

WING WATCH

Volume 18, Issue 04

121st Air Refueling Wing

Sep 2012

121st Air Refueling Wing welcomes home Security Forces and Firefighters

COLUMBUS, Ohio—The Ohio Air National Guard welcomed home more than 40 Airmen from the 121st Air Refueling Wing during a 2 p.m. ceremony Sunday, August 12, at the Eastland Career Center in Groveport.

Maj. Gen. Deborah A. Ashenhurst, adjutant general for Ohio, recognized the Airmen and their Families for their contributions made to our nation's defense. During the ceremony Maj. Gen Ashenhurst presented several awards, including the Purple Heart Medal, Bronze Star Medal and Air Force Combat Action Medal.

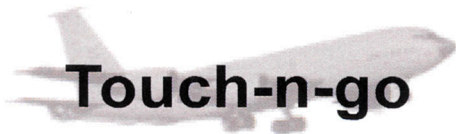


121st ARW Security Force members pose for a group photo before they leave on an 8-month deployment with 121st ARW Firefighters to Afghanistan and Bahrain (respectively) in late 2011. All the members returned home safely and some earned awards consisting of the Purple Heart Medal, Bronze Star Medal and Air Force Combat Action Medal. (photo by SSgt Zach Wintgens)

121st Security Forces member Technical Sgt. Gregory Geisler was presented the Purple Heart Medal. He was injured while on tower duty during a riot near the base in February. Surveying the scene through a small window from his tower, Geisler was hit in the face with a shotgun pellet. "A rioter with a shotgun shot at me, and a pellet from his gun got through the tower I was in and struck me in the face," said Geisler. Months after surgery, there is little evidence from the incident. Proof that the surgeons serving our military in the field are the best of the best.

While deployed to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, security forces members performed missions such as personnel and vehicle searches, joint operations with the Army and security of the base perimeter in partnership with Afghan security forces, South Korean Forces and Nepalese contract security. Their mission protected more than 35,000 personnel, \$3.5 billion in strategic assets and a 22 km base perimeter.

While deployed to Isa Air Base, Bahrain, the firefighters provided support to three fire stations, more than \$2 million in equipment, 230 structures and 1,000 joint service personnel.



Touch-n-go

The Wing Watch moves to quarterly publication

The 121st ARW public affairs office has moved the Wing Watch into a quarterly publication. Rather than having six issues a year, as we did in 2010 and 2011, we will now have four issues a year. You can always find an electronic copy on our base homepage, under the link "Wing Watch."



This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for the personnel of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Rickenbacker International Airport, Ohio. Contents of the Wing Watch are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the Department of the Air Force or the Ohio National Guard. The editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 121st ARW, Rickenbacker IAP, 7370 Minuteman Way, Columbus, OH 43217-5875. All photographs are property of the U.S. Air Force unless otherwise indicated.

Commander Brig. Gen. Mark Stephens
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Wing Watch submissions

Articles, photos, announcements and other useful information should be submitted to the PA office by 12 p.m. Friday of Feb., May, Aug., and Nov. UTA for print in the next issue. Material can be e-mailed to: 121ARW.WingWatch@ang.af.mil

121 ARW Military Ball

Master Sgt. Renee Reynolds-North

121 MSG/CCQ

The Biennial 121 ARW Military Ball will be Saturday, November 17, 6 pm - midnight at The Hilton at Easton. See committee members, listed below, for more information. In order to book a hotel room at a discounted rate, please reserve under "Rickenbacker Military Ball".

Ticket prices are as follows: Maj and above - \$40, Master Sergeant to Capt - \$35, and Technical Sergeant and below - \$30. Tickets for guests is the same as their military companion. If members are both in the military, they pay according to their individual rank.

Ticket Representatives:

HQ - SMSgt Kandi Hughes
 Bldg 2000 - MSgt Kelley Walker
 Bldg 888 - Connie Rogers or TSgt Lauren Eades
 Bldg 885 - MSgt Charlotte Exline
 Bldg 887 - SSgt Greg Oberfield, SSgt Steven Waltman
 Bldg 887 - MSgt Jim Goodall, TSgt Yvette Worstall
 Dining Facility - MSgt Eli Keyser
 Bldg 872 - SMSgt Kelly Gibbs

For more information: Renee Reynolds-North at 614-492-3466 or DSN 696-3466, or Renee.Reynolds-North@ang.af.mil

December holiday celebration

The Airman and Family Program office wants you to remember that the 10th annual Wing Holiday Celebration will take place on Sunday during the December drill.

This event has been a huge success for the past decade. Many members and their families participate each year.

We will be bringing back the climbing wall, arts and crafts, activities for children of all ages, the KC-135 tour, and a special guest who will be available for you to take pictures with. (hint: he wears a red suit and has a white beard).

We hope to see you there!



Moving on!

Brig. Gen. Mark Stephens
121st ARW Wing Commander

It seems like just yesterday that I was receiving my in-briefs here at the 121st as the incoming Wing Commander in April of 2010. We have gone through a lot in this short timeframe from major inspections and multiple deployments to staying-off attempts to reduce our aircraft and personnel. Throughout all of this you have all performed in a miraculous fashion and it has truly been my honor to serve as your commander.

During my time here the support, dedication to duty, ingenuity and adaptability you have displayed has been impressive to say the least. I have become convinced that this unit has the ability to overcome all obstacles it may face. Unfortunately in today's fiscally constrained environment and a world that is far from being benign, I'm sure there will be many more obstacles to conquer. I can only ask that you provide Col. Jim Jones and his leadership team the support and energy that you have shown me. If you do, I know you will overcome any and all obstacles you may face.

I will be moving over to Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ) at Beightler Armory where I will serve in the capacity of Director of the Joint Staff for the Ohio National Guard. I will be working closely with both Army and Air units from across the great state of Ohio. I look forward to this new position and the challenges that it will bring as well as being able to continue working with many of you albeit in a much different capacity.

In closing, I would like to wish all of you and your families the best that life has to bring and for continued success as Airmen and the great team we call the 121st Air Refueling Wing!

Commander's Column



Enlisted nursing stipend available

Master Sgt. Rebekah Miller
121 FSS/CCROM

Are you pursuing your Bachelor's in Nursing? If so, there is an enlisted nursing stipend that you can apply for! What does that mean? That means you can receive extra money every month that you are in the stipend program. The intent of the health professional baccalaureate stipend program is to help create a pool of qualified Health Professional in identified critical specialties for future assignment within the ANG medical squadron. Enlisted members of the Air National Guard pursuing a baccalaureate degree in an accredited program leading to a degree as a nurse qualify for a monthly stipend in the amount of \$100.00 for their third and/or fourth year study.

Participation in the stipend program does not require the individual to be assigned to the specialty billet on the unit's manning document. There is a service obligation of one year for every year you receive the program. Please follow-up with the Retention Office if you think you might qualify or know someone who does.

The Power of Forgiveness

Lt. Col. Curt Wagner

Chaplain, 121st ARW



Sooner or later, someone will do something or say something that will bring about a deep hurt within you. It is evitable for this to happen. In all relationships ranging from our spouse, a member of our family, a friend, a co-worker, or even someone we don't know at all. Sometimes it is intentional and sometimes unintentional, but the hurt and emotional pain is still there. We may not have not asked for it and we probably can't prevent it, but how we choose to respond is a choice that is up to us. We can choose to deal with the pain by becoming angry or seeking revenge or becoming bitter toward that person or we can choose to forgive that person and free ourselves from the pain.



One of the essentials to enable us to be more resilient to face any challenge of life is the choice to forgive those who have done something against us. Forgiving others puts us in a better emotional state in order to handle stress. Yet, when many people hear the concept of "forgiveness" they immediately reject it as something they could never do. How many times have you heard someone say, "I will NEVER forgive them for what they did"?

Forgiveness is difficult for many people because there is so much misunderstanding of what it actually means to forgive. For example, forgiveness is not forgetting about what someone did to you. You may not ever forget the words someone said or the actions against you, but you can choose to forgive the person, thereby letting go of the negative feelings associated with the hurtful behavior. Forgiveness is actually something we do for ourselves and it can release the burden of past pain.

Forgiveness does not mean that the consequences of the hurtful act will disappear. You can forgive someone but the consequences of what they said or did remain and you must still deal with those consequences. In fact, forgiveness does not even mean that you have to reconcile a relationship with someone. Reconciliation and forgiveness are not the same. In some cases it might be impossible to reconcile with someone because they are no longer living or because they won't change or they won't even admit they did anything wrong. Forgiveness is still important for us to release us from the bondage of that pain.

Many people do not want to forgive someone because they feel that it is letting that person off the hook too easily. Again, what we need to realize is that forgiveness is important for us more than the other person. Revenge is the attitude that they need to pay for what they have done and revenge never totally satisfies. In counseling many people from down-range, most have admitted to me that revenge really doesn't bring any peace.

Forgiveness also does not require for you to wait until the person who hurt you comes and asks for forgiveness. Sometimes that might never happen, so we need to take the initiative and

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forgive that person so that we release ourselves from that pain. We think to not forgive someone is a way of getting back at them when really we are making ourselves prisoners to the pain of the event. Nelson Mandela, who grew up in an atmosphere of hate in South Africa, stated "Hating someone is drinking poison and expecting the other person to die from it". Unforgiveness can bring devastating results to our life.

So, I would challenge you to consider if there is anyone in your life who has hurt you in some way that you have never forgiven. The pain of that hurt might just be inhibiting your ability to be resilient. Take time for forgive them and lay aside that pain that keeps dogging you. Release the chains and bondage of those past acts and enjoy your new freedom. As always, if you ever need a listening ear, the Chaplain Team is here for you.

Scholarship opportunities for spouses and veterans

Senior Master Sgt. David Umlang

*Council of College and Military Educators
Armed Services Liaison*

The Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) Scholarship committee has posted the 2012 scholarship applications to the CCME website. The committee is offering several \$1,000 scholarships (15 in all), to active duty, guard, and reserve service members who are working towards the completion of higher education degrees. Recipients also include veterans and their spouses.

The scholarships will be equally divided among three categories. The first category includes Active Duty, Reservists and National Guard. The second category is for military spouses, and the third category includes military veterans.

All eligibility requirements, instructions, and applications are available on the CCME website located at <<http://www.ccmeonline.org/scholarships>>.

The application will be available through October 1, 2012. Finalists will be required to provide documentation of service.

CCME is an active proponent for the professional development of those serving in the military education community by providing a forum for the exchange of information on educational programs, strategies and innovation among its members and associated partners.

CCME membership is composed of military educators, civilian educators, post secondary educational institutions, and suppliers of quality education products and services. CCME's mission is to promote and provide educational programs and services and to facilitate communication between the membership and the DoD educational support network.

If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me at: david.unlang@us.af.mil).



The importance of logging off correctly

Lt. Col. Ann-Maria Coghlin

121st Mission Support Group

At the end of the duty day, all members are required to sign off of their work computer by using the “Log off” function (Start, Shut down, Log off). This will allow all updates to flow to your computer.

Do not turn your computer completely off and do not just pull your CAC card from the card reader. Computers that are not in the “Log off” mode do not receive updates. Receiving updates is essential to the total work environment. If you do not turn the computer off correctly, it creates unnecessary Time Compliance Network Orders (TCNOs) that our Communications Flight members have to answer and fix before your workstation is able to function. Also, if for some reason the systems shut off overnight/while you are away, please turn them back on when you return to work. All systems (unless they are standalone) should be attached to the network.

This message is especially important for traditional members who only use their computers on drill weekend.

Thanks for using the “Log off” function and helping keep our computers up-to-date!



Absentee voting made easy

The Federal Voting Assistance Program

There are less than 60 days until the November 6th general election! If you have not requested your absentee ballot for the 2012 general election, go to FVAP.gov and use our online registration and absentee ballot assistant or contact your unit or installation voting assistance officers.

If you are presently stationed overseas, the Military Postal Service Agency provides free expedited ballot delivery and ballot tracking to your local election office for military and their family members. Go to your local post office or postal clerk, use the Label 11 - DOD form on your absentee ballot envelope and mail it. Go to www.usps.com to track the status of your ballot.

If you haven't received your ballot by October 6, use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as your back-up ballot! Go to FVAP.gov and use the automated assistant. For each office for which you vote, write in either a candidate's name or their party designation.

Help spread the word - Pass this on to spouses, voting age dependents, other military voters, and overseas voters.

If you would like more information on the Federal Voting Assistance Program or need help with the absentee voting process, contact FVAP at vote@fvap.gov or call 1-800-438-8683, DSN 425-1584 (CONUS)/312-425-1584 (OCONUS). More info is available at FVAP.gov, and don't forget to “like” us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DoDFVAP and follow us on Twitter @FVAP.

Post 9/11 GI Bill transferability deadline extended

Master Sgt. Rebekah Miller

121 FSS/CCROM

The Department of Defense has extended the deadline on transferring Post 9/11 benefits for the service obligation to 1 August 2013. What does this mean to you? It means that there is currently no service commitment for members who transfer their Post 9/11 benefits that were retirement eligible on 1 August 2009 (over 20 years on that date). That is scheduled to change on 1 August 2013. At that time, the service commitment will be four years. This is a huge deal for anyone that this rule might apply to. Please ask your members to come see me as soon as possible if they believe they qualify for Post 9/11 benefits and are thinking on transferring it to their dependents. I want to make sure that all of our members know what benefits are available to them!

Below is information taken from the MilConnect website which is where you sign up to transfer your eligibility of the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

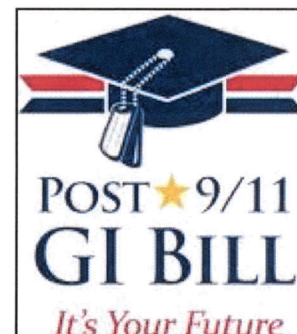
Traditional Guardsmen and Active Guard Reserves (AGRs) must visit their Wing Retention Office to complete a Post 9/11 GI Bill Statement of Understanding (SOU). Your TEB transfer request will NOT be processed unless there is an SOU on file.

Please note the following: (1) You may also be required to reenlist, extend your current enlistment, and/or sign a Reserve Service Commitment to obtain the required retainability for the Transfer of Benefits. (2) Per Title 38, Section 3319, an individual approved to transfer entitlement of educational assistance under this section may transfer such entitlement only while serving as a member of the Armed Forces when the transfer is executed. Retired or separated members will not be eligible to transfer benefits to their dependents. (3) Transfers must be done PRIOR to retirement/discharge and before a dependent's 21st birthday or 23rd birthday if a full-time college student. If no action is taken on the TEB transfer request within 90 days of the Transfer Request Date, the transfer request will be rejected. For questions, contact your Wing Retention Office Manager (ROM).

If you are an active duty Service member, you and your spouse can continue to use the benefit for up to 15 years after you are last released (discharged or retired) from active duty. If you are a Selected Reserve member, you and your spouse can continue to use the benefit for up to 15 years after you are last released from your last active duty period of at least 90 consecutive days. Children can use their benefits until their 26th birthdays.

If you have questions about your eligibility for the Post-9/11 GI Bill or to determine your remaining months of entitlement, contact The Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-888-GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) to speak with a Veterans Benefits Counselor or visit their website at <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>.

For specific questions on your eligibility for TEB, please call your Service career counselor or personnel center. After your request is approved, your family member should apply to the Department of Veterans Affairs electronically <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp> by completing a VA Form 22-1990E. A paper form is available at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-22-1990e-ARE.pdf>



(Source: MilConnect)

E5 - E6 Vacancy Listings

<u>Close</u>	<u>Duty AFSC</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Duty Title</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Special Instructions</u>
28 Sept	3D1x1	CF	Client Systems	MSgt	
30 Oct	1C0x1	OSF	Aviation Resource Management	TSgt	Must be 121 ARW per sonnel. Position open to non-promotable members
30 Oct	1C7x1	OSF	Airfield Management	TSgt	
30 Oct	1W0x1	164 WF	Battlefield Weather	TSgt	Must be fully qualified 1W0x1
30 Oct	2A5x4	AMXS	Aerospace Maintenance Craftsman	TSgt	Three Positions
30 Oct	2A6x5	MXS	Aircraft Hydraulics Systems Craftsman	TSgt	Restrict to AFSC 2A6x5
30 Oct	2A8x1	MXS	Integrated Avionics System / Com Craftsman	MSgt	Restrict to AFSC 2A8x1
30 Oct	2T2x1	LRS	Air Transportation	SMSgt	
30 Oct	3E0x2	CES	Power Pro	TSgt	Position open to non-promotable member
30 Oct	3E2x1	CES	Pavement and Construction Equipment	MSgt	
30 Oct	3E4x1	CES	Water and Fuel Systems Maintenance	MSgt	
30 Oct	3E9x1	CES	Emergency Management	TSgt	SORTS Reportable, must have 3E9x1 AFSC and promotable within one year

121st Chiefs outing raises \$8,500

This year, the 121st Chiefs golf outing had a full field of 136 players. The event raised \$8,500.00 for the Chiefs Council and Family Readiness Programs. New this year is a perpetual Trophy donated on behalf of Chief Master Sgt Jack Bishop who is retiring after 38 years of service.

This year's winners were Lt. Col. Tommy Calhoun, Chief Master Sgt Bob Schraft, Master Sgt Rich Gay, and Mr. Bob Gloeckner with a total of -12.

Thank you to everyone who supported the golfers this year. As usual, the day was filled with laughter and camaraderie. The event was a huge success and benefited a great cause!



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program reinforces the Air Force's commitment to eliminate incidents of sexual assault through awareness and prevention training, education, victim advocacy, response, reporting and accountability. The Air Force promotes sensitive care and confidential reporting for victims of sexual assault and accountability for those who commit these crimes.

Sexual assault is criminal conduct. It falls well short of the standards America expects of its men and women in uniform. Specifically, it violates Air Force Core Values. Inherent in our core values of Integrity First, Service before Self, and Excellence in All We Do is respect: self-respect, mutual respect and respect for our Air Force as an institution.

Our core values and respect are the foundation of our wingman culture -- a culture in which we look out for each other and take care of each other. Incidents of sexual assault corrode the very fabric of our wingman culture; therefore, we must strive for an environment where this type of behavior is not tolerated and where all Airmen are respected.

SEXUAL ASSAULT/CONSENT DEFINED

Sexual Assault

For the purpose of this Directive and SAPR awareness training and education, the term "sexual assault" is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, threats, intimidation, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault includes rape, forcible sodomy (oral or anal sex), and other unwanted sexual contact that is aggravated, abusive, or wrongful (to include unwanted and inappropriate sexual contact), or attempts to commit these acts. (AFI 36-6001)

Consent

"Consent" is defined as words or overt acts indicating a freely given agreement to the sexual conduct at issue by a competent person. An expression of lack of consent through words or conduct means there is no consent. Lack of verbal or physical resistance or submission resulting from the accused's use of force, threat of force, or placing another person in fear does not constitute consent. A current or previous dating relationship by itself or the manner of dress of the person involved with the accused in the sexual conduct at issue shall not constitute consent.



"Sexual assault is a crime and is categorically unacceptable. It is incompatible with our core values, it is harmful to our people and it makes us a less effective fighting force. We need to crack down on this harder than ever to get this out of our culture."

- Michael B. Donley, Secretary of the Air Force

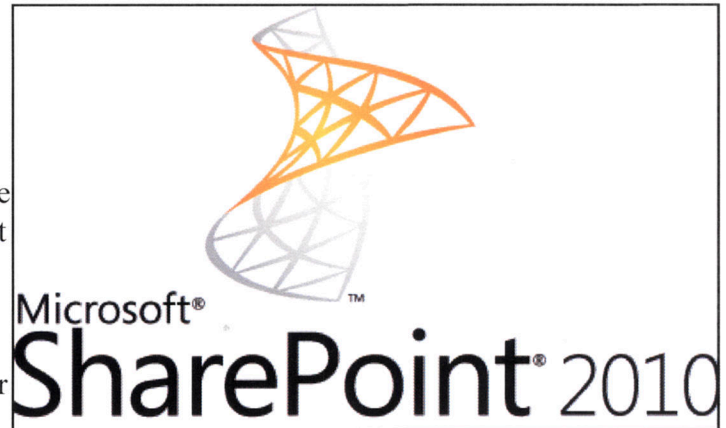
Source: Air Force Portal

Sharepoint 2010 deploys to Rickenbacker

Technical Sgt. Mark C. Hogenbirk

Knowledge Operations Manager

Sharepoint 2010 is now the one stop collaborative tool for all 121st Air Refueling Wing members. The new site is much more structured and organized than before. Not only does everyone have access to sharepoint but they have access to all squadron/home pages no matter what section they are from. If you're looking for general information, hours of operation, or contact information for another squadron then any user can go to the respective page to retrieve just that.



The 121 ARW home page offers mission essential items that pertain to the whole wing. There you can find important calendar information and documents to include the most up to date organization chart, UTA orders, proper letterhead format, etc. The home page will also offer information about the Chiefs Council and the 121st Air Refueling Wing's Command Chief Master Sergeant.

Sharepoint now offers a bulletin board that is open for anyone in the wing to contribute to. This is where non mission-essential information is located. If you have an announcement to share, you can post it. If you have something that you are looking to sell, you can post it in the for sale section for everyone to see. All family readiness events that occur throughout the weeks will be posted on the bulletin board as well as any other non mission-essential upcoming events.

Another site that pertains to everyone is the Vacancies page. Members inside and outside the unit have access to view all current advertised vacancies. Another benefit to the new sharepoint is personal profiles. Communication and collaboration has never been easier. As an end user, you can give updates like you can with facebook. You can add photos (professional military) to your profile and add colleagues. Colleagues can see what your recent activities were and you can send instant messages if you want to communicate faster.

Sharepoint 2010 is an exciting new tool for all members of the 121st Air Refueling Wing. Most importantly, you don't have to be on base to access it. As long as you can authenticate using your common access card, you can access sharepoint. Each squadron has a sublevel site owner that has been assigned and trained. They can answer all types of questions that you may have. In addition, training will be offered to all end users throughout the next couple of months and will teach all the benefits sharepoint has to offer. This training will familiarize yourself with all the available tools so you can be confident when you use them.

Sharepoint is the only site to obtain 121st ARW information now. There are no more community of practices and no more portal organizational pages. To access sharepoint, simply open up a web browser and it will automatically direct you to it as the home page. If you are off base, the URL is <https://eis.ang.af.mil/org/121arw>.

Rickenbacker Military Families need your support

Rickenbacker Military Families is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The purpose of this organization is: To acquire and provide educational materials and resources and to assist in educating military families as to the availability of economic and non-economic assistance and support services in order to address hardships associated with the separation of military personnel due to deployments and family reunions and reintegration after deployments; To develop, organize, plan and operate events and support groups to bring together military families separated from military personnel due to deployments; To support and conduct training of volunteers who will be involved in providing assistance and support services to military families; To acquire and give security items and reminders to children upon deployment of a military parent, and to provide general support and assistance to the families of all military personnel based or stationed at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base.



Like us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/RickenbackerMilitaryFamilies>



Follow us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/Ric_Mil_Fam @Ric_Mil_Fam



Website: <http://rickenbackermilitaryfamilies.wordpress.com/>



Kroger Community Rewards:
Organization Number: 91141



United Way:
You may designate your donations to R.M.F.!

If you would like to To make a direct donation, you make send a check or money order to Rickenbacker Military Families, c/o Mrs. Carolyn Ebert, 7370 Minuteman Way, Bldg. 887, Columbus, Ohio, 43217.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email the organization at RicMilFam@gmail.com

Final flight for outgoing wing commander

On 16 September, a longstanding tradition in aviator history continued with family, friends, and members of the 121st Air Refueling Wing observing the official final flight of the outgoing wing commander, Brig. Gen. Mark Stephens.

Military aviators have a tradition where aircrew members upon completion of their final flight, or "fini flight" are met and hosed down with water.

Beginning 1 October, Brig. Gen. Stephens will become the Director of the Joint Staff for the Ohio National Guard Joint Force Headquarters located at Beightler Armory, Columbus, Ohio.



Brig. Gen. Mark Stephens gets doused by his wife as two of his grandchildren and members of the 121st Air Refueling Wing look on. The "Fini-flight" ceremony is in recognition of a commander's last flight as a wing commander of their base. (photo by SSgt Zach Wintgens)



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Public Web Site: 121arw.ang.af.mil