



May 2011



Technical Sgt. Aaron Richards stands ready while Capt. Nate Oswalt waits patiently as other aircraft prepare to taxi out for take off from Tyndall AFB, Florida as they participate in Weapon System Evaluation Program on April 21, 2011.

(Photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Robert J. Sabonis)



Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

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Commander's column

By Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

Barnestormers, we are down to the wire preparing for our upcoming inspections, just 4 drill days until the UCI and LCAP teams are here, inspecting the programs you have been working so hard to ensure are in compliance. This drill is also days away from one of the most important federal holidays, Memorial Day.

Memorial Day commemorates U.S. military members who died while in service to our country. Our men and women have been engaged around the world, supporting Operations NOBLE EAGLE, IRAQI and ENDURING FREEDOM, as well as other contingency operations overseas since September 11, 2001. Though the events of May 1 are significant to our nation's history, and strike an even more personal cord amongst our brothers and sisters in arms, we must always remain vigilant and know that our duty to support and defend the constitution never ends. Today, not unlike any other day in the past 10 years, members of our Guard Family are engaged overseas, supporting freedom. Likewise, since February 15, 2010, our unit has been on alert, prepared to respond to any airborne threat in the Northeast, our mission; our focus is and will remain, critical to our nation's defense. As stated by President Obama during his Sunday night address, "we need to remain vigilant."

Dwight D. Eisenhower once said, "Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed - else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die." Our ancestors marked the road of freedom with their blood, and we must always remember and appreciate the sacrifices they have made. I urge you to find motivation in the valor in which they lived, fought and sometimes died. Take time to thank a veteran for their sacrifices, then contemplate how your service today, honors all that they have done for us.

This UTA we have 30 visitors from throughout the combat Air Force, providing us one last look at our programs ensuring we are prepared to perform during our upcoming inspections. I ask that you listen to their feedback, so that

we may learn from their expertise. Be open to suggestions, while demonstrating your expertise. We are not trying to on pass an inspection, we are focused on bettering ourselves as a unit and making sure we are doing the right things right. Compliance is not a goal, it should be the standard, and excellence should be the goal.

After the inspection the wing will take some time to honor our returning members and celebrate our families with a Family Day in August. More information will be sent out soon, but mark your calendars now that during the August UTA, we will open our doors to our families giving them a chance to see what you do here at Barnes. Then we will transition to preparing for overseas operations, deploying our jets to Alaska for F-22 integrated training, and finally Nellis AFB for Red Flag.

Thank you for all the hard work you have put into the upcoming inspections, take the opportunity to learn and improve this drill, and don't underestimate the value of your efforts, I don't.

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Chief Master Sergeant's column

By Chief Master Sgt. Todd Fappiano, Command Chief Master Sgt.

Story time with the Chief.

It was 1984, I had a job at Hamilton Standard as a precision

sheet metal worker working on heat exchangers for Boeing 747's. I was young and impressionable, and the last function that needed to be accomplished on an aluminum casting was a leak check. As with any production worker, each procedure had a set time to accomplish it. There were multiple fixtures that had to be put on each outlet with nuts and bolts. We were always under pressure to accomplish these tasks as quickly as possible. Being young and impressionable, I wanted to please my leadership and make my time, but I

found I could not accomplish my work in the established timelines. I decided to skip a few bolts to try to "skirt" the system. The result was a loud explosion and unreparable damage to a very expensive unit. I fortunately kept my job but was put on probation.

Here is the moral of the story:

As I look back at that episode of my life 27 years ago, it still has an impression on me. My integrity came into question, and it still bothers me. I did not follow technical data, I did not up-channel the fact that I thought it was impossible to make the set time, and I could have hurt myself, or worse, hurt someone else.

Leadership puts pressure on all of us; whether its Air Force directed or local decisions. It is so important to **keep your integrity at all times, don't**

let outside pressures push you to cut corners, either working on the flight line, or at a desk, do the right thing.

Our leadership here at Barnes wants to hear your thoughts on processes that are skewed, or could be done a better way. Follow your Technical data, regardless of how long it takes, and ensure what you or your fellow Barnstormers' are doing is safe both for their sake and for the sake of others.

Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in all you do. These are the Air Force core values, and are being taught at every level of Professional Military Education. Your young Airman are returning from basic training with these instilled in them, we owe them the same.



First Sergeant's column

By Master Sgt. Scott Hepburn, MXS First Sgt.

With the upcoming Logistics Compliance Assessment Program/Compliance Inspection (LCAP/CI) less than six weeks away, I'd like everyone to look back one year and compare it to where they are today. I bet 100% of you could say, "Wow, I've come a long way!"

Coming a long way is great, but now it's time to put the finishing touches on our masterpieces. We need to go that extra mile (or the Barnes way; two miles) for these last six weeks. As we work toward the ultimate goal of an "Outstanding", attaining 100% Compliance with the LCAP and CI.

Let's not forget about another very important part of this puzzle; our spouses, children and significant others; without their support, we

would not be able to do the things we do.

Working so hard, we tend to forget about the importance of balancing family and work. Going to that sports event, taking that loved one out for a nice dinner or just sitting around the yard gardening and chatting always brings out the best in family and the best in us. Life is too short to forget about these other important things. Without them, we would not be where we are today.

Family plays a huge role in the success of our mission. They put up with the long hours, shop talk at home and TDY's that keep us away. Never mind the one weekend a month; or what we call "drill." It is a lot to ask of a family or significant other.

If things are tough at home, things tend to get tough at work. A good balance here will push us to

greatness with our inspection and the overall success of the 104th.

So as you look back at what you have done here at Barnes for the last year plus, make sure you take that extra two miles and say, "THANK YOU" to your spouse, children or significant other for helping you get where you are today. They will be very receptive to your appreciation.

In the event you are having a difficult time at home, or the stress begins to build where you need some help, remember the First Sergeants are here to help. In addition, the Family Support office and Chaplains on base are a great resource for you and your family. Take care of yourself, take care of your family, and you'll have an easier time taking care of the mission.

Ready, set... stop, go

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

(Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.) - Sorries over Eastern Afghanistan?... Check. **Convoys through Iraq?Got it. A federal government shutdown? ...that might be a problem....**

Members of the 104th Fighter Wing have earned a reputation for facing challenges head on but the looming government shutdown on 8 April nearly grounded the Barnestormers during their Weapons System Evaluation Program (WSEP) deployment at Tyndall AFB in Florida. The skilled pilots and maintenance teams were poised, ready to employ their air-to-air arsenal at WESP.

The several months of planning required in preparation for this important exercise would have been rendered moot if a budget extension was not agreed upon in Washington D.C. by a midnight deadline.

The budgetary impasse between

Congressional Republicans and the Democratic White House was not resolved until the 11th hour when an extension was finally approved by both sides. The debate was followed with keen interest by members of the 104th already here at Tyndall and those poised to depart from Westfield.

As the midnight deadline approached, Airmen followed the debate in a fashion more suited to the fourth quarter of a Patriots game. The compromise was met with elation and relief akin to a game winning field goal.

Throughout the period of uncertainty, the Airmen never lost their mission focus.

“Nobody dropped their guard,” said 1st Sergeant Tim Mutti. **“Everyone remained positive and kept informed. It was a bump in the road and once it was resolved we hit the ground running,”** he

said.

Wing Commander Col Robert Brooks arrived on the 9 April and was relieved that the budget was extended.

“We got an email at about 4 AM indicating that the funding was ok. Everyone was ready to go and I am glad to be here,” said Col Brooks.



(Photographs by MSgt. Mark Fortin)

Drones lose again

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

A critical component of the Weapon System Evaluation Exercise (WSEP) and Exercise COMBAT ARCHER, the two week training exercise designed to test and train F-15 and F-22 pilots to employ live air to air missiles against maneuverable aerial targets, is the BGM167A Drone. The orange radio controlled drone serves as an evasive target for the fighter jets from Tyndall AFB in Fla. flying in support of the mission.

Anticipating the launch of a drone is similar to preparing to watch fireworks on the 4th of July. The unmanned rocket propelled target suddenly blasts skyward from the Rocket Assisted Take Off (RATO) launcher with considerable force to be pursued and destroyed by fighters.



The jet fueled aerial target serves as a particularly valuable training tool for the F-15 pilots of the 104th Fighter Wing based at Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield, Mass. For the F-15 pilots from the 104th FW, never use live weapons in training at Barnes, this exercise allows them the opportunity to fire live air-to-air weapons in a simulated combat scenario.

“The drone is equipped with electronic warfare pods that act as jamming devices and it also has chaff and flaring capabilities,” said Senior Airman Pat Naler, the subscale logistics manager of the launch site. **“It is not a vulnerable target,”** said Naler, a native of Granite City, Ill.

The drones contain valuable apparatus that necessitate that the remnants of the structure be recovered in the gulf waters adjacent to the base. This task falls to a unique unit that is known as the **“navy of the air force.”** Three Air Force vessels comprise the only marine unit in the Air Force. These missile retrievers are operated by Florida Offshore, a military contractor.

Staffed with a six man crew, these orange boats are often confused with

Coast Guard vessels but are the sole property of the U.S. Air Force and are exclusively devoted to retrieving drones **and other military assets.** **“We are out there every day and sometimes at night,”** said the owner of the company, John Anderson. **“These guys are shooting down a lot of drones,”** added Anderson.



(Photographs by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)

“It was three years of hard work culminating in one great moment,” said Lt. Col. Alexander Haldopoulos, the Director of Operations for the 131st Fighter Squadron, located at Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield Mass, as he described the exhilaration of pulling the trigger, or as he refers to it as **“pickling one off”**.

Weapons shop live at WSEP

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

For many members of the 104th, the Weapons System Evaluation Program (WSEP) deployment at Tyndall AFB in Florida will allow Airmen an opportunity to work with live weapons and ammunition for the first time in a real world combat type environment.

Tech Sgt Pat Sullivan, a Westfield native, is the weapons expeditor for the Weapons shop at Barnes and his role is to document and control munitions. **“Our function, working with live ammunition, is different than our mission day to day at Barnes. There is more to consider here at WSEP, more accountability and maintenance than our typical missions,” he said.** Things are going well and we are looking forward to a successful training TDY. So far, so good.”

Master Sgt Kevin Leahy arrived as part of the advance group on 5 April and is happy to be here. **“We have a**

good crew and WSEP is valuable training,” said the Saugerties NY resident. **“The last 3 drills we used as a training block in preparation for this exercise. It really is on the job training for our people,” he added.**



Having experienced unit members supervising the live training is an invaluable asset for the younger Airmen. Chief Master Sgt. Robert Beaulieu, weapons manager in charge of the weapons element, is a 22 year member

of the Wing and a veteran of several overseas deployments. We will install missiles on the airplanes to shoot and upload bullets into the 20mm gun systems. We will be required to reconfigure the aircraft to meet the pilot’s needs prior to each sorties said Beaulieu. **“The backshoppers (as they are called) are here and doing post flight inspections after missiles are launched. They will check out the jets and missile launchers, do inspections and troubleshoot any problems,” he said.**

Beaulieu emphasized the chief distinction between training at Barnes and here at Tyndall. **“The difference here is we never shoot live missiles at Barnes-in that respect you are getting to check the systems on the plane to make sure everything works like it’s supposed to in a real world combat type scenario,” he said.**

Doc takes flight in F-4 Phantom

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

Major Joseph Keenan, a flight surgeon with the medical group at Barnes, had the opportunity to fly in an F-4 Phantom during an hour long incentive ride at the WSEP deployment at Tyndall AFB.



For the accomplished Keenan, the ride is another landmark in his remarkable Guard journey. Dr Keenan joined the 104th later in life and has tackled each obstacle with vigor and determination. As a licensed pilot, he was thrilled to fly the Phantom for the first time, the

mainstay of US airpower in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War.

“It was a smooth flight, the F-4 is a real classic plane,” he said. “Flying it and rolling it was a thrill, just magical.” He hit supersonic at about 4000 ft and dove down at about 1.5 mach. “When the afterburners kick in you really feel it,” he recalled. “It’s kind of like a gentle giant, feels so much bigger than the F-15, so much power but gentle,” he said.

Keenan noticed the distinction between the Eagle and the Phantom. **“It seemed like the control actions seemed softer on it and responded in a different way. It has the Martin Baker ejection seat, legs and calves tied in-you felt like you were stepping into a piece of history,” he said.** Having read about the Vietnam War, Keenan was excited to fly in a plane that was such a critical part of Air Force history. **“The Phantom was the number one plane and its**

similar to driving a Rolls Royce from 1929.”

“I am amazed by the technology of the 1960s. It was actually flying a piece of history,” he said.

Doctor Keenan is a Westfield resident who has been practicing medicine in the Westfield area for decades. As one of the flight surgeons at Barnes, he is a critical part of the Wing’s team, ensuring the pilots are prepared to endure the rigors of combat flight.



(Photographs by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)

From Warthog to Eagle

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

Air Force personnel are trained to operate in uncertain environments and to adapt to changing circumstances. Shifting from the air to ground mission of the A-10 Warthog to the air to air mission of the F-15 Eagle presented the Barnestormers of the 104th Fighter Wing in Massachusetts with challenges associated with a major transition.

The 2007 re-designation has not been without its obstacles but 104th members have faced the transition with determination and a positive attitude that reflects their professional approach to each mission.

This trademark character was on display in support of the Weapon System Evaluation Program (WSEP) and Exercise COMBAT ARCHER at Tyndall AFB in Florida from 8 April to 22 April 2011. The two week training and evaluation program and associated exercise are designed to evaluate the entire weapons system-from aircrew to machine to weapon. Weapon performance is evaluated from the time it leaves the ammunition storage area, through loading, shooting, fly out and timeout. The exercise allows the unit to identify shortfalls in the entire weapons system. It also provides vital training for F-15 pilots to employ air to-air missiles against real world targets.

Several pilots of the previous A-10 Thunderbolt mission volunteered to train in the F-15 Eagle and remain members of the 104th. Lt. Col. Thom Kelly, an Albany, N.Y. native, is looking forward to firing live missiles at WSEP. He served as an A-10 driver for 10 years before deciding to attend the four month school to become an F-15 pilot. Kelly felt that the camaraderie and unit cohesion of the 104th **was important. "I decided that I**

wanted to stay at Barnes," he said. "These were the people that I served with since 98 and during OIF (Operation IRAQI FREEDOM). This is the family I was accustomed to working with and going to war with," Kelly said.



(Photographs by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)

Although many of the skills learned as a Warthog pilot are commensurate with those of the Eagle, the flying practices of the two planes are distinct. The F-15 travels at a much higher speed and the G forces are greater. Having achieved a high level of proficiency as an A-10 driver, learning the new skills required as an F-15 pilot can be a difficult endeavor. **"You have to check your ego, you may have been an expert on the A-10 but it takes awhile to master flying a different plane,"** he said.

Enlisted personnel operating on the flightline have managed to integrate established doctrine and adapt to working on a different aircraft. **"The jet engine in the F-15 can suck you in, so you need to be aware,"** said Staff Sgt. Ryan Quigley of West Brookfield. **"We will be loading a lot of missiles but it is going to be great,"** said the weapons loader who recently reenlisted. At WSEP, they will be loading live weapons.

The MXG Officer in Charge (OIC) during the WSEP exercise is

Maj. Peter Carr. A veteran of OIF, where as a sortie generation officer, he was part of a team that produced upwards of 40 sorties a day in a **combat environment, "We had a 98% sortie effectiveness rate, we learned a lot, and the professionalism we**

brought home with us continues to be present on the **flightline today,"** said the Southwick, MA resident. **"Our unit being, with the A-10 for so long, went through a culture shock moving from air-to-ground to air-to-air mission. The F-15 mission is all about radar and identifying targets from far away... it's just a different animal, but a righteous mission! We are part of new proud heritage with the Eagle and our guys are on board now. The incentive rides in the jet don't hurt either,"** he added.

The Maintenance Group gained 179 military positions and more than 60 full-time positions with the new mission, it speaks to the complexity of the Eagle.

"We have a number of people that have never been on a trip like WSEP, myself included. This is just one more résumé builder for the 104th Fighter Wing, as well as a great opportunity to get great training for Ops and Maintenance," said Carr.

"I've been in the Guard for 18 years. I had planned to be in for six, to get the educational benefits. Not long in to my first term, I found this exciting job, great people, and outstanding lifestyle. I used to work full-time at an insurance company, and you would fall asleep if I told you what I did for a living. There are days that I go home and I can't believe they pay us for this...and I can look my kids square in the eye. Glad to be here, proud to serve," he said.

F-15 air-to-air combat training at Tyndall

By Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis, Public Affairs NCOIC

(Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.) -- Pilots of the 104th Fighter Wing deployed to Tyndall AFB, Florida for a two week training period in April to participate in the Weapons System Evaluation Program (WSEP), also known as "Combat Archer". This is the first opportunity for the F-15 pilots of the 131st Fighter Squadron to engage in actual air-to-air combat using missiles against real world targets, providing them with greater confidence in their abilities, and reinforcing their hard work and training efforts at home station.

During regular training flights or sorties conducted at home station, ground crews and pilots go through the process of loading and firing a missile, without actually firing it, so there's no way to be certain whether the shot was accurate, and if it hit the target.

Combat Archer provides and tests the weapons systems of every Air Force combat aircraft platform, from many different units every year who fire the AIM-7 Sparrow, AIM-9 Sidewinder and AIM-120 AMRAAM missiles. The explosive warheads are removed and replaced with a telemetry package that tracks the missiles trajectory during the combat exercise, sending data back to program managers where they can view the "shot" accuracy via the Air Combat

Maneuvering Instrumentation (ACMI) pod.

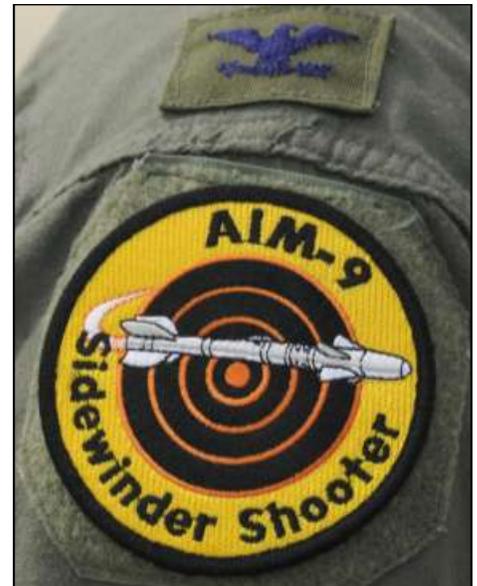


The pilots fire at the MQM-107D "Streaker", an unmanned mini-drone of which the projected heat signature can be altered to imitate other aircraft. Another target is the full size unmanned modified F-4 aircraft which provides a full scale target during the combat exercise. These drones are shot down over the Gulf of Mexico, within the "safe combat" training air space, and then recovered by WSEP personnel, and re-used. The main mission is to fire live air-to-air missiles, but the F-15 pilots are also tested on their war fighting skills against dissimilar aircraft platforms, such as the F-16 and F-22 aircraft.

The training at Combat Archer provides to the 104 Fighter Wing pilots increases their confidence and mission readiness, should the time come that they are required to down

another aircraft. According to Col. Kenneth Lambrich, 104th Fighter Wing Detachment Commander, the evaluation of the 104th's performance to this point has been "the best fleet seen to date inspected by the WSEP team". Not only do the pilots receive training, but the F-15 ground crews also receive training and a grade in the evaluation process.

"We've had no lost sorties, and maintenance has been performing at top-notch quality since day one", Col. Lambrich remarked. Capt. Osme Benedict commented that "according to the evaluation team, the 104th Fighter Wing's performance has been unheard of at Combat Archer".



(Photographs by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

WSEP results

WSEP Statistics:

Aircraft Deployed : 8
Sorties Flown: 124
Number of Aircraft Firing Missiles: 7
Number of Missiles Fired: 21
Number of Rounds Expended: 4,331

WSEP Inspection Results:

Mission preparation—above average
Weapon system knowledge—above average
Tactical execution (training/live-fire) - above average
Weapons employment—above average
Combat Shield - **above average "best in CAF"**
Safety—above average (no safety violations)



Barnes air dominance

By Capt. Neal Byrne, 131st Fighter Squadron

I am going to take a moment of your time to pass along some basic ideas regarding the Air Dominance mission here at Barnes. I often think back to when I was a maintainer on the A-10. I recall watching the aircraft pattern-traffic and thinking it was pretty cool and often wondered what the aircraft were doing while off-station. Today, I hope to give you a general idea of what kind of missions we are executing when we blast off in the mighty Eagle here at Barnes.

The F-15's configurations changing from time to time; sometimes you see jets with three external fuel tanks, sometimes two, sometimes one, and sometimes none.

Why would this be the case?

The Air Dominance mission is complex; therefore we have to break the mission up into very distinct parts while we are in a **training posture. This "part-task training" approach is an essential way to make sure our pilots have the experience and tools they need when they are called up to go to war.**

The Air Dominance missions tasked to the F-15C are Air Sovereignty Alert (ASA), Offensive Counter Air (OCA) and Defensive Counter Air (DCA).

OCA is an escort mission, flying with a strike package (like a four ship of A-10s) into a battle space defended them from enemy air threats and then getting them out safely once their bombs are on target.

DCA is a mission that requires the F-15 to defend a location from an advancing airborne enemy threat.

ASA is hybrid mission, comprised mostly of DCA tactics, but has some elements of OCA.

When we train, we break up our yearly training plan into distinct subsets of Air Dominance. Those subsets include: Tactical Intercepts (TI), Air Combat Maneuvering (ACM), and Basic Fighter Maneuvering (BFM).

In TI you start far away from the

enemy – usually well beyond visual range (BVR) - typically in a four ship formation. A four ship is the basic fighting element for combat in an F-15.

During ACM training, you have closed down the range to your enemy – usually just outside to just inside visual limits – and you typically have broken off into a two ship element.

The basic combat training is BFM, the proverbial dog fight with the enemy, and more often than not on your



(Photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

own, trying to kill and/or survive.

In combat, pilots would ensure their jet is configured appropriately for the subset of the mission they are executing. Typically you start the mission with a full load of bullets, missiles, and as much fuel as you can **strap on the jet. If you're engaged with the enemy and the external tanks are empty you'd punch them off** with the combat jettison button in the cockpit. Not getting rid of the tanks could mean the difference between living and dying in a real dog fight (we do not jettison our tanks during training).

When you see a jet on the line with external fuel tanks hanging, you can safely assume that it is configured to execute a medium to long range training mission. If the jet has no external fuel tanks, you can bet it is going out to execute in the within visual range (WVR) environment performing either ACM or BFM.

Where do we go?

Day to day around Barnes, the F-15s head south to W-105 (*commonly known as Whisky 105*), a warning area and our primary training airspace, which is just south and east of Long Island, NY. This area is a relatively large swath of overwater airspace where we are able to execute in the supersonic flight regime without breaking windows or making the citizenry wonder why it is thundering outside without any clouds in the sky.

If the weather doesn't support flying

out over the water we have subsonic airspace to the north known as Yankee Military Operating Area (MOA) just south of Franconia Notch or Viper MOA out to the east of Fort Drum Army Airfield in Watertown, NY. While our over land airspaces limit our speed they are very valuable areas due to the terrain and associated challenges of finding air to air targets over land.

A large percentage of the flying that happens out of Barnes these days is done in conjunction with other Air National Guard and Active Duty Units.

Training like we are going to fight takes a hefty amount of airborne assets. **"Red Air" (when friendly aircraft fly threat country profiles)** is needed in order to exercise the tactical systems and capabilities of our pilots. **We often get "Red Air" on local training missions** from the following units: Burlington F-16s, Atlantic City F-16s, DC F-16s, Langley F-22s, and Oceana F-18s. A great deal of coordination happens behind the scenes of every training mission to maintain the airborne combat capability of the 104FW now and in the future.

I hope this quick look at Barnes former Air Dominance helps to explain a little bit about this vital mission. If you have questions about the 104FW airborne mission, please do not hesitate to ask a pilot.

Thanks for doing what you do with such pride and professionalism.

Employer support the Guard and Reserve... & learned how

By Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau, Public Affairs Photographer

On Thursday, April 14th the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) hosted 20 employers during a 'Boss-lift' to Tyndall, AFB Fla. These employers are from various companies that have military employees. They participated in this event to learn more about what the Guard, specifically the 104th Fighter Wing's mission as well as the ways the Mass. National Guard



(Photograph by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau)

also supports the community. The Bosslift is focused on education as well as helping employers understand how they can benefit from having military employees within their company, and what they can do to better support those employees.

The Bosslift highlighted many aspects of the Guard's mission. The employers traveled down to Tyndall aboard a Pennsylvania Air National Guard KC-135, and watched a mid-air refueling mission. Once they landed, they watched the 104th FW launch for a combat exer-

cise against F-22s and F-16s. They were able to watch a mission via the Air Combat Maneuver Instrumentation (ACMI) pod. In addition, they toured the Exercise SILVER FLAG location where they learned about the Red Horse Squadrons and Explosive Ordnance Disposal's mission and the role the Guard plays in the Air Operations Center.

During their time at Tyndall, AFB, the employees were asked to sign a Statement of Support, a program designed to gain and maintain employer support through having the employers sign a ceremonial charter, indicating they do support their military employees. By signing the statement the employers are recognizing, honoring and enforcing the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). "This program is the ESGR's effort to gain and maintain employer support", explain Earl Bonett, Ombudsman Director for Massachusetts ESGR. "By signing the statement of support the employers promise to continue to support service members and their families during peacetime as well as wartime."

During the Commanders dinner that was held on the first night of the trip, Earl Bonett asked Anthony L. Cignoli, President of A.L. Cignoli Company, to sign the Statement of Support. When asked why he signed the statement he said, "I want current and future employees to know that they are supported by

me (the company) in what they do for the military." He wanted them to know that they would have a good company to work for while they are working for the mili-



(Photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

tary as well.

Since ESGR started after the Vietnam War in 1974, they have been a critical part of keeping the guard and reserves an integral part of the military construct; informing the civilian employers of their importance and how important their continual support is. In reality the nation's Reserve components (total Guard and Reserve forces from all branches of the military) comprise approximately 48 percent of our total available military manpower. It is because of this that ESGR is now an official Department of Defense agency that seeks to develop and promote a culture in which all American employers support and value the military service of their employees.

PME at Barnes top ANG stats

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

Barnes was host to Master Sgt. Andrew Traugot, Director of Education Services for Electronic-Professional Military Education, who came to Barnes to learn from the Barnes Satellite Noncommissioned Officer Academy so successful.

"Barnes E-PME site is the top performing satellite location, both for participation and test scores" said Traugot, he added that Barnes test scores are 6% higher than the next best performing site.

Traugot indicated that the level of commitment from both the facilitators and the students is an indicator of why this program is so much more successful.

As a former teacher and superintendent of both the Airmen Leadership School and the NCO Academy at McGhee Tyson, he has now been selected to manage the satellite program across the Guard.

The Satellite program is offered twice a year, and is one of the options members of the Massachusetts Air Na-

tional Guard have to satisfy the in-residence PME requirement for promotion.

The Course offers the same curriculum as the in-residence schoolhouse, with the convince of attending from a home-station location one-night a week. There is a 2-week in residence portion to the satellite program, but this is sometime much more palatable than the 6-weeks away from home for the standard in residence course. For more information on E-PME, visit the base education center in the Bldg 001.

A quick look at the new Public Affairs office

By Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis, Public Affairs NCOIC

On October 1, 2007, the Air Force and Air National Guard merged the Multimedia office with Public Affairs, removing Multimedia from the Communications Flight. In doing so, this has altered the Multimedia Support Center's mission from a customer support office to an office with an information operation focus. The PA team captures historical information, and provides commanders tools for their strategic communication use.

Formerly known as the base Multimedia Support Center or **"Multimedia"**, the merger has changed the name of the office back to Visual Information (VI). VI now primarily collects historical information by using digital still photography and videography to capture and store the information for historical purposes, and also share that information with the world through the Public Affairs venue. The 3V Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) for VI has been eliminated, so all VI personnel now hold the Public Affairs 3N AFSC. During the merger process, the AF and ANG also eliminated the Graphic Arts career field, thus limiting support for any graphic arts and related support. The title of still-photographers remains the same, but the title of the videographers has changed to Broadcaster/Combat Correspondent. So, the support which these career fields provide to the base and its personnel has changed slightly.

Now that Visual Information (VI), previously Multimedia, works di-

rectly within the Public Affairs office their mission has changed to incorporate the three tenants of Public Affairs and Information Operations. In general, Public Affairs works within three areas, providing **commander's information** (Airscoop, websites, etc.), working community outreach (base tours, ESGR partnership, etc.), and working with the media (press releases, news conferences, etc.); all three disciplines require different tools, but they all come together through a strategic plan.

The Weapon Systems Evaluation Program (WSEP) trip to Tyndall AFB, Florida is providing a few of the Public Affairs personnel with their first opportunity to deploy as a PA team consisting of a journalist and photographers to **"document" the trip**. While on the trip, the team is required to conduct interviews with unit personnel, gather facts and information about the people and the exercise, write stories, capture supporting visual imagery, and send all of this information up through the proper channels so it can be disseminated throughout many different PA media venues. From beginning to end, this is a very lengthy process, and most people only see a small part of what PA personnel actually do. Speaking **from a photographer's point of view**, **"most people only see a small portion of the entire photo process, which is when the photographer is out taking the photos"**, says **Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau**, unit photogra-

pher. The time consuming work starts after the photos and videos are taken, when the imagery needs to be downloaded, assigned an AF naming sequence, edited, captioned, resized for multiple media venues, and routed to the PA officer for approval.

The goal of all PA professionals is **to tell the Airman's story**. This is done through utilizing Defense Imagery Management Operations Center (DIMOC), the Air Force Public Affairs Agency (AFPAA), Air Force News, as well as other local and base media outlets. Anywhere an event is taking place or a story is unfolding, Public Affairs is there to cover it.

The Visual Information office still provides a photo and video customer based support to unit members, but **it's now limited or geared more to the overall PA mission and strategic**



(Photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)



(Photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

communication, which is its first priority. More information about the Public Affairs and Visual Information offices can be found on the AF Portal 104FW/PA page, the base CCTV system channel 7, by accessing the VI Customer Service Guide located in Y:\003-Photographs and Digital Still Images\03-04 Visual Information Items\Customer Service Guide, by calling the PA officer at extension 1069, or by e-mail at 104fw_pa@ang.af.mil.

Cracked!!

By Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau, Public Affairs Photographer

The 104th Fighter Wing from Barnes Air National Guard Base, Westfield, Massachusetts has been deployed to Tyndall Air Force Base Fla. since Saturday April 9th, 2011. They are participating in a training Exercise called Combat Archer, the exercise portion of the Weapon Sys-



tem Evaluation Program (WSEP). WSEP is an Air Force program that evaluates the effectiveness of all Air Force Weapon Systems, from the missiles and guns to the aircraft that employ them.

On the night of April 19th, after aircraft number 064 completed a good training flight, the F-15 Eagle's crew chief, Senior Airman John Yates performed his routine post-flight inspection. As he worked his way around the aircraft he was startled to find an eight inch crack in the **gun door panel**. "A half inch to an inch crack can be normal (due to the strain of combat flight) and relatively easy to repair," said Senior Airman Yates. "An eight inch crack is odd, and requires more extensive work to repair than a routine surface abrasion."

The evening maintenance crew is

responsible for ensuring the aircraft are ready to launch the next morning, but this repair was unable to be done during the twilight hours. In order to get it done right, the 104th Maintenance team needed some help from the host unit at Tyndall Air Force Base. Their sheet metal shop, and their associated tools and equipment were needed, and unfortunately, they were closed until the **morning**. "A standard patch would take a few hours" said Staff Sgt. Jeff King, a member of the 104th Fighter Wing Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. He added that this structural issue would be far more time intensive to repair, and extra equipment was needed.

Had the crack not been found "There could have been catastrophic damage (to the aircraft)" explained Master Sgt. Gary Allen, the maintenance production controller. He continued by explaining that an engine could have received FOD (Foreign Object Damage) or the aircraft flying behind could have been damaged from any debris that could have fallen off the lead jet.

Sgt. King and Staff Sergeant Nathaniel Poudrier, began the repair first thing in the morning, working against a very short timeline. The effected Eagle was scheduled to fly in the afternoon and perform aerial gun training for one of the pilots, so time was not a luxury. King and Poudrier integrated into the Tyndall team and started working. This event demonstrates the true value of this type of training deployment. In the past, the Guard and Reserves may not have been able to work seamlessly together with their active counterparts; but with the help of aggressive training, and shared resources, you would not be able to pick the Guard member out from the crowd.

The origins of the crack are still unknown; it is suspected to have originated from the aircraft pulling

many G's (force of gravity) while the aircraft was performing combat training while assigned to its original unit, before recently being transferred to Barnes in late 2010. Aircraft 064 is nearly 30 years old, and the stress of training and combat



(Photograph by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau)

leave its toll; the members of the Mass. Air National Guard work tirelessly to keep these aircraft flying, **defending our nation...through hard work and training**, 064 was able to fly that afternoon and more valuable training was accomplished.



(Photograph by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau)

Keep drinks and friends close at hand

By Master Sgt. Chris Curtis, Law Office Superintendent

I've read some recent cases indicating the so called "date rape" drugs and associated follow-on crimes that had been the subject of media attention several years ago have rebounded in popularity. This trend is true both Air Force wide and also locally. In light of this trend, it is important to review some of the basics about these crimes in order to better protect ourselves and our wingmen.

The three most popular date rape drugs are Rohypnol, GHB, and Ketamine. Criminals use these drugs because they cause their victims to lose the ability to resist being assaulted and often cause memory lapses about the event. Also, these drugs leave the body in a relatively short time – 72 hours or less. In almost every case, **someone will taint a victim's drink at a party or nightclub, then escort the defenseless person to an isolated location to assault or rob them.**

There are two things we should be

vigilant about – watching out for ourselves, and watching out for our wingman. Always make sure you keep any beverage container you are drinking from close at hand. It only takes a few seconds for someone to contaminate an open container if you turn your back. On the same note, keep an eye on your wingman. Watch for overly friendly strangers getting a little too close and leaning in too much to talk – or being busy with **their hands. Don't overlook the bartender either. Bartenders have been known to work in concert with accomplices to put drugs in patrons' drinks.**

An important point to keep in mind is that an actual assault doesn't necessarily have to occur in order for a crime to have been committed. For instance, Massachusetts criminal laws provide that: **"Whoever applies, administers to or causes to be taken by a person any drug, matter or**

thing with intent to stupefy or overpower such person so as to thereby enable any person to have sexual intercourse or unnatural sexual intercourse with such person shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life or for any term of **years not less than ten years."**

While it is the victim's choice as to whether to report an incident, the advantages of reporting include bringing into play the full spectrum of assistance that is available. Also, even if the identity of the perpetrator is not known, reporting the event might eventually help law enforcement if a pattern can be established.

There are many excellent informational resources available – one of which is <http://www.womenshealth.gov/faq/date-rape-drugs.cfm> Please contact the legal office at extension 1244 for any additional questions or issues.

Airman in Focus: Staff Sgt. Neisha Nixon

By Airman 1st Class Bonnie Harper, Public Affairs Journalist



(Photos by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau)

(Barnes Air National Guard Base, Westfield, MA – January 9, 2011) Staff Sgt. Neisha Nixon was selected as the Fighter Wing technician of the year. She has worked in the finance office here since her enlistment six

years ago. After three other positions, she now works here full time as an accounting travel technician. Computing travel expenses is currently her primary focus, but as the UCI approaches she will work on paying bills and other accounting duties. As a financial technician, Sgt. Nixon enjoys the customer service aspects of the work center, as well as her **colleagues. "I don't think you could find a better group of people to work with," she explained.** She also finds the daily challenges and educational opportunities to be **rewarding. "I like the fact that you're always learning. There's always a new situation that no one has ever done before, so we have to research as a group and then figure it out."** Sgt. Nixon primarily joined the Air National Guard for the educational

benefits but has found her career to be rewarding in many ways. She has taken advantage of the tuition assistance program through her full-time studies at Westfield State University. After receiving her **associate's degree in accounting, she is continuing to pursue a bachelor's in accounting, which coincides with her military career.** Over the past few years, Sgt. Nixon has learned to balance her full-time job while finishing her undergraduate education. Last year, she deployed to Qatar and worked as a cashier. Reflecting on **her time overseas, she said, "While I was deployed I learned I can work long hours in a stressful environment."** Sgt. Nixon views being able to travel, learn new things and meet new people as the most rewarding aspects of her job in the ANG, she said.



Safety: How goes it and UCI preparation

By Master Sgt. Shannon Huard, Ground Safety

If you are reading this, it means you left the last UTA and arrived back again safely. Whether it was intentional or not, **you have succeeded in being safe. I don't want to jinx anything, but as you can see below; our injury rates reduced by 25% since last month. This is a significant improvement. I would attribute that to personnel being more attentive to safety practices and procedures due to the upcoming inspection. Can we continue this downward trend when it comes to our injury rates even after the inspection is over? The answer is "yes" we can. How can we do that? By keeping safety in mind in everything we do.**

This unit has experienced 3 injuries since the last UTA.

- Worker struck head on missile fin; Head laceration; Lost situational awareness; Not greater than first aid.
- Worker injured; Struck in head by aircraft panel; Head laceration; Sutures to close the wound.
- Worker tripped over cables; Strained ankle and knee; Situational awareness; Outcome TBD.

This unit has experienced 1 mishap since the last UTA.

- F-15 departed controlled flight; No damage; Mis-rigged flight controls; RTB ok.
- MHU-83 D/E hose leak; Failed hose; Internal leak; Boom line
- GMV impacted bollard; Scratched rear bumper and damaged bollard; No injuries.

This year, the Air Force has designated the time period of 27 May through 6 September as the Air Force Safety Center's "Critical days of Summer" safety campaign. The vision this year is to ensure all Airmen have zero preventable fatal mishaps and an injury free summer. From Memorial Day to Labor Day is the timeframe when the majority of personnel take time off from work to travel or engage in recreational activities. Remember that no matter what you do, you need to do it safely. Heat distress, automobile mishaps, boating mishaps, sports injuries and many other activities can pose hazards. You are an important and valuable asset to your family and your unit so

make sure you utilize risk management prior to engaging in summer festivities.

The Safety Office has fielded dozens of phone calls and email inquiries regarding motorcycle safety training. If you intend to operate a motorcycle on this installation, you must first complete Motorcycle Safety Foundation approved training. The 104th FW has an agreement with Pioneer Valley Rider Training, Inc. for them to provide training to 104th unit members at a half price discount of \$137.50. When registering for the training, ensure you tell them that you are a 104th member to get the discounted rate. Upon completion of the training, bring your receipt and your completion card to the Wing Safety office and a member of our staff will help you fill out the required document to get you reimbursed for the course. We will also issue a decal for you to show the Security Forces personnel at the main gate that you have been trained, and are authorized to ride your bike on base. You must also wear appropriate PPE. If you have any questions, **please don't hesitate to call extension 1281 or 1116** and someone will point you in the right direction.

Active shooter training

An Active Shooter Exercise during the June UTA, including a base lockdown, consisting of gate closures, securing buildings and sheltering in place. During the exercise, expect to see first responders, responding to the base. You may also hear sirens or simulated gunshots. (Security Force personnel will use blank rounds during the simulation.) Everyone on base is being evaluated, here is what you should do in an active shooter event. Remember to train like we fight



If a shooter is in your area:

Evacuate if possible

- Have an escape route and plan in mind.
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow.
- Leave all belongings behind and help others escape, if possible.
- Prevent others from entering an area where the active shooter may be present.

If you hear 'LOCK DOWN' 3 times:

Hide out if you cannot evacuate

- Lock the door and blockade it with heavy

furniture.

- Silence all cell phones and turn off any sources of noise in the room, such as a television or radio.
- Hide behind large items and remain calm.
- Hide in a place out of the active shooter's view that will provide protection if shots are fired.
- Do not hide in a place that will restrict options for movement.
 - Dial 911, if possible, to alert police to the active shooter's location. If speaking is not an option, then leave the phone line open to allow the dispatcher to listen.

Take action as a last resort

- As a last resort, and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt or incapacitate the active shooter by throwing items and improvising weapons, yelling or acting as aggressively as possible against him or her. Ensure you commit to your actions.
- Escape if you can. If the shooter is in close range and you cannot flee, your chance of survival is much greater if



you try to incapacitate him or her.

When law enforcement arrives

- Remain calm, and follow the police officer's instructions.
- Place any carried items on the ground, raise both hands and spread all fingers.
- Keep hands visible at all times and avoid making quick movements toward officers, such as attempting to hold on to them for safety.
- Avoid pointing, screaming or yelling.
- Do not stop to ask officers for help or direction when evacuating. Just proceed in the direction from which officers are entering the premises.



After you have evacuated

- Provide details about the active shooter to law enforcement personnel. Members should provide the following information: location and number of shooters, physical description of shooters, number and type of weapons used and number and location of potential victims.



Chaplain's corner

By Capt. (Fr.) Ken DeVoie

Throughout the current state of operations in today's modern Military, we hear a great deal about resiliency, job proficiency and personal safety. Physical well-being is a top priority too, and we spend a good deal of time and energy working toward achieving the established standards in all of these areas. As a Chaplain, one of my responsibilities is to help military personnel look at the importance of the spiritual dimension of their lives. And whether we realize it or not, we all have a spiritual life. It is either healthy or it is not. Now, the interesting fact is that there are no "established" standards that the Military has for its personnel when it comes to establishing a spiritual life. The Military, however, does recognize the importance and need to foster a spiritual dimension to our lives in order for us to achieve true balance, total well-being and overall

resiliency in life. So how do we achieve Spiritual Resilience? Firstly, we need to recognize the various dimensions of life; and they are: the Spiritual, Physical, Social and Emotional. Integration and attention to these dimensions helps us to achieve total well-being. The key to total well-being is to "exercise" each dimension of your being and maintain a balance between them. Secondly, we need to assess how we are doing spiritually. One question we can ask is simply: Do I nourish and exercise the spiritual dimension of my being? If the answer is yes – Great! If it is no, then I want to encourage you to make it a goal for your overall personal well-being.

It is a fact that people who achieve a balance in all the above mentioned dimensions of life, live happier, healthier and longer lives. They are less likely to suffer for the effects of depression (which can be a huge factor in Suicide), along with

other mental and physical ailments, and have better more fulfilling relationships with others.

If you do not know how to begin working toward or start with the "exercising" of the Spiritual dimension of who you are, stop by and see me or Pastor Steve here in the Chaplain's Office and we would be glad to help you along the way toward achieving spiritual resilience and a true balance in your life. Seek the eternal, look toward that which is greater than you are! You will truly be better off for it.

We are also here for counseling, advice, encouragement and care. If you need anything, do not hesitate to call on us. Remember that God cares about you, is not mad at you and wants your life to be healthy and blessed. Have an awesome Air Force day!

Air National Guard Band of NE have new commander



U.S. Air Force Photo by, Senior Airman Eric J. Kolesnikovas, Massachusetts National Guard Public Affairs)

MILFORD, Mass. - Incoming Commander of the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast 2nd Lt. Steven Ortiz of Willington, Conn., receives the company colors from Maj. Gen. L. Scott Rice commander of the Massachusetts Air National Guard during the change of command ceremony held at the Massachusetts National Guard Headquarters here, Feb. 13, 2011. (left)

Master Sgt. Charles Edgerly of the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast presents, their outgoing commander Capt. John D. Keeler with a gift from the unit during their change of command ceremony (right)



MXS coins



All questions or to purchase the MXS coins —
SSgt. Matthew Chapman Age x1359
Or MSgt. Dominique Chapman Orderly room x1300

AMXS coins

AMXS patch—\$4 each, coins—\$10
TSgt. Tina Scobie x1350



LRS semi-annual awards

LRS semi annual award winners for
1 QTR FY 2011

As of 4 May 2011

AMN: SrA Fabricio Ochoa (CE/formerly
LGRM/IEU)

NCO: SSgt. Gilbert Febus (LGRV/Veh Mx)

SNCO: MSgt. Scott Sanderson (LGLO/
Ops & Compliance)

Technician: SSgt. Erin Barr (LGRF/POL)

LRS Semi Annual Awards board was held on
4 May 1500 in LRS Conference Room.

Board was comprised of CMSgt Sheffield,
SMSgt Bigos and SMSgt Walts.

What's My Line Winner!



(Photo by technical Sgt. Anthony Mutti)

Last month's winner is :

"Darn Egress! They installed the seat backwards. Wait a minute...maybe if I turn around..."

Submitted by CMSgt Wayne Brown.

Last month's runners-up are:

"How did he get bug' splatter on the back window?" Submitted by anonymous.

"you can't escape this Florida sun anywhere" Submitted by anonymous.

What's My Line?



(Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)

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

For Your Information

Joining Forces Initiative Launched

By Kim Ainsworth, Joining Forces Executive Director

President Barack Obama, Vice President Joseph Biden, First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden today launched Joining Forces, a national initiative to support and honor **America's service members and their families**. The initiative aims to educate, challenge, and spark action from all sectors of our society – citizens, communities, businesses, non-profits, faith based institutions, philanthropic organizations, and government – to ensure military families have the support they have earned.

Joining Forces is spearheaded by Mrs. Obama and Dr. Biden, who have **been leaders in supporting our nation's** military families and advocating for

their priorities. Joining Forces was created to address the unique challenges and needs of military families that Mrs. Obama and Dr. Biden have heard firsthand during meetings with military spouses, briefings with military leaders, and many visits to military communities at home and abroad, and through their work on military family priorities. Building on this groundwork, the initiative will focus on key priority areas – employment, education, and wellness, while engaging in a comprehensive effort to raise awareness about the service, sacrifice, and needs of military families.

As part of the initiative, a new website – JoiningForces.gov – provides



ways for all Americans to step up and show their gratitude to our service members and their families. Visitors can send messages of thanks, find opportunities to get involved and share stories of service. The website will highlight Federal Government support and the outstanding American citizens, communities, and businesses that are **servicing our nation's military families**.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/04/12/president-obama-vice-president-biden-first-lady-michelle-obama-and-dr-ji>



1st Annual Pioneer Valley Club Golf Tournament



When: July 15th

Time: 1100L

Where: Tekoa Country Club



Golf+Dinner: \$65

Dinner Only: \$20.00

Grand Prize: 4 Red Sox Tickets

Come unwind and celebrate with the PVC. Tournament includes lunch at the turn, catered dinner, prizes and giveaways

POCs:

Nick Hebert
Kristin Martin

Robert Oleksak
Barbara Plotniak

Yasser Menwer
Katie Fredette

For Your Information

thank you and congratulations Pat Connors

After a decade of dedicated service as the Family Readiness Group chair, Ms. Pat Connors has handed the reins to **Ms. Lynn O'Brien (wife of Tech Sgt. James O'Brien)** from the Maintenance Group.

During her tenure, Ms. Connors has led a strong team of volunteers setting up countless events and programs for the families of 104th members.

With her leadership **the Children's Christmas** party has grown to more than 250 children, incorporating children from both the Air and Army National Guard.

She also served as the co-chair with Lisa Potito with B Co, 181 ENG as they stood up their FRG.



Pat Connors leading the annual Halloween Costume parade Oct '10 (Photo by SMSgt. Robert Sabonis)

She was named the Air National Guard "**Outstanding Air Readiness and Support Award**" winner in 2003. She was instrumental in motivating community groups to support a variety of Family Readiness Programs, including ice skating events, family swims, Easter Egg hunts, spaghetti dinners, bus trips, craft and card making to name but a few.

During these times she prepared and gave many readiness briefings for families of deploying personnel, organized volunteer training and meetings and managed volunteer work schedules.

What's Being Served at the Dining Facility?

Saturday

Main Entrée: Chicken Parmesan or Meatballs served w/ either Marinara or Alfredo Sauce
Sides: Ziti or Bowtie Pasta, Peas or Carrots
Soup: Tortellini Soup or Chili
Short Order: Burgers or Sausage Grinder with Onions and Peppers served with French Fries

Sunday

Main Entrée: Oven Roasted Turkey with Gravy or Beef Stroganoff
Sides: Mashed Potatoes or Egg Noodles, Green Beans, Cauliflower or Carrots
Soup: Cream of Broccoli or Chili
Short Order: Grilled Chicken Sandwich served w/ French Fries

AGR's, Officer's and Members on Orders - \$4.25

Relay for Life

On June 3rd and 4th, the 2011 Springfield Relay For Life will be taking place at Springfield College. TSgt Lawrence Buell will be taking part with the East **Longmeadow Firefighter's Relay Brigade**. Our team goal is to raise \$1,000, or \$100 per team member. I will be walking in honor of my mother-in-law Claire Leger. Claire went home to be with the Lord in 2005 after a five year battle with multiple myeloma. Her family and friends miss her very deeply. If you would like to honor Claire, or someone you know who battled cancer, please consider supporting me and my team with a small contribution. The link below is my **personal "Relay For Life" web page**. It only takes a couple clicks to make a contribution, thank you.
http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY11NE/289402620?px=20826112&pg=personal&fr_id=31077

Mountain Home Air Force Base Yellowstone National Park MWR Country Trailers are now available for booking. Beginning April 1, ANG/AFR and Active Duty members can book their Summer Vacations at Yellowstone National Park through the Mountain Home Air Force Base MWR office. Call (208) 828-6333 for more information.



Once again for Memorial day weekend - races and events at Lime Rock Park is free to all Vets, active duty and immediate families.

If it's May, that means Lime Rock Park's traditional big Memorial Day opening race weekend is less than 30 days away – here come the fast and radical Rolex Daytona Prototypes!

The May 27-30 Grand-Am Memorial Day Classic is four great days – one day of practice and qualifying (Friday), two full race days (Saturday is two Continental Tire Sports Car Challenge races, plus support races; Monday is practice, qualifying and the race for the Rolex DP and GT, plus support races). **Sunday is the Veteran's Memorial Car Show** on the race track.

We have a few things we're sure you'd like to know:

* Free Admission for Active Military Personnel and all Veterans. Immediate family included.

* **The Second Annual Veteran's Memorial Car Show** is Sunday, May 29.

- Bring your car for the show – \$10 to enter – or come to see the show (\$5).

Proceeds from the Royals' Garage Presents the Veterans Memorial Car Show at Lime Rock Park benefit the **Veteran's Memorial Wall at the refurbished Torrington City Hall**. Race Weekend Ticket holders free. (But we encourage you to still donate!)

For Your Information

POSITION TITLE: Wing Human Resources Advisor (HRA)

MIN/MAX GRADE: Min Grade is MSgt (E-7) who is immediately promotable SMSgt (E-8)

LOCATION: 104 Fighter Wing, Barnes ANG Base

CLOSING DATE: 01 JUN 2011

LENGTH OF ASSIGNMENT: Three (3) years. Extensions will not exceed six total years and is at the discretion of the Adjutant General and HRA Program Manager. Exception: if the Wing HRA is selected as the State HRA- then they can serve up to 8 years as a HRA.

WHO MAY APPLY: All Traditional Guard members of the Massachusetts Air National Guard, with any AFSC, in the grade of Master Sergeant or promotable to Senior Master Sergeant. Military Technicians or Active Guard Reservists are not militarily compatible or eligible to fill the HRA position. The HRA positions are controlled grade positions funded by NGB for Traditional Guard members only.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Reports to the Wing Commander. Develops and maintains liaison and facilitates team relations with the Wing Commander, Community Manager, Director of Personnel, Military Equal Opportunity Officer, Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant CCM, State HRA, State CCM, First Sergeants, Recruiters, Retention Office Manager, Chaplain and Community leaders. Advises command leadership on diversity related issues leading **to the enhancement of the organization's culture. Promote opportunities** for all ANG members to maximize their individual potential for success without regard to their cultural differences. Develop proposals for improving diversity for the Wing for leadership approval. Works with key individuals to achieve diversity management objectives. Additional responsibilities are outlined in chapter 4 of AFI 36-2110 Human Resources Advisor (HRA) Program. This AFI will also provide a sample of a cover letter and a military resume format. The selected individual must attend the ANG HRA Orientation Course (10 Days) within 12 months of appointment.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Successful candidates will have the ability to work independently on difficult projects. Ability to foster teamwork and participation in diversity events and programs. Ability to be persuasive and speak candidly to Wing leadership on diversity programs. Must be able to track and show **progress in helping to shape the unit's diversity metrics. Wing HRA takes** functional direction from the State HRA and must provide prompt and accurate reports. All candidates must fully comply with AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel, and meet current fitness standards as outlined in AFI 36-2905, Fitness Program. Members must have strong written and verbal communication skills, able to work long and irregular hours and be able to travel frequently as part of their duties.

APPLICATION AND CLOSING DATE:

Application will include civilian and military resume, current records review listing, a current Fitness Assessment, a letter indicating the **applicant's reasons for desiring the position, and a** letter of recommendation from the Wing/TS Commander. Please be sure to include current contact information (phone and email). Applications can be mailed to: CMSgt Richard MacDonald ANG JFHQ 50 Maple St. Milford MA 01757 or emailed to: richard.macdonald@comcast.net. Applications must be received no later than **01 JUN 11**. Applicants will be notified of date, place and time of interview.

Traditional Office Positions

POSITION TITLES: Equal Opportunity Officer
Public Affairs Officer
Budget Officer

MIN/MAX GRADE: Members immediately eligible for commission through the rank of Major

LOCATION: 104 Fighter Wing, Barnes ANG Base (Westfield)

CLOSING DATE: All applications are due by July 22, 2011 with an expected board date during the August UTA

LENGTH OF ASSIGNMENT: These positions require a reserve commissions, and a minimum 4 year service commitment

WHO MAY APPLY: These positions are open to all individuals who meet commissioning qualifications to include education, age, fitness requirements

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Equal Opportunity Officer : Deliver world-class Equal Opportunity and Human Relations services through balanced Equal Opportunity compliance, Human Relations Education, Organizational Climate Assessments, and Affirmative Employment to attract and propagate a diverse corporate culture that enables the total force the opportunity to attain the highest levels of achievement commensurate with individual talent and performance

Public Affairs Officer: Public Affairs Officers use their diplomatic expertise to educate the public while safeguarding the details of our endeavors from foreign threats. This requires developing a strong working relationship with media representatives across all channels as well as serving as liaison with civilian organizations and other groups. Public Affairs Officers also develop plans and operational procedures for communication about aircraft and missile accidents, natural disasters, environmental incidents and other newsworthy events concerning Air Force activities.

Budget Officer: Financial Management Officers are able to help ensure funds are available for the equipment, supplies and services our units need — when they need it. Financial Officers also perform cost estimates, oversee distribution and establish performance standards to evaluate efficiency and develop best practices. By managing organizational structure, personnel performance, training needs and security, Financial Officers protect Air Force funds and as a result, our most valuable assets.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be at least 18 years old and a U.S. citizen
- Must be commissioned before the age of 35 (unless prior service)
- Must meet medical and fitness requirements (after selection must have a commissioning physical)
- Must possess a baccalaureate or higher degree
- Must obtain a minimum scores on the Air Force Officers Qualification Test (AFOQT) reference AFI 36-2005, table 3.21 or ANGE 36-2005, table 3.4, see the attached information
- Must attend and graduate from the Academy of Military Science

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: All applications should include a cover letter, resume, and full record review report (RIP). Applications may also include letters of recommendation, and supporting materials. All packages will be collected by Maj. Dave Mendoza, x1285, david.mendoza@ang.af.mil located on the second floor of Bldg 001.

Welcome to new members

Broderick, Tyler	CES	6 Apr 2011
Parker, Ryan	FS	13 Apr 2011
Fappiano, Anthony	MDG	14 Apr 2011
Coleman, Derrick	AMXS	14 Apr 2011
Boutin, Heather	LRS	15 Apr 2011
Vanderburg, Alfred	AGE	11 May 2011

Congratulations on your upcoming Retirements

Russell, Jason	MDG	27 May 2011
Kelly, William	CES	31 May 2011
Barcomb, Richard	CES	5 June 2011
Watson, Mark	MXS	8 July 2011
Brooks, Michael	CF	10 July 2011

Religions notes:

Ecumenical time of Prayer & Reflection

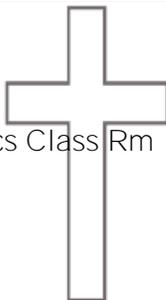
Saturday 0650 – 0720 hrs. in the Avionics Class Rm

Celebration of the Eucharist (Roman):

Saturday, at 1600 in the DFAC

Protestant Services:

Saturday, 1600 in Bldg 001 Conference Room



CCTV line up

Channel 7 - Training videos & Base Info

Channel 9 - Warrior Network

Channel 10 - Pentagon Channel



Ancillary training video schedule

Morning Training Video

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

Afternoon Training Video

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)

Allysun Brown, 104FW AMXS



To Senior Airman (E-4)

Kyle Kent, 104FW OG

Desiree Serrano 104FW CMTF

James Sheppard 104FW MXS

Jonathan Torres 104FW SFS

Greg Warren, 104FW SFS

Kyle West, 104FW SFS



To Staff Sgt. (E-5)

Reuel Colon, 104FW 131FS

David Goonan, 104FW SFS

Zachary Wigham, 104FW CES



Brownie troop

Dear Sandy and Major Mutti,
Thank you so much for your energetic and informative presentation. Our Girl Scout troop learned a lot and had a great time too! We appreciate your time and hope that the troops enjoy the cookies!

Sincerely, Girl Scout Troop 20155

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Alex Trombley | Sophie Dobosz |
| Madeleine Wilson | Emma Curley |
| Claire Casey | Isabelle Labbe |
| Emma O'Connor | Katie Shea |
| Emma Robinson | Lily Hakala |
| Taylor Hapgood | |

Co-Leaders Christa Robinson and Rachel Hapgood



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.

May Headlines:

May 9, 1949. The Republic XF-91 Thunderceptor jet/rocket hybrid successfully completes its first test flight at Muroc AFB, Calif. This unusual aircraft has variable incidence wings of inverse tape design (wider at the tips than at the roots).

May 11, 1949. President Harry S. Truman signs a bill providing for a 3,000-mile-long guided missile test range for the Air Force. The range is subsequently established at Cape Canaveral, Fla.

May 20, 1951. Capt. James Jabara becomes the Air Force's first jet-vs.-jet ace. He eventually downs 15 enemy planes in Korea.

May 10, 1972. Linebacker I begins

May 28, 1980. The Air Force Academy graduated its first women. 97 of the original 157 women finished compared with 790 of the 1,430 men.

AIR SCOOP'S FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

(CONTACT SSGT PHIL BURLAND - ADVERTISING EDITOR)

FOR SALE: 1954 Ford Ranch Wagon \$600.00
CONTACT: LtCol Edward D. Slasienski
 55 Woodside Terrace, Wsflld, Tel LO 2-9120

EGLOFF'S BLACKSMITH SHOP Buck Pond Rd., Westfield, Tel JE 3-6707 - Tools Drawn, Sharpened and Tempered. Chisels, Bull Points, Picks, Mason Tools and Bars. General Blacksmithing. Pickup and Deliver

OIL BURNERS CLEANED AND VACUUMED
 Reasonable rates. **CONTACT:** ASST ARMORER Neil Williams, Tel Wsflld LO 2-2578

WANTED: A small, old-fashioned, foot-pump (or electric) operated organ similar to organ in the auditorium in the Administration Building. Please Contact Capt John J. Heckler in Base Supply Office or at 14 Daviston St, Springfield, Tel RE 7-4935.

STURDY PICNIC TABLE FOR SALE! Made of strong Maine pine lumber. 6 ft long. 6 ft wide. Convertible top changes table into two comfortable benches with backs. These well constructed combination bench and table sets are only \$22.50 per set. Must see to appreciate full usage. Contact SSGT Pete Roy in the Repairable Section of Base Supply - Home Phone JE 2-9936 or SSGT Wallace F. Shaw in Unit Supply Tel LO 2-4364.

WANTED OLD GUNS - Is there an old gun rotting away in your cellar or attic? Guaranteed to give it a good home! See the Armament Technicians: Smart, McGowan and Fletcher Company.

FOR SALE: 5 room home with bath, 1 car garage, 1 acre land, lot large for another house, Hot air - oil heat (new hot water tank) - \$8,500. Location: Lockhouse and Cabot Road. Contact W.O. Lawrence Sorel, Tel Westfield LO 2-6482.

TIRED OF PAYING HIGH RENT, and only having a stack of receipts to show for it? A \$12,500 house mortgaged for 20 years for \$10,000 would only cost you \$68 per month, plus about \$17 for taxes. And a good part of the mortgage cost goes right into your equity in the house And one fifth of the interest and tax costs come off your income tax. Your average out-of-pocket cost of living in this home over a twenty year period would be about \$36 per month. MSgt John J. W. Lundberg, LO 8-7761 Licensed Broker

FOR SALE: Clean - white kitchen stove (gas) \$10.00. Kitchen set - formica top & chrome - 4 chairs: \$20.00. RICOHFLX CAMERA - 120 single lens reflex plus flash attachment & case, contact Victor Krawczyk in Base Operatio Home Phone LO 2-4007.

UNBEATEN TEAM CHALLENGES any other team in the Pee-Wee League - age 8 - 10. Time and place may be arranged with SSGT Charlie Chartier in the Machine Shop, Tel JE 3-0425.

WANTED: Drum Corps Items, such as drums Pipes and bugles. Contact MSgt John J. Egloff AIR EXPLORERS SQUADRON 100, Barnes Airport, Wsflld, Tel Lo 2-3691.

FOR SALE: 1958 Chevrolet Impala Convertible - \$2295 - Contact SSGT Phil Burland, Tel RE 6-2196

COLLECT INSIGNIA'S - Would like any shoulderpatches, regimental insignia's foreign insignia's, ribbons, shoulder medals, rank insignia (Marine enlisted stripes, Navy Shoulder boards), foreign and U.S. equipment, Helmets, gas Masks, bayonets, trench knives, grenades, shell, etc. Will swap, buy or accept donations. Contact SSGT Wally Shaw, 16 Paper St, Wsflld, Tel LO 2-4364.

Rhymes of the Times



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MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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www.westfieldairshow.net



PRIDE

PROFESSIONALISM

PATRIOTISM

We're on the Web

WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL

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