



The Sandy Hog Gazette

111th Fighter Wing
Willow Grove Air Reserve Station
Pennsylvania Air National Guard

"Home of Airborne Forward Air Control, Close Air Support, and Combat Search and Rescue"

Vol. 11 No. 3

March 2006

Wing continues preparing for Spring inspection

111th PAR team member TSgt Scott Sassaman performs Self Aid/Buddy Care on a "casualty" found during the Operational Readiness Exercise here on Feb 11.

Self Aid/Buddy Care skills include how to properly provide first aid in the field, how to treat and recognize conditions like shock and care for wounds or illness that may occur during a deployment.

These skills and others will be put to the test during the Operational Readiness Inspection scheduled for April 28 - May 3. Turn to page 4 to view more photos from the ORE and the general knowledge questions everyone should be familiar with for the ORI.



Photo by TSgt. Tyrone Mitchell

Guard, Reserve eligible for earlier retirement pay

Retirement age based on amount of time spent activated in support of contingency operations

The Senate approved an amendment which would lower the retirement age for members of the United States National Guard and Reserve. The amendment passed by a 99-00 vote.

Currently, after 20 years of service members of the National Guard and Reserve can begin receiving retirement pay when they reach age 60. The new amendment reduces the age requirement by three months for every 90 days of active service a reservist performs in support of a contingency

operation in a fiscal year, retroactive to September 2001, and sets the minimum age to collect retirement pay at 50.

This amendment makes Guard members and Reservists, currently fighting the war on terror, eligible for earlier retirement pay based on the amount of time they spend activated in support of a contingency operation.

HOG HIGHLIGHTS

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PROMOTIONS



To Senior Master Sergeant
Nicole Fulton, 111FW
Steven La Barre, 111FW



To Master Sergeant
Arlington Bey, 111LRS
Eugene Frederick, 111LRS
Mark Gilbert, 111MXG
John Stumpf, 111SFS
Francis Warren, Jr, 111CES



To Technical Sergeant
Tyrone Mitchell, 111CF
Edward Sommers, 111LRS
Anthony Wolfe, 111CES



To Staff Sergeant
Joshua Baer, 111MXS
Andrew Benedictus, 111MXS
Russell Glantz, 270EIS
Calvin Renfro, 111CES



To Senior Airman
Christy Bradberry, MXO
Matthew Long, 270EIS
Matthew Wolf, MXO

ENLISTMENTS

SrA William Griffin, STF
SrA Trow Hummell, STF
SrA Jared Young, 111MDG

Pennsylvania Air National Guard



Willow Grove, PA

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Col. GREGORY MARSTON
COMMANDER

Lt. Col. PRESTON SMITH
COMMUNITY MANAGER

1st Lt. RENEE LILLIS
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Tech. Sgt. GARY MC LEAN
MULTIMEDIA SUPPORT CENTER
PHOTOGRAPHY

SrA RICARDO CRUZ
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

MARCH UTA Lunch Menu

Sat. March 11

Baked Lemon Herbed Fish
Chicken Chop Suey
Vegetable Medley
Rice
Chicken Gravy
New England Clam Chowder
Chicken Noodle Soup
Salad Bar
Desserts

Sun. March 12

Roasted Turkey
Roasted Potato Wedges
Turkey Gravy
Broccoli
Vegetable Soup
Salad Bar
Desserts
Rolls

We must remain focused on the mission at hand

By Lt. Col. Howard "Chip" Eissler
111th Operations Group Commander

It's been one year since I last had the opportunity to write for the Sandy Hog. In that last article I took the time to explain why the 103rd Fighter Squadron puts so much effort into the flying schedule day-in and day-out. The basic gist of the article was that we need to continually hone our skills as pilots (and maintainers) to successfully deploy in defense of our nation when called upon to do so.

This last year has certainly brought some turmoil to this unit. BRAC hit us hard, I think. The final decision was supposed to be signed and in the books by the end of September and we were to work toward our follow on mission. Well, here we are five months past that date and as of now we don't have a good word on what our next mission will be.

The future mission of the 111th Fighter Wing is well above my head, but I have had the opportunity to experience first hand the effort that is going into our future. At every level, that effort is nothing short of impressive, starting with the Governor's office, through the State and down to Wing. Rest assured, the Governor sees the strategic importance of this base and this runway and wants an Air National Guard unit to remain flying here. The State is in lockstep with the Governor – they support a flying unit at Willow Grove and are actively engaged with the Guard Bureau, State and Local politicians, and the Pentagon.

While the fight to keep a flying mission at Willow Grove remains the priority, the State continues to explore future mission potentials for the 111th Fighter Wing. Col. Paul Comtois, 111th FW Air Commander, is leading the effort for the Wing and is deeply engaged at all levels.

Once the ORI is in the books - the Operations Group is looking forward to a busy summer.

There are obviously a lot of concerns about our potential new mission, but our leadership is confident we will maintain our current end strength no matter the outcome. Needless to say, the right people with the right intentions are engaged to support not only our interests as members of the 111th, but the interests of the State and the Nation.

So, where does that leave us – what should we, the members of the Wing be doing? Back to my first paragraph, everyone in this Wing knows what their mission is today – and that's not changing in the near future. It's pretty easy to get wrapped up in the "what ifs" – but it is much more important to be focused on our mission at hand.

The Operations Group's mission is to maintain a combat mission ready profile to take and employ our aircraft anywhere in the world with minimal notice. Within the Operation Group we have support functions such as: Weather, Intel, Airfield Management, Aviation Resource Management (ARMs), Life Support, and Medical. Like every other functional in the Wing, we must train to support this unit (or other units) if called upon.

Once the ORI is in the books – the Operations Group is looking forward to a busy summer. The Weather Flight will be deploying to Camp Blanding, Florida for training on the Target Acquisition Weapon System (TAWS) at the Weather Readiness Center. The rest of the Group will be supporting the busy schedule of the Fighter Squadron. In June the Squadron will be deploying to Fort Drum, NY to practice employing live munitions; next a trip in July



Lt. Col. Howard "Chip" Eissler

to Volk Field, WI to participate in the Global Patriot Exercise; and finally in August to Hill AFB, UT to participate in a weapons test called Combat Hammer.

Somewhere in the middle of all the deployments we will be receiving an upgrade to the A-10 called Smart Color Multi-function Display which will include a digital moving map, a situational awareness data link, and an improved interface with the targeting pod.

Starting next fiscal year our focus will shift toward prepping the Group for the upcoming AEF window. We are not schedule to deploy at this point but our job is to be prepared if called.

While it is impossible not to ponder the potential changes coming to this Wing, we must remain focused on our mission today. I have never seen anything but the best from this Wing and its people and I am confident we will all excel not only in the short term, but in the long term as well.

111th Fighter Wing Reunion in April

A reunion of members and former members of the 111th Fighter Wing, Pennsylvania Air National Guard is being held on **April 3, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.** This is the 55th anniversary of activation. The reunion will be held at **Casa De Lucia Restaurant**, located at 14425 Bustleton Pike at the intersection of Philmont Avenue and Bustleton Pike. The phone number is 215-677-6111. The cost of the affair will be whatever you order. The food is excellent and reasonable priced. There is also a cash bar available. For More information please contact Vince Celenza, 215-728-6008, Emilio Quartucci 215-249-3204 or Jenny Pappas 215-443-1340. **See you there!!**

February ORE Snapshots...

Clockwise from top right: Member of the 111th reviews pre-flight procedures; The End of Runway team inspects an A10 before take-off; PAR team members respond to casualties.



Photo by TSgt. Tyrone Mitchell



Photo by SSgt. Robert Bunch



Photo by TSgt. Tyrone Mitchell



Photo by SSgt. Robert Bunch

General Knowledge Questions

(For the full list of questions and other ORI information visit Hognet)

Q. What is S-A-L-U-T-E?

S - Size = number of persons / vehicles
A - Activity = description of activity such as assaulting, fleeing, observing
L - Location = grid or reference point
U - Unit = distinctive signs, symbols or identification
T - Time = when it was observed
E - Equipment = equipment or vehicles associated with activity

Q. What are the three attack release codes and what do they mean?

- **Initial Release** – Initial personnel to determine the condition at our base after an attack (Potentially High Risk for these teams)
- **Limited Release** – Personnel needed for essential Maintenance & Operations (Potentially moderate risk for these teams)
- **General Release** – Release of all base personnel (Lower Risk)

Q. True or False? In Alarm Red or Black you may move (drag or carry) your casualty into nearest bunker/building, if close by.
 A. True.

Q. What does each of the FPCON Levels indicate?

- A** - Increased General Threat; Unpredictable
- B** - Increased or More Predictable Threat
- C** - Incident Occurs or Terrorist Action Likely
- D** - Immediate Area where Terror Activity Occurred or Terrorist Action Imminent

Q. What does A-B-C-D-E stand for regarding Self Aid and Buddy Care?

A. Airway / Breathing / Circulation / Disability / Exposure.

Q. What is the meaning of the wavering tone alarm? Steady tone? Bugle call?

- **Wavering Tone** – Alarm Red – Air or Missile Attack
- **Bugle Call** – Alarm Red- Ground Attack
- **Steady Tone** – Alarm Black

Become a 111FW Honor Guard member

Honor Guard volunteers from all career fields are needed to ensure the continued legacy of rendering honors for our Airmen, both past and present. As a member of the Base Honor Guard, you will be called upon to perform honors for active duty, retiree and veteran funerals. In addition to military funeral honors, you will be called up on to participate in a variety of community and athletic events.

When you join the Honor Guard you will receive:

- Specialized training
- All required uniforms
- The privilege of wearing the distinctive Honor Guard badge
- Eligibility for base awards and incentives
- Personal intrinsic value

To become a member of the Base Honor Guard, contact Maj. Jacqueline Siciliano at 215-443-1364.



Family Readiness News

You can help families of our 111 FW deployed members

It seems to happen every time - a member deploys and the family is left to deal with all the problems of caring for family, home and car.

The 111th Family Readiness Group is working on setting up a Skills Bank Program for the deployed member's family.

We are asking you to help by providing guidance and information to the family, so they will have options before making an expensive decision.

What you can do to help

Contact Jean Moretti, 111th FRG coordinator, and identify your areas of knowledge and hands on experience with the repair of appliances, electrical, heating, air conditioning, roof, auto, computer, etc.

If the need should arise, the FRG will contact you to ask if we may have the family contact you directly for assistance. Each situation will be different. You could make suggestions on the best way the family should deal with the problem. Or you may feel it is beyond repair and suggest they not waste their money. You could recommend they call a repair service and hopefully, recommend a reputable company and give advice on what they should expect to pay. The family will make the final decision on the best way to proceed.

Our deployed members need to know as they juggle serving their country and taking care of their families that their families are being cared for.

Get involved. Volunteer!

For FRG questions, contact Jean Moretti, Wing Family Program Coordinator at (215) 443-1409 or e-mail: jean.moretti@pawill.af.mil

Free Tax Software

TurboTax® software can be accessed at no cost through Military OneSource: www.militaryonesource.com.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny & Easter Egg Hunt

WHEN:
Saturday, April 1, 2006

TIME:
9:00 A.M.

PLACE:
Building 300 - Dining Hall

R.S.V.P.
by 15 March 2006 - Phone:
(215) 443-1409 or E-mail:
jean.moretti@pawill.af.mil



Free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance at Willow Grove NAS JRB

The Fleet and Family Support Center, located in Bldg 167, is providing free tax preparation for all military personnel.

Appointments are available Feb. 1 thru Apr. 15. every:

Wed. and Thurs. between 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sat. 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

To schedule an appointment contact the FFSC at 215-443-6845/6846.



Here's what to bring:

- All W-2's from employers
- All 1099's and interest and dividend statements
- List of deductions
- All misc. expenses
- A copy of your 2004 return
- Social Security numbers
- Bank routing and account numbers

Uniform board results released

The 97th Air Force Uniform Board released their newest results for proper wear of the uniform.

The board met in October and discussed everything from eliminating the Air Force Good Conduct Medal to maternity uniforms.

The following changes are effective immediately:

- Approval to wear the blue nametag with the Air Force informal uniform. The member's abbreviated rank and name will be on one line. This uniform is worn by recruiters, honor guard, enlisted aides, chaplains, chaplain assistants, world-class athletes, and fitness center and health and wellness center staffs.
- Cummerbund pleats will face up in all cases.
- If a temporary medical condition, such as chemotherapy, results in baldness, commanders will authorize the approved American Cancer Society cap, wigs or baldness while in uniform.
- Bracelet size is reduced to one-half inch.
- Bracelets that support a cause, philosophy, individual or group are not authorized. Traditional POW/MIA bracelets are still permitted. Gemstone and tennis bracelets are only authorized while wearing the mess dress.
- Rings will be worn at the base of the finger and will not be worn on the thumb. Wedding sets count as one ring.
- Eyeglasses will not be worn around the neck, on top or back of the head or hanging on uniform.
- New epoxy blue nametag is optional on the blue shirt.
- Wear of the firefighter duty badge is authorized while an individual is assigned a 3E7X1 duty Air Force specialty code, including periods of professional military education and staff tours above group level.
- Wear of the security forces duty badge and beret is authorized while an individual is assigned a 3PXXX duty AFSC position and is also their primary AFSC, including PME attendance and staff tours above group level.
- The Air Force Good Conduct Medal will no longer be awarded. Previously earned medals are still permitted.
- Mandatory wear of the physical training uniform is set for Oct. 1 as per the instructions released last November.
- Cell phones, pagers and personal digital assistants must be solid or covered in black, silver, dark blue or gray, and must be conservative. They may be clipped to the left side of the waistband or purse or carried in left hand. Only one may be worn on

the uniform belt. Members will not walk in uniform while using phones, radios or hands-free headsets unless required in performing official duties using a government-issued device.

- While not deployed, desert combat uniforms may not be worn unless en route to the basic combat convoy course. "Deployed" for this purpose includes members traveling en route to/from rest and recuperative leave from the Central Command area of responsibility, as outlined in policy announced in mid-2005.

This session of the Air Force Uniform Board included a special panel that was specifically chartered to make recommendations regarding updates/revisions to uniform standards affecting women Airmen.

After careful review, the board approved several changes that affect women specifically:

- "Scrunchies" are prohibited.
- Hairpins and bands must match hair color.
- Hair color, frosting and highlights will not be faddish and will match natural hair colors, i.e. blonde, brunette, natural red, black or gray.
- No shaved head or flat top hairstyles for women.
- Synthetic hair can be worn, as long as it meets safety and mission requirements.
- Braids, micro-braids and cornrows are authorized.
- Nail polish will not contrast with complexion or detract from the uniform. Nor is polish of extreme color, such as purple, gold, black, blue or any florescent color, authorized. Nail polish will also be limited to one color.
- French manicures are allowed, but fingernail length in all instances will not exceed one-quarter inch beyond the fingertip.
- In addition to clutch-style purses, purses with no more than two straps are authorized with mess dress.
- Earrings will be small spherical, conservative diamond, gold, white pearl or silver with any uniform combination and must be worn as a set. For those with multiple ear piercing, only one set of earrings will be worn in the lower earlobe and will also conform to these earring wear standards when performing duty in civilian clothes.
- Male flight cap is optional.

The updates will be added to Air Force Instruction 36-2903 when the new version is released in March.

Attitude is everything

Commentary by SMSgt. Matthew Holbrook

379th Air Expeditionary Wing First Sergeant

Whenever we're in uniform, people are watching our every move. We don't have to say one word to communicate with those around us; our attitude is constantly on display.

Think about how many times you could predict the type of mood a family member or friend was in just by watching their actions. Also, think about how their attitude changed your mood. If they were happy, you were, too. If they were in a bad mood, it negatively affected you.

We are no different; our attitude affects those around us as well. Remember, we're being watched by our peers, subordinates and supervisors and it's our duty to be a positive and encouraging force for them.

The quickest way to lose the respect of others is to get upset and lose our self-control. Let's face it, we all make mistakes, but how we handle them can be a true indicator of our leadership potential. If we are to lead our troops, we have to set a positive example at all times. Maintaining self-control separates the true leaders from those still in training.

Chapel Schedule

Sunday, March 12

Protestant Worship 8:30
Building 320, Room 227/228

Roman Catholic Worship 10:00
Building 300, Dining Facility

Retrain to Retain

Available Positions: Enlisted

1C3X1 - COMMAND AND CONTROL
 1N0X1 - INTELLIGENCE APPLICATIONS
 1T1X1 - AIRCREW LIFE SUPPORT
 2A0X1B - AVIONICS TEST STATION AND COMPONENTS
 2A0X1D - ELECTRONIC WARFARE
 2A3X1A - AVIONICS SENSOR MAINTENANCE
 2A3X1B - AVIONICS GUIDANCE & CONTROL SYSTEMS
 2A3X1C - COMMUNICATIONS AND NAVIGATION SYSTEMS
 2A6X1C - AEROSPACE PROPULSION
 2A6X2 - AGE
 A6X3 - EGRESS
 2A6X4 - A/C FUEL SYSTEMS
 2A6X5 - A/C HYDRAULIC SYSTEMS
 2A6X6 - A/C ELECTRICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SYS
 2A7X1A - A/C METALS TECHNOLOGY
 2A7X3 - A/C STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE
 2A7X4 - SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT
 2E1X3 - GROUND RADIO
 2E2X1E - ELECTRONIC COMPUTERS AND SWITCHES
 2E6X2 - COMMUNICATION CABLE SYSTEMS
 2E6X3 - TELEPHONE SWITCHING AND INSTALLATION
 2F0X1 - FUELS
 2G0X1 - LOGISTICS PLANS
 2S0X1 - INVENTORY MANAGEMENT
 2T3X1 - SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT
 2T3X2B - SPECIAL VEHICLE MXS AND REFUELING
 2T3X7 - VEHICLE MXS CONTROL AND ANALYSIS
 2W0X1 - MUNITIONS
 2W1X1 - A/C ARMAMENT SYSTEMS
 3A0X1 - INFORMATION SYSTEMS
 3C2X1 - COMM COMPUTER SYS SPECIALIST
 3E0X2 - ELECTRICAL POWER PRODUCTION
 3E2X1 - PAVEMENTS AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT
 3E3X1 - STRUCTURAL
 3E4X1 - UTILITIES SYSTEMS

3E4X2 - LIQUID FUELS SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE
 3E4X3 - ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
 3E5X1 - ENGINEERING
 3E7X1 - FIRE PROTECTION
 3E9X1 - READINESS DP
 3M0X1 - SERVICES
 3P0X1 - SECURITY FORCES
 3P0X1B - COMBAT ARMS CATMS
 3S0X1 - PERSONNEL
 3N0X1 - PUBLIC AFFAIRS
 3S2X1 - EDUCATION AND TRAINING
 3V0X1 - VISUAL INFORMATION BASIC GRAPHICS
 3V0X3 - VISUAL INFORMATION PRODUCTION
 4E0X1 - PUBLIC HEALTH
 4N0X1 - MEDICAL SERVICE
 4V0X1 - OPTOMETRY
 4Y0X1 - DENTAL ASSISTANT
 6F0X1 - FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Available Positions: Officer

52R - CHAPLAIN
 43E3A - EMERGENCY SERVICES PHYSICIAN
 44F - FAMILY PRACTICE PHYSICIAN
 44G - GENERAL PRACTICE PHYSICIAN
 46N3E - CRITICAL CARE NURSES
 47G - DENTIST
 48 - AEROSPACE MEDICINE PHYSICIAN
 32E - CIVIL ENGINEER OFFICER

270th EIS Returns from Ecuador

Approximately 25 members of the 270th Engineering Installation Squadron deployed Jan. 21 to Manta Air Base, Ecuador for a two week project. Manta is a forward operating location operated by Southern Command, and plays a large part in the State Department's Drug Interdiction program. It's a small joint base, with only about 230 people stationed there. Along with U.S. and Ecuador military personnel, contractors provide a bulk of the support – including food services, the fire department and aircraft maintenance.

The EIS team was requested to update the base's current systems. To do this they conducted three installations of copper, fiber and antenna land mobile repeater systems. The project was designed to "beef up" their current systems; increasing their communications capabilities and expanding their reach.

According to MSgt. Jeffrey Olavarria, 270EIS First Sergeant, their mission in Ecuador was a typical project and was carried out with no big "surprises." This was due in large part to the team's experience and planning. In a remote location like Ecuador, "you can't just go to the local vendor to

Top: SSgt. Marinko Lemut, 270EIS (left) and MSgt John Cass, 111CF (right) work on cable pulled across the flightline.



Bottom: Members of the 270EIS install new antenna cable.

pick something up," said Olavarria. So the team carefully planned for the trip, developing "work-around" plans and bringing extra equipment. In the end their meticulous planning paid off and the team took advantage of some items they had brought "just in case."

According to Olavarria, the wing commander praised their work saying that the job went "exactly how it's supposed to go...it was the epitome of what a base project installation should be."

The bulk of the Engineering Installation mission is carried out by the Air National Guard. There are approximately 16 ANG engineering installation units and one active duty unit. Requests for EIS support are submitted to the National Guard Bureau and then assigned to the various squadrons.



**PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD
111TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)
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Willow Grove ARS, PA 19090-5300**

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Willow Grove, PA

To the Family of:

FUTURE UTAs:

**11-12 March 2006
8-9 April 2006
20-21 May 2006**

