

# AirScoop

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# AirScoop

## Wing Commander

Col. Tom 'Sling' Bladen

## Vice Commander

Col. David 'Moon' Halasi-Kun

## Command Chief

Chief Master Sgt. Paul Barbee

## Chief of Public Affairs

1st Lt. Amelia Leonard

## Public Affairs Staff

Master Sgt. Lindsey Watson

Staff Sgt. Hanna Smith

Senior Airman Sara Kolinski

Airman 1st Class Camille Lienau



[Avionics Airman on Mission in DC](#)

# 104th Fighter Wing honors Airmen fallen in flight

By Senior Airman Sara Kolinski



104th Fighter Wing members gather to honor their brothers and sisters in arms fallen in flight during the annual F-100 Memorial Rededication Ceremony, May 21, 2021, at Barnes Air National Guard Base, Massachusetts. Col. Tom 'Sling' Bladen, the 104FW commander, spoke about the importance of remembering all those who came before us. The ceremony honors 13 104FW Airmen for their service and sacrifice in duty to the state and country. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Sara Kolinski)

Airmen gathered to honor 13 Airmen fallen in flight from the 104th Fighter Wing who have given their lives in performance of their duties to the state and country during the annual F-100 Memorial Rededication Ceremony, May 21, 2021, at Barnes Air National Guard Base, Massachusetts.

The F-100 monument was originally dedicated on May 17, 1987 by the Chief Master Sergeant's Council. Since then, it has stood as a reminder of the impact of the fallen Guardsmen on the unit.

In May, the 104th Fighter Wing comes together at the F-100 memorial rededication ceremony, during which the service and sacrifice of the fallen Airmen is honored by the placement of a wreath, a 21 gun salute, taps, and an F-15 flyover.

- **Tech. Sgt. Austin A. Cooper**, Granville, Massachusetts, Oct. 19, 1954
- **Capt. Frank A. Gibe**, Westfield, Massachusetts, July 28, 1956
- **Maj. Richard W. Mahoney**, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 22, 1961
- **1st Lt. Joseph F. Crehore**, Chalons, France March 21, 1962
- **Capt. Hugh M. Lavalle**, Upstate New York, Nov. 16 1963
- **Capt. John H. Paris**, Westfield, Massachusetts, July 17, 1964
- **Maj. James Romanowicz**, Granby, Massachusetts, Feb. 1, 1965
- **Capt. Leonard E. Bannish**, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, May 30, 1968
- **Maj. John S. Southrey**, Wells, New York, Sept. 17, 1968
- **Lt. Col. Morris "Moose" Fontenot Jr.**, Deerfield Valley, Virginia, Aug. 27, 2014

Distinguished visitors present during the 2021 F-100 Rededication Ceremony included Don Humason, Mayor of Westfield, Brig. Gen. Virginia Gaglio, Commander of the Massachusetts Air National Guard, Col. Tom 'Sling' Bladen, 104 FW Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Brett Barbee, 104 FW Command Chief. They were joined by family members of the fallen Airmen and Barnestormers to pay their respects and honor the 104 FW heritage.

"This monument serves as a constant reminder that the defense of our nation and our way of life may come at times with great personal sacrifice to preserve the freedoms that we enjoy every day," said Bladen. "To the families of our fallen airman, thank you for your tremendous sacrifices and for the support you provided your loved ones as they helped preserve democracy by preserving this great nation. The sacrifices you have made cannot be put into words, and the contributions your service members made to the 104th are too great to be measured."

Engraved upon the memorial where the wreath is placed, are the names of unit members who passed away in aviation related events:

- **1st Lt. Edward W. Meacham**, Monomoy Point, Massachusetts, Aug. 17, 1948
- **Maj. Robert Anderstrom**, Granby, Connecticut, May 7, 1954
- **1st Lt. Richard Brown**, Granville, Massachusetts, Oct. 19, 1954

# Celebrating Pride Month

By Tech. Sgt. Robert Cyr, EO Specialist

June is Pride month, a time to commemorate the struggles and achievements of the LGBTQ+ community. Around the globe, members of the LGTBQ+ community and their allies will celebrate with parades and demonstrations, with the rainbow flag held high. These celebrations are two fold - both marking those obstacles that have been overcome in the past, as well as providing a symbol of hope for those who are still currently facing oppression and discrimination today.

June was chosen to celebrate Pride Month largely in recognition of the Stonewall Uprising, which served as a key moment in rallying members of the various LGBTQ+ communities behind the common cause of equal rights. On June 28, 1969 at the Stonewall Inn in Manhattan, New York City, patrons of the inn as well from other local lesbian and gay bars, fought back with demonstrations in the face of violence after a raid on the establishment. These protests inspired the organization of multiple activist groups that would later go on to fight for LGBTQ+ equality on multiple fronts that continues through the present day.

Perhaps the most common symbol visible throughout the celebrations this month will be the rainbow flag. In celebration of Pride month, on Sunday, all members of the base are **AUTHORIZED CIVILIAN CLOTHES WITH YOUR SECTIONS APPOINTED SHIRT COLOR.**



## **LGBTQ Initiative Team**

If you are interested in improving LGBTQ policies join the Air Force Barrier Analysis Working Group, the LGBTQ Initiative Team. To find out more join the LGBTQ Initiative Team (LIT) DAF on Facebook.

# Headlines and Highlights

104th Public Affairs Office



Yellow Ribbon Event



Fatality Search and Recovery Team Training



It is ok not to be ok



Reenlistment Ceremony at Lincoln Monument



Incident Response Training



Combined Award, Promotion Ceremony



Mass Guard on Mission in DC



NGB SEA Whitehead Visits MA Troops in DC



Civil Disturbance Training in DC

# Welcomes, Farewells, Promotions and Points of Contact

104th Public Affairs Office

## Welcomes

Airman Basic Blake Dufresne, MDG      Tech. Sgt. Nicholas Lanci, CES  
Airman 1st Class Zachary Coderre, CES

## Farewells

Tech. Sgt. Mary Keeler, FW      Lt. Col. David Archambault, MDG  
Tech. Sgt. Adam Chubka, CF      Lt. Col. Michael Dibrindisi, MXG  
Master Sgt. Michael Gauthier, AMXS

## Promotions

Senior Airman Daniel Thibeault, MXS      Senior Airman Natalie Fontanez, FSS  
Senior Airman Connor Brady, MXS      Senior Airman Alondra Sanchez, SFS  
Senior Airman Devin Gates, MXS      Staff Sgt. Robert Allen, AMXS  
Senior Airman Liam Keefe, SFS      Tech. Sgt. Howard Passley, LRS  
Senior Airman Kyle Snide, FSS      Master Sgt. Fawn Strandness, CPTF  
Senior Airman Ryan Carvalho, FSS

## Wellness Center Points of Contact

*Our professionals in the Wellness Center can help you with a wide range of issues.*

**Capt. Tra’Vorus Weaver, Chaplain, [tra\\_vorus.weaver@us.af.mil](mailto:tra_vorus.weaver@us.af.mil)**  
**Lisa Potito, Airman & Family Readiness Program Manager, [lisa.potito@us.af.mil](mailto:lisa.potito@us.af.mil)**  
**Amanda Winslow, Airman & Family Readiness Specialist, [amanda.winslow@us.af.mil](mailto:amanda.winslow@us.af.mil)**  
**Michelle Pennington, Director of Psychological Health, [michelle.pennington.1@us.af.mil](mailto:michelle.pennington.1@us.af.mil)**  
**Mary Keeler, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, [mary.keeler.2@us.af.mil](mailto:mary.keeler.2@us.af.mil)**  
**Melanie Casineau, Yellow Ribbon Coordinator, [melanie.casineau.1.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:melanie.casineau.1.ctr@us.af.mil)**  
**Roger Greenwood, Personal Financial Counselor, [pfc.westover.usafr@zeiders.com](mailto:pfc.westover.usafr@zeiders.com)**

## Recruiters

*If you want to learn about a career with the 104th Fighter Wing call one of our recruiters to learn more about serving in the Air National Guard, and the benefits you can receive, including 100% tuition and fee waiver.*

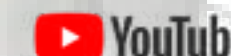
**Recruiting Office Supervisor, Master Sgt. Glendaennis Schuster (413) 237-0427**  
**Retention Office Manager, Tech. Sgt. Bento Fernandes, (413) 636-2291**  
**Worcester Area Recruiter, Tech. Sgt. Brian Whitman, (413) 237-4525**  
**Western Mass Recruiter, Tech. Sgt. Ernest Smith (413) 237-0982**  
**Western Mass Recruiter, Tech Sgt. Kayla Gallagher (413) 207-5186**

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**Are you looking for a new drill status guardsman opportunity at the 104th Fighter Wing?  
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**[DSG Careers on SharePoint](#)**

**Yes, your CAC is required to access SharePoint.**

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