

Sandy H g Gazette

111th Fighter Wing Pa Air National Guard Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pa.

Volume 13 Issue 5

May 2008



201st RED HORSE Activation
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Photo by Master Sgt. Patrick Cashin



111th MSG & 270th EIS Changes of Command
201st RED HORSE Sq. Det. 1 Activation Ceremony
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111th SVF members
serving in Kuwait
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Caption Contest Winners

“Is it me or is it getting hot in here? My reflective belt is on FIRE!”
Tech. Sgt. William J. Leggett, 447th Expeditionary Security Forces
Squadron at Sather Air Base, Baghdad, Iraq.

“Did you find my contact lens yet?”
Master Sgt. Howard Evans, 111th FW Contracting Office

“Gas, gas, gas! Chili for lunch again?”
Tech. Sgt. Elisabeth A. Matulewicz, 111th FW Public Affairs Office



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111th FW Members:

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Retirees:

You will continue to receive a hardcopy unless you opt for an electronic version.

Contact us:

The Public Affairs staff can be reached during UTA weekends at (215) 443-1504. For urgent inquiries, contact the 111th FW Community Manager at (215) 443-1410.

Submissions:

The deadline for submissions to the June issue of the Sandy Hog Gazette is May 12. E-mail articles and photos for consideration to: pa.111fw@pawill.af.mil.

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What's the 411...

Did you know you can locate people from any DoD agency?

The DoD Global Directory Service can be used to help you reach any individual with a CAC card. You can search by name, email address and phone number.

To use this tool, visit <https://dod411.gds.disa.mil>.

Upcoming Event for prior 913th members, families and friends

A gathering of 913th members, families and friends will be held on Sat. May 17 at 12 p.m. at Café La Fontana, 58 S. York Road, Hatboro, Pa., just minutes from the base. Cost is \$21 per person. A final head count needed by May 12. RSVP now; send payment and meal selection to:

Ed Kreibick
860 Decker Lane
Warminster, Pa. 18974
(215) 396-8341
ekreibick@verizon.net

Meal Selection:

Choice of Salad:

Caesar or Mixed Greens

Entrees:

Chicken Lemon, Grilled Chicken or Salmon Dijon

Entrees include a side of penne pasta with tomato and basil sauce, non-alcoholic drinks and dessert. A full service bar is available.

Suggested parking:

Free municipal lots behind Hatboro CVS, Produce Junction or Wachovia Bank.

Why we serve

By Lt. Col. Don Landis
111th SFS Commander

Like most of you, the reasons I serve our nation vary; they change as we change, and they change as the environment we live in changes around us. But in some respects, they never change.

I grew up in a working-class home in the city of Philadelphia. Both mom and dad worked, and dad worked a lot of hours in the two jobs he held, just to provide for our family. Dad never finished high school as the world war took precedence in the eyes of this country's youth at that time.

When I was a senior in high school, my draft number was 11. I was struggling with career choices and the direction my life was going to take. I was in my bedroom one Sunday morning in our row home, listening to dad play his music. It was the only day dad was home. For those of you who are not familiar with row homes, this is where the term "a tight family" came from.

It just so happened that on this morning, dad was playing his patriotic collection of records and he was playing them loud. I think he did this to get me up and moving because I was a typical teenager who stayed up late and slept. But surprisingly enough, it was that music that inspired me to join

the military and serve my nation.

I wonder if this was dad's plan in the big scheme of things all along? Something in that music stirred my heart, and subsequently laid a foundation for some of the core beliefs and love of the military that I have today. Pop lived with me for the last 12 years of his life as diabetes took its toll on him, and he never stopped listening to the music that inspired me, and watching the World at War History Channel. From his point of view, those were the years America was the greatest. I differed from Pop on this.

The "greatness" of America lies not within a period of time, but within the people of America. Whether it be the family, the leadership, the unions or the workforce, one thing makes us "great" and that's our ability to pull together.

As airmen or soldiers, whether you were marching to the cadence of your first sergeant or in formation movements by the air controller, in strength we acted in an orchestrated move as one, with precision of timing and movement. In doing this, we learned something about ourselves and our brethren. We learned that we need to be strong individually in order to hold up our end, and that we need each other to be successful in meeting the missions that our nation has entrusted us with.

In learning about ourselves and our



Lt. Col. Don Landis

need for each other we again visit that term "tight family" and that's where I want to be.

This second or third career to some comes with some great perks. The educational opportunities are great programs to assist you in your pursuit for a degree, not to mention the retirement benefits and medical benefits gained from a part-time job. The greatest benefit though, is working with people that become your extended family, and being a part of a day-to-day mission that supports an honorable cause.

As the mission and the landscape changes here at the 111th, look out for each other, seek out the opportunities that come with change, and encourage your coworkers to succeed. We have a highly skilled and motivated workforce with a "can do" attitude, so let's keep on track for today's mission and those of tomorrow.

Today, tomorrow and for the rest of my life, I will be grateful for having the opportunity to serve my country. The experiences I gained and the folks I have worked and served with have made me appreciate and love this country even more. I have seen the world, and there truly is no place greater than America. This is a nation founded on freedoms and it allows me to practice the freedoms of my choice. It is a nation protected by the finest men and women, sons and daughters that I now call family, and I am honored to serve with you in protecting this great nation.

I won't debate the politics of the day or those of the past, because I know in my heart that our efforts are, and were, well meaning, and motivated towards the common good of all. We serve for many reasons.

Air Force Sergeants Association Division II Chapter 26 Spring Luncheon & Meeting

Sat. May 3 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Cost is \$25 single, \$45 a couple

Williamson's Restaurant on
Easton Road & Blair Mill Road, Horsham, Pa.

Menu:

Boneless Breast of Chicken Maryland w Bacon
Baked Stuffed Potatos with Peas & Carrots
Broiled Filet of Flounder with Tartar Sauce
Savory Rice Pilaf with Peas & Carrots
Caesar Salad, Coffee, Tea, Ice Cream Cake w/Chocolate.

For more information, please contact CMSgt (Ret.) John Jahn at (610) 789-8945 or CMSgt (Ret.) John Moretti at (610) 534-5347.

What does a State Command Chief do?

By Chief Master Sgt. Ralph C. Braden
Pa. State Command Chief

On a recent visit to the 111th FW an airman asked me a question that became the title of this month's article. What does a State Command Chief do? I have been told many times that if one person is asking a question many others are thinking of asking the same question. So, what does a State Command Chief do?

ANGI 36-2109 spells out the responsibilities of all Air National Guard Command Chief Master Sergeants (CCMs). However, I will attempt to tell you in my own words what a State CCM does.

One of the biggest responsibilities of a State CCM is the morale and welfare of the enlisted force of his or her state. In our case that equates to approximately 3,600 Pennsylvania Air National Guard members. The State CCM advises the Adjutant General and the Deputy Adjutant General for Air on issues that affect the enlisted corps. The State CCM provides advice and counsel to Wing Commanders and Wing CCMs on issues affecting the enlisted force. Additionally, the State CCM must ensure that enlisted personnel know and understand applicable policies.

As State CCM, I also have the privilege of managing the following three programs that provide recognition and promotion opportunities to our enlisted force:

Exceptional Promotion Program (EPP): The EPP program allows the PaANG to promote Airmen to E-8 and E-9. This program is only open to Traditional Guardsmen and allows a promotion path that would not be available under normal circumstances. Due to the size of our state we may promote three Airmen to E-8 and three Airmen to E-9 each year.

Outstanding Airmen of the Year (OAY): The OAY program enables the state to recognize our Airmen in the following six categories: Airmen, NCO, SNCO, 1st Sergeant, Honor Guard Member, and Honor Guard Program Manager. Once recognized at the State level the selected airmen goes on to compete for OAY Air Force wide.

Senior NCO Academy recommendation: When an airman submits a package to attend the SNCO Academy I must review, endorse, and rank the packages. The number one applicant receives a special endorsement from me that provides extra points to the candidate during the selection process. These extra points virtually guarantee that at least one airman from Pennsylvania will attend the SNCO Academy each year.

There are many other things that I do as State CCM such as attending promotions, retirements, and award/decoration ceremonies. I also attend conferences that help me keep up to speed on current issues affecting the Air Force and the ANG. However, the best part of my job is meeting the great men and women of the PaANG. In the future I plan to write articles about the some of the Airmen I have met.

In closing, please remember that we have many members of the Pennsylvania National Guard deployed fighting for our freedom. By the end of the year almost 7,000 of our fellow Pennsylvania Guardsmen will be deployed in harm's way. Please keep our Pennsylvania National Guard brothers and sisters in your thoughts and prayers.



CCMSgt Ralph C. Braden

Farewell from a grateful fellow guardsman

By Chief Master Sgt. Michael W. Vasta
Former Wing Command Chief

I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to the leadership of the 111th Fighter Wing. Our leaders are those who keep our aircraft flying, who support that mission, and who support numerous other important missions around the world. These leaders devote tireless hours, they work in the heat and cold, and they volunteer to respond wherever duty calls.

As a former police officer I believe in the motto **Serve and Protect**. I have done my best to uphold that charge. I have also tried to serve as a conduit to encourage all of you to perform to the levels that you are capable of and to ensure that you receive the recognition and promotions that you deserve. Our younger, yet highly motivated and dedicated, enlisted and officer corps set the pace for the long term future and better service to come.

In these uncertain times of job security, economic concerns, and a depressed housing market, members of this proud Wing continue to maintain mission safety and to step up to deploy. Our leaders leave the safety of their homes and families to **Serve and Protect** our county and countrymen, and strangers that they do not know. Our words of thanks to you for what you do and endure are not nearly enough compensation for your actions.

Over 4,000 of our fellow servicemen have died in ongoing operations. In their memory and in honor of them, we have a responsibility to ensure that **Integrity, Service, and Excellence** are words to be lived by. As are the words responsibility, sorry, thank you, please, and have a nice day. All of these words need to come to life through our actions. They must not merely exist in a dictionary.

My congratulations to Chief Master Sgt. Richard W. Mertz Jr., 111th Operations Support Flight, on his selection as your next CCM! I have no doubt he will serve you well.

Thank you for honoring me by allowing me to be a part of this great military organization, serving with the best leaders in the world. Respectfully and with the highest and warmest regards, I salute you.



CCMSgt Michael W. Vasta

Take ownership of your career

By Chief Master Sgt. James A. Tobolski
111th Maintenance Operations Flight

No matter the career field chosen, everyone shares a common interest of aspiring to higher levels of career success. Whether military or civilian, each of us is ultimately responsible for our own career interests. Positioning yourself for consistent career success can be a life-long process that seemingly never ends. To many, the tasks associated with these challenges often appear overwhelming and to some extent, impossible to reach.

Regardless of your current situation, we have all used operational risk management to some extent throughout our career progression. Successful professionals, both civilian and military, did not reach their positions by accident. They have reached their positions by exercising well laid plans and following the process through to successful completion. This same concept is also expected for all to follow to remain competitive for further opportunities and advancement.

Over the past 20 years, today's military has intellectually evolved by leaps and bounds. Ever-advancing technology coupled with an increasingly educated work force has driven competition levels to new heights. Success in both life and industry demands that realistic goals be set and a well-thought out systematic process be used to reach them. The bar for career advancement has been raised significantly in the last quarter century, demanding that post-high school education be pursued by all to some degree. Posture yourself for success by knowing what is required and expected. Areas of consideration can include:

Military: Am I in a slot that allows me promotion? Do I meet time and grade requirements for promotion? Are my CDCs completed? Have I reached the required skill level for my position to substantiate promotion? Have I produced a quality of work expected by superiors to go to the next level? These questions should not be a mystery to the individual. Although supervision remains active through management and mentoring, a huge area of responsibility remains with the individual. But also keep in mind, mere eligibility does not mean promotability. The level of competition can be very high and leadership is always tasked with the dilemma of determining the most qualified and deserving individual for advancement.

Civilian: college education or certificate to bolster your current qualifications. Are there any professional licenses that can be obtained to further your qualifications and expand responsibilities? One additional factor to consider is although you may have had great success while serving in the military, the effect of military experience may be reduced by lack of civilian equivalent certifications and licenses.

Throughout our lives, many of us will be faced with difficult, often unforeseen situations that require us to readjust our ways of thinking and possibly result in significant change. Responsibility for advancement ultimately begins with the individual. Knowing the requirements and understanding the expectations is a critical step evolving not only as a successful professional, but as a successful individual.



CMSgt James A. Tobolski

Looking for a mentor?

By Senior Master Sgt. Nicole Fulton
Wing Human Resource Advisor

Looking for a mentor with experience in an area you're interested in exploring? Look no further! The 111th FW boasts members with diverse experiences and information to help you succeed in your career and they want to share their information with you! Take advantage of the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussion and learn valuable information to take the next steps in your career.

Register on the My Enlisted Development Plan (MyEDP) application through Air Force Portal (on the AF Portal's home page, under Top Viewed: Career). You'll have access to career enhancing information wherever you have internet access. MyEDP shows real-time personnel information, gives tips and advice for advancing to the next grade, and allows registered members to join in forum discussions with other members throughout the entire Air Force, ANG, and Reserves. Once registered, choose "Sharing" and select another registered member to be your mentor. You can choose from the list of 111th FW registered members below or anyone throughout the entire Air Force. You decide what you want to share, and mentors maintain confidentiality of information that you ask to keep private. You and your mentor can communicate through the Journal portion of MyEDP at anytime.

For further information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Nicole M. Fulton at (215) 443-1782 or email: nicole.fulton@pawill.af.mil.

111th FW MyEDP Registered Members

Capt Christine Munch	111th FW	HQs
2nd Lt. Carl Thompson	111th FW	HQs
CMSgt Ross Barford	111th MXG	Chiefs' Council
CMSgt Paul Frisco	111th AMXS	Chiefs' Council
CMSgt Thomas Gillespie	111th MXS	Chiefs' Council
CMSgt Stephen Rossi	111th LRS	Chiefs' Council
CMSgt Peter Santanello	111th MXS	Chiefs' Council
CMSgt David Smith	111th MDG	Chiefs' Council
CMSgt Alan Van Norman	111th CF	Chiefs' Council
CMSgt Robert Williams	201st RHS	Chiefs' Council
SMSgt Scot Baughman	111th MSF	SrEFAC
SMSgt Phillip Brumback	111th MDG	
SMSgt Nicole Fulton	111th FW	SrEFAC
SMSgt Alice Jenkins	111th MSF	SrEFAC
SMSgt John Lyon	111th MXS	First Sergeant
SMSgt Robert Walker	111th MXG	SrEFAC
MSgt Joseph Bradfield	111th SFS	First Sergeant
MSgt Derrick Dash	111th LRS	First Sergeant
MSgt Richard Eggles	111th FW	SrEFAC
MSgt Charlie Lesprier	111th SVF	SrEFAC
MSgt Richard MacNeal	111th MXS	SrEFAC
MSgt Michael Morgan	111th MXS	SrEFAC
TSgt Robert Felice	111th CF	SrEFAC
TSgt Boris Lapsker	111th MSF	SrEFAC
TSgt Kenneth Tillotson	270th EIS	SrEFAC
SSgt Charlotte Baker	111th FW	JrEFAC
SSgt David McLaughlin	111th MXS	JrEFAC
SSgt Kia Weatherspoon	111th FW	JrEFAC
SrA Patrick Salmon	111th MSG	JrEFAC



New mission, new chapter unfolds at Willow Grove

By Capt. Renee Lillis
111th FW Public Affairs

The most coveted uniform item at the 111th Fighter Wing is no longer the new Airman Battle Uniform, it's a red cap.

On April 5, more than 100 guardsmen sported the red caps for the first time and cheerfully yelled "to the HORSE" during the 201st RED HORSE Squadron, Det. 1 activation ceremony at Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pa.

"What a proud day for this unit and the Air Force. Today is a historic day as the 201st Det. 1 begins to write the next chapter," said Maj. Geno Rapone, as he accept-

ed command of the new detachment.

RED HORSE stands for Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer. These units are self sufficient, 404-person mobile squadrons that provide major force bed-down, heavy damage repair, and heavy engineering operations in remote, high-threat environments worldwide. They are the service equivalent of the Army Corps of Engineers or Navy Seabees.

RED HORSE squadrons possess special capabilities, such as water-well drilling, explosive demolition, quarry operations, concrete mobile operations, material testing, expedient facility erection, and

concrete and asphalt paving.

"Basically our job is to go out to the middle of nowhere and build an air base in two weeks and leave," explained Rapone.

It's this capability that makes the highly mobile force the elite corps of Air Force engineers.

"What a vital group out there - a global asset. It's extremely exciting to bring home this mission and see all the positive energy out there," said Col. Paul W. Comtois, 111th FW commander.

Also significant, is the fact that Pennsylvania is now the only state to have a full RED HORSE squadron.

Air National Guard RED HORSE squadrons are typically split units that report to different commanders, but merge to form a whole squadron to deploy for contingency operations.

The 201st RHS at Fort Indiantown Gap used to combine with the 200 RHS, Ohio ANG. However, with the activation of the Willow Grove detachment, Pennsylvania became the only state to have a full RED HORSE squadron.

Now that the unit is activated, there is still a lot of work to be done. The unit has until 2010 to reach its initial operating capacity. In addition to engineers, the unit also needs to have its own doctors, security forces, finance personnel and more to be a self-sufficient deployable unit.

In the coming months the unit will continue setting up infrastructure, securing equipment and weapons, as well as staffing up and training personnel to prepare for their important wartime mission. And the red hats that distinguish them will become a proud and lasting fixture at Willow Grove.



New leadership for 111th MSG, 270th EIS

By Capt. Renee Lillis
111th FW Public Affairs

The 111th Mission Support Group and 270th Engineering Installation Squadron both welcomed new leaders in a change of command ceremony, Apr. 5.

Lt. Col. Joseph Mezzatesta relinquished command of the 270th EIS to Lt. Col. Michael Kierod, and then assumed command of the 111th MSG.

Many opportunities and challenges await both commanders in their new positions. Kierod assumes command just as the 270th begins final preparations for an Operational Readiness Inspection this summer. And Mezzatesta's command will see the activation of the 201st RED HORSE Detachment, as well many other important endeavors underway in the other squadrons of the group.

"We have great expectations of them," said Maj. Gen. Stephen M. Sischo, Commander of the Pa. Air National Guard. "Thanks for accepting that challenge."



NCOs shine at Gap leadership seminar

By Senior Master Sgt. Alice E. Jenkins
111th MSF Personnel Superintendent

Do you have the supervisory skills required to perform your job? Did a recent promotion put you into a supervisory or leadership position? Do you know where to go or what to do to lead and advise your subordinates? The avenues are out there and you may need to look further than outside your door at the Grove.

Members from the 111th FW attended the NCO Supervisor Leadership Management Seminar at the 201st RED HORSE Sq., Fort Indiantown Gap Mar. 28-30. The seminar is coordinated by Chief Master Sgt. (Ret) Wayne Issett, 193rd Special Operations Wing, and attended by staff sergeants through senior NCOs from units in the Pa. Air National Guard. Subjects include:

Leading and Managing for Today's Air Force NCO, Safety Programs, Feedback, Awards and Decorations, Promotions, My Enlisted Development Plan, National Guard Workdays, and Supervisors from a First Sergeant Perspective to name a few. The three day seminar was not to provide intricate details but to provide direction and guidance that can improve the job you perform as a supervisor. It is also an excellent way to gain insight to all that have future leadership goals in mind.

According to Senior Master Sgt. Scot Baughman, 111th Mission Support Flight Force Sustainment NCO-IC, "The leadership course was very informative and should be taken by all new wing NCOs to properly prepare them to lead and supervise."

"I'm glad I attended this seminar" said Master Sgt. Sylvia Castro, 111th MSG Contracting Manager. "It educated me on a lot of material I knew nothing about. I'll make sure the individuals that I'm supervising are better informed."

"A great course with lots of good information," said Tech. Sgt. Boris Lapsker, 111th MSF Enlistments and Separations Clerk. "I would encourage any new NCOs or new supervisors to attend."

"I found the seminar interesting," said Staff Sgt. Talitacumi Acevedo. "I enjoyed the critical thinking portions and I'd suggest having the instructors come to our unit and hold training sessions. It was interesting learning about other units and I'll always remember the book: *Who Moved My Cheese?*"

The seminar concluded Sunday with attendees receiving letters of appreciation from Brig. Gen. Eric Weller, 193rd Special Operations Wing Commander.

Greetings from 111th SVF members serving in Kuwait



Staff Sgt. Melissa Neal Senior Airman Jonathan Garrett Tech. Sgt. Rhonda Martin

Staff Sgt. Melissa Neal, Senior Airman Jonathan Garrett and Tech. Sgt. Rhonda Martin of the 111th Services Flight are currently deployed to Ali Salem Air Base, Kuwait.

Sergeant Martin is overseeing a man-hole project and supervises ten personnel at the construction site. She has just completed security forces augmentee training. Out of over 100 troops, she was awarded "Outstanding Performer" for the week of Feb. 28-Mar. 6.

Sergeant Neal is assistant flight chief of over 100 troops. She handles various administrative tasks and briefs troops on weapons, vehicle and ground safety. She is working on her CDCs and just earned an 88 percent on her first volume. She also celebrated her 24th birthday.

Airman Garrett is in charge of supervising three Third Country Nationals (TCNs) He enforces precise security measures, has completed combat skills and security forces augmentee training.

New Requirements for Obtaining Common Access Cards (CAC)

**Two documents required, one must bear a photo
(Also required for dependent ID cards)**

Must have documents from EITHER one of these lists

Documents that Establish Both Identity and Employment Eligibility

1. U.S. Passport (unexpired or expired)
2. Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (Form N-560 or N-561)
3. Certificate of Naturalization (Form N-550 or N-570)
4. Unexpired foreign passport, with I-551 stamp or attached Form I-94 indicating unexpired employment authorization
5. Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card with photograph (Form I-151 or I-551)
6. Unexpired Temporary Resident Card (Form I-688)
7. Unexpired Employment Authorization Card (Form I-688A)
8. Unexpired Reentry Permit (Form I-327)
9. Unexpired Refugee Travel Document (Form I-571)
10. Unexpired Employment Authorization Document issued by DHS that contains a photograph (Form I-688B)

Documents that Establish Identity

1. Driver's license or ID card issued by a state or outlying possession of the United States provided it contains a photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color and address
2. ID card issued by federal, state or local government agencies or entities, provided it contains a photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color and address
3. School ID card with a photograph
4. Voter's registration card
5. U.S. Military card or draft record
6. Military dependent's ID card
7. U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card
8. Native American tribal document
9. Driver's license issued by a Canadian government authority

For persons under age 18 who are unable to present a document listed above:

10. School record or report card
11. Clinic, doctor or hospital record
12. Day-care or nursery school record

AND must have a document from this list:

Documents that Establish Employment Eligibility

1. U.S. social security card issued by the Social Security Administration (other than a card stating it is not valid for employment)
2. Certification of Birth Abroad issued by the Department of State (Form FS-545 or Form DS-1350)
3. Original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a state, county, municipal authority or outlying possession of the United States bearing an official seal
4. Native American tribal document
5. U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-197)
6. ID Card for use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
7. Unexpired employment authorization document issued by DHS (other than those listed under List A)

Airmen can submit dress, appearance ideas online

**Courtesy of Airman's Role Call,
Week of Mar. 12-18**

This week, top Air Force leaders came together for a two-day forum called CORONA. At the forum, Lt. Gen. Richard Newton III, deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services at the Pentagon, announced that airmen will now be able to submit ideas for improving dress and appearance standards to the new Virtual Uniform Board. This program allows individuals to submit uniform change requests through the Air Force's IDEA Program.

Once an idea is submitted it is then routed through the same channels as other IDEA suggestions. Major commands will have the ability to coordinate on ideas from Airmen in their command, and uniform change requests that successfully make it to Air Force Headquarters level will be reviewed by the Air Force Uniform Board. The first VUB will take place in early May.

This revolutionary process makes it easier for Airmen to submit suggestions and better define ideas. The Virtual Uniform Board will allow Air Force leadership to be more responsive to the field and provide more flexibility to board members while saving time and money.

The AFUB is chaired by General Newton, and board members include the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, and representatives from each MAJCOM and Air Staff Directorate. The AFUB reviews uniform change requests, then generates a list of recommendations to be forwarded to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. Once the Chief of Staff makes a final decision, the results are announced and implementation plans are developed as required.

To submit a uniform change request, visit the IDEA Program website at <https://ipds.csd.disa.mil> (CAC required) and select "Submit a Uniform Change Request." Users must establish a username and password. Questions regarding dress and appearance standards should be directed to local leadership. For more information contact the Air Force Personnel Center Contact Center at (800) 616-3775 option 1, 1, 2.

RETIREE ACTIVITIES OFFICE NEWS

The Willow Grove Retiree Activities Office is located in Bldg. 203, Rm. 154, and can be reached at (215) 443-1072.

New Air Force retirees web site

The Air Force has a new web site just for its retiree community that is full of news and information, plus it is easy to access and navigate.

The Air Force Retiree Services site is located at: www.retirees.af.mil.

This public Web site offers the retiree family in-depth information on the Survivor Benefit Plan, plus a list of Air Force Retiree Activities Offices worldwide and various other resources. There are also sections dedicated to the Afterburner and Air Force Retiree News Service.

Visitors can access the sections by using the top navigation bar on the home page. The home page also features the latest Air Force headline news and video clips. There is even a special icon for quick access to the Combat-Related Special Compensation information page.

Subscribing to the electronic version of the Afterburner and AFRNS is now much easier: just click on the word "Subscribe" found on the top navigation bar: find "Afterburner/AFRNS" near the top of the sec-

ond column and click in the circle to subscribe; enter the required e-mail address; and then click on the submit button.

For more AFPC news and information, log on to our web site at: www.afpc.randolph.af.mil.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Alvin Farrow



Wing holds annual ceremony to recognize 2007 retirees

Guardsmen, families and friends turned out to honor and celebrate the notable careers of fellow members at an annual retirement ceremony held Apr. 6.

DOD to phase out full social security numbers on IDs

By Gerry J. Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

As a means of combating identity theft, the Defense Department will issue identification cards without full Social Security numbers printed onto them, a senior official said here April 3.

The Defense Department cares about protecting personal information as well as increasing database security, said Mary Dixon, director of the Defense Manpower Data Center based in Arlington, Va.

Identity theft is a very real problem today, Ms. Dixon explained. Criminals who pilfer SSN-bearing identity cards can virtually assume someone's identity through a few computer keystrokes and clicks of a mouse, she said.

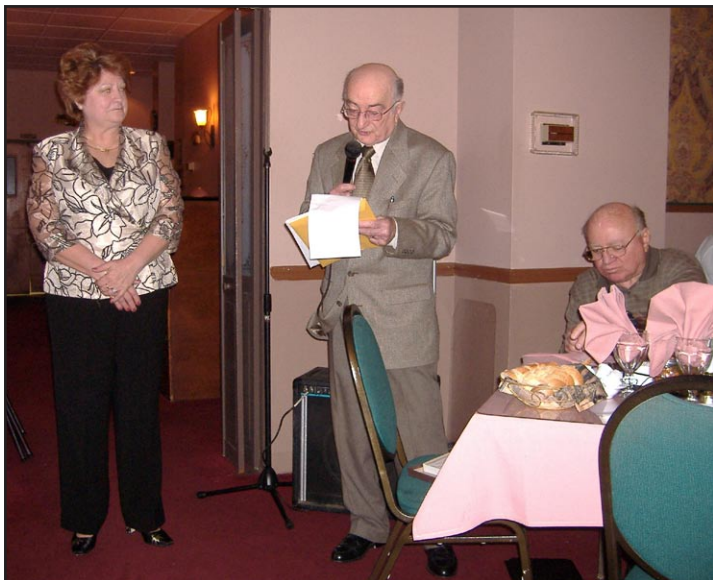
TriCare, the military services' health maintenance organization, already has removed Social Security numbers from its members' identification cards, Ms. Dixon said.

Plans are to remove the Social Security numbers from identification cards issued to military family members by the end of this year, Ms. Dixon said, noting that those cards still would display the sponsors' SSN, for now. Between 2009 and 2010, all department-issued identification cards will feature only the last four digits of a holder's Social Security number, she said.

"You might lose that card," Ms. Dixon pointed out, noting that family members, including children, could misplace their identification cards, too.

Modern information technology precludes the need to have full social security numbers printed onto employee and family member ID cards, Ms. Dixon said.

"Today, all of our (computer) systems can 'talk' to each other, so we don't necessarily need to know all of that information printed on your card," she said. New identification cards will be issued as they reach their expiration dates, Ms. Dixon said.



Retiree reunion draws largest turnout ever

Past and present members of the 111th FW attended a social gathering Apr. 7 at Casa DiLucia Restaurant in Philadelphia. Over 100 people were present.

SAVE THE DATE:

Next year's retiree reunion dinner will be held on Mon. Apr. 6.

FAMILY READINESS GROUP NEWS

By Jean Moretti

Wing Family Program Coordinator

The next FRG meeting will be held on May 4 at 2 p.m. in Bldg. 203, Room 107. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jean Moretti, 111th FW Family Program Coordinator at (215) 443-1409 or email: jean.moretti@pawill.af.mil.

Thank you FRG volunteers!

National Volunteer Week (Apr. 27 – May 3) is a special time of year set aside to recognize and thank 111th FRG volunteers, our most valuable asset. They donate their time, talent and energy supporting military members and their families. Thank you for another year of service and your continued support. You are the best!

Education Series Guest Speakers

On Sunday of drill weekend, an informative guest speaker will present a topic as part of an educational series. A guest speaker will discuss Financial Management on Sun. May 4 at 1 p.m. in Bldg. 203 HQ Auditorium.

Many thanks to Senior Master Sgt. Scot Baughman for briefing on Tricare during the April UTA. He focused on a variety of health plans available to National Guard members and their families. If you would like a copy of the Tricare handout, please call (215) 443-1409.

Summer Camp Slots Available

Carson-Simpson Farm Day Camp in Hatboro, Pa. offers nine coed slots for a one week session, 3 years to 6th grade. Camp website: www.csfarm.org.

Resident Camp Westminster Highlands in Emlenton, Pa. offers one coed slot, age 8-17; Jun. 29- Aug. 2. Camp website: www.capnwp.org.

Resident Camp ACHIEVA in Fom-bell, Pa. offers one coed slot, age 5-99; one week session Jun. 17-Aug. 8. Camp website: www.achieva.info.

Resident Camp Sandy Cove, High View, WV offers one boy and one girl slot, ages 7-15; 1 week session. Camp website: www.campsandycove.org.

Camp Island Lake Pocono Mountains of Pa. offers 25 slots for children between 3rd - 8th grade; Aug. 6-19. Contact Carla Brown, Child & Youth Services, (703) 681-

0996 or email: carla.brown@us.army.mil.

Operation Purple Pennsylvania for coed ages 7-16. Berks County Jun. 15-20 & Allegheny County Aug. 3-8. Camp website: www.nmfa.org.

USO/OMK Hero Camp in Lebanon, Pa. Jun. 15-20; coed ages 8-12. For more information, visit: www.libertyuso.org.

Pa. National Guard/4H Teen Leadership Camp in Lebanon, Pa. for coed ages 13-17, July 13-17. For more information, contact Janey Marquis at (717) 861-2650.

Free Theme Park Admission

Visit www.herosalute.com for details on complimentary admission to Anheuser-Busch's SeaWorld, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks. Military members and as many as three direct dependents may enter parks with a single-day complimentary admission.

Military One Source

Whether its help with child care, personal finances, emotional support during deployments, relocation information, or resources needed for special circumstances, Military OneSource is there. Visit www.militaryonesource.com.

Military HOMEFRONT

Military HOMEFRONT is the Department of Defense (DOD)'s official web site for reliable Quality of Life information designed to help troops and their families, leaders and service providers. Visit www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil.

Turbo Tap

Turbo Tap is the DOD's official website providing information for service members on transitioning from military service. This site is also supported by the Departments of Labor and Veterans Affairs. TurboTAP.org is intended to supplement the services offered by the Transition Assistance Offices and other groups. Visit: www.turbotap.org or www.transitionassistanceprogram.com.

New scholarship program available at local colleges for Delaware Valley veterans

Military members and veterans who live in southeastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey may be eligible for a new scholarship program funded by the Collegiate Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development.

The scholarships are for:

- Members of the Guard and Reserves who have deployed in support of Operation Iraq Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom;

- Veterans who have been awarded either the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, or the Afghanistan Campaign Medal; or,

- Military personnel adversely affected by closure and realignments at Willow Grove Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base.

The scholarships are limited to no more than \$1,500 for each recipient and are paid directly to the college. Scholarships can be used for tuition and fees at the following member institutions:

Community College of Philadelphia

<http://www.ccp.edu>

Delaware County Community College

<http://www.dccc.edu>

Bucks County Community College

<http://www.bucks.edu>

Camden County College

<http://www.camdencc.edu>

Montgomery Co. Community College

<http://www.mc3.edu>

Drexel University

<http://www.drexel.edu>

The tuition and fees can be used for: credit or non-credit courses, certificate programs, required continuing education programs, professional development courses, and many other training opportunities.

The scholarship program is set up with representatives at each school who will assist military students with both registration and enrollment or with the academic coordination of coursework (testing, grades, extensions, access, etc.).

For more information, call Cathy Obey or Paul Raetsch at (215) 218-3886, email: obey@collegiateconsortium.org or raetsch@collegiateconsortium.org or visit the Collegiate Consortium website at: www.collegiateconsortium.org.

PROMOTIONS

To Lieutenant Colonel

Kathleen A. Logan 111th MDG

To Chief Master Sergeant

Edward M. DiMaio Jr. 201st RHS

To Senior Master Sergeant

John J. Chapman 111th SFS

John R. Heidrick 270th EIS

To Technical Sergeant

Kristen M. Luciano 111th MXS

Timothy E. McManus 111th AMXS

Joshua P. Nichols 111th OSF

James Tillery Sr. 111th LRS

To Staff Sergeant

Matthew J. Dechant 111th CF

James M. Ott 111th AMXS

Matthew P. Wolf 111th MOF

To Senior Airman

Amber L. Mehefko 111th MDG

Robert R. Shirey 111th MXS

Thomas J. Stern 111th SFS

REENLISTMENTS

SMSgt Christian J. Haas 111th MXG

MSgt Robert J. Padick 201st RHS

MSgt David R. Austin 111th MXS

MSgt Gregory S. Walton 111th MXS

TSgt Brian Graham 111th LRS

TSgt Gregory N. Harris 111th MXS

TSgt Gilroy D. Robinson 111th LRS

SSgt Kenneth L. Singleton 111th SVF

EXTENSIONS

CMSgt Michael W. Vasta 111th FW

SMSgt Charles G. Carroll Jr. 270th EIS

MSgt Ralph S. Collins Sr. 111th FW

MSgt John T. Delaney 111th AMXS

TSgt Linda G. Varichione 201st RHS

SSgt Charlotte D. Baker 111th FW

SSgt Nicholas P. Fanelli 111th OSF

SSgt Jennifer Weikel 111th LRS

SrA Jennifer Kozminski 111th LRS

ENLISTMENTS

TSgt John P. Timbrell 201st RHS

SSgt Sean W. Elverson 111th MXS

A1C Jared T. Tobolski 111th CF

A1C Syreeta Williams 201st RHS

A1C Mark S. Yurkiewicz 270th EIS

ACCESSIONS

Maj Michael J. Travis 103rd FS

RETIREMENTS

111th Medical Group

Maj Richard T. Hennigan 23 years

TSgt Damon C. Bates 20 years

IN BRIEF

Active duty positions with the Air National Guard

Active Duty Title 10 Statutory Tour program positions are posted online at: www.ang.af.mil/careers/mva/ by closeout date. Please note the mandatory criteria of each Military Vacancy Announcement (MVA) as requirements may vary. Questions regarding MVAs or application packages may be emailed to the Organizational Management Office at: om.om@ang.af.mil.

Ordering Gas Mask Inserts

If you are showing on the Individual Medical Readiness due list for gas mask inserts please be aware that these are required for deployment. To order gas mask inserts, the Medical Group requires that you provide us with a current prescription (within one year) from your civilian provider. Please bring the prescription to the clinic during a UTA because you must be measured to ensure proper fit of the inserts. If you are deploying, please be sure to take care of this readiness requirement as soon as possible to allow time to order and have the inserts shipped to the Medical Group. You will be notified for pick up when the inserts arrive.

Statewide News:

View newsletters of our sister units:

193rd Special Operations Wing "The Scope"

www.paharr.ang.af.mil

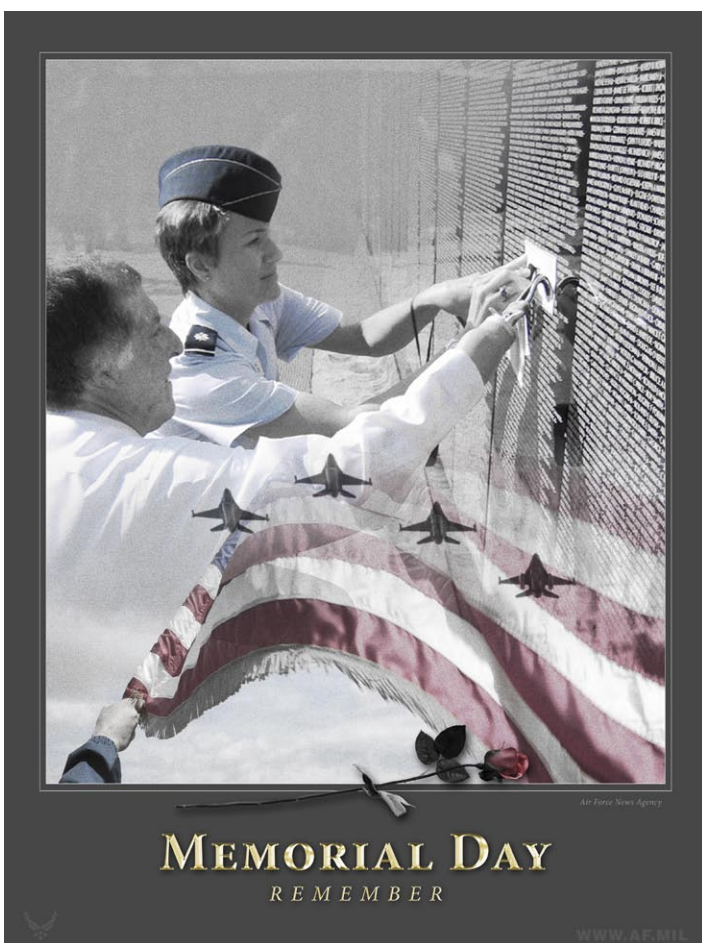
(Features links to Pa. Guardians & Airman Magazine)

171st Air Refueling Wing "Tanker Times"

Y:\111fw Shared\Newsletters - Sister Units\171st Air Refueling Wing\

On Guard magazine features MSgt Dave Austin, 111th MXS:

www.ngb.army.mil/news/theanguard/2008/2008-04.pdf



UTA MENU (AT PITCAIRN CLUB)

Sat. May 3

Teriyaki chicken, Pork chops & gravy
Chuck wagon vegetables, White rice
Dinner rolls and butter,
Salad bar, Assorted desserts

Sun. May 4

Roast beef au jus, Roast turkey & gravy
Mashed potatoes, Buttered corn
Dinner rolls and butter,
Salad bar, Assorted desserts

MAY UTA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Protestant Service will be held
at 8:30 a.m. in Bldg. 320 Room 228.
An additional Protestant Service will
be held at 10:30 a.m. in Bldg. 203
Room 203.

Catholic Service will be held at
10:00 in Bldg. 203 HQ Auditorium.

The Chaplain's Office is located
in Bldg. 203, Room 204-205 on the
second floor and can be reached at
(215) 443-1534.

**NAS JRB Willow Grove
Information, Tickets & Tours**
Office located in Bldg. 2
(215) 443-6082

Tues, Thurs, Fri
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Wed & Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FY08 UTAs:

3-4 May 2008
7-8 June 2008
12-13 July 2008
16-17 August 2008
6-7 September 2008

FY09 UTAs:

4-5 October 2008
1-2 November 2008
6-7 December 2008
10-11 January 2009
7-8 February 2009
7-8 March 2009
4-5 April 2009
16-17 May 2009
(Armed Forces Day)
6-7 June 2009
11-12 July 2009
1-2 August 2009
12-13 September 2009



Caption Contest

Send us your most imaginative, humorous and printable caption for the above photo, related to your Air National Guard experience. The best 3 entries will be printed in the June issue of the Sandy Hog Gazette. Email name and caption to: pa.111fw@pawill.ang.af.mil.

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111TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)
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