



# EL TIGRE NEWS

SERVING THE 162ND FIGHTER WING AND TUCSON AIR NATIONAL GUARD COMMUNITY SINCE 1959

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Photo by Lt. Col. Moon Milham

## Arizona Fighting Falcons roost over Super Bowl

GLENDALE, Ariz. - Capt. Patrick McClelland, a pilot assigned to the Arizona Air National Guard's 162nd Fighter Wing based in Tucson, flies an F-16 Fighting Falcon over University of Phoenix Stadium before Super Bowl weekend kicks off. The purpose of the pre-game flight was to raise public awareness that U.S. air defenses would be at work Feb. 3 enforcing the FAA's temporary flight restriction over the National Football League's championship game while ensuring the safety of the crowd.

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# What you need to know about your Air Guard

by Brig. Gen. Rick Moisio  
Commander

Are you aware of what a remarkable organization your Air National Guard is? Bet not.

Did you know that the ANG flies approximately 45 percent of all theatre airlift aircraft, primarily the C-130? 40 percent of the Air Force's aerial refueling tankers are in Guard units including the 161<sup>st</sup> ARW, our sister unit in Phoenix. ANG members fly 30 percent of the fighters, 20 percent of the rescue assets, and 10 percent of global airlift. We do smaller percentages of nearly every other Air Force mission.

As the Guard moves into new missions, these numbers will change. Predator units are fast becoming operational across the Guard, such as Arizona's own 214<sup>th</sup> Reconnaissance Group at Davis-Monthan, and Guardsmen will soon represent a very significant portion of the UAV flying force. Guard units have moved into every area of non-flying missions; space (111<sup>th</sup> Space Ops Flight, AZANG), command and control, intelligence, and information operations to name a few.

Did you know that the ANG does all this using only 7 percent of the Air Force budget? And what about manpower? The active force has drawn down to approximately



General Moisio

320,000 members. There are around 75,000 Air Force Reservists, 20,000 of them full time. The Air Guard is 106,000 strong, of which only about 35,000 are full time. Though the cost of a full-time member of the Guard or Reserve is comparable to that of an active duty Airman, the Air Force gets four fully trained, combat ready traditional Guardsmen for the cost of one active duty Airman!

What about facilities and airfields? Guard efficiencies are obvious when you compare our 92 acres to the size of an Air Force base. Additionally, it is estimated to cost in the neighborhood of \$15 million to operate and maintain an Air

Force airfield (not the base, just the airfield). But some 60 Guard flying units operate at municipal airports all over the country and pay a grand total of just under \$5 million in joint use agreements.

Beginning in 2010, the Air Guard will take a significant cut in our budget. In future articles I'll discuss in more depth what every unit must do to help the Guard survive. For now, the 162<sup>nd</sup> is in the planning stages of gaining as much savings as we can from utilities and fuels. The sooner we start cost saving efforts, the better off we'll be because we will have taken a big bite out of the looming budget cut. Of the Guard's approximately \$8 billion annual budget, we will be losing more than \$600 million per year. Why?

The Air Force effort to recapitalize the aircraft fleet is expensive but necessary, given that the average age of the fleet is higher than ever before at approximately 24 years. The tankers that the 161<sup>st</sup> flies in Phoenix are 50 years old! And our unit just modernized from F-16As to 25 year old Block 25 C models. We won't know for many years if the current Air Force plan for modernization materializes, but no matter which way things work out, a lot of money must be spent to buy new aircraft.

Reread the first few paragraphs. Brag about your Air National Guard, our incomparable efficiencies, and what we bring to the fight!

## EL TIGRE NEWS

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Submission Deadline: First Friday after primary UTA



# National Defense Authorization Act empowers the Guard

by Staff Sgt. Jim Greenhill  
National Guard Bureau

WASHINGTON - The position of the chief of the National Guard Bureau has been elevated to a four-star billet 100 years after the bureau came into existence.

The chief of the National Guard Bureau also became a principal advisor to the secretary of defense through the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as a result of a Jan. 28 stroke of the president's pen that triggered the most sweeping changes for the National Guard in 100 years.

The Division of Militia Affairs, the precursor of the modern National Guard Bureau, came into existence in February 1908, according to Michael Doubler, Ph.D., a retired colonel who is one of the Guard's preeminent historians.

The first chief was Col. Erasmus Weaver, who served from 1908-11. The stature of the chief's office has been progressively increased during the century since. On Jan. 28, President George W. Bush signed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal year 2008, which includes provisions that:

- A bipartisan council of governors advise the secretary of defense, the Department of Homeland Security and others on National Guard matters.
- The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff determines the feasibility of increasing the number of U.S. Northern Command reserve component members.
- Up to 15 reserve component general officers serve at combatant commands, an increase from 10.
- The National Guard Bureau (NGB) becomes a joint activity of the Department of Defense. Previously, it was a joint bureau of the Army and the Air Force.
- The chief of the NGB becomes a principal advisor to the secretary of defense through the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- The grade of the position of the chief of the NGB increases to a four-star general.

A driving force behind many of the changes in the NDAA is the transformation of the National Guard from a Cold War strategic reserve to today's operational reserve. The vast bulk of the major reforms of the National Guard included in the bill were derived from the National Guard Empowerment Act of 2007 introduced in Congress by Sen. Kit Bond (R-Mo.), Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), Rep. Tom Davis (R-Va.) and Rep. Gene Taylor (D-Miss.).

The provisions of the NDAA that affect the National Guard are among many others that affect the nation's armed forces. "The act authorizes funding for the defense of the United States and its interests abroad, for military construction and for national security-related energy programs," Bush stated.

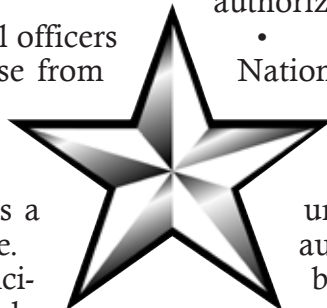
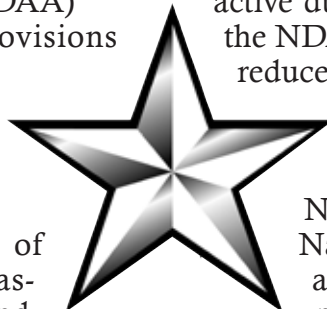
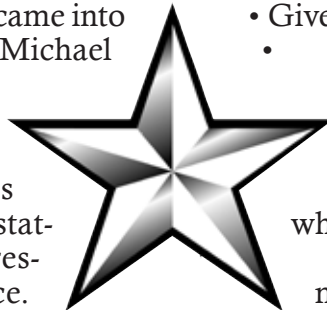
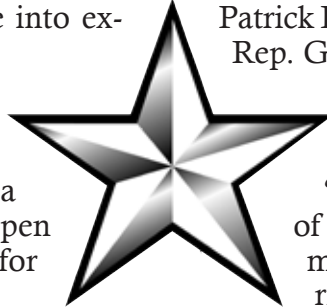
The NDAA also:

- Gives servicemembers a 3.5 percent pay raise.
- Includes the Wounded Warrior Assistance Act to improve support for wounded troops and their families, including providing increased treatment closer to home rather than at the base from which the servicemember deployed.
- Lowers the eligibility age for retirement by three months for each 90 days a Guard member serves on certain types of active duty. The active duty must be served after the NDAA was enacted, and eligibility cannot be reduced below 50 years of age.

Also in the NDAA:

- \$650 million authorized for miscellaneous equipment for the Army National Guard and \$150 million for Air National Guard. Previously, National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation money has been appropriated without authorization.
- End strengths of 351,300 for the Army National Guard and 106,700 for the Air National Guard. The Army National Guard end strength increased from 350,000 while the Air Guard level is essentially unchanged. The secretary of defense can authorize the Guard to exceed end strength by up to 3 percent.

The NDAA does not authorize any additional weapons of mass destruction-civil support teams but instead refers the issue to an advisory panel to study.







# An experience of a lifetime: the incentive ride



*Tech. Sgt. Ed Stramler straps into the back seat of a block 60 F-16 for an incentive ride with help from pilot Maj. Barry O'Donnell. Sergeant Stramler is a 10-year member of the 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing currently assigned to Public Affairs as a videographer. He was chosen for an incentive ride based on his time at the unit.*

Photo by Master Sgt. Dave Neve

**by 1st Lt. Dan Dodson**  
Public Affairs

One of the perks about being a member of the 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing is having a chance to fly in an F-16 fighter jet. The wing has a program in place to assist members wanting to fly.

“My goal is to make sure there is never an incentive ride unfilled,” said Tech. Sgt. Mary Thompson, incentive ride program manager. Everyone on base knows there is a program, but few know the details associated with the program.

Some of the most frequently asked questions are:

Q. How is it decided whose turn it is to ride?

A. Priority goes to upcoming retirees. Next are quarterly and annual

award winners. Then it is based on seniority. At this point Airmen that joined the unit in the late nineties are getting their rides.

Q. Where can I see the list?

A. The current roster is located on the share based Y: drive at Y:\Common\_Use\Incrider\Incentive Ride Roster.

Q. What do I need to do to prepare for my flight?

A. Follow the instructions closely on the memo provided by Sergeant Thompson. It describes everything that needs to be accomplished prior to flying.

She will schedule you to see the flight surgeon, and she will also schedule your equipment fitting and egress training. All this needs to be completed no later than 72 hours prior than flying.

Q. Can my family accompany me?

A. Yes they can, but they must be accompanied by someone with a line badge. You must also check in with the command post no later than one day prior to flying to get the latest rules on photography and any other miscellaneous items.

Q. Can I pick the pilot?

A. You can let Sergeant Thompson know your preference and she will try her best to accommodate you.

Q. What else do I need to be aware of?

A. When your co-worker gets selected make sure they take care of their pre-flight requirement. Every empty seat delays someone else's ride.

Also, you must weigh between 140-211lbs. to ride. Waivers can be granted on a case-by-case basis.

And oh yeah, enjoy the ride.

More questions? Call Tech. Sgt. Mary Thompson at 295-6271.



## Air National Guard Air Force Reserve Test Center welcomes new commander

The Air National Guard Air Force Reserve Test Center (AATC) welcomed a new commander Feb. 1.

Col. Daniel Bader assumed command receiving the AATC guidon from Maj Gen. Charles Ickes, the Air National Guard Special Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans and Requirements, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

Colonel Bader previously served as the director of Air National Guard Plans and Requirements at the National Guard Bureau, Arlington, Va.

The AATC mission is to conduct operational tests on behalf of the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve Command. As a tenant unit

hosted by the Arizona Air National Guard's 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing, the compact team composed of about 55 active duty, Reserve component, civilian and contract members works to field low-cost, low risk, off-the-shelf improvements for Guard and Reserve aircraft.

"It's a great honor to lead the test center mission," said Colonel Bader. "The work we do here to fulfill the needs of the warfighter is needed now more than ever. I look forward to working with our 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing team to improve combat, mobility and special operations weapon systems."

Col. John Mooney, former AATC commander, retired after 26 years of military service.



Photo by Master Sgt. Dave Neve

*Col. Dan Bader addresses AATC personnel, family and friends in maintenance hangar 10 at his assumption of command ceremony. He is a command pilot with 53 combat missions and 2,600 total flight hours.*

## Airman portrays relative in Civil War movie



Courtesy photos

*From left to right: Civil War General Seth Maxwell Barton along with his great-great nephew, 162<sup>nd</sup> Security Forces member Staff Sgt. David Barton.*

For most Americans, the thought of landing a movie role is exciting. For most American military members, the thought of portraying a historical character is an honor. However, for Staff Sgt. David Barton of the 162<sup>nd</sup> Security Forces Squadron, the opportunity to portray one of his own ancestors in a movie role

was both extremely exciting as well as one of the highest honors he could receive.

Last summer, Sergeant Barton was asked to perform the role of Brig. Gen. Seth Maxwell Barton, a Confederate Officer.

Sergeant Barton is a very active Civil War reenactor (or 'living historian', as the preferred term). He portrays famous characters such as General Thomas 'Stonewall' Jackson and General James Longstreet, as well as the role of the average 'foot soldier' of that era for educational presentation in local schools.

He received the movie role through the recommendation of a friend who is involved in movie productions. What made the casting unique is General Barton is the great-great-uncle of Sergeant Barton, which was not known to the producers at the time.

"When I saw the role I would be playing, I was stunned," said

Sergeant Barton. When he informed the producers and directors of the lineage, they were in awe. This made the project more exciting and meaningful for everyone involved.

The title of the movie is "The Lost River" and is the story of Ana Carroll, a woman who assisted in the planning of many military strategies for the Union army in the Civil War. She would scout Confederate positions and telegraph them to President Lincoln in an encrypted manner such as hidden words in a wedding invitation.

She was never mentioned or given recognition because she was a civilian and a woman. After the war and Lincoln's death, she was forgotten about. In 1876, a Senate hearing was held to grant her an honorary general status, but was denied.

It is the hopes of many history enthusiasts that this movie will give her the proper credit she is due.

The movie is scheduled for release in Spring 2008.





# Wing deploys Security Forces, ramps up family support

## Family Readiness Group

A large contingent of Security Forces troops from the 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing deployed to Baghdad International Airport, Iraq, in February; but before they left, the unit gave them a proper send off.

The 19 deploying Guardsmen marched into the base auditorium Feb. 1. Families and unit members promptly showered them with a huge round of applause. Each deploying member was introduced by Capt. Steve Weatherford, the squadron commander.

Brig. Gen. Rick Moisio, wing commander, welcomed the families and guests and told them that this was the first time a team of this size was deploying to Iraq from the 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing.

General Moisio's wife, Mary, introduced herself and Sharon Knutson from the Family Readiness Group (FRG) Board. She informed families that the FRG will assist in shipping boxes to deployed members.

Families and friends may either package items themselves in a "Flat Rate, Priority Mail" box and complete the customs form (PS Form 2976-A) themselves, or bring the items to the FRG office and the staff will package them. Flat rate boxes and customs forms are available at the Post Office or the FRG office.

If FRG is asked to package and send items, please provide the sender's name and address and the name and address of the person receiving the package. The Family Readiness Group will transport the packages to the post office for shipping, pay the shipping, and track the confirmation numbers to assure that packages reach their destination. This service is available to any unit member or family member who wants to ship a "goodie box" to members.



Photos by Master Sgt. Dave Neve

*The 19 deploying members of the Security Forces Squadron stand before a crowd of family and friends prior to departing Tucson for Baghdad.*

Mrs. Moisio also said the Family Readiness Group has funds set aside for family emergency needs. Family members should contact the Family Readiness office at 295-6566 as soon as a need arises so assistance can be arranged. If there is no answer at that number, families should not hesitate to call the front office at 295-6105.

Families of deployed members will also be assigned someone to call and check on their well-being while their loved one is deployed. Each family will be given the name of the person who will be calling beforehand, so that they do not receive a call from a total stranger.

Captain Weatherford's wife, Cecilia, indicated that she is available if a spouse needs information or just wants to talk. She provided her phone number and a packet of information to the family of each deploying member.



*Patricia Weatherford, 4, hugs her father, Capt. Steve Weatherford at the wing's send off for the Security Forces Squadron.*



# Postal Service offers first-time military discount

by Debora Preitkis  
U.S. Postal Service

WASHINGTON, DC (AFPN) - Planning to send a care package to a military service member serving abroad? Send it after March 3 to take advantage of a new flat-rate box from the Postal Service that is 50 percent larger and delivered for \$10.95 to an APO/FPO address -- \$2 less than for domestic destinations.

"This is the first time the Postal Service has offered a special price for our armed forces serving overseas," said Postmaster Gen. John Potter. "We're proud that family and friends will be able to use this new larger-sized box to send much appreciated packages from home to our dedicated troops overseas."

The new priority mail large flat-

rate box (12" x 12" x 5-1/2" or 800 cubic inches) will be available in post offices nationwide beginning March 3, but customers can begin ordering them Feb. 20 at [usps.com/supplies](http://usps.com/supplies) or by calling 800-610-8734. Some of the new boxes are co-branded with the logo of "America Supports You," which is a Department of Defense program that connects citizens offering support to the military and their families.

"It's terrific that the Postal Service continues to think of ways to help Americans support our troops and their families. Postage is always a concern when shipping care packages, and this new flat-rate box



means our home front groups and supportive citizens can do more with their resources," said Allison Barber, the deputy assistant secretary of Defense. "We're especially pleased that some of the boxes will bear the America Supports You logo reminding our service members that they have our nation's support."

The \$2 discount is applied when the priority mail large flat-rate boxes are shipped to an APO/FPO destination. The two existing flat-rate boxes (11-7/8" x 3-3/8" x 13-5/8" and 11" x 8-1/2" x 5-1/2"), which currently retail for \$8.95 for U.S. addresses, are not available for the military discount. All flat-rate boxes can be used for international shipping.

The new flat-rate boxes will be available in Post Offices starting March 3. The America Supports You branded box will be available online, at select post offices near military bases, or by calling 800-610-8734.

For more information, please visit [usps.com](http://usps.com).

## Bring a buddy to April UTA

The recruiting office is hosting "Bring a Buddy to Drill" Saturday, April 5.

All unit members and retirees are encouraged to invite a friend or family member to the April Unit Training Assembly. The invitation is for those who have never been in the military.

Presently, the Guard Recruiting Assistant Program (GRAP) pays \$2,000 per qualified referral enlistment. If you are a Drill Status Guardsman or Air Guard retiree, you are eligible to apply at [www.guardrecruitingassistant.com](http://www.guardrecruitingassistant.com).

The recruiting event is designed to provide awareness to non-prior-military friends and family. This will be a great time for GRAP-eligible members to capitalize on the program.

Prospective applicants must be between 17 and 34 years of age. They must be either a high school senior, possess a GED or High School Diploma.

Prospective applicants will meet at the Recruiting Office at 9 a.m.



The recruiters will arrange a unit briefing, question and answer session, base tour and lunch for all attendees.

Since the recruiters must know the exact number of visitors in order to arrange lunches and support for this event, they ask members to provide names, ages and phone numbers of their invited "buddies" by Mar 10.

For more information, or to RSVP for a buddy, contact the recruiting office at 295-7000.





# Confessions of a Super Bow

Story by Tech. Sgt. Angela Walz  
Photos by Senior Airman Sarah Flint  
Public Affairs

At Super Bowl XLII in Glendale, Ariz., the heavy hitters came out to play. ESPN, FOX News, Sports Illustrated and El Tigre News (that's right... El Tigre), sent their finest journalists to cover one of the biggest upsets in Super Bowl history. Just as the New York Giants were unlikely contenders against the 18-0 New England Patriots, El Tigre was an unlikely contender for media credentials.

Who would have thought the National Football League would deem the El Tigre News worthy of Super Bowl media credentials? I have to admit—I was a little skeptical myself. But there I was, a meek military journalist, heading to the University of Phoenix Stadium on gameday with Senior Airman Sarah Flint, the 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing photographer; both of us lucky to have this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

I was still a little unsure when they handed over the credentials at the Media Center in downtown Phoenix. “Pregame” and “half-time” access—what does that mean? We loaded the shuttle bus to the stadium five hours prior to kickoff in our quest to find out.

There was an aura of excitement surrounding the venue from miles away. For some reason, it just looked bigger and brighter that day. The air was crisp, and already filled with the smell of tailgating festivities.

We made it through the extensive security checks and ventured out to see just how far those credentials

would get us. Pregame access, we realized, actually gave us admission to the field. There I stood, in the middle of where the “Super Upset” was about to be played.

Sarah, as giddy as she was about the whole experience, snapped away with her camera while I hunted out the media big-wigs who I thought might be interested in the 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing’s air defense and anti-terrorism missions at the big game. The Pentagon Channel repre-



*Patriots quarterback Tom Brady takes a snap before the Giants went on to win the Super Bowl 17-14 ending the season.*

sentatives, of course, jumped at the chance for an on-camera interview about the 162<sup>nd</sup>’s role in Arizona’s Super Bowl. Brian Kilmeade from Fox News, however, was only interested in football. How could I blame him? I smiled anyway and he put his arm around my shoulder for a souvenir photo.

Everything changed when the players arrived. It was touching when Teddy Bruschi and Junior Seau searched



*Singer Alicia Keys performs at the pregame show.*



*Patriots linebacker and University of Arizona alumnus, Teddy Bruschi, spends time with his sons on the field before kickoff.*





# owl journalist



*Half-time. The New York Patriots' run at a perfect*

out their families in the crowd and pulled them down onto the field. The sight made me feel conflicted about rooting for the Giants. After all, Tom Brady was playing for the Patriots. "Should I be cheering for New England instead," I wondered. Sarah snapped more photos.

There were celebrities abound before the pregame show. Alicia Keys was spectacular. We stood behind the crowd on the field and enjoyed the music. There was a moment of pride when Arizona's own Jordin Sparks belted out the National Anthem. The 108<sup>th</sup> Army Band drummers of the Honor Guard looked sharp on the field behind her as they presented the colors. I knew the Navy's Blue Angels were flying overhead right then because we had chummed it up earlier in the day. They had better access passes than us, of course.

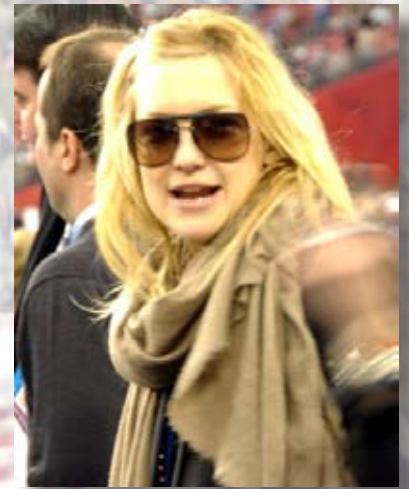
Finally our pregame rights of entry ended and we were whisked away to a media room to watch the game in high definition on a large-screen TV like the rest of the world. We were later shuffled back down to the field because of the "half-time" credentials that dangled from our happy little necks.

I was suddenly in football heaven. With more than two minutes to play in the half, we stood on the sidelines and watched while the Patriots and the Giants played the NFL's championship game. It was surreal. I'd rank it right up there with my wedding day and the births of my two children—but don't tell them that.

For me, the half-time show by Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers was overshadowed by the excitement I still felt from those few minutes of live play. I had a moment to talk with Airman First Class Chadwyck McDaniel. He won a raffle while serving in Iraq and was enjoying his royal treatment from the NFL.

Then we were whisked off the field again and directed back to the media room. Airman Flint and I jumped on the shuttle bus instead and listened to the final minutes of play from an AM radio while sitting in a parking garage in downtown Phoenix.

I drove back to Tucson thankful that the Anti-Terrorism office was never put to work that day, and all of our jets landed with their respective payloads. I smiled all the way home consumed with pride at the fact that the Arizona Air National Guard, the real patriots, were always there, always ready—just in case.



*Actress Kate Hudson*



*Actor Kurt Russell*



*FOX News personality Brian Kilmeade stops to take a photo with fellow Super Bowl Correspondent Tech. Sgt. Angela Walz.*





## Desert Air Guardsmen learn winter survival techniques



*Lt. Col. David Stine ties a splint to Capt. Robert Peel's left leg. Survival instructors interjected scenarios from time and circumstances cards to challenge wing pilots. According to this card, Peel had broken his leg when he fell down a steep embankment.*

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**Story and photos by  
Senior Airman Jordan Jones  
Public Affairs**

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Trudging through two-foot snowdrifts in 23-degree weather is hardly the picturesque desert landscape most people associate with the Grand Canyon state.

But the conditions were perfect for a winter survival training course for 14 pilots from the 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing as they gathered in the pine tree forests surrounding Camp Navajo Saturday, Feb. 2.

Organized by Master Sgt. Bill Kelleman and Senior Master Sgt. Hal Chandler, aircrew flight equipment technicians, the course was designed to give pilots an understanding of the conditions they would face should they have to eject from their aircraft during wintry conditions.

The training began with instructions on operating a GPS unit. "This is the same type of GPS unit the pilots have in their survival kit should they eject," said Sergeant Kelleman. "After gaining a bearing, turn your GPS unit off and use your compass," he advised the pilots emphasizing that a GPS unit had limited battery life.

Then the group was shown three variations of protective shelters that they could build quickly from materials they would have with them after ejection.

"I'd build it a little bigger," said Capt. Patrick McClelland, instructor pilot, after crawling inside the third demonstration shelter. The shelters were small with barely enough room to fit inside; they were constructed from tree branches and portions of a pilot's parachute.





### Dividing

into three- to four-person groups for individualized training, Capt. Robert Peel, instructor pilot, gained a 90 degree bearing on his compass and led his group into the forest.

"A storm is rolling in and you have ten minutes to build a shelter," Sergeant Chandler instructed the pilots as he read from a stack of time and circumstances cards. The cards were examples of real-life scenarios pilots would face. Built from a dark colored poncho, the shelter the team constructed was noticeably warmer underneath than the unprotected surroundings.

"One of the things we don't want to do is put our electronics down on the ground," Sergeant Chandler instructed the pilots as he pointed to a radio laid in the snow while the shelter had been constructed.

After the shelter was complete the team had to face other challenges; building a fire, finding drinkable water and splinting a broken leg. With only items provided by Mother Nature and a length of cord, the team found several short

tree limbs to splint the simulated broken bone.

Throughout the day the teams were instructed on various methods for signaling help. The signal devices included a radio, signaling mirror, smoke fires and flares.

"The mirror is the most effective visual signaling device in the survival kit," said Sergeant Chandler. Reflecting up to eight million candlepower of light on a sunny day, the mirror is the quickest and most effective way to signal for help. It doesn't take batteries which wear down nor does it take time to build like a smoke fire.

At the end of the day the pilots were instructed on the use of flares. With two sides, the flares could generate billowing clouds of red smoke in daylight and a bright flame more than six inches long during the night.

Although this training course has been conducted for years, this is the first time for the new combined Survival Equipment and Life Support shops now known as Aircrew Flight Equipment.

*Col. Stine pops open the smoke end of his flare as other members use the flare side.*



*Col. Stine tries on a hammock-style shelter constructed from the canopy of a parachute. The white color helps the shelter blend into the surroundings and hide it from enemy sight.*



# Tig Bits

## Volunteers needed

Robison Elementary needs 250 volunteers to help set-up a playground for their special needs and K-2 students on April 17-18. Questions call Faye Chandler at 232-7800.

The Special Olympics are needing volunteers for the 2008 Track and Field Competition on March 28 at Sunnyside High School. To sign up or for questions call Teresa Denogean at 295-6182, or Liz Caro-Scarfo at 295-6652.

## Tax help

Military One Source will provide free tax preparation services to service members and their families for the 2007 tax season. Visit [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com) to access the program. For questions call 1-800-342-9647.

## Travel warning

There is a travel advisory warning for Mexico. Members are encouraged not to go to Mexico; including tourist areas. For questions call Lt. Col. Dan Summers in the Anti-Terrorism Office at 295-7152.

## IM Forum

All base information Managers (3A) are invited to attend a forum in the base auditorium in building 1, Saturday, March 1, from 10 to 11 a.m.

# Wing Festival gears up



The Annual Wing Festival is scheduled for Sunday, April 6, from noon to 6 p.m. at Udall Park. The event is an opportunity for unit members and their families to relax and enjoy a beautiful spring day.

Cost for the picnic is \$2 for Adults (ages 11 and up), and \$1 for children. There will be a separate \$2 charge for beer.

Lunch will be served from noon to 3 p.m. The menu will feature hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad, soda and bottled water.

Family Readiness will serve cake and ice cream and will also have cookbooks and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Yearbooks for sale.

Entertainment will consist of music, jumping castles, slides, a Velcro wall, a kiddy train, clowns, balloons, face painting, cotton candy and snow cones, horseshoes, volleyball, a homerun derby, an obstacle course, jousting and Karate demonstrations.

As a reminder and to keep everyone safe, no alcoholic beverages can be brought to the park and no pets are allowed. Four Sheriffs deputies will patrol the area to assist with security.

This will be a fun-filled afternoon for all, so bring your family and let's enjoy the day!

# Dental added to PHA process

by Master Sgt. Tracey Jorgensen  
Medical Group

The 162<sup>nd</sup> Medical Group announces another AFSO Lean change that will make the individual Preventive Health Assessment (PHA) experience even more efficient. Beginning March 1, Annual Dental Examinations will become part of the overall PHA process.

As most members know, the dental requirement and examination has been its own separate process, adding more time and compliance effort for our members. By integrating PHAs with dental requirements, it will only add approximately ten minutes

to the overall medical appointment but will maximize member's ability to fulfill their Individual Medical Readiness (IMR) requirements.

Individuals may still visit their off base dentist, however; they will still be required to visit our dental section during their annual PHA.

The March UTA will be Med Group's "Dry Run" with full implementation on the April UTA. Keep in mind that when you are scheduled to come to the MDG, you will be routed through the dental section as part of your full PHA appointment.

You will not be required to follow-up later with another form or another visit.





# Association improves the lives of AZ Guardsmen

by Capt. Gabe Johnson  
Public Affairs

When Arizona Guardsmen take advantage of education benefits, early retirements, and relief fund programs they can send their thanks to the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of Arizona (EANGA).

More than 700 Arizona chapter members work in coordination with the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) to give the Guard a unified voice of 150,000 strong when lobbying lawmakers at state and national levels.

The result is the realization of several exciting benefits for citizen Soldiers and Airmen.

According to Sgt. Maj. Michael Sojourner, chapter president and member of the 98<sup>th</sup> Aviation Troop Command at Papago Park in Phoenix, a larger membership could translate to more benefits for Arizona Guardsmen.

“The number of delegates we can send to the national conference increases our voice as a state,” said Sergeant Major Sojourner. “There may be issues in the future that we as Arizona Guardsmen want to push forward, and to have influence we’ll need that voting strength. It will mean more to our elected state and federal leaders if our association goes to them with proposals that have the backing of a large number of Guardsmen.”

With current backing, EANGA

and EANGUS have successfully promoted several initiatives.

To date, the organizations have increased uniform allotments, improved training, implemented new scholarships and tuition assistance. Also, Arizona Guardsmen who earn a Purple Heart can attend any state school for free... and so can their family members.

They’ve even lowered the age at which Guardsmen can begin collecting active duty retirement pay. For every 90 days served on active duty for a state or federal mobilization they earn 90 days off of their retirement age. With enough mobilization time, Guardsmen can conceivably begin collecting their active duty annuity at age 55, instead

of having to reach age 60.

Through EANGA’s advocacy efforts, Arizona now has a Soldier and Airman Relief Fund for Guardsmen who fall on financial difficulty. They can apply for assistance in the form of a grant or loan.

“Essentially we are building a stronger Guard for the younger people coming up behind us who will one day take over, and to do it the right way we’re going to need their membership,” said Sojourner.

“The association will never fully know what’s important to the junior enlisted member unless those members join and use their voices. What was important to me as a junior enlisted member isn’t the same as what’s important to our young troops today. It’s a whole new world.”

Ongoing EANGA initiatives include working to remove Social Security numbers on records and replace them with service numbers to protect members from identity theft. They’re also hoping to secure 180 days of extended TriCare health coverage for Air National Guardsmen returning to civilian life after mobilization.

“The Enlisted Association is your association,” said the chapter president. “What we do and how we do it is based on the input we get from our members. We’re here so that when the time comes when members are called to duty, there’s a framework there to support them and their families.”

For more information, or to join EANGA visit [www.eanga.org](http://www.eanga.org), or visit [www.memberconnections.com/eangus](http://www.memberconnections.com/eangus).

## Upcoming Association Events

### 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing Pancake Breakfast March 1

All Wing members are invited to a pancake breakfast 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., Saturday, March 1, in the 152<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Squadron Lounge in Building 44. Attendance will support EANGA fund raising and membership drives.

### State Conference May 18 & 19

National Guard Association of Arizona (NGAAZ) and EANGA members meet this year at the State Conference, May 18 and 19, at Carefree Resort in Carefree, Ariz., with a golf tournament on the first day and a general conference on the second day. Arizona National Guard leaders talk about current Guard issues and lay out a roadmap for the future of the Guard in Arizona.



# Retiree Benefits - Space-Available travel and lodging

by Chief Master Sgt. (Ret.) Barry Soulvie

Space-Available (Space-A) travel and lodging benefits are available to all military retirees. These benefits allow you travel within the United States and also to some destinations around the world at a great cost savings.

When traveling across country by car you and your family may stay at military installation lodging facilities as a Space-A traveler. Call Air Force lodging at 1-888-235-6343 for reservations to ensure availability at the base of your choice.

Navy Lodge facilities are also available at various Navy bases; call 1-800-628-9466. There also are limited lodging facilities available on some Army, Marine and Coast Guard bases. Lodging information is available on the internet at [www.dodlodging.com](http://www.dodlodging.com). This is the Navy Lodge website with links to lodging at facilities for the other branches of services.

If you like to camp out or drive a Recreational Vehicle (RV) many bases have RV parks and camping facilities. The rates are generally reasonable and some parks are located on prime real estate close to metropolitan areas or near a lake or the ocean. You will also have the added benefit of base security while

staying on a military installation.

Air travel is available by military aircraft within the United States and to some destinations around the world. Retirees entitled to full retirement benefits can take their spouse along; however, gray area retirees are subject to some restrictions regarding family members. If you have questions call the Davis-Monthan AFB passenger terminal at (520) 228-2322.

Information on Space-A travel and lodging is available in a series of excellent books on military travel benefits published by Military Living Publications. These books may be purchased at Base Exchanges on any military installation. They are filled with details on available facilities, directions and contact information for each base.

Remember, these benefits are not automatic. You have to seek them out. If you like to travel; military lodging and travel opportunities are unique and inexpensive.

*Upcoming events: The fourth annual White Mountain Retirees Picnic is in the planning stages. It is scheduled for 19 June 2008 at Fool Hollow Lake State Park west of Show Low, Arizona. Put this date on your calendar. More detailed information at a later date. We hope to see you there.*

## All in the EL TIGRE Family

### Military Promotions:

#### To Technical Sergeant

- Edgar Switzer, Maintenance Squadron
- Jeffery Maeser, Maintenance Squadron
- James Wright, Maintenance Operations Flight
- Veronica Daniel-Aragon, Misson Support Flight

#### To Staff Sergeant

- Erica Seehaver, Maintenance Squadron
- Melissa Naranjo, Logistics Readiness Squadron

#### To Senior Airman

- Kristen Taskila, Dock A
- Clarence Forster II, Maintenance Operations Flight

#### To Airman First Class

- David Chapa, Maintenance Squadron

### New Members:

- Staff Sgt. Nick Merchant, DSG assigned to Engine Shop
- Staff Sgt. Kurt Stritar, DSG assigned to Engine Shop

### New Hires:

- Staff Sgt. Jeremy Ward, Air Technician assigned to the Engine shop

### Retirements:

- Tech Sgt. Billy Foust
- Staff Sgt. Bruce Peterson

### Births:

- Staff Sgt. James Orr and his wife Debbie welcomed Christopher Daniel Orr.
- Tech Sgt. Jonathan Wallace and his wife Crystal welcomed Allana Sophia Wallace, Jan. 28.





DATE: 1 March 2008 NUMBER: 43

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY - DIAL 911

The following schedule of events is the:

**MARCH 2008 UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLY**

All members of the 162nd Fighter Wing and attached units are ordered to attend.

NEXT UTA - 5 & 6 Apr 2008

**SATURDAY ~ 01 MAR 08**

\*\*\*ACTIVITIES, LOCATIONS AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*

START	END	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	POC
0600	0800	MSF CLOSED FOR IN-HOUSE/PERSCO TRNG	MSF	DPM/6466
0630	0730	PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST (RUNNERS/STEEPERS)	BLDG 3 UPSTAIRS	SFS/7026
0630	1400	COMBAT ARMS TRAINING (SVS/SFS)	BLDG 5	SF/6530
0630	1130	IMMUNIZATIONS	MEDICAL GROUP	MDG/6172
0630	1130	PREVENTIVE HEALTH ASSESMENT (BY APT)	MEDICAL GROUP	MDG/6172
0700	1000	CDC TESTING	MSF CLSRM	MSF/6793
0730	1430	PALLET BUILD UP/CARGO PREP CLASS	BLDG 6	LRF/6114
0700	1100	GAS MASK FIT TESTING (BY APPT)	MEDICAL GROUP	BEE/6110
0730	1130	NBCD CHEM WARFARE TRNG (REFRESHER)	BLDG 26 (DP CLSRM)	CEX/6268
0800	1100	SELF-AID BUDDY CARE INSTRUCTOR REFRESHR	OPS CLSRM E	MDG/6172
0800	1100	INTRO PROGRAM NEWCOMER'S ORIENTATION	HQG CONF ROOM	MSF/6191
0800	1500	FLYING	OPS	OSS/6377
0830	1330	DRUG TESTING	TAGRA UPPER LEVEL	MEQ/6920
0900	0930	UTA PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING	CC CONF RM	CV/6106
0930	1015	JEWISH AWARENESS GROUP	CHAPLAIN	HC/6217
0945	1215	LUNCH	DINING FACILITY	SVF/6317
1100	1400	CDC TESTING	MSF CLSRM	MSF/6793
1200	1245	CHAPEL - PROTESTANT SERVICE	OPS CLSRM F	HC/6217
1400	1430	RETIREMENT CEREMONY	AUDITORIUM	CCM/6641

**SUNDAY ~ 02 MAR 08**

\*\*\*ACTIVITIES, LOCATIONS AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*

START	END	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	POC
0600	0800	MSF CLOSED FOR IN-HOUSE/CSS TRAINING	MSF	DPM/6466
0630	1400	COMBAT ARMS TRAINING (SVF/SVS)	BLDG 5	SF/6530
0630	0730	PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST (RUNNERS/STEEPERS)	BLDG 3 UPSTAIRS	SFS/7026
0700	0900	BLOCK TRAINING	AUDITORIUM	MSF/6793
0730	1430	PALLET BUILD UP/CARGO PREP CLASS	BLDG 6	LRF/6114
0800	0900	CHAPEL-CATHOLIC MASS	OPS CLSRM E	HC/6217
0800	1200	FLYING	OPS	OSS/6377
0945	1215	LUNCH	DINING FACILITY	SVF/6317
1200	1300	TOP 3 MEETING	AUDITORIUM	CCM/6641
1200	1300	CHAPEL-LDS SERVICES	OPS CLSRM F	HC/6217

**UTA HIGHLIGHTS**

-UTA PAYS: 12 MAR 08

**DESERT ROSE  
DINING FACILITY  
MENU**

**SATURDAY**

- Baked Fish
- Roast Pork
- Mashed Potatoes
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Chicken Gravy
- Broccoli
- Steamed Carrots
- Cauliflower
- Potato Leek Soup
- Chocolate Fudge Brownies
- Dutch Apple Pie

**SUNDAY**

**HAPPY ST. PATRICKS DAY**

- Herbed Baked Chicken
- Corned Beef
- New Potatoes
- Steamed Rice
- Steamed Cabbage
- Peas & Carrots
- Steamed Corn
- Potato Leek Soup
- Black Forest Cake
- Blueberry Crisp

**SHORT ORDER &  
STANDARD ITEMS**

- Hamburgers
- Cheeseburgers
- Special Item TBD
- Pizza
- Chicken Strips
- Tuna Sandwich
- Baked Beans
- French Fries
- Onion Rings
- Baked Potato Bar
- Assorted Breads
- Salad Bar w/Condiments
- Fresh Fruit
- Frozen Yogurt
- Jell-o
- Coffee, Soda, Milk

*Dining Hall Hours  
9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.*

*The menu is based on  
availability and is subject to  
change without notice.*

**Jimmy Jet Breakfast**

Dragging in on drill weekends?  
Nutrition is a force multiplier. Let the Jimmy  
Jet Foundation feed you.

Saturday and Sunday, April 5 & 6  
From 5:30 to 8 a.m.

Served at TAGRA  
Ham and egg, or chorizo and egg burritos with  
juice and coffee will be available for \$3.





# Alert detachment held up as the ‘Gold Standard’

Story and photo by  
Capt. Gabe Johnson  
Public Affairs

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. – Arizona’s Air National Guard F-16 alert detachment here is the focus of a new training video for other alert units to follow when standing up air sovereignty alert missions.

A team of videographers and Continental NORAD Region (CONR) staff visited the detachment Feb. 11 and 12 to film operations for an unclassified training video to serve as an “Alert 101” course.

For the handful of Guardsmen on station, the visit was viewed as the ultimate compliment.

“We’re proud that these guys think so highly of us,” said Chief Master Sgt. Richard Bonner, detachment chief enlisted manager. “When we heard they wanted to use us for an alert training video we were honored and we agreed to help out in any way.”

“This is an excellent example of what we want from an alert det,” said Senior Master Sgt. Randy Bachmann, the Alert Force Operational Assessment program manager for CONR, at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

“We’re here to film this particular unit while it’s doing its job because you have a top-notch organization here,” said Bachmann. “This det has earned excellent and outstanding



*Staff Sgt. Henry Ivy (right), a crew chief with the alert detachment, runs through F-16 launch procedures while Staff Sgt. Pete Blanding records the process. The video crew from Langley Air Force Base, Va., filmed alert operations for use in a training video for new alert units to follow.*

ratings in its NORAD inspections, and it has volumes of operational experience. This is the standard we will train other alert units to reach for.”

In addition to maintaining a 24/7, 365-day, alert force, Guard fighters fly air defense missions over large events such as the Super Bowl, the Olympic games and national political conventions to name a few.

“To be involved in a real-world mission is important to us. We are certainly not a training unit,” said Bonner. “The people here love the

work they do.”

The CONR mission is operational control, and sector tactical control, of fighters and supporting tankers launched to intercept and identify unauthorized or unknown aircraft entering the U.S. Air Defense Identification Zone.

More than 80 percent of fighter aircrews flying Operation NOBLE EAGLE missions are Air National Guard and approximately 75 percent of tanker and C-130 airlift crews are from the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve.

**162 FIGHTER WING  
ARIZONA AIR NATIONAL GUARD  
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

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