard.

Brig. Gen. Rice shared his excitement of how proud he was to represent and lead the 2,400 Airmen in the Massachusetts Air National Guard.



Maj. Gen. Michael D. Akey, outgoing Commander Massachusetts Air National Guard passes the colors to Maj. Gen. Joseph C. Carter, The Adjutant General, Massachusetts National Guard during a change of command ceremony held at the National Guard Museum in Worcester Mass. on September 12, 2010. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Eric Kolesnikovas)

Commanders play key role in accounting for members

By Jon Hanson, Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs



9/17/2010 -
RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas -- When a disaster occurs, chaos usually ensues. From caring for the injured to cleaning up the

damage, it can overwhelm all involved.

One of the key challenges for Air Force leaders after a disaster is accounting for all personnel. The Air Force relies on the Air Force Personnel Accountability and Assessment System, or AFPAAS, to accomplish this.

"AFPAAS standardizes a method for the Air Force to account, manage and monitor the recovery and reconstitution process for personnel and their families affected and scattered by a wide-spread catastrophic event," said Brian Angell, Air Force Personnel Center Personnel Readiness Cell operations chief.

AFPAAS provides valuable information to all levels of the Air Force chain of command, allowing commanders to make strategic decisions real-time that facilitate a return to stability."

The system is used to account for the

total force. This includes active-duty Airmen, reservists, guard members, civilians, overseas contractors and family members.

As soon as senior leaders, such as the president, secretary of defense or chief of staff of the Air Force, declare a disaster, the Air Force Crisis Action Team sends a message to all wing command posts directing 100 percent accountability.

Commanders and readiness managers then begin the process of accounting for all their members. This includes personnel who are on temporary duty, on leave or on a pass in the affected area.

For members and their families affected by a disaster, the system allows them to report their current location, update emergency personal contact information and request assistance. This is especially important if individuals are evacuated, Mr. Angell said.

Accurate reporting assists Air Force leadership and authorities in making better decisions to support those in need, he said. It also helps maintain military readiness and preserve national security during a disaster.

All total force members can log into AFPAAS occasionally to make sure their information is accurate. Most updates can be made within the system. If something cannot be corrected, members can contact their local installation personnel readiness office or the Air Force Personnel Readiness Cell at 800-435-9941.

"We need commanders as well as our Airmen and their family members to understand and use AFPAAS," said Col. James Horton, director of AEF and personnel operations at AFPC. "Familiarity with any system makes it easier to use -- especially during a crisis. If you wait until the crisis, it may be too late."

To use the system log into <https://afpaas.af.mil> or call 800-435-9941 to report individual and family member status. The AFPAAS link is also found on the AFPC website at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil and Air Force Portal at: <https://www.my.af.mil/faf/FAF/fafHome.jsp>.



Meet the new Inspector General By Maj. Matthew T. Mutti, Wing Executive Staff Officer

In September, a new Inspector General (IG) was named. Maj. Sherman Cowan. Maj. Cowan has been the EO OIC

for the past 5 years, after a tour in the Army National Guard.

The 104th FW's Installation Inspector General's role is to work as the ombudsman, fact-finder, and honest broker in the resolution of complaints. The IG is the eyes, ears, voice and conscience of the commander, and keeps him informed of potential areas of concern based on complaint data. The IG is also responsible for educating and training commanders and members of the base population on their rights and responsibilities in regards to the Air Force IG system.

In addition, the IG's goal is to help all commanders and the base population prevent, detect, and correct fraud, waste and abuse, and mismanagement at the lowest level.

You are probably asking yourself at this point, "How does the IG system help command and the base population?" Personal complaints and Fraud, Waste and Abuse (FWA) disclosures help discover and correct problems affecting the productivity and morale of assigned personnel. By resolving the underlying causes of a complaint, we may be preventing more severe symptoms or costly consequences from occurring. Even if allegations may not be substantiated, the investigation findings may reveal systematic morale, or other problems that impede efficiency and mission effectiveness.

So, what does this mean for you? You have an independent channel available to you that is free from any form of retribution, retaliation or reprisal. The office was established to dispel perceptions of command influence and enhance unit effectiveness, fairness and accountability. However, the IG complaint program is not an invitation to go outside the chain of command or bypass established channels. The program may not be used for matters normally addressed through other established grievance or appeal channels, unless there is evidence that those channels mishandled the matter or process.

The IG office is located in building 001, outside the Finance office. Stop by and say hello. The IG can be reached during the UTAs at extension 1799, or via cell (617) 610-8073.



UCI replaces ORI for June 2011

By Airman 1st Class Bonnie Harper, Public Affairs Journalist

A Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI) is scheduled to take place here in June 2011, in place of the Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) which the wing has been preparing for since early 2009.

The UCI reviews the base's ability to perform administrative processes involved in operating a military base, said Maj. Matthew Mutti, the Wing Executive Staff Officer. In contrast to the UCI, an ORI test a unit's ability to deploy and engage enemies overseas.

The ACC Inspector General Team will evaluate the wing's ability to achieve standardization within its processes as they compare to the rest of the Department of Defense. The Inspector General team will use National Guard Bureau and ACC staff-approved

Compliance and Standardization Requirements Lists (C&SRLs) to verify the unit's compliance with public law, Department of Defense, Air Force, Air Combat Command, and Air National Guard directives.

In preparation for the UCI, units should first begin by going through their self-inspection process. Each organization has a specific checklists to follow in order to keep their process by the book. During the UCI, units will be asked to review these checklists with the inspectors and demonstrate their proper performance on a regular basis.

These checklists function as one of the grading requirements during the actual evaluation.

The last UCI the base experienced was in 2006, which resulted in a score of 99 percent in-compliance, Maj. Mutti said.

The Inspector General office is primarily responsible for the unit's programming and preparation for the UCI. Many other service members are working with the IG office to facilitate all inspection preparations.

The wing has adopted a program called MICT (Management Internal Controls Toolkit) to help track the completion of the self-inspection process. The application is found in the Air Force Portal.

Unlike an ORI, the UCI is not rated in categories of Outstanding, Excellent, or Satisfactory. The UCI evaluates whether a unit Complies, Complies with comments, or Does not comply, so meticulous effort will be needed in the next few months to mitigate write-ups.

Rifle match produces top-shot results

By Tech. Sgt. Chris Cekovsky, Combat Arms Marksmanship Coordinator

An NRA High Power rifle match was held on August 1 at the Westfield Sportsman's Club in Westfield MA. The 104th Fighter Wing had ten shooters in attendance for the event. This was an excellent opportunity to participate in a slow fire event before the state completion. Our team was able to fire at targets 300 yards away for the first one. With each bullet fired, there is instant feedback which allows the shooter to adjust their sights or position before sending the next shot. It also allows new shooters to see what targets look like at 300 yards. It was an excellent match preparing us for the state match. After the match, we returned to Barnes to conduct some training on positions, and reconfirmed our zero.

The Massachusetts State Marksmanship match was held at Ft. Devens, Ayer, MA. on August 13-15, 2010. The event started at 7:00 with approximately 90 shooters attended this completion. The first day consisted of registration, and zeroing the rifle. On the morning of the 14th, we shot in the Combat Pistol match where shooters

engaged 4 targets with 12 rounds each, with a max score of 240. Tech. Sgt. Chris Cekovsky placed 2nd, and Staff Sgt. Sue Fopiano placed third. The next match was the Excellence in Competition Pistol match where shooters engage 4 targets from 30 to 15 yards away with 40 rounds, for a

max score of 200. Staff Sgt. Matt Chapman took 3rd place in the Novice Pistol and Tech. Sgt. Casey Walsh took 3rd open in the EIC Pistol as well as 2nd Overall Individual. The next match was the reflexive rifle match firing at 25 yards at 4 targets. Senior Airman Brandon Basso took 2nd and Cekovsky took third. EIC Rifle was on Sunday shooting from 400 yards to 25 yards with the rifle. Staff Sgt. Scott Schuster took 2nd in the novice class, closing out our Individual awards. Overall, the Team representing the 104FW took 2nd place, beating five other teams. The



2010 Massachusetts State Marksmanship Matches came to a close with the awarding of the first annual 1ST Sgt. Kevin A. Dupont trophy. 1ST Sgt. Dupont was a Small Arms Readiness Training Instructor for the Massachusetts National Guard. He died June 17th, 2009, of wounds he suffered on March 8th, 2009 from an IED. The Award was presented to Staff Sgt. Brandon Williams of the SARTS section, who achieved the top overall score for the 2010 matches.

Awards banquet to recognize entire team

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

The 37th Annual Awards Banquet for the 104th Fighter Wing will be held on Saturday, February 5th 2011 at the Tekoa Country Club located at 459 Russell Road, Westfield, MA. The banquet will salute members of the Wing for their commitment to service and excellence in their respective fields. Airmen will be honored from the squadron, group and wing levels.

Staff Sgt. Dacia Lucas will be coordinating the event along with a committee of all ranks. The committee is working with the 1st Sgt.'s and every

member is excited to be involved in planning such an important night. It promises to be a memorable event with a "Grand Gala" theme in mind. "We hope to bring back the tradition of years past by hosting such a magnificent event," said Sgt Lucas. Attire will be eveningwear for ladies and suit and tie for the gentlemen.

Lucas feels that the civilian attire gives unit members an opportunity to celebrate in style...out of the ordinary, something special.

"It's a perfect night out with your wife or husband, not only to have fun together, but to have a great time with the people you work with outside of the work environment," said Lucas.

Tickets cost \$25 for members E-1 thru E-7 and \$40 for members E-8 and above. Cocktails at six will be followed by dinner at seven.

Please see your supervisor for ticket information. Reserved seating is available on a first come first serve basis.

Chiefs council thanks Sgt Brace, others

By Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Brown

The 104th Fighter Wing Chief's Council held a raffle on Sunday, 12 Sept at 1310. The raffle consisted of: 1st prize: A-10 Coffee Table complete with authentic A-10 forward center windshield glass, 2nd prize: a cedar lined Hope Chest, and 3rd prize: a Coin Rack. The winners were selected by three AMXS individuals as they departed the Dining Facility.

All items were built by Master Sgt. Larry Brace who works in the Maintenance Support Element. To Larry, the Chiefs' Council sends it's thanks for working these projects.

This raffle is one way the Chiefs Council can give back to the enlisted force in some form or another. The Chiefs Council also works to give back in such ways as providing food for unit barbecues, sponsoring the Gen. Keefe award, and hosting the Order of the Musket and more. So a big THANKS goes out to all who participated in the raffle.

And the winners were...1st prize Lt. Col. Bob Henry, 2nd prize TSgt. Doug Marchesseault, 3rd prize Chief Master Sgt. Todd Fappiano! It was no surprise that the 1st and 2nd

prize winners exchanged prizes as this was a hot topic with almost everyone who purchased a ticket.

"There was a 50/50 split as to who wanted which prize," said Chief Master Sgt. Steve Murphy. Both winners were very happy to exchange prizes as Lt. Col. Henry preferred the Hope Chest and Tech. Sgt. Marchesseault desiring the A-10 Coffee Table! Once again, congrats to all the winners, and many thanks to all who purchased a raffle tickets!

October's Native American heritage

Submitted By Maj. Matthew Mutti, Wing Executive Officer

This month, we celebrate the ancestry and time-honored traditions of American Indians and Alaska Natives in North America. They have guided our land stewardship policies, added immeasurably to our cultural heritage, and demonstrated courage in the face of adversity. From the American Revolution to combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, they have fought valiantly in defense of our Nation as dedicated servicemen and women. Their native languages have also played a pivotal role on the battlefield. During World

Wars I and II, Native American code talkers developed unbreakable codes to communicate military messages that saved countless lives. Native Americans have distinguished themselves as inventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and scholars. Our debt to our First Americans is immense, as is our responsibility to ensure their fair, equal treatment and honor the commitments we made to their forebears.

As we seek to build on and strengthen our nation-to-nation

relationship, my Administration is committed to ensuring tribal communities have a meaningful voice in our national policy debates as we confront the challenges facing all Americans. We will continue this constructive dialogue at the White House Tribal Nations Conference held in Washington, D.C., this month. Native American voices have echoed through the mountains, valleys, and plains of our country for thousands of years, and it is now our time to listen.

— President Barack Obama

CFC supports charities worldwide

By Airman 1st Class Bonnie Harper, Public Affairs Journalist

The 2010 Combined Federal Campaign season began September 1 and will continue through December 15, providing support and fundraising for non-profit organizations.

The CFC mission is to promote and support philanthropy through a voluntary program that is employee-focused, cost-efficient and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

This annual fundraiser, established by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, is the world's largest and most successful workplace charity drive. In 2009, the CFC set a new record by raising \$283 million dollars. This year, there are approximately 25,000 participating charities, that provide health and human service benefits to thousands of communities.

The Western Massachusetts CFC is one of more than 300 CFCs throughout the world that are raising money during this campaign season. This region's

campaign theme for 2010 is iCare.

The 104th Fighter Wing is participating in the iCare project by planning base fundraising events. A "Scoop-A-Thon" ice cream fundraiser is scheduled for the December UTA here, with proceeds being donated to local charities, such as the Boys and Girls Club of Westfield.

"A Combined Federal Campaign is an opportunity for us to give back," said Major Dave Mendoza, the Force Support Squadron commander and base representative for the Western Massachusetts CFC. "The biggest reason why people don't donate to charity is they haven't been asked. We want to make sure that everyone knows about this and at least have the opportunity."

The Office of Personnel Management is encouraging all federal employees to take part in this service opportunity.

"In these challenging economic times, it is more important than ever to open our hearts – and our wallets – to

extend a helping hand," said John Berry, the OPM director.

Historically, the CFC has received donations from an average of 57 percent of federal employees. This program provides a great opportunity to further extend public service by supporting organizations that often provide services beyond what the government can do, Berry said.

We are asking members of the base to consider giving, even if it is a small payroll deduction of two or three dollars a paycheck. Through our combined efforts, we could donate a large amount of money, said Maj. Mendoza.

Members of federal departments and agencies can make contributions through pledge forms or through Employee Express. For more information regarding the CFC and how to make a donation, visit <http://www.westernmacfc.org> and <http://www.employeeexpress.gov>

What's My Line Winner!



(Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)

Last month's winner is:

"No, really-this is what I meant by equipment check."

Submitted by Tom Hildreth.

Last month's runners-up are:

"Really? I think my gear is fine,' said the EEO officer about the safety check."

Submitted by Master Sgt. Carlos Nunez, JFHQ.

"Big girls don't cry....but they will puke while pulling a few G's."

Submitted by Staff Sgt. Josh Darling, 104 MXM

What's My Line?



(Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

Submit your funny, creative and appropriate caption for the photo on the right. We will run the winner and a runner-up in next months AirScoop. Submit your entry to: 104fw.pa@ang.af.mil

Meet your Family Readiness Group Board



From left to right:

Pat Connors - Chairperson

Lyn Richards - Secretary

Kneeling, Tina Dimino-Frazier - Youth Coordinator,

Sandy Wakefield - Wing Family Coordinator

Cindy Patnode - Treasurer

Missing Beth St. Clair- Co-Chair / Treasurer (Oct 1)



Beth St Clair - Treasure (& Mrs. Clause)

Each month one Family Readiness Board Member will be featured

Beth St. Clair is married to Robert St. Clair (Col. Ret) who currently works at JFHQ full time.

She has a daughter Nicole who is an 8th Gr. Math/Science Coach and two sons, Shaun (formerly of 104th Communications Flight) and Daniel who was recently commissioned, and works in the Communications Flight as a 2nd Lt.

Beth has been a Family Readiness group member since 1995, and has also participated in a number of community outreach programs.

She was a Family Assistance Center Coordinator (Springfield Armory) 2003-2004. She was also the past Treasurer & Assistant Treasurer for Town of Brimfield, part-time Aide at

Brimfield Elementary School, Recording Secretary for Board of Health, Member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Fun Raiser Committee chair for Spring Fun Fair & Artisan Festival.

"I married an Air Guard Guy, and we have moved several times. We were at Craig AFB, Alabama; Ellington AFB, Texas; Hickam AFB, Honolulu, Hawaii. We spent 6 months in Las Vegas, and a year in New Jersey, said St Clair. They then moved to Brimfield, MA in 1981, said Mrs. St. Clair,

As a spouse of an A-10 pilot, she was not aware of the Barnes family network, being busy with 3 small children & living a distance from the Base. During deployments & hurricanes, she felt she was all alone in the 'boonies'.

She became aware of the Family Readiness Group, became active and involved when her son's became Air Guard members, and have since worked on various committees and "Fun Raising" activities over the years. Now her son, Daniel, has a stepson and daughter, and she brings them to events and activities. "I enjoy the friendships and the opportunities that I have been involved in", said StClair.

If you have a bit of time, please consider joining in the work and the fun of the Family Readiness Group programs!

PS - See you at the Christmas Party!

New Commanders

During this Oct Unit Training Assembly (UTA), there will be a Change of Command for the following new Commanders:

Lt. Col. William Kelly, Civil Engineering Squadron vice Maj. Steven Dougherty

Maj. Peter Carr, Aircraft Maintenance Squadron vice Lt. Col. Charles Wilson

Lt. Col. Robert Henry, Logistics Readiness Squadron vice Lt. Col. Chris Weppner

Lt. Col. Charles Coulouras, Comptroller Flight (new flight)

Congratulations to the new Commanders.



104th Fighter Wing Angel Tree

Each year, Sandy Wakefield of Family Support Services orchestrates an annual Angel Tree. The Angel Tree gives 104th FW members an opportunity to help families during the holidays by giving gifts to children of families in need.

The Angel Tree will be set-up in the front foyer of building one in November. On the tree, will be ornaments with a child's wish list. To sponsor a child, a member will take the ornament and circle back with Sandy Wakefield to let her know of their good intentions.

For more information, please contact Sandy at (413) 568-9151, x1183 or sandra.wakefield@ang.af.mil

For Your Information

Healthy Holiday eating tips

Health Promotions about "Healthy Holiday Eating Tips", classroom 41, Clinic, Sat, 23 Oct 10 from 1130-1200 All invited.

Family Readiness events

Event: Halloween/
Haunted Hayride

Date: Friday - 29 Oct

Time: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Event: Children's
Christmas Party

Date: Sunday - 5 Dec

Time: 11:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Walk In Legal Assistance

The Legal Office provides legal assistance to all ANG members on the following legal deployment related issues: Wills, Powers of Attorney (Family Care Plans), Service Members Civil Relief Act, and Employment and Reemployment Rights. Walk In Hours are available every Saturday UTA from 0900 -1100 hours. If you are unable to come during this time, please call our office at ext. 1244 to make an appointment. We would be happy to accommodate your schedule.

HOME MADE PIEROGI SALE PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT

104TH FAMILY READINESS GROUP ACTIVITIES

PRE-PAID ONLY - NO PHONE ORDERS

Send Order Form and Payment to

Pat Connors ~ x 1717

Family Readiness Grp Chairman

Sandy Wakefield ~ x1183

Wing Family Coordinator

_____ DZ - CHEESE & POTATO - \$8.00 per DZ

_____ DZ - CABBAGE (Kapusta) - \$8.00 per DZ

CUT OFF DATE FOR ORDERS - 2 Nov 10

Pick up at Dining Facility Tuesday, 9 Nov 10 - 1600 until 1800 hours

Name _____ / Tel _____

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sponsored by the Family Readiness Group
Sunday, 5 December 2010

Open to ALL 104th Fighter Wing members, base employees and Army Aviation personnel.

The Children's Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, 5 December 2010 in the Army Aviation Hangar at Barnes ANG base during the hours of 1300 - 1500. Ages 0 - 10.

Refreshments and snacks will be provided by the USO. There will be activities for the children to enjoy.

The sign up form must indicate the name, age and gender of the child(ren) attending the party.

Due to the usually large response **PLEASE - NO NIECES, NEPHEWS, GRANDCHILDREN OR NEIGHBORS, this is for unit members and their families.**

Volunteers are needed, so if you are available to help before to set up the hangar, during or after the party please contact Pat Connors at Ext 1717 or Sandy Wakefield at Ext 1183 or by e-mail: patricia.connors@ang.af.mil or Sandra.wakefield@ang.af.mil. November 20th is **ABSOLUTELY** the last day to sign up for this event, so don't delay. Gifts must be purchased this year so no sign-ups will be accepted after the 20th of November. There will be a \$10.00 late fee per child.



104th Fighter Wing
Children's Christmas Party - 5 Dec 2010

Please send to: Pat Connors, Ext 1717 or Sandy Wakefield, Ext 1183
PLEASE PRINT

YOUR NAME _____	Ext _____
Girl's Name _____	Age _____
_____	Age _____
_____	Age _____
Boy's Name _____	Age _____
_____	Age _____
_____	Age _____

**104th Fighter Wing
37th Annual
Awards Banquet**

*When: Saturday the fifth of
February Two Thousand Eleven*

*Where: Jehoa Country Club
459 Russell Road
Westfield, MA*

*Attire: Ladies, eveningwear
Gentlemen, suit & tie*

*****Tickets*****
E-1 thru E-7 \$25
E-8 and above \$40

Please see supervisors for ticket info

*Cocktails at Six, Dinner at Seven
DJ and dancing Immediately following awards
presentations*

*Please join us for a fun-filled evening together as we
recognize our peers for their Outstanding Performance...*

"Pride, Professionalism, Patriotism"

RESERVED SEATING AVAILABLE, FIRST COME FIRST SERVE

Congratulations to our Retirees

Brady, John	MXS	30 Oct 10
Defranco, Anthony	MXS	13 Nov 10
Sullivan, James	CF	6 Dec 10

Personnel ID Machine Hours

Tuesday 1300-1600
 Wednesday 0830-1600
 Thursday 0830-1600
 Or by appointment

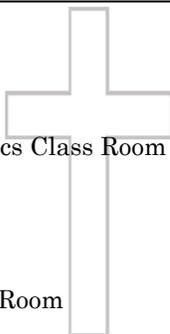


Religions Notes:

Ecumenical time of Prayer & Reflection
 Saturday 0650 – 0720 hrs. in the Avionics Class Room

Divine Liturgy of the Mass:
 Saturday, 1630 in the Dining Facility

Protestant Services:
 Saturday, 1630 in Bldg 001 Conference Room



CCTV Line Up

Channel 7 - Ancillary Training & Base Info
Channel 9 - Warrior Network
Channel 10 - Pentagon Channel



Ancillary Training Video Schedule

<u>Morning</u>	<u>Training Video</u>
0900-0940	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
0940-1013	Confined Space Awareness
1013-1023	Basic Ladder Safety
1023-1053	Lockout/Tagout
1053-1101	FOD Prevention
1101-1108	Copyright Infringement

<u>Afternoon</u>	<u>Training Video</u>
1300-1340	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
1340-1413	Confined Space Awareness
1413-1423	Basic Ladder Safety
1423-1453	Lockout/Tagout
1453-1501	FOD Prevention
1501-1508	Copyright Infringement

Congratulations on your Promotions

To Airman 1st Class (E-3)



Gonzalez, Miguel, 104 FW CMPT FLT
 Rodriguez, Amarilis, 104 FW MXS

To Senior Airman (E-4)



Beany, Kayla, 104 FW FSS
 Burke, Brian, 104 FW AMXS
 Cordeira, Joshua, 104 FW CF
 Ducharme, Justin, 104 FW AMXS
 Williamson, Daniel, 104 FW AMXS
 Rodrigues, Lea, 104 FW AMXS
 Lugo, Stephen, 104 FW AMXS
 Manganaro, Dwight, 104 FW AMXS
 Nunez, Kali, 104 FW MDG
 Mckenzie, Michael, 104 FW MXS
 Merchant, Dinah, 104 FW FSS
 Rainville, Justin, 104 FW FSS
 Gallerani, Zachary, 104 FW FSS
 Fegannunez, Colleen, 104 FW MXS

To Staff Sgt. (E-5)



Avalone, Michael, 104FW AMXS
 Feliciano, Jeanette, 104FW MOF

To Technical Sgt. (E-6)



Benoit, Christopher, 104FW MXS
 Buell, Lawrence, 104FW CES
 Chandonnet, Derek, 104FW AMXS
 Cyr, Dennis, 104FW AMXS
 Eagan, Angelo, 104FW MXS
 Murphy, Ryan, 104FW MXS

This Month in History

The back cover of the AirScoop is 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 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.

October Headlines:

October 23, 1909 - Wilbur Wright gave Lt Benjamin D. Foulois his first flying lesson. Foulois (pronounced *Fooloy*) was an observer on Orville Wright's record-breaking flight of 30 June, and Foulois had hoped to take flight instruction directly from the Wright brothers.

October 14, 1947 - U.S. Air Force Captain Chuck Yeager became the first man to break the sound barrier, flying in a rocket-powered research aircraft.

October 28, 1961 - the 102nd TFW departed Logan International Airport to Phalsbourg France. The wing deployed 82 F-86 Sabre's. 101st marked with green stripes on their vertical stabilizers, the 131st with red and the 128th with yellow stripes.

October 14, 1997 - After landing his F-15, and after 55 years and one month in Air Force cockpits, General Yeager retired as a consulting test pilot for the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards Air Force Base.



Volume 13

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Number 2

Active Duty For Mass ANG Starts Oct 1ST

All the Air National Guard units in the 102d Tactical Fighter Wing, including all those stationed at Barnes Airport, Westfield, have been notified that they will go on active duty on October 1, 1961, for a period of one year.

Notification came August 25 with a special alert called for that night to give all personnel immediate information of the action. Having been put on the alert list for recall several weeks earlier, this came as no surprise to Airguardsmen here.

The move is in connection with the President's desire to strengthen the hand of the American negotiators in the Berlin crisis, and is part of the gen-

eral buildup of the armed forces.

In the early stages, the recalled units will remain at their home bases. Besides the regular units of this wing at Logan Airport in Boston and Barnes Airport in Westfield, the augmented 138th Tactical Fighter Squadron of Hancock Field, Syracuse, N. Y., has been added to the 102d Wing.

Other recalled tactical fighter wings include the 108th with its 119th, 141st and 149th Squadrons in New Jersey and Virginia; the 113th with its 121st, 120th and 136th Squadrons in Maryland, New York

Continued on Page Ten

MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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PATRIOTISM

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