

Summer 2007

111th Fighter Wing

Sandy Hog

Willow Grove Air Reserve Station

Pennsylvania Air National Guard



**Answering
the call**

Wing deploys for AEF 7/8

SANDYHOG

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Pennsylvania Air National
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Change of Addresses

Personnel currently assigned to the 111th FW can contact the 111th MPF to update their change of address.

All others can submit their change of address by email to: 111fw@pawill.ang.af.mil or by mail to: 111th FW/PA, 1151 Fairchild Street, Willow Grove ARS, PA 19090

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IN BRIEF

Annual training time reduced

Air Force leaders have decided to reduce ancillary training to 90 minutes a year.

The numerous training briefings Airmen are required to attend annually will be combined into a new "block instruction" plan. Instead of time-consuming briefings on several subjects, training will be arranged so that time is used more efficiently while still getting Airmen the information they need.

The program takes effect Oct. 1. - Under the new 90-minute "block instruction" plan, Airmen will save almost an entire workday – or about 8.65 hours per person.

Unit commanders will have the choice of holding the entire 90 minutes at once in a mass briefing, or dividing it up into shorter segments throughout the year.

The 90-minutes of briefings will satisfy annual training requirements, but there will still be some instances when the standard briefings will be needed.

Enlisted performance reports now mandatory for ANG, will include annual fitness test performance

The simpler form will reduce the time it takes to prepare performance reports.

"Job Description" on the officer form, and "Key Duties, Tasks and Responsibilities" on the enlisted form are limited to four lines.

Bullets are assigned to specific block areas. For example, under Primary/Additional Duties, there is space for four lines to describe an Airman's performance in that particular area.

Further, "Additional Rater's Comments" is limited to three lines.

Fitness will be rated as "Does not Meet," "Meets" or "Exempt."

The new IMT performance report and performance feedback worksheets are available on Air Force e-Publishing at www.e-publishing.af.mil.

For more information, visit the Air Force Personnel Center at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil.

Policy Change Boosts G.I. Bill eligibility for some Guard, Reserve members

A recent Defense Department policy change widens the eligibility window for some Reserve-component troops who want to use their Montgomery G.I. Bill education benefits.

The DoD policy now aligns with Department of Veterans Affairs rules, which say National Guard members and reservists are eligible to receive Montgomery G.I. Bill education benefits for the period covering the amount of time they served on active duty, plus four months.

The total amount of G.I. Bill coverage for reservists is still 36 months. So members who have used part of their (G.I. Bill benefit) will only receive the difference between the amount available and the amount used.

To be eligible, you must have served at least 90 consecutive days of active service after Sept. 11, 2001, in response to a Presidential or Congressional call-up of military forces for war-time or other emergency service.

Guard and Reserve members who served for two continuous years on active duty in support of a contingency operation would qualify for both the Montgomery G.I. Bill and REAP and could select which program they want to use.

You can determine if you qualify for the Montgomery G.I. Bill and REAP by contacting the local education office.

Hire A Hero program links veterans with jobs

For Airmen seeking work, there is a new Internet tool, www.hireahero.org, to link military jobseekers with military-friendly employers.

Described as "where 'My Space' meets 'Monster.com' for the military community," the site is designed to match employers searching for employees with military qualities and skills with job seekers looking for careers.

More than 600 businesses have participated on the job board, and more than 180,000 individuals have registered at the site.

The site also allows those in the military community to expand their networking abilities, especially in the Soldiers' and Airmen's home communities.

On the cover

Felicia Kozminski hangs on tight to her mom, SrA Jennifer Kozminski, 111th Logistics Readiness Squadron, before she departs, July 8 for Iraq. Photo by TSgt Elisabeth Matulawicz.

New homeland defense mission for MDG



Col. Michael Hajatian
111th Medical Group Commander

“We will be one of three ANG units in the country with the capability to support the EMEDS mission.”

The Medical Group will be adding an exciting mission in 2007. Specifically, we will begin to work closer with our sister units in the state of Pennsylvania as well as our FEMA region in an effort to support the Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS) concept. While this is not a new concept to the 111th Medical Group, the EMEDS role in supporting civilian elements has taken on a different level of significance post 9/11. Our Medical Group will be assigned 1 ea EMEDS+25 September 2007. In the future, we will see 2 ea additional EMEDS+25 packages at Willow Grove. We will be one of three units in the country with the capability to support the EMEDS mission.

What is an EMEDS?

EMEDS is a modular, scalable, rapid response medical package that can be used in a myriad of operations such as humanitarian relief, wartime contingencies and disaster response. EMEDS comes in four

unique and distinct building blocks, SPEARR, EMEDS Basic, EMEDS+10 and EMEDS+25 personnel and equipment packages. The Small Portable Expeditionary Aerospace Rapid Response (SPEARR) package is the initial equipment and personnel set of the EMEDS construct. The SPEARR package brings medical equipment, supplies, one tent and 12 medical personnel to perform life-saving operations to include patient stabilization and surgical procedures and can treat a population at risk (PAR) of up to 500 personnel.

The second build is the EMEDS Basic; the basic package brings additional medical equipment, supplies and builds to a total of three tents, is staffed by 28 medical personnel, and cares for a PAR of 500-2000 personnel. The EMEDS Basic in addition to surgical care, provides primary medical care and has four holding beds. The EMEDS+10, the third increment of the EMEDS build, brings even

more medical equipment, supplies and builds to a total of six tents, is staffed by 56 personnel, and cares for a PAR of 2000-3000 personnel. Ancillary services include laboratory, radiology, pharmacy, and dental. The EMEDS+10 has a staff to care for ten medical or surgical patients for an extended period of time.

The EMEDS+25, the fourth increment, brings the total tents to nine, maintains a staff of 84, and cares for a PAR of 3000-5000 personnel. Ancillary services include, laboratory, radiology, pharmacy, dental and physical therapy. The EMEDS+25 can care for a mix of 25 surgical and medical inpatients. The requesting jurisdiction should work closely with the EMEDS providers to determine the proper sized module to request. In most cases, if the incident warrants an EMEDS at all, it will likely be recommended to at least send the entire package although all modules may not be set up unless needed.

October UTA - All about fun, family and appreciation

Sports Day Saturday, Oct. 12

An event to build camaraderie and just have fun! Come to drill in comfortable exercise-type clothing. Festivities kick off at 9 a.m. and last all day!

Appreciation Day & Family Day Sunday, Oct. 13

An event designed to show our appreciation for our families, civilian employers, local supporters and legislators. Report time 9 a.m. for all. Arrive in uniform or civilian clothing, as desired. Appreciation Celebration begins at 9:15 a.m. followed by Family Day events starting at approximately 10:15 a.m.

Be a cheerleader

Chief Master Sgt. Josek Hreczan
111th Health Services Manager



As a supervisor, it is your responsibility to help airmen reach higher levels of performance. It is your charge to reach inside yourself to find the interest, words and passion that encourage others to tap into their potential. The supervisor is responsible for giving the kind of support, guidance and feedback that changes lives.

To do it well, you must have genuine respect for the individuals you influence and a sincere desire to contribute to their growth.

Your intent determines whether what you say or do is discouraging or affirming.

Successful feedback validates what others have done well and guides them in the direction they need to go. It is not a once-a-year conversation; it is an ongoing dialogue that motivates behavior and inspires excellence.

So why do most supervisors wait until the end of the year to give feedback to their subordinates? What is it about our military culture that inhibits immediate conversations about what is going on and what can be done better?

Part of the problem is that today's jobs are increasingly knowledge-based, technology-oriented and isolating. We may not be used to having straightforward discussions about disagreements and performance challenges. As a result, supervisors need, more than ever, to have the ability to influence others and create cohesive teams.

To be successful supervisors, we need to give and receive feedback at the time it is warranted.

Giving and receiving feedback includes:

1. Engaging conversations
2. Proactive approach
3. Communicating expectations
4. Suspending judgment
5. Handling conflict

Feedback should be:

1. Specific
2. Descriptive
3. Stating the ideal
4. Immediate and confirmed
5. A two-way conversation

A Tribute to Jimmy K

By Command Chief Master Sgt. Michael W. Vasta

A history of tradition and friendship has left us with the recent untimely passing of retired Master Sgt. Jimmy Konieczny, 111th Security Forces Squadron. He was 62 years young.

One thing that Jimmy did not do was to really ever retire from the 111th. More on that later.

I met Jim when we both joined Security Forces (at that time it was the Weapon Systems Security Flight... good grief) in October 1984. Jimmy and I were both in the Marines, I was a sergeant and he was a captain. The two best things Jim and I ever did was to join the Marines and to then leave the Marines and join the Air Guard.

From the day he joined the 111th until the day he retired, Jim was always one of the first to raise his hand to volunteer to go where the wing, Security Forces, the Air Guard, or where his country needed him. Whether it was Minot AFB, N.D. in the dead of winter, the 1996 Olympics in the heat of summer, or at age 56 plus volunteering (and going) to the war zone; Jim did not miss many missions.

Everyone liked and respected Jimmy, who at times was stubborn, enjoyed a "spirited" debate, and really did not care who he yelled at or threatened to "take outside". It just happens to be an "old school" Air Guard and Security thing, a heritage of which we are very proud.

Conversely, Jimmy had a big heart. The first thing he would always ask you was "How's the family," recalled Master Sgt. Ron Peluzzo.

As mentioned, Jimmy never forgot about us. Throughout his career and in excess of two years after he retired, he faithfully called in to Security Forces every two weeks or more to check and see how things were and how everyone was.

It was Jim, who in retirement, when Master Sgt. John Ciarlante broke his right foot and could not drive, gave him a ride each day to and from the base.

That's the kind of guy Jim was. And we will all miss him.

Semper Fi Jim, for you were...always faithful.

Alcohol and sexual assault – the connection

By Tech. Sgt. Carolyn Debuque
111FW Military Equal Opportunity

Alcohol use and sexual assault often occur simultaneously. About half of all sexual assaults happen when the perpetrator is under the influence of alcohol. In some cases, the victim is also intoxicated. Drinking makes it easier for the perpetrator to ignore sexual boundaries, while the victim's intoxication makes it more difficult for her/him to guard against an attack.

A common misconception is if people only commit sexual assaults when drunk, the drinking must have caused the assault.

First, alcohol use does not cause sexual violence. Putting alcohol into your system does not cause you to commit a sexual assault any more than putting gasoline into your car causes you to drive to the airport. Gasoline makes it easier to go to where you want to go, while alcohol also makes it easier to do what you want to do. If you do not think about doing something when sober, you are not likely to do it when drunk.

Alcohol acts as a permission slip. By reducing inhibitions, alcohol often makes it more likely that someone will choose to sexually assault another person. Sexual assault occurs despite alcohol use, not because of it.

When someone is extremely intoxicated, we call that person "impaired." Impaired individuals have more difficulty performing tasks. Therefore, if you are going to sexually assault someone when drunk, you have to try harder focus your attention and be more determined than if you were sober.

So people who sexually assault when drunk, do so, not because they are intoxicated, but despite their intoxication. They have to overcome the impairment to commit the sexual assault.

Memory loss is not the same as lack of intent. If a perpetrator of sexual assault claims that he/she has no recollection of the assault, that does not mean that he/she had no intention of doing it at the time. All it means is that the perpetrator is currently either unable or unwilling to report his/her state of mind when the assaults occurred.

Sexual assault and substance abuse are separate issues. If someone violates sexual boundaries while drunk, that person has two issues to address.

Taking responsibility for alcohol consumption addresses only half of the problem. The offender also needs to take responsibility for the sexual violence. On the most basic level, the perpetrator needs to learn that all sexual contact without permission is sexual violence.

Those who do not respect sexual boundaries should not be allowed to explain or minimize their use of aggression as the result of alcohol. The only person ever responsible for sexual assault is the offender; never the victim.

Sadly, more sexual assaults are happening among Armed Forces members while deployed. Longer deployments and the stress of family separation can often lead to more alcohol consumption.

It is important that 111FW members recognize the link between alcohol use and sexual violence as growing problem. The tragedy of this crime has a long-lasting effect on the individual, and interrupts mission effectiveness and overall morale.

We need to take the steps that ensure the safety of our members no matter where they are located.

Education assistance increases

The Education Assistance Program funding level increased by 2.75% for the 2007-08 to include:

Full-Time Grants - 100% of the tuition charged or the funding cap listed below, whichever is less per term.

Semester schools - Fall 2007 - \$2,588; Spring 2008 - \$2,589

Quarter schools - \$1725 Fall/Winter 2007; \$1727 Spring 2008

Part-time Grants without a Bachelor's Degree (Undergraduate)- 100% of the tuition charged or the funding cap listed below, whichever is less per term.

Semester schools - \$1,725 Fall 2007; \$1,726 Spring 2008

Quarter Schools - \$1,150 Fall/Winter 2007; \$1,151 Spring 2008

Part-time Grants With a Bachelor's Degree (Graduate) - 50% of the tuition charged or the funding cap listed below, whichever is less per term.

Semester schools - \$862 Fall 2007; \$863 Spring 2008

Quarter Schools - \$575 per term (Fall 2007, Winter & Spring 2008).

Chaplain's Pen

By Chaplain, Lt. Col. Rhonda J Cushman

It's been an eventful summer! We welcomed many newcomers to the 111FW, even as many of our members deployed for the AEF 7-8 cycle.

It was my privilege to serve alongside the fine Chaplains at Andersen AFB, Guam. Upon returning home I discovered that time had not stood still, household routines were not frozen in place, the two men in my family had managed pretty well at home without me while I was gone...and that's a good thing!

Keeping our deployed members and their families in our prayers we anticipate more homecomings and a joyful family day in October. Here is a prayer excerpted from one of the devotional booklets we have available in our office:

*"Lord of all life,
When our loved ones are far
away,
Draw our hearts nearer.
Nearer to one another in
spirit,
Nearer to your lovingkindness.
While we wait to be reunited,
Help us to develop
The patient resolve
To go forward by faith
in each new day.*

Amen."

Making a pit stop

AL ASAD AIRBASE, Iraq — Tech. Sgt. Brian Curry, 438th EAMXS A-10 crew chief, deployed from the 111th Fighter Wing, and Marine Lance Cpl. Hannah Freidhiem, Marine Wing Support Squadron-271 fuels section, Marine Wing Support Group 27, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, stand by after attaching a refueling nozzle to the A-10 Thunderbolt II at Al Asad, July 9.

Marines added the A-10 to their hot pit refueling mission there recently. Moving the A-10s from the refueling trucks to the hot pit saves the aircraft about two hours of downtime, giving them more time in the air to support ground forces.

Hot pit refueling is performed when the aircraft returns from a combat sortie. The aircraft lands; munitions are rendered safe by weapons Airmen; and the aircraft goes through a quick inspection. The fuel point is inspected and then, if the aircraft is determined safe, it rolls into the hot pits for fuel, said Curry.

“The aircraft rolls into the hot pit where Marines fuel the aircraft while the engines are running,” the full-time military technician said. “After fueling is complete, the aircraft will then proceed back to its parking space, where the crew chiefs perform a thru flight inspection.”

Then the aircraft taxis to the end of runway, where the weapons Airmen will arm the aircraft before it takes off on another combat sortie.

Most aircraft take around 1,000 to 1,400 gallons of fuel. From the time the aircraft rolls into the hot pit until it is fully refueled takes anywhere from seven to 10 minutes, Sergeant Curry said.

Sergeant Curry trained the Marines in about two weeks.

“I have never worked with Marines before on a daily basis,” he said. “The Marines here at Al Asad in the hot pits are first class. They were very easy to train and just do an incredible job. They have attitudes that can’t be described. They want us to hot pit, and they look forward to it. They are just incredible young men and women.”



Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Shannon Collins

Volunteer...you can truly make a difference

The Family Readiness Group volunteers are made up of family members, service members, civilian employees, and community volunteers and they are the vital link between the command, the service member and the family members.

There are a number of good reasons for volunteering, including:

1. Contributing to the unit
2. Supporting your spouse's military commitment
3. Gaining a sense of achievement
4. Gaining job experience and enhancing your resume

When members deploy to trouble spots or away for extended periods of time it is difficult on the spouses and children they leave behind.

The Family Readiness Group provides the support and assistance and a means of communication among the family members.

The FRG helps prevent problems that may affect families as a result of their spouse's separation due to deployment.

Contribute your ideas to enhance family readiness. Did you feel welcome when your spouse joined the unit? Would you like to help welcome new families? If not, how would you improve on welcoming new families? Help turn a negative into a positive. Share your ideas and suggestions.

One of the problems is distance from the Guard units and military members may not always give information and hand outs to their spouses. FRG can be the strongest resource for information and support for coping with separations and reunions. The FRG can share their knowledge with other military families to help face the challenges of being a military family member.

Contact information: Jean Moretti, WFPC X1409 or jean.moretti@pawill.ang.af.mil

Another tour of duty – for Guardsman and families

The scene in Hangar 2 at Willow Grove Air Reserve Station July 8 was familiar to some and a whole new experience for others. A hot afternoon, packed bags strewn about, mixed emotions of apprehension and excitement on the faces of guardsmen and their loved ones - all waiting for word that it was time to go.

When word finally came, friends and family waved goodbye from the hangar as approximately 140 111th Fighter Wing guardsmen departed for Iraq in support of Air Expeditionary Force 7/8.

The departing airmen were the third and final wave of 111FW guardsmen to deploy this summer for AEF 7/8. The wing teamed up with a sister A-10 unit, the 124th Fighter Wing, Idaho Air National Guard, to volunteer support for this off-cycle AEF deployment.

Although the wing has supported ongoing operations and deployments all over the world, including their last AEF deployment to Afghanistan in 2003, this time around is different. The unit's A-10 aircraft were recently upgraded with enhanced technology that will assist with critical close air support and convoy escort missions.

News of their safe arrival came immediately, as well as positive feedback and word of their initial successes.

Don't hesitate to contact the 111FW Family Readiness Group at 215-443-1409 for questions or support during this, or any, deployment. Or, now's a great time to get involved and help other 111 FW families by becoming an FRG volunteer!

Top right: Guardsmen and their families talked with Maj. Gen. Jessica Wright, state adjutant general, who visited to see off deploying members. Right: 111th FW guardsmen board the aircraft to depart. Photos by TSgt Elisabeth Matulewicz.



Photo by MSgt Clifford Spangler

No room for error

It was a very tight squeeze for this deployed A-10 aircraft on location at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq. This phase bird being pushed back was eased in flawlessly with less than four inches of air between each wing tip and the hangar.

MOMS ON THE MOVE

Wing moms spotlighted in local television program



Tech. Sgt. Jonathan White
111FW Public Affairs

With the exception of Mother's Day, how often are mothers recognized for their achievements, dedication and hard work? In the midst of reality-dominated television, one individual continues to champion the cause of underrepresented mothers who are making a difference.

Linda Swain brought her television program "Moms on the Move" to the Willow Grove Air Reserve Station May 19. Created and hosted by Swain, it features real and celebrity moms who share their incredible life situations that they handle successfully and recognizes them for their achievements. "Mothers need people to prop them up. They need to feel powerful in their role as leaders" said Swain.

111th Fighter Wing moms shared their stories with Swain and gave her a glimpse of what it means to be a mother in the military. Swain also had a chance to experience the part of the Pennsylvania Air National

Guard mission first hand on a KC-135 refueling mission where she and members of the 111th met up with military moms from the 171st Air Refueling Wing.

"Mothers are often ignored and it's nice that Ms. Swain is recognizing us," said Tech. Sgt. Rhonda Martin, 111th Services Flight. Capt. Beth McRavion, 111th Medical Group clinical psychologist agreed. "The public needs to see that military mothers are juggling multiple tasks. Not too often are women in the military spotlighted."

In 2001, Swain committed herself to getting her show on the air. While traveling the world thru a travel company she operates with her husband, Swain encountered many mothers with empowering stories. A mother of six herself, Swain felt a strong need to share their stories.

The first person to share her story with Swain was Chief Master Sgt. Jenny Pappas, 111th SVF superintendent. was the first to share her stor. Nicknamed the "Mothers of Mothers," by her friends and coworkers in the wing, Pappas

Above: SrA Willicox explains to Linda Swain the pros and cons of being a military mom. Right: 111 FW Military Moms stand proud to pose for a picture with Linda Swain as the day comes to a close. Photo by SrA Ricardo Cruz



explained the hard work and dedication it took for her to become the first female Chief at the 111FW.

Master Sgt. Nancy K. Worthington, 111th Human Resources Office, a single mother, gave Swain an up close and personal account of the sacrifices and challenges of mothers in the military and how they cope with deploying.

Martin has also been down that road but said "My son handled my deployments well," when asked how her family feels about her service and deployments.

The same kind of support is clearly evident in the West family. Master Sgt. Beverly West, 111th Logistics Readiness Squadron, is the wife of a service member and mother of two sons who are serving in the military. One of her sons is currently in Basic Training. "My sons enjoy serving their country just like mom and dad."

McRavion also juggles the task of being a mother to a 4 year old daughter but explained that she enjoys her military extended family and would even support

Continued next page.

Fighter force.....or not

Master Sgt. Ralph Perrie
111FW Historian

In 1961 the 103rd and other ANG fighter squadrons around the country were trained and ready to go, but word came down from the top—"they were no longer needed". Hence, new missions would be forth coming.

On April 1, 1962, the 111th Fighter Group was redesignated the 111th Air Transport Group and once again pilots of the 103rd transitioned to the four-engine Stratocruiser, the C-97 (pictured at left). The larger, heavier aircraft did not have adequate or suitable ramp, hangar and administrative space at Philadelphia International Airport. So, in the Spring of 1963 they relocated to Willow Grove NAS, and for the first time, they were on Federal property and occupied newly-constructed facilities in the Air Force area. At that time, the other Pennsylvania flying units also switched to Air Transports.

It was by Special Order G-1, dated February 8, 1963, the unit was transferred to Willow Grove NAS effective March 15, 1963 with a total of 963 assigned officers and airmen.



According to Chief Master Sgt. Pete Volpe who joined the 103rd in 1949 and retired in 1982, "The whole move took about six months to complete."

Monthly trips began to Tachikawa AB, Japan in April 1964 and also in April, the unit flew 14,000 pounds of clothing to earthquake victims in the Azores. Then during the summer, the 103rd used their C-97s to airlift seven ANG Tactical Fighter units to and from their training sites.

Four unit aircraft and crews, which were part of 29 Air Guard units committed for special augmentations for EASTAF, departed in August for bases in Europe and the Azores. They took over mission assignments for Military Air

Transport Service (MATS) aircraft diverted to other locations.

In August 1964, a 103rd C-97 flew to Andrews AFB, Washington, D. C. to back up the Air Guards first non-stop fighter deployment with nearly 750 guardsmen from 22 states that were participation.

Aero medical airlift missions began on 1 April 1965 within the United States and South and Central America. Later they extended to Southeast Asia (SEA) and Europe. As part of Operation Christmas Star, one C-97 departed 19 November 1965 for DaNang AB, Vietnam, carrying seven tons of cookies for U. S. troops.

**Save our
history!**

*Volunteers needed for
wing history team*

*The AFSC for Wing
Historian no longer*

*exists, but we still need
to preserve our history
for future generations.*

*Volunteers will contrib-
ute to the history team as
an additional duty.*

*To volunteer, or for more
information, contact*

Capt. Christine Munch,

215-443-1410 or

christine.munch@pawill.ang.af.mil

MOMS continued from previous page.

her daughter's decision to join the military. "I bought my daughter a customized flight suite and she loved it!"

Mothers like Martin, McRavion, Pappas and Worthington are not alone.

There are other mothers out there, who may not wear the uniform, but feel compassion and provide support to families in times like these. Mothers like Sarah Blank, whose son is a member of the 111th Security Forces Squadron. Blank volun-

teers her time as president of the 111th Family Readiness Group. She reaches out to military families and provides services that assist them when problems occur.

Swain said her KC-135 flight was an "incredible experience"

She wasn't nervous though. "There is a real trust level at the 111th Fighter Wing. I feel safe amongst the service members," she added.

Before departing, Swain encouraged the mothers and asked them to remember "anything worth while is difficult!"



Linda Swain is ready to fuel up some of the wing's A-10s, as the moms take a ride on a 171st Air Refueling Wing KC - 135. Photo by SrA Ricardo Cruz.



Congratulations!

Senior Airman

SrA Shawn M. Carr-Mullen, 111 SFS
 SrA Jamir T. Carter, 111 LRS
 SrA Dakota E. Kauffman, 111 MSF
 SrA James Kelly III, 270 EIS
 SrA Anthony A. Leonetti II, MX S
 SrA Rosemarie Perry, 111 MDG
 SrA Rosea Pheap, 111 MOF
 SrA Jamin P. Stevenson, 111 OSF

Staff Sergeant

SSgt Randy A. Barlip, 111 CES
 SSgt Richard A. Bloomer, 111 MXS
 SSgt John R. Brosnan, 111 AMXS
 SSgt Nicholas A. Brydun, 111 MDG
 SSgt Stephen J. Close, 111 AMXS
 SSgt William J. Davis, 111 MXS
 SSgt Daniel P. Griffin, 111 MSF
 SSgt Evan C. Kent, 270 EIS
 SSgt Jody L. Johnson, 111 MDG
 SSgt Finney M. Phillips, 111 LRS
 SSgt Jeffery A. Schurr, 111 SFS
 SSgt Justin D. Shellhammer, 111 CES
 SSgt Alicia Singh, 111 MDG
 SSgt Aaron P. Whittington, 111 CES

Technical Sergeant

TSgt Roberto B. Brabham 111 LRS
 TSgt Troy M. Christman, 111 CES
 TSgt Brian P. Curry, 111 AMXS
 TSgt John W. Dell, 111 SFS
 TSgt Eli M. Grimm, 111 MXS
 TSgt Matthew C. Haas, 111 MXS
 TSgt Robert M. Ipri, 111 AMXS
 TSgt David G. Marshall, 111 CES
 TSgt Colleen F. McLain, 111 SFS
 TSgt John E. Roush, 111 CES
 TSgt Steven B. Sultzbach, 111 OSF
 TSgt Alexander E. Sutherland, 111 AMXS
 TSgt Jill S. Winter 111 MDG

Master Sergeant

MSgt James D. Dunn Jr, 111 MXS
 MSgt Howard W. Evans, 111 MSG
 MSgt Bernard J. Herron, 270 EIS
 MSgt Christopher A. Jones, 111 MXS
 MSgt Charlie Lespier, 111 SVF
 MSgt James J. McGuire, 111 MXS
 MSgt Christopher McCormick, 111 CES
 MSgt James B. West, 111 MXS

Senior Master Sergeant

SMSgt Stephen C. Johnston, 111 MXS

Chief Master Sergeant

CMSgt James D. Pusey, 270 EIS

ANG retirees now eligible for recruiting assistant program

Air National Guard retirees, with a minimum of 20 years of satisfactory service and retired over 6 months or more, to now sign up for the Guard Recruiting Assistant Program and become eligible to earn \$2,000 per contracted accession (non-prior service and prior service).

To apply, visit
www.guardrecruitingassistant.com

Good Luck!!!



Ties that bind

Senior Master Sgt. Steve Agnew, 270th Engineering Installation Squadron, welcomes his son Stephen Agnew, Jr. to the PaANG family. 2Lt James Valley, Jr. (right) administered the oath.

After basic training, Agnew will join his father in the 270th EIS as a Cable Communications Systems journeyman.

\$2,000 reasons to GRAP

111 CES fire fighter becomes nation's leading recruiting assistant; 111th leads the way with ANG's top three "GRAPers"

Tech. Sgt. Jonathan White
111FW Public Affairs

In April 2006, Staff Sgt. Kevin Watson made a decision that would change his life forever. After serving three combat tours in Iraq as a Marine, Watson decided to join the 111th Fighter Wing's Civil Engineering Squadron as a fire fighter.

"In the beginning I was hesitant about joining. I can admit now that the Air National Guard exceeded my expectations," said Watson.

Watson decided to return the favor by becoming a recruiting assistant through the Air National Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (G-RAP). Watson used his experience as a Marine Corp recruiter assistant to become not only the Wing's leading "G-RAPer" to date, but the entire ANG as well.

From September 2006 thru December 2006, Watson recruited seven individuals. Since then, he's picked up speed, recruiting another 14 members in the last seven months, which gives him a running total of 21 with two more in the works. The G-RAP program pays \$2,000 per enlistment (prior service and non-prior service). Is this a good incentive? You do the math!

Watson reaches out to non-prior enlistees by developing a rapport with parents and school counselors. He's even developed a Power Point presentation for school counselors. "You have to involve the parents and address general questions regarding war and deployments."

He deals with apprehensive individuals by discussing his personal experiences. Moreover, when he explains to possible recruits that he would not sell them



Staff Sgt. Kevin Watson shakes the hand of former Marine and new recruit Staff Sgt. Randall Main, 270th Engineering Installation Squadron. Photo by SrA Ricardo Cruz.

something he would not sell to a member of his own family, he means it. He points to the example of his brother, Airman 1st Class Steven Watson, a member of the 111th Fighter Wing currently in basic training.

Tech. Sgt. Steven Leibig, 111th Logistics Readiness Squadron aircraft fuels operator, cites providing detailed, accurate information to potential recruits as essential to the success of any G-RAPer. His success is shown by the 10 enlistees he brought to the wing, making him the No. 2 G-RAPer in the nation.

Leibig said he feels the wing has benefited greatly by having current members actively seek out potential recruits. It's because of the G-RAP program

"the 111th has recently gotten the quality people that it has."

With a respectable eight enlistees to his credit, Master Sgt. Mark Armstrong is holding strong at No. 4 in the nation. A 111th Civil Engineering Squadron plumber, Armstrong says he is interested in educating people about the "phenomenal" benefits of the Guard. "It basically sells itself."

He said he enjoys helping people find a way to continue their career when they feel there is nowhere else for them to go. Armstrong says the highlight of his experience so far has been learning the reasons people want to support our country.

Col. Paul Comtois, 111th Fighter Wing commander, en-

thusiastically commends the top performers and their exceptional work in sharing the 111th's story.

He said he was not surprised to learn that his wing held three of the top five recruiting assistants in the nation. "We really have the perfect situation here at the 111th. Not only does Philadelphia offer a fertile recruiting ground, but more importantly, we have a great recruiting team and highly industrious unit members. I am very proud of our Airmen and how they continue to show their mettle."

You can learn more about the G-RAP program by visiting www.guardrecruitingassistant.com

'Father of PaANG' inducted into state Hall of Fame

FORT INDIANTOWN GAP – Brig. Gen. Richard B. Posey (USAF-Ret.), known as the “Father of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard” and a decorated war veteran, was inducted Jul. 31 into the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Hall of Fame.

During a military career that spanned four decades, “he played a defining role in the creation of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, helping to make it into one of the finest forces in the nation,” said Maj. Gen. Jessica L. Wright, state adjutant general.

Born in Reading, Posey graduated from Reading High School and Albright College prior to beginning his military career in 1941, when he entered the Army Air Corps Primary Flying School in Albany, Ga. He received his pilot’s wings and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Air Corps on Dec. 12, 1941. He flew 22 B-17 combat missions during World War II. He was released from active duty in January 1946.

The following year, Posey was selected to serve as squadron commander of the newly authorized 148th Fighter Squadron at Spaatz Field in Reading. He led an aggressive recruiting effort, and in less than two months, the squadron received federal recognition and began training as a unit of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard. Posey was instrumental in developing training and administrative policies as well as operational plans and safety programs that became the cornerstone of air operations within the state.

Posey returned to active duty in 1951 to serve in the Korean conflict. In 1955, he became the wing commander of the 112th Fighter



Brig. Gen. Stephen Sischo with Brig. Gen. Richard Posey (ret.) at the induction ceremony Jul. 31.

Interceptor Wing, and in 1956 he was appointed deputy adjutant general – air. In October 1958, he was elevated to duty chief of staff, and in 1972 he was reassigned as an assistant adjutant general for air operations.

Posey also served on commissions that affected military decisions at the National Guard Bureau and the Department of Defense. He retired in 1978. Among his many decorations and awards are: the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Legion of Merit, the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Combat Readiness Medal, and the American Campaign Medal



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