



January 2014



The Ammo section conducted its annual Ammo Can Drive fund raising campaign collecting money and food donations from unit members as they entered the base on Dec. 8, 2013.
(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Robert J. Sabonis)



Col. James J. Keefe

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Commander's Column

By Col. James J. Keefe, 104th FW Commander

2014: Another Year of challenges

Welcome 2014! We are pleased that Congress has passed a budget, with much deliberation. The exact numbers and implications of this budget are yet to be released, but the comforting thing is that we can plan on something. The challenges faced by Congress to pass a budget, the debt ceiling battles, and continuing resolutions have left us in a reactive posture, leaving little chance to properly plan and execute an effective yearly training plan. This fiscal year will be more stable in terms of resources. My hope is that the days of furloughs and last minute Unit Training Assembly (UTA) cancellations will be a thing of the past.

Another change that will affect us is the shifting posture towards the Pacific Command (PACOM) area of responsibility. In keeping with Department of Defense (DoD) planning, we will have two aviation training deployments to the Pacific; one to Hickam Air Force Base (AFB) in support of Sentry Aloha in March, and the other to Malaysia in support of Cope Taufan during June. Both of these deployments will test our Wing's ability to deploy our aviation resources over an extended distance, to work with friendly air forces in large force employment exercises, and to build relationships with those we may fight alongside of in the future. Our aircrews will train with the F-22's from Hickam, honing important fighter integration skills.

I have mentioned the new Air Force Inspection System (AFIS) in previous columns and the changes to how we will inspect ourselves. We have two "self-generated" inspections (old Operational Readiness Exercise (ORE)), which will exercise our ability to perform our federal missions. These will be multi-day events. The first is scheduled over a 4-day UTA in April, the second will be during our Annual Training (AT) week in August, and a third will be over the November UTA. As previously briefed, please keep an open mind and embrace this new system. If implemented correctly, the AFIS program will make our Wing more efficient and

combat ready by evaluating how we deploy and employ our forces, manage our resources, and take care of our people.

We also have several social events planned in 2014. These include the Annual Awards Banquet next month, a family day planned in August, Oktoberfest in September, a Wing "dining-in" during the October UTA, and our annual children's Easter, Halloween, and Christmas parties. Sprinkled in with this busy schedule will be our standard mix of Distinguished Visitor (DV) visits, domestic operations missions, President of the United States (POTUS) support, short notice Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) taskings, and the normal day-to-day operational challenges that we overcome on a regular basis. 2014 promises to be another busy year that will challenge us in new areas.

As we have over the last 67 years, we will meet the challenges in 2014 in our standard professional, outstanding, BarnesStormer fashion!

- Cobra

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Chief Master Sergeant's Column

By Chief Master Sgt. Todd Fappiano, 104th Fighter Wing, Command Chief

This past summer, in August, I had the opportunity to take part in the Massachusetts (MA) State Partnership Program (SPP) with Paraguay. The SPP is a joint security cooperation program, conducted by the National Guard in support of Combatant Commanders security cooperation objectives and Ambassador Mission Strategic Resource Plans. What does all that mean? SPP promotes long term, enduring and mutually beneficial relationships with friendly nations around the world. SPP matches a National Guard state with a foreign partner country to exchange military skills, experiences and further mutual security cooperation. The MA / Paraguay Partnership formed in 2001 and the first engagement was in 2003, we average 10 engagements per year. Typical SPP activities include leadership, officer and Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) development, defense reform, military modernization, border security, medical

and engineer engagements, aviation logistics, disaster preparedness and more, too numerous to list.

I went to both brief the NCO Academy about our enlisted force structure, and to learn about theirs. The Paraguayans take Professional Military Education (PME) seriously, and are committed to it; the NCO Academy is a two year school, much different than ours. In the class I addressed, the youngest student was 18 years old and the oldest student was a 25 years old. There were 50 students, both male and female. The students come in as civilians, so the class acts as a basic training and a technical school. The students are allowed to go home on weekends, but they must stay on base during the week. The last year of training concentrates on their technical field and their personal/ professional development. The Commandant of their academy is a former exchange officer/ instructor stationed at the Inter-American Air Forces Academy (Lackland Air Force Base) for four years. He has a vision for where he wants to take the

professionalization of their NCO corps; he would like to see it more in line with ours, with the NCO corps as a very professional and respected organization.

My trip to Paraguay was very rewarding. I enjoyed interacting and learning from them. The SPP is alive and well, with more trips scheduled this coming year. The SPP is important because it helps promote better understanding of each other's military needs and security concerns. It lays a foundation for more effective teamwork and cooperation among friendly nations. SPP provides an equal partnership and respect that helps our two nations militaries work together, deploy together and learn from each other. If the opportunity ever comes your way to take part in one of these great opportunities, jump on it!



First Sergeant's thoughts

By Master Sgt. Larry Brace, 104th Maintenance Squadron, 1st Sgt.

The First Sergeant Profession

Have you ever thought of becoming a First Sergeant but didn't know what the job entailed or maybe felt a little bit intimidated by the position? Before I became a First Sergeant, I remember seeing First Sergeants walking that walk, deep in thought, looking like they had a thousand things racing through their minds all at once. After becoming a First Sergeant, I can tell you, many times that is the case. This shouldn't be a deterrent to becoming a First Sergeant. Becoming a First Sergeant gives you the opportunity to step outside your comfort zone and work for your Commander and "serve" those that serve in our units.

AFI 36-2113 is the Air Force Instruction on the First Sergeant Profession. You can read the Roles and Responsibilities of the

First Sergeant in this Instruction. The Instruction is long but I think the following paragraph sums it up. "As the vital link between the Commander, enlisted personnel and support agencies, the First Sergeant must ensure the enlisted force understands the Commander's policies, goals, and objectives and must also ensure support agencies, i.e., security forces, civil engineer, medical facilities, services, etc., are responsive to the needs of unit personnel and their families. Additionally, First Sergeants are accountable to respond to the needs of unit members 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and may at times, be required to work long and irregular hours. Professionally, First Sergeants are expected to epitomize the highest qualities of Air Force SNCOs. These qualities require the First Sergeant to always remain perceptive, credible, and exemplify the core values of the United States Air Force. First Sergeants must

be proactive in the performance of their duties demonstrating initiative, innovation and character."

If you wonder if the First Sergeant position is as important on an Air National Guard Base as it is on an Active Duty Base, I can tell you beyond a shadow of a doubt, the answer is yes. The First Sergeant is one of the most important positions in any military organization. When I went to the First Sergeant Academy, we had some great leaders that came and spoke on Servant Leadership. I think it's important to approach the First Sergeant profession with that concept in mind. Please keep this profession in mind as you consider different avenues in your own career progression. It gives you the opportunity to be bettered by those around you and will be the most rewarding profession you've ever had!

104th Airmen innovate and adapt during runway shift

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, 104th Public Affairs

BarnesStormers have long been accustomed to responding to contingencies and operating in austere environments. Trained to deploy worldwide within 72 hours, the men and women of the 104th Fighter Wing (FW) have consistently demonstrated their commitment to the mission, whenever and wherever called upon.



During a recent comprehensive runway construction project at Barnes, that mission required unit members to display their trademark initiative and resolve, in order to accomplish the mission. The runway location shift presented a myriad of logistical and operational obstacles that required careful planning, flexibility and inter-service cooperation.

After some debate, the unit's F-15 fighter operations were ultimately divided between the 102nd Intelligence Wing in Cape Cod and the 439th Air Reserve Wing located at Westover Air Reserve Base in Chicopee, Mass.

During this temporary transition, the unit would need to manage simultaneous missions—maintain an alert posture on Cape Cod while conducting training missions out of Westover Air Reserve Base.

"We knew that we had to relocate. Initially, some of the choices were Savannah, Otis, Westover or even Hawaii. Though some of the facilities had changed, as the former home of the 102nd Fighter Wing, Otis was a natural fit," said Senior

Master Sgt. Gary Allen, A-Flight Chief for 104 FW.

Some of the areas needed repair. Areas of concrete needed to be fixed. Otis personnel began doing repair work prior to our site surveys. They took an active role and bent over backwards to assist," said the Southwick, Ma. native.

However, the relocation costs for the moving the entire unit to Cape Cod would prove to be prohibitive. "Otis was ideal but expenditures were going to be astronomical due to the travel costs. National Guard Bureau (NGB) allotted \$1.2 million for the whole move. We needed to regroup with our relocation team and brainstorm. We had about two months to find a solution,"



he said.

"The Alert Mission was going to be fine at Otis but our continuous training folks needed to make adjustments. We needed to move the entire operation with no impact to the pilots training. Westover was okay but had insufficient hangar space to accommodate our people and assets, and we needed cover to function," he said.

At that point, Master Sgt. Arthur Rief got on the phone and began contacting units across the country to find the assets commensurate with mission requirements. After several days, Master Sgt. Rief's cold calling and persistence paid off.

"A medical training unit in Alpena, Michigan was being disbanded and they offered us several Alaskan Shelters if we could come get them," said Rief, a Greenfield native. "We sent Tech. Sergeants Lars Owren and Joe King out to Michigan two days later. The 11 shelters were in a pristine condition and ideal for our purposes," he said.

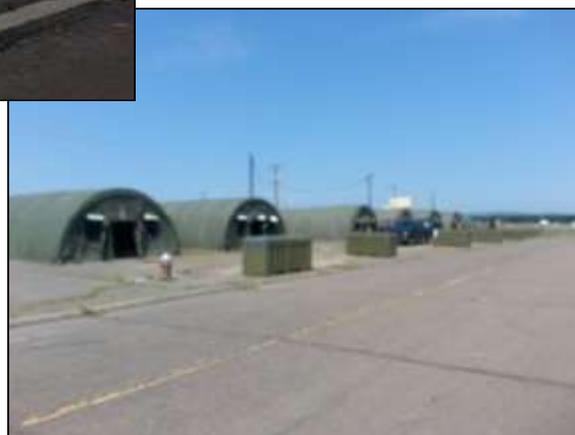
The shelters provided proper lodging for unit members.

Master Sgt. Rief was also able to procure several Environmental Control Units (ECUs) from neighboring units.

"The tents and ECU's were a godsend. Our civil engineers installed the floors and communication got us online. We were able to build a whole tent city. We also able to lease two civilian hangars at Westover," he said.

This resourcefulness saved the 104th FW several hundred thousand dollars without effecting performance. Allen indicated that his unit enjoyed the challenge associated with the temporary move.

"We took lemons and made lemonade. We loved it. Everybody pitched in and made it happen. We were all focused on accomplishing the mission. People were



prepared to live out of their cars if necessary."

"We are used to deploying, but this was special," he said. "Though if we didn't get those tents, I am not sure if we had a Plan B," he laughed.

Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Gary Allen

Annual legal checkup

By Lt. Col. Robin Peterson, 104th Fighter Wing, Staff Judge Advocate

“Do you have a copy of my will?” “The last time I updated my will was before my child was born 12 years ago.” “My husband just passed away; do you have his will on file?” These are questions that I am asked on a yearly basis. If you do not know where your will is (and no we do not keep a copy! And the court wants the original) or if you have not updated it in the last few years, it is time for a legal checkup. Ask yourself these questions: Do you know where your will is? Do you keep all of your important legal documents in a fire proof box in your house? Do you know where your spouse’s will is? Do you review your will on a yearly basis to make sure that everything is current? If you don’t know the answers to these questions, please take a moment in the new year and review your documents. Wills should be reviewed on an annual basis to insure they are current; and you need to make sure your executor knows the location of your original will. If you have had any life changes such as marriage, additional children, divorce, a death of anyone named in your will, it is time to update your will. Please stop by the legal office to pick up a will worksheet so we can assist you.

There are many reasons to have a will in addition to distributing your assets after you have passed. One of the most important reasons is to name a guardian for your child/children. Most people put off the task of selecting a guardian for their children because it forces them to think about an unpleasant thought: dying. This weekend, while at drill, here is something to think about: You wouldn’t leave your young children without a babysitter, would you? Of course NOT! Then why would you leave your children without choosing a suitable guardian in the unfortunate event that something happens to you and your spouse?

If you die without choosing a guardian for your children, the probate court will appoint a guardian, usually a

relative. While making this decision, the judge will not know your wishes unless you express them in your will. Although the court is not bound by your choice, it is highly persuasive. Thus, express your wishes now by making a will in order to prevent the court from choosing the guardian of your children.

When choosing a guardian there are many things to consider. First, a person is not obligated to take on the responsibility of raising your children in the event that you pass away. Ascertain the potential guardian’s willingness and ability to accept responsibility. Be sure to talk with the person and ask them if they are willing

prospective guardian about their values and childcare strategies. Before you hire a babysitter, you would want to know about the babysitter, wouldn’t you? Ask the candidate their thoughts about education, religion, and anything else that is important to your child’s development.

Third, consult your children. Ask them how they feel about the people you are considering as their guardians. In many jurisdictions a child who is 14 or older can challenge the nominee and ask that he or she be changed. While courts tend to abide by the parent’s wishes, they will still take into consideration the wishes of the child.

Fourth, examine the family relationships of the potential guardian. How many children do they have? Do your children interact well with them? If jealousy or hostility exists between the children, consider making another choice. Lastly, consider the financial impact on the potential guardian. The guardian is under no legal obligation to support your child with their own funds. Make provisions for your children in order to alleviate the guardian from the burden of financial difficulties.

As the number of marriages ending in divorce grows higher each year, choosing a guardian is especially important. Former spouses should try to agree on a guardian. In the event you die before your ex-spouse, regardless of what you state in your will, the courts will most likely award custody to the surviving parent.

To find out more about appointing a guardian and to get answers to your legal questions, visit the legal office in Building 1. The legal office now has walk-in hours from 9-11 every Saturday UTA in order to assist you in making a will and/or power of attorney. If you cannot make it at this time, call us at (413) 568-9151, x698-1244 for an appointment. We will be happy to help you!



to take on the responsibility. Second, due to the fact that the guardian you pick is under no legal obligation to accept responsibility, he or she can refuse the position of guardian. It is recommended that you choose an alternate guardian in case your primary choice is no longer willing or available to serve as guardian.

In addition to the potential guardian’s willingness and ability to serve as a guardian, practical considerations like age and health should not be ignored. The guardian must have the energy, as well as the maturity, to undertake the responsibilities stemming from the role of guardian. For example, while grandparents probably have the desired relationship with your children, they may not be the best choice.

Also, you might want to ask the

Windsor High School music students perform for 104th

By Steven Ortiz, Band Director

On Saturday, Dec. 7, students from Windsor High School's Jazz Quartet in Windsor, Conn. performed for members of the 104th Fighter Wing in Westfield, Mass. The four students and a guest vocalist performed for over 300 Air National Guardsmen during their annual holiday brunch held in the base's dining facility.

The jazz quartet was founded at the end of last year when their teacher discovered the students' love for jazz. "We had four kids that were very interested in jazz – it just so happened they played all the necessary instruments to put this kind of group together," said Steven Ortiz, their music teacher and Services Officer at the 104th Fighter Wing.

said Munasinghe. Ortiz spoke to the students about the dual role that guardsmen play, the fact that they hold jobs and serve in the military part-time. "We knew that men and women go off to war to protect our freedom, but we didn't know that these people have regular jobs, just like our parents do," said Ben Mueller a drummer in the group. "I give these guys a lot of credit. If we can play a few tunes and make their day, we would do it any time", said Mueller.

As part of their trip to the base, students received a warm welcome in the main hangar where they were given a tour of an F-15 flown by the 104th Fighter Wing. Maj. Matthew Mutti, Commander of the 104th

Fighter Wing's Force Support Squadron said, "We were very impressed with how good they were. We are very grateful they were able to enliven our dining facility with their music." Mutti and Chief Master Sgt. Andres Huxtable presented each of the students with

certificates of appreciation during the event.

Ortiz hopes that this initial connection with the military is just the beginning and will give the students an appreciation for what our men and women in uniform do. Later this year, Ortiz has hopes to travel with the students to Washington D.C. to perform in a clinic with the Airmen of Note, the United States Air Force's premier jazz ensemble. "The Airmen of Note are among the best musicians in the world, but they are also Airmen. They will get our request and might consider working with these students as part of their educational outreach program," said Ortiz. "Who knows, while we're in Washington, we might even be asked to play at the White House," said Ortiz with a smile.



The students from Windsor High School have been performing every other week at a restaurant in Windsor. Students have gained confidence and refined their performance etiquette skills in this setting. The members of the jazz quartet told Ortiz they wanted to make a difference this year and use their musical talents to bring holiday cheer to others. Ortiz told the students about the 104th Fighter Wing's multiple recent deployments, and asked the students if they would consider performing for the Airmen on base. "We were honored when Mr. Ortiz asked us, and told him yes right away," said Ryan Munasinghe, a sophomore and guitar player in the group. "We know our heroes in uniform are under a lot of stress and we all decided that the base performance would be a great idea,"



Volunteer news from the Family Readiness Group (FRG)

By Master Sgt. Tina Dimino-Frazer, 104th Fighter Wing FSS

On Saturday of the December Unit Training Assembly (UTA), over 200 children enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon at the Army Aviation Support Facility. The Children's Christmas Party was another huge success thanks to the number of volunteers and participants that came together in support of the families of the 104th Fighter

and sound system; Senior Airman Andrew Castillo for his caricature drawings which had a never-ending line; Big Y for providing sugar cookies and frosting as a station in the Arts-n-Crafts section; Dollar Tree stores of Westfield and Agawam for the enormous donation of "FREE" items; Westfield Salvation Army for their huge donation of presents; Party Patrol for the wonderful bounce houses that kept so many entertained; 104th FW Ammo for insuring everyone was able to enjoy a Hot Dog; Martha Mangini for the Falcons Raffle; Ms. Lisa Potito for the Volunteer Information table; our ever-faithful friends and supporters – Pioneer Valley USO for their incredible assortment of snacks and goodies.

distributing, working, serving and cleaning, the revolving door of volunteers included military members, family members, alumni, and student flight.

It is with the continued support from the 104th FW Command staff that makes it possible for us to continue to bring events to our families. THANK-YOU Colonels Keefe, Lambrich, Gunning, Green, Haldopoulos and Chief Master Sgt. Fappiano for your continued support of the FRG.

THANK-YOU BarnesStormers, Jenn Cesaitis and Senior Airman Colon from the 104th FW Airmen and Family Readiness office, FRG Volunteers, 104th FW Public Affairs, and all the families and attendees that continue to helped make all our events a big success.

Sincerely,
The 104th Family Readiness Volunteer Group Board Members:
Tina Dimino-Frazer, Chairperson
Cindy Patnode, Secretary
Beth St. Clair, Treasurer
RyAnn Parker, Youth Coordinator.
Key Volunteers and Voting Members: Mrs. Lynn O'Brien, Mrs. Miki Okutani, and Mrs. Cathleen Haldopolous



Wing (FW).

Special thanks to: The 226th Division Army National Guard Aviation Support Battalion for full use of their hangar for the weekend; 104th Civil Engineering (CE) for prepping the hangar with electrical drops, erecting the many pieces of the stockade fence, and for their continued support. Without CE, the FRG would not be able to bring the caliber of events like the Children's Christmas Party to our families.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Melanie Casineau

We also want to acknowledge, with gratitude: Santa & Mrs. Claus for spending the afternoon greeting all the children and welcoming visits; 104th Fire Department for safely transporting Santa to the hangar; disc jockey Chris "Kringel" McCrary for keeping the music alive with his Christmas playlist

Many thanks to all the volunteers who donated their time and talents for this event including: Senior Master Sgt. (ret'd) Joe Delaney and Bobbi Delaney, Master Sgt. (ret'd) Teddy Adams and Joyce Adams, Tech. Sgt. (ret'd) Jim O'Brien, and Staff Sgt. Chad Hammond. Between the shopping, wrapping, decorating, collecting,

Interested in helping out? We welcome all volunteers!

For more information, please contact any of the board members or call (413) 568-9151, x698-1183.

Hope to see you at our next event!

Boot Drive donations

By Master Sgt. Larry Buell, 104th Fighter Wing, Fire Department



The 5th Annual Boot Drive, held during the June 2013 UTA, was a huge success.

Over the two day drive, \$1,972 was raised for the Soldier's Home in Holyoke Recreation

Fund. This fund provides the veteran residents of the Soldiers' Home with such things as, quality of life items, field trips, concerts, personal comfort items, etc. The men and women of Barnes should be very proud of their tremendous generosity that they continue to show each and every year.

Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis





Safety: How goes it?

By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Dumais, 104th Fighter Wing Safety

The unit has experienced FIVE injuries since the last How-Goes-It.

- Worker lacerated finger on heater; emergency room (ER) for cleaning; not greater than first aid
- Worker lacerated forehead on aircraft (AC); ER for treatment; Class D reportable
- Off duty drill status guardsman (DSG) broke leg; slipped on ice; off duty DSG not reportable
- Civilian contractor slipped on ice; sought medical evaluation; treatment unknown
- Worker experienced chemical in eye; lack of personal protective equipment (PPE) wear; not greater than 1st aid

The unit has experienced FOUR mishaps since the last How-Goes-It

- Government owned vehicle (GOV) tractor impacted a privately owned vehicle (POV); Operator error; 1.5K
- AC impact bird; No damage to aircraft; Bird/Wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH)
- GOV Tow vehicle impacted gate; damaged sliding gate; 5.1K
- GOV impact an external tank; scratched side of GOV; \$50

As we can see above, two of the injuries listed were directly attributed to not wearing PPE. In one case, gloves were required to handle potentially sharp metal rings and in

the other case the lack of protective eyewear resulted in a worker getting some nasty cleaner in their eye.

So let me ask you the \$100 dollar question! Why were they not wearing PPE? Did they have it? Did they not know it was required? Was it a combination of both? Were they in a rush? I will sum this up for you with one word: COMPLACENCY!

In many industrial workplaces outside of the base PPE, such as protective eyewear, is required to be worn whenever you are inside the work area. By doing this, can you guess what these places don't have? You guessed it: EYE INJURIES!

The same goes for any type of material or equipment handling. Gloves are required whenever they have to handle materials or equipment. Do you know what they don't have? You guessed it: HAND LACERATIONS! In the case of our mishaps, some of our unit members seem to have a problem operating vehicles without impacting something!

Armed with this knowledge, I will now ask you to put yourself in charge of the company these people work for and explore some questions. Do you think you can afford to keep paying for the medical costs and associated insurance? How about the vehicle damages? Can you afford fleet downtime and the expenses associated with these mishaps? I will cut right to the chase and tell you that

we too cannot afford to keep allowing our people to get injured and to damage equipment that costs us valuable resources. We are not attempting to put someone on Mars here. We are simply looking for workers and supervisors to work together to identify hazards and figure out controls so we can limit the ER visits and costs associated with them.

This is my segue into ice/snow, and slips and falls! Winter is here and so too are the hazards associated with slips and falls. What can you do you might ask? Well let me tell you- you can do a lot! Maybe a quick safety chat about slip and fall hazards? Are there fluid drips and leaks causing a problem on workplace floors? The point I am trying to make is this, if you don't identify problems, I am pretty sure you can't fix them! If there are items out of your control please make sure the hazard is up channeled to the leadership of the safety office. Many times a simple pair of good boots and some safety training on tips on how to walk on icy or slippery surfaces is all that's needed. If the sidewalk is a sheet of ice and the road is not, which do you walk on? If the parking lot or walkway is always icy does your leadership/safety/Civil Engineering know about it? Who would have told them?



Chaplain's Corner – Character... An idea or action?

By Fr. (Capt.) Kenneth DeVoie, 104th Fighter Wing Chaplain

In the military and in our civilian life, we give a great deal of lip service to words like: character, integrity, honesty, loyalty, sacrifice, teamwork, etc... We hear speeches about these words and leadership seminars are devoted to talking about them. We hold these words up as an ideal as to the way things should be. Shouldn't they just be the way things are? Shouldn't they be more than words? **Ideas or action?** That is what I want you to think about today. We've even heard the phrase "Don't just talk the talk, walk the walk." This conveys the idea that actions speak

louder than words. True leaders walk the walk, and "BS" artists talk the talk. Character has to do with actions and not just ideas that we nod our heads to and give cognitive assent to. Let's take a look at these two things...

Are these words IMPORTANT? Do they require any action on your part?

"I, (Your Name), do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America and of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the

United States and the Governor of Massachusetts and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to law and regulations. So help me God."

How about these words?

"I, (Your Name), take you, (the one you married), to be my lawfully wedded (husband/wife), to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, forsaking all others until death do us part."

Character... Mere Word or Action?

Spiritual involvement can assist in helping ideas become action.

College courses being held at Barnes

By Master Sgt. Dominique Chapman, 104th Fighter Wing

This past semester, the 104th Fighter Wing (FW) at Barnes Air National Guard Base hosted its first college course. Working with Westfield State University (WSU), a speech class which was taught by WSU professor Katy Milford. This speech class was a fully accredited three credit course which was held on Tuesday nights at 5:15 p.m. for the fall semester.

The Air Force and Air National Guard now require Airman to have an associates degree from the Community College of the Air Force in order to be promotable to the rank of Senior Master Sergeant. It is the intention of the 104th FW to provide easier access to these classes so our Airman can achieve success.

We will be offering another Speech course for the spring semester here, which will be held on Tuesday nights, beginning Jan. 21, at a time to be determined. This class will have a maximum of 14 students on a first come first serve basis. If you are interested in taking this course at Barnes please get in touch with Master Sgt. Dominique Chapman at (413) 568-9151, x698-1280 or Dominique.chapman@ang.af.mil.



Students left to right, back row: Scott Odell, Matthew Chapman, Jackie Stubbs, Dominique Chapman and Stephan Warren. Front row: Terrylee Crowther, Josh Read, Paul Sim, Adam Barabani. (Some students are missing due to temporary duty) Elvis Martinez, Marilyn Morales and Jason Wyse.

A thank you from Lt. Gen. William Etter





The
104th Fighter Wing
proudly requests
that you be our guest
at the



40th Annual Awards Banquet

Tickets

\$35 below E-7

\$50 above E-8, & Officers

The Sheraton Springfield
Saturday, February 1, 2014



POC's

Dacia Lucas, Matt & Dominique Chapman

Cocktail Hour begins at 1730
Dinner, Awards presentations,
and Dancing will follow

Join us as we celebrate
another year of
EXCELLENCE





— MASSACHUSETTS —
**AIR NATIONAL
GUARD**

BEST WARRIOR AIRMAN COMPETITION



27 FEB - 01 MAR 2014

OTIS ANG BASE, CAMP EDWARDS, CAPE COD, MA

DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO COMPETE?

ARE YOU READY TO CHALLENGE YOURSELF?

IF YES, ENTER THE COMPETITION!!

FRI - SAT EVENTS:

- Fitness Test: Army STD 2 - 2 - 2
- M-4/16 range qualification
- Written test / Interview board
- Land navigation
- 6-mile ruck march
- Awards Ceremony

TO ENTER

Contact your supervisor or
unit POC.

See the [information sheet](#)
for entry requirements

Entry deadline: 15 JAN 2014



Comptroller Flight Hot Topics



★ FY 2014 Changes ★

Military Duty Certifiers

Currently when members perform an inactive duty (RUTA-Rescheduled Unit Training Assembly, AFTP-Additional Flight Training Period, etc.) or active duty order, any current supervisor is authorized to sign the certifying official signature line. Under a new regulation, only approved supervisors will be authorized to sign pay documents. Please see your supervisor about whether they are authorized to sign these documents. Finance will not be able to process any pay documents, unless they are signed by authorized personnel.

AROWS Certification of Duty

AROWS (the Air Force Reserve Order Writing System) is expanding to incorporate e-certification of active duty orders (AT-Annual Training, ST-Special Training, etc.). Beginning 6 February 2014, members will be required to CAC (Common Access Card) certify duty performance for each set of orders and route them electronically to their supervisors, which then electronically routes to finance for payment. Local mileage reimbursement will also be paid through the e-certification tool and can longer be input into the

Defense Travel System (DTS). Training classes for orderly rooms, supervisors and members will be scheduled for the February UTA.

New DTS Procedures

In order to ensure that all members on orders are receiving their travel entitlements there will be a new procedure in place for more efficient tracking. Member will start putting the order number in the reference box in DTS. This will allow finance to run reports to reconcile DTS vouchers directly to their corresponding orders. Also with the implementation of e-certification tool in AROWS there will be no more mileage only vouchers, the only exception is when in an AGR (active guard reserve) or technician status.

New NGB 105 Form

To better assist technicians who perform RUTAs during their scheduled work day, there will now be a Barnes-specific NGB 105. This form was created to better assist members & timekeepers in ensuring technicians are in a proper leave status when performing military duty. Traditional guardsmen should use the same form and disregard the remarks.

I haven't been paid my....

Military Orders.

If you have not been paid your military orders, you should check the "Late 458" report. It is a report that lists all open military orders that have not been processed for payment. Every orderly room receives a copy of this report with their UTA rosters. Visit your orderly room to see if you orders are on this report.



MA-ANG BEST WARRIOR AIRMAN COMPETITION

Information Sheet:

During the competition, competitors will test their Air Force aptitude, conquering warfare simulations, physical fitness tests, interview, written exam, interview board, and Warrior tasks relevant to today's operating environment.

Competitors will also received support from an assigned sponsor – an NCO in their Flight, Squadron, or Group to assist their competitor to prepare for the events and aid with any issues that could come up during each level of competition. Transportation to and from all events and lodging will be provided.

Events:

Physical Fitness Test:

Warriors must complete as many push-ups and sit-ups as they possibly can during two-minute increments. Then, they take to the track for a timed, two-mile run.

Interview Board:

Competitors are assessed by their breadth and depth of knowledge on areas such as enlisted leadership; Air Force history; battle-focused training; weapons; land navigation; the Airman's Creed, and other focus areas.

Urban Warfare Orienteering Course(Land Navigation):

Warriors must complete a day land navigation course. During land navigation and orientation, Warriors are given a map, a compass, a pencil and a list of approximately six digit grid coordinates that correlate to points they must find within the mapped area. They will proceed to each point and write down a set of identifying information on each point. Each phase of this event must be completed in an allotted amount of time and competitors must locate all of the checkpoints.

M-4/M-16 Range Qualification:

The basic weapon of today's Warrior is the rifle. Warriors must successfully fire the M4/M-16 rifle at a set number of targets under timed conditions during day operations.

Ruck March:

Competitors will carry a 30lb ruck sack and weapon during a challenging 6 mile road march.

Entry Requirements:

Each competitor will submit a nomination package to their supervisor; the nomination package will contain a current VMPF rip, a military biography, and PT report/score.

Each nomination will require your commander's approval to participate; once approved the competitors Flt, Sq, or Grp will assign a sponsor to the Warrior.

The approved competitors package and name of assigned sponsor with an e-mail contacts will be submitted by the competitor's supervisor to a Best Warrior POC, No later than Jan. 15, 2014.

Best Warrior POC's:

Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Puccio, Chief Master Sgt. Jason Mello, Chief Master Sgt. Waltz, Chief Master Sgt. Acacio "Gus" Barri-gas, Chief Master Sgt. Wing Ng, Senior Master Sgt. James Leblanc, Senior Master Sgt. Deborah Marshall, Senior Master Sgt. Julie Santos, Master Sgt. Marc Vercellone, & Master Sgt. Stephen Portentoso.

The winners will be named the "Massachusetts State Best Warrior Airman" and will go on to compete in the Massachusetts Army National Guard Best Warrior competition in the spring of 2014.

Competition: Sign-in and reception 27 FEB 1500 and Warrior Events 28 Feb & 01 March 2014.

The Best Warrior winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony Saturday 1 March, 1330, at Bldg 330.

Massachusetts Air National Guard Historical Association

About

The Massachusetts Air National Guard Historical Association was created in 1974 in response to the increased appreciation of history brought about by the celebration of the United States' Bicentennial.

The Association's objectives include maintaining archives, displaying memorabilia and fostering an appreciation of the role of the Air National Guard and its members. It does this with special emphasis on Massachusetts Air Guard Units and Massachusetts Air Guard Members.

The Association has been granted space by the Adjutant General of Massachusetts in the Massachusetts National Guard Military Museum in Worcester for its displays and archives.

Join Us

Join the Association and help us preserve and display the proud history of the Massachusetts Air National Guard.

Your membership will help us to keep this history alive for present and future generations.

You will help if you do no more than become a Member of the Association, but you can also help in other ways, if you wish, such as participating in our Annual Meeting and/or serving on one or more of the Association's committees. Some committees can function via e-mail whereby committee members may participate without leaving home, while other committees are more "hands-on" and meet together to work on projects such as creating displays or restoring vintage aircraft.

**Join With Us and
Help Preserve
Mass ANG History!**



MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

Check one Membership Category

Membership Categories:

_____ Annual member – **\$10 per year**

_____ Annual member who is an active member of the Massachusetts National Guard (Army or Air) - **\$5 per year**

My unit of assignment is:

Unit: _____ Location: _____

_____ Life Member - **\$100** (one-time payment)

Please make a check payable to "MA ANG Historical Assoc." in the amount of the item checked, and mail this form and check to:

**Diane Bascom
MA ANG Historical Association
224 Church Street
East Harwich, MA 02645-2109**

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

For Your Information

104 MDG Training Manager Position

The 104th MDG is looking for a traditional guardsman to fill our training manager position. We are looking for an energetic and knowledgeable individual. Interested individuals must understand principles, policies, and procedures of Air Force Education and Training programs; interviewing and counseling techniques; training techniques and instruction methods; task analysis procedures, learning process, curriculum development, training evaluations, and Education and Training systems and products; effective writing skills; editing practices; instructional media application, training reporting, program and curriculum validation, and implementation procedures; training program management; scheduling training events and facilities; conducting assistance visits and training meetings; work center and individual job qualification standard development; education institution registration requirements; military personnel classification system and policies; application of communicative interpersonal skills. Knowledge of AFTR computer training and tracking program.

This individual administers all Education and Training programs, serving as the MDG Education and Training program manager responsible directly to the MDG/CC. They consults on ISD process and career field Education and Training plans (CFETP). They advise on: Education and Training materials and services; conducts work center visits, and organizes programs to develop and conduct job site training. Identifies Education and Training providers, capabilities, and resources, and ensures availability of materials. Recommends revisions to Education and Training programs and CFETPs. Records and evaluates the history of Education and Training achievements, establish goals, and enroll in classes, courses, and programs. Prepares and maintains records, files, and materials.

If interested in the position please contact Col Sean Collins at: sean.collins@ang.af.mil or SMSgt Frank Vanlingen at 698-1318 or frank.vanlingen@ang.af.mil.

BASE HONOR GUARD LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

- Be part of the tradition of excellence
- Represent the ANG & AF at military burials
- Display the flag at military & sporting events
- All ranks/specialties can apply

Contact Senior Airman Colon at 698-1311 or email the honor guard at : 104FW.HonorGuard@ang.af.mil



104 MSG 1st Sgt Position

NOTE: Selectees may be moved to any valid First Sergeant Position within the wing at the request of the Wing Command Chief and with the concurrence of the unit Commander.

Position Title/Grade: First Sergeant / E-7

Eligible applicants: Must be an E-7 or an E-6 who is immediately promotable to E-7. Position is a MINIMUM three year tour with a maximum of 6 years. Members must carefully review AFI 36-2113 to ensure they meet minimum standards and qualifications for position requirements and responsibilities before applying.

Applicants must possess excellent communication and administrative skills, exceed fitness standards and exemplify Air Force Core values.

Applicant must receive concurrence form current commander for consideration.

Applicant selected for this position must agree to serve tenure of no less than 3 years from date of graduating from First Sergeant Academy (FSA). If the member was a prior First Sergeant, the tenure starts the day of assignment. Applicant must have 3 years retainability prior to being placed in the UMD 8F000 position. Applicant must agree to complete the SNCO Academy Course in residence or by correspondence within 1 year from date of assignment. If a First Sergeant does not complete the SNCO Academy within 1 year from date of assignment, he/she must be removed from the position.

Training: Applicants (if selected) should be able to attend the First Sergeant Academy at Gunter Annex, AL at the earliest available school date and must complete the SNCOA in residence or by correspondence within 12 months of selection.

Application package must include:

- Cover sheet
- Letter of application (Describe what you can bring to the position)
- Resume
- Current passing fitness assessment
- RIP (record of individual personnel)
- Commander concurrence (letter or copy of email to 104FW/CCC)
- Letter of recommendation (optional)

Any package that is late or incomplete WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Unit: 104th Mission Support Group

Supervisor: 104th Mission Support Group Commander

Submit Applications via electronic format (word, pdf, etc) via email to: Maj. Matthew Mutti at, matthew.mutti@ang.af.mil 104FW/DP, NLT 1200, 20 January 2012

Board date: February 2014 UTA

For more information contact: CMSgt Todd Fappiano at todd.fappiano@ang.af.mil or 413-568-9151 x1344



Berkshire East Resort honors the service of the military by offering outstanding discounts, to service men and women and their immediate family.

A valid US military ID must be shown prior to purchase. Military rates will be extended to the person(s) immediate family members only (spouse, child, sibling or parent).

For Your Information

News from MA NG Education office

Beware of Non-VA GI Bill Websites

Recently, the Army Times ran an article about several privately run 'GI Bill' websites that have come on-line. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has taken legal action to protect the GI Bill trademark and to prevent individuals from using, yet new sites continue to pop-up. Soldiers and veterans should always go to the VA's official website, <http://www.gibill.va.gov/> for up to date and accurate information on their benefits. The VA is the official arbiter of veterans' education benefits and eligibility. Access the VA website by selecting the "GI Bill" link on GoArmyEd in the footer section under Money for College or the link in this message. Be cautious of information on non-VA websites, no matter how well intentioned the creator of the site. These are your benefits so use them wisely!

<http://www.gibill.va.gov/>



BARBER AVAILABLE



Every Thursday/Friday before UTAs, we will have a barber shop on-base! Nick's Barber Shop (outside the James St gate at Westover) will be operating a satellite location, under contract with AAFES, in bldg 008. A good haircut at a reasonable price – and eliminate the travel time! Location: Bldg. 008 (NCO Club) – use the South entrance adjacent to the garage door
 When: Every Thursday/Friday before UTAs from 0800-1600
 Cost: \$11 (standard AAFES rate). Payment: Cash only
 Schedule: Walk-ins only for now (look for an on-line scheduling system soon) POC for barber shop operations is Senior Master Sgt. Bill Butman, he can be reached at (413) 568-9151, x698-1234.

SPRING SATELLIATE NCOA

Seeking Formal School Training Requests (FSTR). Satellite NCOA Class 14-4 Class Dates: Phase I (home station) - 10 Mar-6 Jun, Phase II (in Residence): 9-25 Jun, at McGhee Tyson, TN. If you are interested, please see your unit training manager.* Must be a Tech. Sgt. and have a passing FA now, and through the duration of the course.

BLANDFORD SKI AREA

Blandford Ski Area is having Military Appreciation Day! It is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014. Each year the ski area offers free lift tickets for military members and their immediate families. Please ensure you bring your current military identification with you.

BARNES FAMILY FLYER

Sign up TODAY to receive the Barnes Family Flyer, a weekly email with information on benefits, entitlements, events and job opportunities for our Barnes family community! Call or email Jennifer Cesaitis today at (413) 568-9151x 698-1183 or email Jennifer.cesaitis@ang.af.mil

Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator vacancy

Location: Wellesley, MA Availability: Immediately
 Salary: TBD Deadline for Application: 3 January 2014
Military Personnel Services Corp. (MPSC) is seeking qualified individuals to serve as Survivor Outreach Services Coordinators in support of a national contract for the Army National Guard (ARNG). The Survivor Services Coordinator will be responsible for coordinating and assisting in the planning and development of statewide operations for Survivor Outreach Services Program.

Major responsibilities include (not all inclusive) – The Survivor Services Coordinator will manage all aspects of the SOS while serving as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) on Survivor support & services within the respective state.

- Provide basic financial referrals regarding financial affairs, including but not limited to survivor benefits, budgeting, college savings plans, health care (Tricare and Medicare), long term care insurance, asset allocation, retirement savings, life insurance, and other related programs and services.
- Coordinate with Casualty Assistance Center (CAC) Benefits Coordinator/Specialist and AC/USAR Support Coordinators in service delivery to Survivors.
- Coordinate support groups, life skill education and referrals for supportive counseling for Survivors using various venues. Provide information, referral, and respite care services as requested.
- Perform other related duties as assigned by the Program Manager.
- Prepare and conduct MFH & SOS program-related briefings and/or presentations for state and national groups and civic organizations as permitted. Communicate the program benefits to all interested parties
- Use NGB authorized systems/databases to identify and track the level of support.

Qualifications –

- Experience –Broad based knowledge, experience, and skills in the areas of military personnel, casualty assistance, and Family programs as well as an understanding of the ARNG. The contract employee must demonstrate a working knowledge of military well-being programs including SOS.
- Education –
 - o Four years of college preferred; High School degree is required. Other combinations of experience and education that meet minimum qualifications may be considered.
 - o If applicable, successful military service.
- Minimum requirements –
 - o Be computer literate and proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, and Power-Point.
 - o Be able to pass any necessary background investigation.
 - o Possess a current and valid state driver's license.
 - o Have qualification to drive Government Owned GSA vehicles and obtain appropriate motor-vehicle insurance.
 - o Have the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing and have the ability to complete correspondence IAW NGR 25-52 and AR 25-50.
 - o Be a self-starter and be able to execute responsibilities with minimum oversight.
 - o Have the ability to plan and organize work activities to achieve established program objectives and goals.
 - o Ability to read, write, speak, and understand English proficiently.
 - o Be a US Citizen.

Religion notes



General Christian Service: Saturday of the UTA, at 11:30 a.m., in the Base Chapel /building 12, Chaplain Stephen Misarski presiding.

Orthodox Catholic Mass: Sunday of the UTA at 11:30 a.m., in the Base Chapel of Bldg. 12. Fr. Devoie presiding.

Welcome to new members

Vainuupo Jessop	MDG	7 Dec 2013
Joshua Kenniston	CES	10 Dec 2013
Devin Adair	MXS	10 Dec 2013
Michael Moran	CES	12 Dec 2013
James Louis	FW	13 Dec 2013
Jeremy Dugan	CES	19 Dec 2013
Melissa McInyre	MDG	19 Dec 2013
James Warner	OSF	21 Dec 2013
Mark Fogal	131FS	9 Jan 2014

CCTV broadcast line up

Channel 7 - Training videos & Base Info

Channel 9 - Warrior Network

Channel 10 - Pentagon Channel - inop



Ancillary training schedule - Channel 7

<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)

Neal Colburn CES



To Senior Airman (E-4)

Alissa Chaplin SFS
Dominic Vasquez AMXS



To Staff Sgt. (E-5)

Jaime Santiago MXS



To Tech. Sgt. (E-6)

Chasity Macdonald MOF



To Master Sgt. (E-7)

Edward Callahan LRS



To Senior Master Sgt. (E-8)

Chester Bennett MXS
James Brown FSS



To Chief Master Sgt. (E-9)

Andres Huxtable FSS
Paul Turgeon CF



Congratulations on your retirements

John Scobie	SFS	28 Jan 2014
Rudolph Crichlow	MXS	2 Mar 2014
Frederick Bogalhas	MXS	31 Mar 2014

DFAC MENU

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

Saturday: Beef stew or herb baked chicken, wild rice or potatoes au gratin, broccoli or corn

Soup: Sat - Cream of broccoli

Dessert: Peach cobbler, vanilla pudding, soft serve ice cream

Sunday: Lemon baked fish or pork chops, rice or mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables or peas

Soup: Sun - Chili, Cream of broccoli

Dessert: Chocolate cake with frosting, Jell-O, soft serve ice cream

Short Order: Hamburger, Cheeseburgers, Hot Dogs, Grilled Chicken breast served with French Fries

Salad bar - A variety of vegetables, salads, and toppings

AIRSCOOP

Vol. 19
No. 2

104th Tactical Fighter Group, Westfield, Mass. January 1968

Stefanik Promoted to Brigadier General Rank

Star Presentation Ceremony



The heart of the State House ceremonies in which Brig Gen John J Stefanik was presented with his new stars is shown here as Governor John A Volpe and the General's wife, Emily, take a shoulder apiece to pin on the new insignia.

The eagerly awaited word that Col John J Stefanik, commander of the 102d Tactical Fighter Wing, had been promoted to brigadier general arrived here shortly after Christmas with the effective date of his new rank established at November 2, the date of the board action at which the advancement was approved.

Although the news spread across the base in about 23 seconds and it was announced in the local papers, official announcement to the Air Technical Detachment was made at a dinner given by the new General at the Pioneer Valley Airguardsmen's club on December 29.

General Stefanik has been commander of the 102d Wing since June 1963, having been its deputy commander since January 1961, including the period of the Phalsbourg tour in France. Prior to that time he had commanded the 104th Tactical Fighter Group for five years and the 131st Fighter Squadron for the previous nine.

He started his Air Force career in April 1941, graduating from flying school with his wings and bars within a week after Pearl Harbor. He served with the Ninth Air Force's 57th Fighter Group in the Mediterranean area and North Africa, earning the Silver Star,

Continued on Page Ten

MASSACHUSETTS
AIR NATIONAL GUARD

104th Fighter Wing—PA
Barnes Air National Guard Base
175 Falcon Drive, Westfield, MA 01805

www.104fw.ang.af.mil
www.westfieldairshow.net
Social media sites:
www.facebook.com/barnesang
www.twitter.com/104fighterwing
www.flickr.com/photos/barnesangb



PRIDE,
PROFESSIONALISM,
PATRIOTISM

We're on the Web

WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL

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