



EL TIGRE

SERVING THE 162ND FIGHTER WING'S AIR NATIONAL GUARD COMMUNITY SINCE 1959



FALL 2010

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Schools

Retention

Promotions

Deployments

Performance Reports

and more reasons to be...

Fit to Fight

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EL TIGRE

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Changing the way we think about change

Mastering our inner elephant

by Brig. Gen. Greg Stroud
Commander



General Stroud

How does a man riding an elephant get it to follow the path he wants?

An elephant, when compared to a man, is powerful in size, strength and momentum and can do what it pleases despite the man's rationale and attempts to lead it. The man does it by having a direction and using motivation to get the elephant to follow it.

This is the analogy used by authors Chip and Dan Heath to describe the nature of personal and organizational change in their book *Switch: How to change things when change is hard*.

According to the book, there's an elephant and a rider in each of us. The rider is that part of our personality that knows what needs to be done. It tells us that we need to exercise regularly, eat healthy foods, rise to the challenges at work and at home, and generally do the right things. It's our ability to think long-term and see the big picture.

The elephant within often overpowers the rider and as a result we skip the gym, eat French fries instead of broccoli, hit the snooze button, procrastinate and generally look for instant gratification. The elephant isn't all bad though. It also represents our instinctive and emotional side that is very powerful when it's motivated - or better yet, inspired.

This is an important lesson for all of us as we continue to face unprecedented changes as members of the 162nd Fighter Wing. We have new fitness standards that demand

a real lifestyle change for many of our members, and we have organizational changes such as the recent conversion to aircraft maintenance units that challenge our comfort with the status quo.

My intention here is not to describe all of the changes, or even the reasons behind them. These things you already know - at least your "rider" knows them very well.

But it's not enough for our rider to tell our elephant that change makes us more competitive as a unit, or that service-wide budget cuts call for certain changes. The elephant within isn't always motivated by speeches about the need for a fit force or efficient use of manpower. Instead the elephant responds to short-term goals that take him to the destination and feelings that inspire him to act.

Here's what I mean using the new fitness test as an example.

Find the bright spots: Find out who has been successful with getting in shape. What did they do to make fitness a priority? Some units have push-up and sit-up competitions on a regular basis. Share those success stories with others and work to

duplicate them.

Find the feeling: Other than a little personal guilt, no one really *feels* anything if they skip a few workout sessions. However, the feeling of letting down your work out partner or your group of morning joggers carries a bit more weight.

Tweak the environment: Do your work and home environments make it easy to work out? The base fitness center is one step in that direction. Another step would be to remove barriers. An example would be to always keep a set of PT clothes and shoes somewhere on base should you find yourself with some unexpected time for a run. Not having clothes available can be just one of many barriers.

Rally the herd: No one wants to be left out or be made to feel that they are underperforming when compared to their peers. Instead of talking about unsatisfactory test scores, let's tout the number of satisfactory and excellent scores. Let's talk about the people participating in regular fitness programs.

We all know that to resist change is a waste of energy. Instead, let's embrace it and help to make it succeed. Why should we continue to look back on the "good old days" when we can focus on making these days our best ever?

Together we navigate through these times of change while maintaining our Guard identity and that family feeling that makes the 162nd a special place to call home. For this reason and the tremendous satisfaction of accomplishing our important mission safely and effectively, we can all feel very fortunate to be a part of this wing.

Every member of our wing should feel they can offer their opinions and ideas and that they will be heard. I encourage everyone to continue asking questions, and to truly think of change as an opportunity to succeed.



Air Force recommends F-35s for Luke

Tucson still a contender

by Maj. Gabe Johnson
Public Affairs

U.S. Air Force officials announced the service's recommendations for where to base the first F-35 Lightning II aircraft July 29. Though Tucson was not among the three semi-finalist locations, it remains a viable candidate.

For F-35 training, the Air Force named Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., as the preferred alternative. As F-35 operational bases, both Hill Air Force Base, Utah, and Burlington Air Guard Station, Vt., got nods.

Last October, officials announced the Arizona Air National Guard unit at Tucson International Airport was one of the top five locations under consideration for F-35 Joint Strike Fighter training. Six other bases were on a short list for F-35 operations.

The recent announcement indicates the Air Force is narrowing the field, yet a final record of decision is expected for spring of 2011.

"We were certainly hoping to be one of the first bases to get the F-35, but the Air Force's recommendation to base them at Luke for training is very encouraging," said Brig. Gen. Greg Stroud, 162nd Fighter Wing commander. "Luke and Tucson enjoy all of the same ingredients that make for perfect pilot training conditions; weather, airspace, ranges and fantastic community support. Our chances for F-35s in the future are as strong as ever."

In March, the Air Force con-



Photo by Master Sgt. Dave Neve

Arizona Governor Jan Brewer visits with Staff Sgt. Dustin Adair during her tour of maintenance Hangar 12, Sept. 14. The governor met here with Arizona National Guard and Southern Arizona community leaders to discuss the future of the the 162nd Fighter Wing and her support for bringing the F-35 to Tucson.

ducted a series of public scoping meetings in Southern Arizona as part of an F-35 Environmental Impact Statement. According to Stroud, the environmental study will continue as planned and a draft statement will be available for public comment later this year.

"We encourage the community to continue their participation in the F-35 basing process. The study being conducted now will apply when the Air Force takes another look at Tucson as a future home for the new fighter," he said.

The three installations recommended today move a step closer to housing the first 250 to 300 F-35s scheduled for delivery through 2019. With a total of 1,763 F-35s scheduled for purchase through 2035, Tucson will have numerous opportunities to host the new jet.

"We train international pilots, and Luke trains active duty U.S. pilots in the F-16. Their need to ramp up F-35 training will come much sooner than our need. By all indications

from the Air Force's survey of our capability to maintain and operate F-35s, we're a strong possibility in the next round. I'm confident that the F-35 will one day be part of the wing's mission," Stroud said.

The F-35 is the next generation strike fighter bringing cutting-edge technologies to the battle space of the future. In the Air Force, the F-35 will primarily service an air-to-ground role; replace aging F-16 and A-10 aircraft while complementing the F-22. The Navy and Marine Corps plan on using the F-35, along with international partners.

The Arizona Air National Guard has flown fighters from its base in Tucson since 1956 when the unit flew the Korean War era F-86A. Through six decades and seven different fighter aircraft the unit has served in air sovereignty and fighter training missions.

The last time a new aircraft came to the wing was in 1985 when the unit accepted its first F-16 Fighting Falcon.



Force support, medical teams rehearse disaster response at...

VIGILANT GUARD GUAM



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. John Hall, a flight surgeon with the 162nd Medical Group, visits a mock patient with simulated burn injuries at an expeditionary medical support facility, or EMEDS, in Guam.

by Capt. Paul Jefferson
162nd Force Support Squadron

GUAM -- The 162nd Fighter Wing deployed 55 force support and medical experts to Guam for Vigilant Guard, Aug. 23-26.

The primary goal of the exercise was to enhance the coordination between military and civilian agencies, such as the Department of Public Health and Social Services, Guam Homeland Security and the Office of Civil Defense and local police and fire departments.

A simulated earthquake, a pandemic and a series of other replicated disasters tested responders' skills as well as interagency coordination.

The 162nd Force Support Squadron's 11-man Fatality Search and Recovery Team's (FSRT) primary mission during the exercise entailed retrieving fatalities from an environment contaminated by chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or explosives (CBRNE) and ensured they were properly decontaminated before turning them over to a medical examiner for burial.

"Contaminated environments pose a particular hazard because the CBRNE material is still potentially lethal to anyone exposed to residual traces until decontamination is complete," said Master Sgt. Michael Hawkins, FSRT non-commissioned officer in charge.

The FSRT is attached to the Hawaii National

Guard's CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package (CERF-P) as a capability they employ when there are fatalities involved in a large scale incident.

Vigilant Guard 2010 called the CERF-P and FSRT into action to rescue personnel trapped in a rubble pile in a contaminated environment.

This exercise proved to be unique because it incorporated the California and Hawaii CERF-P's and Arizona's FSRT together for the very first time.

"This brought significant challenges with communication and role assignment in the beginning. However, the three states worked together and merged into a highly functioning team as the exercise progressed," said Sergeant Hawkins.

"Our Airmen worked in commercial chemical ensembles in a hot, humid environment and performed like they have done it a hundred times before. Once the CERF-P's knew who we were and why we were there, they really appreciated the assistance," he said.

The 162nd Medical Group sent 44 members to set up an expeditionary medical support facility, or EMEDS.

"We had 24 hours to set it up because the exercise was kicking off at 8 the next morning," said Maj. Christine Rhodes, deputy group commander. "We started unpacking 18 pallets to put it all together. We had thunderstorms in between, and then there was a 5.5 real-world earthquake while we were doing it. But despite the elements our folks worked really well together. We had everything set up and ready to roll at 8 a.m. the next day."

The scenario put medical personnel through the paces of treating victims of a simulated building collapse and "H7N7 Dragon Flu," a fictitious pandemic. With local hospitals overwhelmed, the 162nd was able to step in.

"They hired a contractor that did all the moulage. It was very realistic. On some of the wounds we had to do a double-take to check if they were real or not," said Major Rhodes.

"They had a rubble pile for the FSRT portion with concrete, a wrecked ship, and a bus - that's how big this stuff was. It was crushed down like an earthquake hit and there were patients in there. They drilled through, rescued the patients, decontaminated them, passed them to a first-level medical element that stabilized them, and then sent them to the EMEDS. That's where we got them and either air evacuated them, ground transported them out or released them," she said.

A PHYSICAL FITNESS ASSESSMENT FOR TODAY'S AIR GUARD



Mej. Windy Hendrick leads wing members during a workout on base.
Photo by Master Sgt. Dave Neve

The Total Force construct, the emergence of the Air National Guard as an operational reserve force, increased deployments and the need for healthy, fit Airmen have all been catalysts for changes to the physical assessment. Following suit with the new Air Force test, here's how the wing's test works:

Testing Process

- All 162nd Fighter Wing members, technicians, AGRs, and DSGs test once a year.
- Fitness Questionnaires will be sent to members 30-90 days prior to the test.
- Must be in a military status (UTA, AT, orders) to test, and...
- Must wear Air Force PT uniform (visit retail sales for uniform issue).
- Test begins with taking the member's height, weight and waist measurement.
- Waist measurement is taken three times and averaged for a final score.
- Push-up and sit-up portions of the test will be conducted on base. The 1.5 mile run will be conducted on the Sunnyside track as a primary location. Alternate locations are Sun Glow road at Davis-Monthan or the Davis-Monthan Fitness Center indoor track depending on track availability and weather conditions.

Waist measurement
1 minute push-ups
1 minute sit-ups
1.5 mile run

Scoring

- Members will receive age and gender-specific composite scores based on the following maximum component scores: 60 points for aerobic, 20 points for body composition, 10 points for pushups and 10 points for sit-ups.
- Less than 75 = Unsatisfactory, 75.0 - 89.99 = Satisfactory, 90 or above = Excellent.
- Failure to meet a minimum score in one section of the assessment results in an automatic unsatisfactory score.
- Scoring too low, yet above minimum requirements, in one area may result in failure.
- Visit www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/affitnessprogram to view fitness assessment scoring charts according to gender and age categories.

Commander's Policy

- It is every Airman's responsibility to maintain the standards in AFI 36-2905, Personnel Fitness Program.
- Commanders and supervisors must incorporate fitness into our culture.
- Members are encouraged to participate in a personal physical fitness training program that includes up to 90 minutes of exercise, 3-5 times per week.
- Consistent with mission requirements, commanders are encouraged to schedule or authorize military service members time to participate in physical fitness training during the duty day.
- Physical fitness leaders will not test members of their own flight or squadron.
- Snowbird and Alert Detachment members will be tested at the 162nd.

“The most important point to remember is that it is the individual responsibility of each member to ensure they are physically fit and can pass the fitness assessment.”

Brig. Gen. Greg Stroud
Wing Commander

Example:

Male Age 30-39

Run time: 14:26 min (31.7 pts) +
35in waist (20 pts) +
57 push-ups (10 pts) +
54 sit-ups (10 pts)
= 71.7 Unsatisfactory score

Male Age 30-39

Run time: 12:14 min (50.9 pts) +
35in waist (20 pts) +
57 push-ups (10 pts) +
54 sit-ups (10 pts)
= 90.9 Excellent score

➤ **2-minute, 12-second
difference between
excellent and
unsatisfactory**

Medical Profiles

- AGRs must get an AF Form 422 or 469 from their primary care provider to be exempt from testing.
- Technicians and DSGs must bring a recommendation for exemption from their personal care providers to the medical group. Med group will review the recommendation and issue the necessary forms for exemption.
- Remaining on a profile for 12 cumulative months may result in a Medical Evaluation Board.
- A profile may exempt members from the run, yet allow a one-mile walk to calculate VO2 max. A policy on how often members may walk the aerobic portion of the test during their career is forthcoming.

Unsatisfactory Scores

- Commanders will formally address fitness assessment failures.
- Members with unsatisfactory scores will be required to re-test 180 days after failing an assessment, but...
 - Members who do not pass an assessment may retest with their unit commander's approval if the retest is within 42 days of the failed attempt. After the 42-day window, members may retest at any time without commander approval.
 - Members will be entered into the Fitness Improvement Program. Workouts will be documented. The Health and Wellness Center (HAWC) at Davis-Monthan will take appointments for the Be Well Program.
 - Members must pass or show significant improvement on subsequent re-tests.
 - Unsatisfactory scores could result in referral performance reports, inability to enroll in schools, delayed promotions, and non-retention.
 - Not showing up for a scheduled fitness assessment will result in corrective action from commanders ranging from counseling to an automatic unsatisfactory score.

Fitness Resources

- AFPC.Randolph.af.mil/affitnessprogram
The official USAF Fitness Program site
- 9GForceFitness.com
The tools to develop and sustain a healthy lifestyle
- PresidentsChallenge.org
Get fit while taking part in the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award program.
- Fitness.gov
The President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition promotes healthy lifestyles through fitness, sports and nutrition programs.
- DMForceSupport.com
Learn about Davis-Monthan's fitness services and find local opportunities to get active.
- USAFSports.com
Already an athlete? Learn how to represent the Air Force in competition.



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EL TIGRE

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A blast from ANG fitness past

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE 162D TACTICAL FIGHTER GROUP, TUCSON, ARIZONA

Fitness Program Starts this Month

CSS and ISF First to Participate

The Air National Guard wants you in good shape!

Within the next ten months, all Tucson Air Guardsmen will participate in the ANG Physical Fitness Program, which officially begins this month.

Unit participation will be on an annual basis, with all members testing each year. This year's Physical Fitness Program consists of a timed, three-mile walk. Minimum completion times will be based on a member's age and sex (refer to table for figures).

In February, all members of 162d Combat Support Squadron and 162d Information Services Flt (communications) will assemble at the fire station at 2:30pm for roll call.

Immediately following roll call, all CSS and ISF members will begin the three-mile course, beginning at the fire station (1½ miles out and back). At the conclusion of the timed walk, members will be weighed, in accordance

with AFR 35-11.

Mens' and womens' shower facilities are available at several on-base locations.

In subsequent months, except in March and October, other squadrons will similarly participate, either at 7:00am or 2:30pm, depending on unit.

Nonparticipation will be allowed only with a medical waiver, but only for one year maximum (six months, plus a six-month extension). Walkers not meeting their goals will be closely monitored to assure compliance as soon as possible.

FITNESS PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

<u>Age:</u>	<u>Male:</u>	<u>Female:</u>
17 - 29	40:54	43:52
30 - 34	42:04	45:10
35 - 39	43:15	46:29
40 - 44	44:25	47:44
45 - 49	45:34	48:55
50 +	48:19	52:02

Not only is today's assessment more rigorous, it impacts each Guardsman's career path to a greater degree. Fitness is a consideration for acceptance to schools, promotions, performance reports and retention. As senior leaders point out, its greatest impact will be the improvement in overall health for each member.



Minuteman Committee to sponsor golf tournament



Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.

Each year, the tournament raises funds to benefit Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve, the Jimmy Jet Foundation, Wright Flight, Project Challenge, and the 162nd Family Readiness Group.

Committee members, wing members, family and friends are invited to participate; however, golfers should sign up early since the tournament is limited to 100 people.

Entry fees are \$100 per person which includes green fees, a cart, food, prizes and a charitable donation. Raffle tickets will also be sold at the tournament for \$5 each, or \$100 for 25. Prizes range from a pre-paid gas card, to an F-16 simulator ride to two round trip airline tickets to anywhere in the continental United States.

To sign up, sponsor a tee box, or sponsor a foursome download the forms from the 162nd Fighter Wing website at 162fw.ang.af.mil.

Questions may be referred to the committee golf tournament chairman, Matthew Brogen at 576-8827. Raffle tickets may be purchased from Brian Andrews at 909-4814.

- The Minuteman Committee recognizes and appreciates the selfless sacrifices made by all Guard members and their families.

The Minuteman Committee consists of Southern Arizona community and business leaders who volunteer their time and energy to support Tucson's 162nd Fighter Wing members and their families.

Due to current global circumstances it is not uncommon for Guard members to be away from their home, family and friends for extended periods of time. The Minuteman Committee recognizes and appreciates the selfless sacrifices made by all Guard members and their families.

One way the Minuteman Committee shows its appreciation is through fund raising events such as the annual golf tournament. The Minuteman Committee organizes the golf tournament as a small gesture to say thank you to Guardsmen who put their lives on hold and many times go into harm's way so that all Americans will have the opportunity for a better quality of life.

From the 162nd Fighter Wing Minuteman Committee

The 162nd Fighter Wing Minuteman Committee, the Arizona Air Guard's community advocacy and support group, will host its annual golf tournament fundraiser at the Vistoso Golf Resort here, Oct. 29.

Minuteman presented ESGR Lifetime Achievement Award



Pictured from left to right, Arizona ESGR Field Chairman Scott Essex, NCESGR Deputy Executive Director Phil Pope, Arizona Chair Emeritus Bill Valenzuela, Arizona Governor Jan Brewer, Arizona Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Hugo Salazar, 162nd Fighter Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Greg Stroud present Bill Valenzuela his ESGR Lifetime Achievement Award June 29 in Tempe, Ariz., for more than 30 years of dedicated service with the Arizona ESGR Field Office.

Photo by Army Sgt. Ed Balaban



Ops Group building renovation begins

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Jordan Jones
Public Affairs

The much-anticipated renovation of the Operations Group facilities at building 44, which includes replacing the roof, upgrading heating and cooling systems, and the reorganization of offices, is now in progress.

“The remodeling is going to take 18 months; we are anticipating as long as 24 months. The contractors have officially started,” said Lt. Col. Kevin Wilhelm, program manager for the remodel.

Wilhelm and the 150 members and contractors that work in the building anticipate challenges will arise from the dispersal of offices at six different areas on the base.

“The idea is to move the operations-related personnel near the Bell Building [building 40]; the staff-related personnel will all stay in this area [building 44] with temporary facilities,” said Colonel Wilhelm.

However, there will be some exceptions.

“Intel will be relocated to the 3rd floor of building 9; command post to building 1. The C-26 people will be near the avionics pods,” said Chief Master Sgt. Andrew Trueblood, chief enlisted manager and airfield manager for the Operations Group.

“Lockheed-Martin will be relocated to TAGRA [building 15]; some of life support training such as cockpit familiarization trainer and parachute apparatus will be relocated to building 6 [the storage facility west of the dining facility],” Colonel Wilhelm said.

Another concern for all wing members during the remodeling will be parking. Several trailers are scheduled to be brought in to serve as



In preparation for the remodeling of building 44, Airman 1st Class Vanessa Ferreira, aviation resource manager, packs her office Aug. 8 to move near the Bell Building.

temporary working facilities for the Operations Group. Some of these trailers will be placed in areas that will not impact parking; however, one trailer is already placed in 10 parking spaces near building 44.

Careful thought went into ensuring the impact on parking will be minimal by using available parking areas in the West 40 parking lot. However, there will still be some impact and wing members should plan accordingly, especially during UTA weekends.

And with folks spread out in so many locations, the Operations Group will have other challenges to face as well.

“Communication and finding places to meet to do our enlisted stand-ups and pilot meetings will be a challenge. Some of the challenge

will be overcoming the diversity of being spread out on the base and still meet the mission requirements,” said Chief Trueblood.

Despite the difficulties, the remodeling will produce lasting benefits.

“The remodeling is a good thing; the main issue is the heating and cooling system. It’s been messed up for some time now - you can either turn it off or turn it on, there is no happy medium,” Chief Trueblood said.

And the newly-refurbished building will better meet the needs of all those who use or visit the building.

“Right now OG and Standardization and Evaluation work very closely together and are on opposite ends of the building; they travel through restrooms to get to one another. We are cleaning all that up,” said Colonel Wilhelm. Also, “life support has their functional areas spread out; they have some up stairs, some down stairs. We are bringing everything for life support upstairs and securing life support so it will no longer be a thoroughfare.”

Other areas will be moved as well.

“About 25 percent of the walls on the first floor will change; downstairs the Lockheed-Martin area will become the 152nd area, so that will be a big change,” the colonel said. “We took the opportunity to relocate everything within the building and if it didn’t fit, that’s when we started moving walls.”

“My goal is to not miss a single day flying,” he said. “So far I think that’s going to work; everybody in this building has been supportive. It will require a team effort.”

With a footprint larger than 60,000 square feet, the remodeling of building 44 will be a monumental task. But leadership is confident the challenges will be overcome and customer service will continue throughout the remodeling process.



Staff Sgt. Buzz Decker drags a fuel hose from a 6,000-gallon tanker to an F-16 on the flightline; a process that is repeated nearly 1,200 times each month.

When managing fuel for the wing's fleet of F-16s, teamwork is about relying on each other to get the job done because ...

Without POL pilots are pedestrians

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Jordan Jones
Public Affairs

Each of the four lumbering, green tanker trucks milled about the flightline as their drivers searched for jets in need of fuel.

The 6,000-gallon tankers could each refuel five jets; but on any given day more than 54,000 gallons of fuel would be loaded onto many more. The fuel from one tanker would be but a drop in a very large bucket.

Moving more than 1.2 million gallons of jet fuel each month, the Airmen in charge of petroleum, oils and lubricants, or POL, take on a daunting task; but one thing's for sure, without POL, wing pilots would be earth bound.

"Our mission is to support the wing with jet fuel for the aircraft, ground fuels, such as unleaded and diesel, and liquid oxygen," said Master Sgt. Daniel Larrivas, a fuels manager with 27 years of experience.

Jet fuel arrives each morning in 8,000-gallon contractor-owned tankers. Fuels technicians here receive the fuel, test its quality and purity in the lab, and then re-issue the fuel out to the jets.

"We don't have a big storage facility, so what we receive we issue back out. We've received as much as 1.5 million gallons in a month," said Sergeant Larrivas. "This is just jet fuel – we also issue ground fuels and liquid oxygen."

After the fuel is received, the purity and viscosity of the fuel must be tested. A paper filter is first weighed on a lab scale, and then a gallon of jet fuel is flushed through the filter. As fuel passes through the filter, the sediments clog it. This slows the speed at which the fuel is filtered.

"The more sediments there are in the fuel the longer it will take the fuel to go through the filter. Obviously, the less time it takes the better," said Staff Sgt. Anthony Francisco, lab technician.

"We use a clock to determine how long it takes [to filter a gallon of fuel]. It is usually four to seven minutes; the max limit is 20 minutes," said Tech. Sgt. Sean Ehlert, lab technician.

The amount of particles in the fuel must be carefully determined; a guess or visual inspection isn't enough.

"We will weigh the new filter, pass a gallon of fuel through it, and then dry it. Once it is dry we weigh it again; the difference [from the weights before and after] is the weight of the sediments," Sergeant Ehlert said.

At each step in the process, from receiving the fuel, to storing it, to transporting it to the jets requires careful maintenance and control to prevent contaminants from getting into the fuel.

“Our lab mission statement is ‘We have the cleanest fuel in the whole wide world.’ It’s kept clean by how we receive it and maintain the equipment to keep out the water and sediment,” said Sergeant Larrivas.

The most visible of all the equipment are the storage tanks and tanker trucks. But surprisingly enough, the storage tanks belong to another organization.

“Our fuel doesn’t belong to us until we issue it to the aircraft; it’s owned by Defense Logistics Agency. They own the fuel and maintain a large portion of our storage facilities - we conduct minor maintenance on the tanks,” explained Larrivas.

The jets are always kept full of fuel, but every so often a jet needs maintenance work performed. When that happens, the jets have to be defueled. “We usually do about two defuels a day; they are usually fully fueled with about 1,100 gallons,” said Sergeant Larrivas.

At each step of the process from receiving the fuel, to testing it, to issuing it, and when necessary defueling, each gallon is accounted for. But this isn’t as easy as just counting gallons.

“In the summer the fuel will expand due to the temperature. This causes huge gains. In the winter the cold temperatures cause it to contract, so we get some loss,” said Sergeant Larrivas.

Also, when pumping fuel it’s easiest to measure in volume, so when it’s bought and issued gallons are used. But when planning a flight, weight is the main consideration. “When maintenance receives the fuel they talk pounds where we talk gallons,” the sergeant said.

At a specific altitude the weight of the fuel doesn’t change; however, the volume will increase or decrease with changes in temperature.

To account for all the changes, the volume of the fuel

The viscosity of the fuel is one of many tests performed by Tech. Sgt. Sean Ehlert.



when received or issued is adjusted to its equivalent volume at 60 degrees, said Sergeant Larrivas. “And a gallon of fuel weighs 6.7 pounds.”

To prepare technicians for the job, each person attends a six-week technical school at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. Main topics at the school include storage, distribution, an overview of liquid oxygen, accounting, and lab work.

Training up new people means having open positions, something that since the reset of 2008 has been scarce for fuel technicians. Before the reset, the fuel shop here employed 19 people full-time and an additional 14 as traditional Drill Status Guardsmen. Since the reset, their numbers have been reduced to 16 full-time and zero traditional DSGs.

And the reduction of manpower brought with it an undeniable cost.

“The job really can’t change,” said Larrivas, “because we still have to be in compliance with rules and regulations. One of the biggest ways it hurt us is in supporting the Air Force mission – going on deployments.”

Current challenges in POL have not gone unnoticed by wing senior leadership.

“It cannot be overstated how important POL is to the international pilot training mission here,” said Col. Karen Bence, Mission Support Group commander. “They move mountains on a daily basis to keep our aircraft flying and the wing appreciates their work tremendously. Manning challenges are not easily resolved during tight times but we are watching for any opportunities that might be available to resolve this critical shortage.”

With six to eight commercial tanker trucks, more than 54,000 gallons of jet fuel pumped, handling liquid oxygen, diesel and unleaded the fuels shop has their hands full.

“Without fuel the planes wouldn’t go anywhere; no one in the Air National Guard or Air Force would have a job. The POL motto says it best, ‘without POL pilots are pedestrians,’” Colonel Bence said.



Tech. Sgt. Sean Ehlert, lab technician, connects a receiver hose to a tanker truck’s discharge valve. The tankers each deliver 8,000-gallons of jet fuel that will be pumped into the base storage tanks and then reissued later that same morning to the jets.



And so I volunteered ... A journey in another Airman's footsteps

**Commentary and photo
by Staff Sgt. Jordan Jones**
Public Affairs

If you saw someone blow through a stop sign and almost hit you, what would you think?

Would you be irritated and angry, or thinking that the person is in distress? Would you be yelling at the other driver who can't hear you, or wondering if the driver is planning another Fort Hood?

In a job where the biggest challenge day-in and day-out is to remain vigilant and alert, it's easy to take those who do the job for granted - to assume the job is an easy one.

But is it really? Take a few moments with me as I recall briefly the six months I spent working with the members of the 162nd Security Force Squadron and you'll be surprised at how that seemingly simple question has an almost surreal answer.

It began in January when 31 members of the 162nd SFS deployed to Iraq. Leadership sent out a call for 15 volunteers to backfill key positions. An expectant father, recently married, working to complete a four-year degree my personal needs were many.

A full-time job was one of them. My regular job for the 162nd as a DSG Public Affairs specialist entailed primarily of writing news stories, responding to civilian inquiries, and escorting tour groups and members of the media around the base.

The job with SF would be full-time, and so I volunteered on a moment's notice not fully realizing the depth or complexity of what it meant to be an SF cop - I volunteered to walk a six-month journey in the footsteps of another Airman.

At the beginning of every 12-hour shift the cops would be briefed on security incidents that happened at other bases around the nation; some were malicious in nature while others were due to carelessness and complacency. And soon after I started there was the nationally-televised incident at Luke Air Force Base where the military police were forced to shoot individuals being pursued by the local law enforcement.

The knowledge of those incidents helped us maintain

a strong situational awareness about current threats that we might face here. So while most of my time during the six months was spent watching and waiting, I would be waiting for what I hoped would never happen here.

And to train us on how to effectively respond to a crisis, the flight leadership would conduct exercises. Each exercise was unique; one exercise entailed a fake bomb planted on the flightline, another was stopping and apprehending an individual who was driving while under the influence of alcohol.

The most memorable exercise for me was when I was considered a hostage, or under duress as law enforcement would say. A mannequin sat in the passenger seat of my vehicle during the exercise, and the mannequin held my M-16 rifle. A merry chase was on, but soon my fellow police officers had my vehicle stopped and I was laying face down on the pavement while they proceeded to clear the vehicle.

Army Spc. Jesse Ryan, a Purple Heart recipient, carefully opened the passenger door where the mannequin sat with one arm propped through the open window. As the door opened, the mannequin's right hand fell off to the ground. In the blink of an eye the exercise changed from a hostage situation to a medical emergency.

It was then I learned that no matter how many years you've been a cop, or what you've seen, there's

always something else unexpected that can happen. There are so many unknowns, and each unknown requires making a split-second decision to determine if the unknown is a threat. Making that decision is the hardest part of the job -- and often the decision will take or save a life.

Thankfully, the unthinkable didn't happen here during the six months I served as a cop. And if you are stopped by a police officer, either on base or off, remember, even if he knows you he does not know what you are doing in the vehicle or what your intentions may be. To him, you are an unknown. So help him find the answers; be compliant whenever the cop is doing his job.

But the part that showed me just how great it is to work here came during the days that were freezing cold or squelching hot (everyday it seemed). There were a few kind-hearted individuals who would bring us hot cocoa on the cold days and frozen Eegees on the hot days - thank you.



Staff Sgt. Abraham Pena, security forces craftsman, radios information on a traffic violator to the security dispatcher. Sergeant Pena returned to duty with the Wing in mid-July after serving nearly six months in Iraq.



Annual Awards set to 'salute' hometown heroes

by Maj. Gabe Johnson
Public Affairs

When the nation called upon the Arizona Air National Guard in the years that followed the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Tucson's hometown heroes – the members of the 162nd Fighter Wing and their families – responded with duty, honor and sacrifice.

Between 2001 and 2008, about 200 wing members deployed in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. Those Guardsmen and their families will be formally recognized during a "Hometown Heroes Salute" following this year's Annual Awards Ceremony scheduled for Nov. 6, at noon in Hangar 10.

In August 2008, the Director of the Air National Guard sanctioned the Hometown Heroes Salute recognition program. The purpose of this National Guard Bureau-funded initiative is to celebrate and honor the Airmen, families, communities and those special supporters who have significantly contributed to supporting Airmen and the ANG's mission.

Members who have deployed will be presented a framed letter of appreciation from Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III, the Director of the Air Guard, and the Air National Guard Command Chief, Command Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy.

Spouses, or significant others, will receive an engraved pen and pencil set as well as a hometown hero medallion and coin. The children of parents who have deployed will get engraved dog tags.

The new Hometown Heroes Salute events will be held annually at Air National Guard units across the country. Future ceremonies at

the 162nd will recognize members who deployed after 2008 and in subsequent years.

"There is nothing more powerful than saying 'thank you,'" said the 162nd's Command Chief Master Sgt. Shane Clark. "One of the most important things we do is give due recognition to our Airmen and their families for all they have given to the cause of freedom. These folks have put their relationships, their lives and careers on hold to deploy."

"Everyone should come out to help make this first Hometown Heroes event as special as it can possibly be."

The event will kick off at 10 a.m. with Hometown Heroes and families arriving at Hangar 10 for photos and family awards. All other award recipients and wing members are asked to be seated in the hangar by 11:30 a.m. as the program will begin promptly at 12 p.m.

Wing leadership determined the uniform for all Annual Award recipients and Hometown Hero honorees will be the Airman Battle Uniform or flight suit.

Awards Weekend Schedule

Saturday, Nov. 6

6:45 a.m. Awardees Rehearsal

10 a.m. Hometown Hero and family photos/awards

11:30 a.m. All award recipients, distinguished visitors, and wing members seated

12 p.m. Ceremony begins

Sunday, Nov. 7, Steak Fry

7:30 a.m. Food Prep, Dining Facility

9:30 a.m. Grilling begins

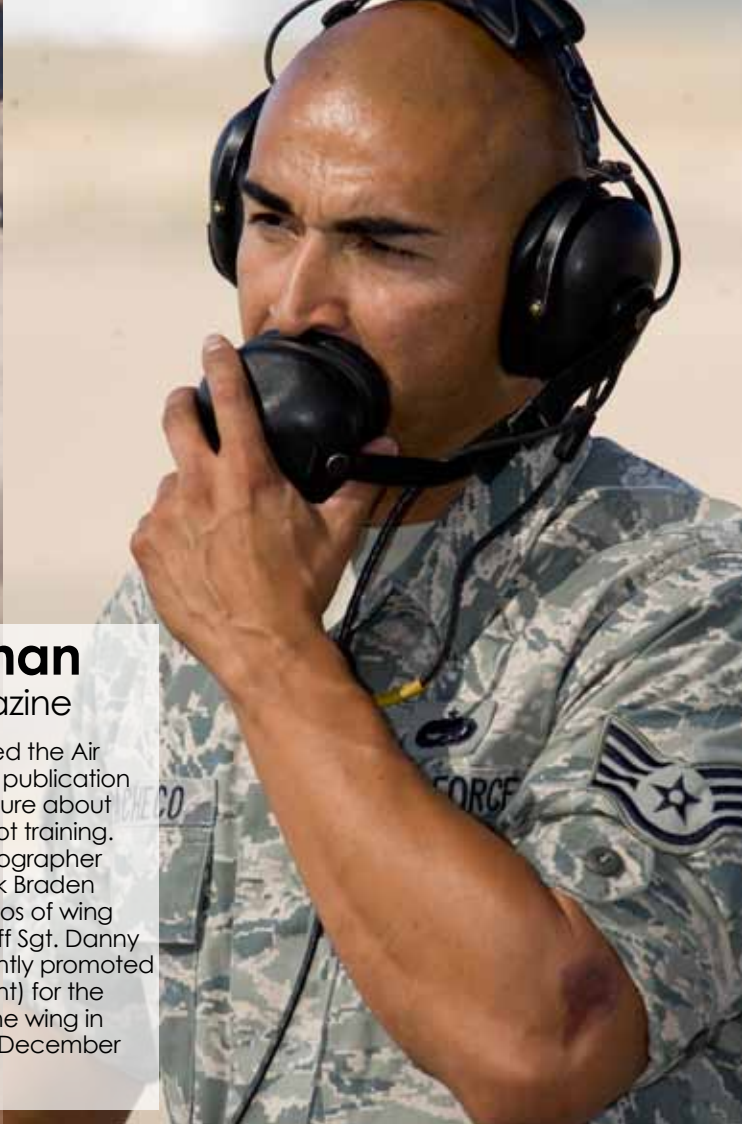
12 p.m. Lunch is served





Airman Magazine

The 162nd hosted the Air Force's flagship publication in July for a feature about international pilot training. Magazine photographer Master Sgt. Jack Braden took these photos of wing aircraft and Staff Sgt. Danny Pacheco (recently promoted to tech. sergeant) for the story. Look for the wing in the November/December edition.

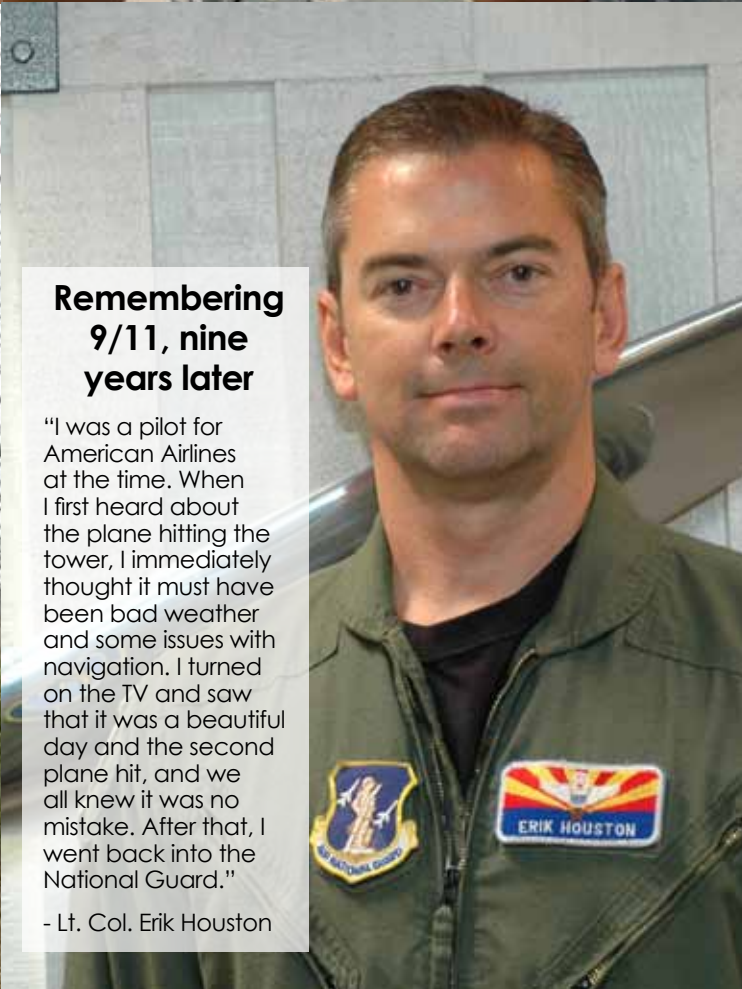


Col. M Group his da ceremony



Adopt Valencia

Command Chief Master Sgt. Shane Clark lends a hand to the 162nd Fighter Wing's Junior Enlisted Council by picking up litter on Valencia Road. The council's monthly "Adopt Valencia" cleanup effort ensures the base and surrounding community looks tidy.



Remembering 9/11, nine years later

"I was a pilot for American Airlines at the time. When I first heard about the plane hitting the tower, I immediately thought it must have been bad weather and some issues with navigation. I turned on the TV and saw that it was a beautiful day and the second plane hit, and we all knew it was no mistake. After that, I went back into the National Guard."

- Lt. Col. Erik Houston



Arizona Diamond of Support show a



Col. Jim Mainte comman Espinosa from Op Lt. Col. J Snowbir comm Espinosa Award of Airport S



Promotion to colonel

Col. Nick McGuire, 214th Reconnaissance Squadron commander, gives flowers to daughter Maggie at his promotion ceremony Aug. 20.



New flag officer

Maj. Gen. Hugo Salazar, Adjutant General and commanding general of the Arizona National Guard, presents a one-star flag to Brig. Gen. Jose Salinas, Joint Force Headquarters commander, at his promotion ceremony July 30.



Diamondbacks support troops

ESGR Field Chairman Scott Essex presents the Arizona Diamondbacks Team President Derrick Hall with an ESGR Statement of Support plaque during the Military Appreciation day pre-game at Chase Field July 4.



Congressional Visit

Brig. Gen. Greg Stroud, 162nd Fighter Wing commander, greets U.S. Congressman Raul Grijalva at the start of a base visit here Aug. 25. Congressman Grijalva, who represents the Arizona district encompassing the base, stopped by to learn more about the wing's international F-16 pilot training mission and it's possible future with the F-35 Lightning II.



Elite Performer

Staff Sgt. Joseph Taylor, 162nd Tactical Fighter Group commander, Staff Sgt. Joseph Taylor, an aircraft maintainer at Operation Snowbird, and Staff Sgt. Jeff Butler, Operation Snowbird commander, were named Elite Performer at Tucson International Airport Sept. 3.



Behind the Rug

Tanya Martin, daughter of former wing member Senior Master Sgt. Robert Martin, paid a visit to the wing Aug. 12. She knitted the "162nd Tactical Fighter Group" rug that hangs in building 1 when she was 12 years old in 1976 for the unit's 20th anniversary. Robert Martin passed away in 1996, but left a mystery behind for his daughter. "He told me to come back 20 years after he died to look behind the rug where he said he hid something for me; a message or a note possibly. I have no idea what could be behind there," she said. The Martin family will return in 2016 to solve the mystery.

Air Guard opens F-16 maintenance school in **Arizona**



Tech. Sgt. Jeff Bentley, an instructor with the Tucson Aircraft Maintenance School, shows students around an F-16 Fighting Falcon on the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base flightline June 15. The first eight students to attend the school graduated Aug. 12 as crew chiefs for their respective Air National Guard fighter units. The new school, operated by Arizona's 162nd Fighter Wing, will allow more Guardsmen to receive necessary training in a timely manner.

**Story and photos by
Maj. Gabe Johnson**
Public Affairs

New Air Guard F-16 mechanics currently faced with the possibility of waiting up to two years for formal training courses will soon see their wait time drastically reduced by a new training program here.

The first class of aspiring F-16 Fighting Falcon crew chiefs reported June 1 to the newly-formed Tucson Aircraft Maintenance School run by the Arizona Air National Guard's 162nd Fighter Wing, an F-16 train-

ing unit that specializes in international pilot training.

Crew chiefs, usually assigned to a specific aircraft, are maintenance specialists ultimately responsible for every component from nose to tail. In addition to launching and recovering fighters, they ensure the overall safety and readiness of the Air Guard's fleet and are arguably the backbone of the F-16 community's homeland defense, training and operational missions.

"The National Guard Bureau asked the 162nd to start this program because the Air Force's technical training school for F-16 crew chiefs couldn't fit enough Guard seats into its training plans for 2009 and 2010,"

said 2nd Lt. James Barnett, officer in charge of the new schoolhouse.

"There are about 160 Air Guardsmen across the country waiting for training, so we've partnered with the Air Force's tech schools to service the demand for training. This first class represents about a year of planning and coordination with NGB and the Air Force."

Standard crew chief training takes new active duty, Guard and Reserve Airmen from basic training through a month of maintenance fundamentals at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, then two and half months of F-16 specific training also at Sheppard. The third and final phase is a month of hands-on training with



F-16's at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

The first eight students at the Tucson school took on F-16 specific training. Here, they learned safety procedures and how to fill out maintenance forms. June 15, their first day servicing an F-16, was long anticipated.

"Today we're going to put hydraulic fluid into the aircraft, we're going to service the aircraft accumulator and we're going to learn about the flight control systems. We learned all this in the classroom yesterday and now we're putting hands on the jet to actually do it," said Senior Airman Marc Haven, a maintainer from the 169th Fighter Wing in Columbia, S.C.

"I have a background as a mechanic, but I've never worked on anything as cool as an F-16," he said. "It's a big responsibility. It's our names on the side of the jets. We just have to remember to be safe out here and treat the jets like we're the ones flying them."

The schoolhouse uses a single F-16 from the 162nd's fleet for training. Built in 1983, it was slated for storage at Davis-Monthan's Aerospace Maintenance and

Regeneration Group, also known as the boneyard. The program gives it two more years of life. Though its flying days are over, it's configured

"It's a big responsibility. It's our names on the side of the jets. We just have to remember to be safe out here and treat the jets like we're the ones flying them."

- Senior Airman Marc Haven

for safe maintenance training and is helping seasoned instructors teach the next generation of Air Guard crew chiefs.

Tech. Sgt. Jeff Bentley from the District of Columbia Air National Guard's 113rd Fighter Wing, previously taught a fighter maintenance course at Langley Air Force Base, Va., and Tech. Sgt. John Acquart from Arizona's 162nd, taught the F-16 course at Sheppard before joining the Guard.

"The students are very intelligent and eager to get out there to be mechanics for their units," said Sergeant Acquart. "I enjoy teaching and passing on what I know to fellow crew chiefs."

"Our instructors are very knowl-

edgeable in their career field," said Lieutenant Barnett. "They show a lot of enthusiasm in the classroom. They take their time to make sure

everyone understands the material. We are very fortunate to have those two individuals teaching this course right now."

After the first class graduated Aug. 12 they returned to their home units for 30 days of hands-on experience instead of heading to Luke for their final phase of training. By 2011 the 162nd's goal is to teach all three courses - fundamentals, F-16 specific training and hands-on training said Barnett.

By complimenting the technical schools at Sheppard and Luke, the Air Guard program may help resolve many issues.

Without formal training, new recruits are restricted from on-the-job training due to liability and regulations, bonuses are delayed, promotions become difficult, and retention ultimately suffers.

"This new school is wonderful because I signed on six months ago and when I got to my squadron they first told me that I could get a class date in 2012. I wasn't looking forward to sitting in a shop - doing nothing for two years. When they told me I could come here I was ready to go," said Staff Sgt. Robbin Bruning, a maintainer from the 140th Fighter Wing at Buckley Air Force Base, Colo.

"I'm excited about getting qualified," said Bruning. "I like having full roam of the aircraft. We're working with the pilots in the middle of the action. We're responsible for the whole plane, and we get to work outside."



Senior Airman Sean McKinney, a crew chief in training from the New Jersey Air National Guard's 177th Fighter Wing, gets his first hands-on experience with an F-16 Fighting Falcon on the Operation Snowbird ramp at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, June 15.



Citizen-Airman's 'buddy care' training comes to the rescue

by Maj. Gabe Johnson
Public Affairs

A systems engineer for Raytheon Missile Systems used first aid training he received as a member of the Arizona Air National Guard during a medical emergency to help a co-worker in distress June 17.

Capt. Humberto Nieto, an intelligence officer with the 162nd Fighter Wing here, says he's grateful for the self-aid, buddy care (SABC) training he received as a member of the Guard – training that every Airman must complete every 24 months.

SABC encompasses basic life support and limb-saving techniques to help wounded or injured personnel survive in medical emergencies until medical help is available. The topics of SABC training encompass anatomy and physiology, airway management, recognition and control of bleeding, shock management, dressings, and burn injuries to name a few.

For Air Force members suffering medical emergencies or injuries due to accidents or combat, it's the basic life support training provided to their fellow Airmen that increases their chance of survival. For Captain Nieto, he never thought he'd have to use it in his civilian job.

"I was on a business trip to China Lake, California, with my team from Raytheon to test missiles with the F-18s there," said Nieto. "It was the least-likely situation I could imagine having to use my SABC training."

Nieto and his co-worker, Bill, a fellow engineer, were locked outside of a Raytheon facility on base. While waiting for someone to bring the building key Bill had a sudden loss of consciousness.

Standing on a handicap ramp at the building entrance, leaning on a waist-high hand rail, Bill dropped his cell phone; his body went limp and flipped backwards over the rail. His head hit the ground five feet below, his upper shoulders absorbed the shock and his body collapsed in a heap.

"I immediately went down to assess the situation," said the captain. "I tried to speak to him but he was unconscious. I could tell his skin color had changed... gone pale. He was trying to breathe. That's when my training kicked in. The first thing that came to mind was



Photo by Master Sgt. Dave Neve

Master Sgt. Brian Jones, Arizona Air National Guard recruiter, practices Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) at the 162nd Medical Group. Courses like self-aid and buddy care help Airmen survive alone, or take care of others injured during deployment. SABC also prepares them to take care of someone in the community like friends, family and co-workers.

'A-B-C, A-B-C,' the basic lifesaving steps an Airman uses to treat injuries. Just as we're taught in the Guard, I checked his airway, breathing, circulation, disability and exposure."

The victim's breathing and color quickly worsened and Nieto couldn't find a pulse. He began chest compressions and within 10 seconds Bill regained consciousness.

"He was really disoriented. I said, 'Bill stay down, you fell and were unconscious.' I was concerned about



a possible neck injury.”

Despite Nieto’s urging to remain still, Bill sat up and leaned on the ramp.

“I called 911 and was giving the dispatch our information when Bill had another spell. He went lifeless and all the same symptoms came back. He went pale and his breathing became difficult, so I laid him back on the ground and started my A-B-Cs again,” said Nieto.

Bill’s symptoms were noticeably worse. His skin turned blue and the veins in his face were more visible than before.

“I told 911 that I needed to perform CPR again. I put the phone down and began chest compressions.”

Just then two other Raytheon employees showed up with the key to the building. Nieto handed one the phone to relay information to 911, and had the other stabilize Bill’s head.

“Having gone through self-aid, buddy care training in the Guard, I never realized how it would kick in naturally in an emergency.”

- Capt. Humberto Nieto

“After a few seconds of compressions he came back again. His hands were clammy, his skin was cold, and I thought, ‘Okay, now I have to treat him for shock.’”

Nieto told Bill to stay calm, help was on the way. This time, Bill didn’t try to sit up.

“Three or four minutes later an ambulance arrived. He went to the hospital and everything turned out fine.”

According to Nieto, Bill said he never experienced a health emergency like this before, and his health care provider in Tucson is working to assess his condition. Bill, whose name has been changed for his privacy, returned to work a few days later.

“You never expect to be in this kind of situation. Having gone through self-aid, buddy care training in the Guard, I never realized how it would kick in naturally in an emergency,” said Nieto.

In a note of appreciation to Captain Nieto, Bob Lepore, Raytheon Missile System’s vice president of engineering, wrote, “I want to commend you on your quick response to helping Bill... you saved his life. We value employees that are there to pitch in and do whatever it takes during an emergency situation.”

The captain encourages all wing members to review the SABC section of the Airman’s Manual at least every six months. “The training is there for a reason, and it’s good to know that it’s there when you need it,” he said.



by Staff Sgt. Vanessa Young
Defense Media Activity

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. – Maintainers are towing F-16 Fighting Falcons out of retirement from the “boneyard” and preparing them to become the Air Force’s newest platform for target training.

Specialists with the 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group are regenerating F-16s so they can be flown to a Boeing facility in Florida where they will be converted to QF-16 full-scale aerial targets.

Boeing will convert up to 126 retired F-16s into QF-16 drones that can fly either manned or unmanned, according to a Boeing press release.

As part of the QF-16 program developmental phase, Boeing officials tasked 309th AMARG maintainers to regenerate six F-16s. The maintainers spent more than a year and a half, an average of about 80 days per aircraft, preparing the first six aircraft to fly to the Boeing facility.

“Once we pull the aircraft from storage, we remove all the panels to conduct our preliminary inspections,” said Rob McNichol, an F-16 aircraft supervisor with the 309th AMARG. “We remove components so that we can get specialists such as nondestructive inspection members to find out if the aircraft is going to be airworthy.”

Once an aircraft passes the initial inspections, it is further disassembled to refurbish, upgrade or replace components. A number of operational checks and test flights are performed to ensure the aircraft is safe and ready for flight.

Maintainers are converting F-16C models as well as older F-16A aircraft. Once converted, the QF-16s will replace the few QF-4s left in the inventory.

After modification to the QF-16 configuration, the six aircraft will serve as prototypes for engineering tests and evaluation prior to production, according to a Boeing press release. Deliveries of QF-16 drones are scheduled to begin in 2014.



Financial managers pull off ultimate balancing act

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Jordan Jones
Public Affairs

Money, money, money! The 162nd Fighter Wing's Financial Management Office here deals directly with the grease that makes this base run – money, and lots of it; \$110 million to be exact.

And as the end to this fiscal year, Sept. 30, quickly approaches, FM must give an account for every penny this base spent by balancing its budget.

“We start balancing the budget from the beginning of the fiscal year,” said Capt. Melissa Jackson, acting comptroller.

Before each fiscal year starts, the base has a financial plan for how it will spend the money it will receive that year.

“Wing leadership decides how to distribute the money before the year even starts by using a financial plan,” said Captain Jackson. They begin with what each section received in the previous year, then the sections justify why they need those and any additional funds they may need.



Tech. Sgt. Martin Altamirano, budget technician, works with Tech. Sgt. Jorge Sosa, resource advisor for logistics readiness squadron, over the phone Aug. 27 to balance LRS's government purchase card (GPC) account. Balancing more than 15 GPC accounts for the wing is only one small aspect of what it takes to balance the entire wing budget.

Justifying those needs is based first on mission requirements, then on additional items.

“We are advocates of the taxpayer's dollars; the idea is to spend to get the mission accomplished,” she said. “Just because we don't spend 100 percent of our money doesn't mean they are going to cut us next year. If there is an occasion when we do send money back that we don't need, it builds credibility with the Guard Bureau. There are other units that are waiting for funds to finish out their year; requirements that they can't meet on their budgets.”

But the path to spending isn't as simple as buying required items. Deadlines, such as Congress' 80/20

rule which mandates that at least 80 percent of the money be legally obligated before July 31, require careful planning and coordination.

“Congress looks at it as if you aren't planning for it all year and you didn't even bother to spend it then it's probably not prudent spending,” Captain Jackson said. “The idea is to get the resources out to the people who plan and direct so they can make spending decisions earlier.”

“It really is a team effort. We've had great resource advisors. The job is stressful but I enjoy it. What is stressful to me is the idea that we have to get that money spent,” said Tech. Sgt. Martin Altamirano, budget technician.

To ensure spending goes as planned, the FM office analyzes the funds all year by conducting trend analysis -- looking at historical spending patterns and current



spikes or lows in spending. Also, they verify people are buying what they planned to buy, said Captain Jackson.

Even with the best of plans, things happen beyond the control of the FM office.

“On the first of the [fiscal] year when the money actually comes it might not be the amount we got last year. This year we had a 10 percent cut,” she said. “While people can’t just spend hoping the dollars will come, we will get the mission done by finding smarter ways to accomplish what is necessary.”

And along with budget cuts comes an increase in unfunded requests – requests to purchase resources when there is no money budgeted for them.

“Currently, there are four top purchase priorities for the wing; temporary facilities for the building 44 remodel project, new sunshades for the aircraft parking area, communications upgrades including network certificates, and replacing personal protective equipment for the fire fighters,” she said. Together, the four priorities would cost the wing an estimated \$1.3 million.

As the year comes to an end, FM’s primary mission is to close out the budget.

“Closeout events require a lot of coordination and follow-up. We go through a similar thing every year

that the rest of the base goes through with the compliance inspection. You have a whole lot of partners trying to get one thing done – get the money down and the contracts cut. Every member out there is involved by coming out here, getting their orders done, using work days, pulling their drills and making up their drills within a timely manner,” Captain Jackson said.

“We start the closeout on the first day of August to balance the books and get any remaining money spent or obligated by Sept. 30,” said Sergeant Altamirano. “Near the last of August the wing commander takes control of all unspent money and uses it to pay for unfunded projects. This year it is being spent on the remodeling of building 44.”

“Last year’s closeout was very smooth; our timelines worked, so we went with a similar plan this year,” Captain Jackson said.

But even with the year-long preparation a few long days may still be ahead.

“On Sept. 30 we’ll all be in one office, sometimes till 10 o’clock or even midnight, waiting for Guard Bureau to confirm the budget has been balanced. They review all of our budget work and the work for more than 90 other bases,” said Sergeant Altamirano.

2010 CFC under way

The 2010 Combined Federal Campaign kicked off at the 162nd Fighter Wing here Sept. 15.

The mission of the CFC is to support and to promote philanthropy through an employee-focused program that is cost-efficient and effective in providing all Federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

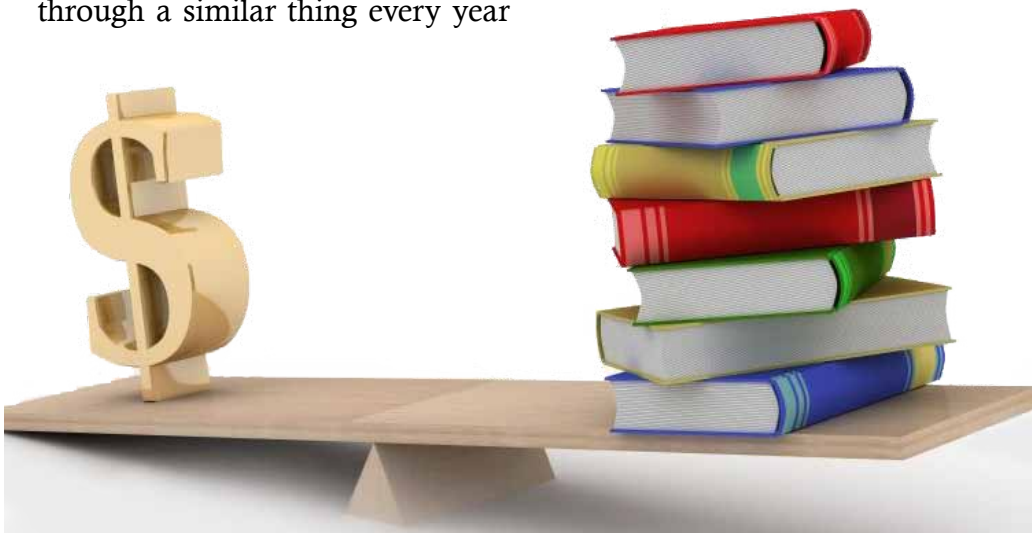
Last year’s campaign totaled \$66,856 in wing member contributions. Wing CFC coordinators 2nd Lieutenants James Barnett and Jason Gonzales said the goal for this year is 100 percent contact and increased participation to beat last year’s total by \$2,500.

“If we can get everyone who gave last year to give just a few dollars more this year, and if we can get a few new contributors, we can make our goals as a wing,” they said.

Members will have a choice of hundreds of charities from which to choose, including the Jimmy Jet Foundation, the Tuskegee Airmen and Wright Flight, said Lieutenant Barnett.

This year, the CFC is providing an easy to use alphabetized brochure of charities which can be found on the CFC Web site at www.cfcaz.org.

There will be posters, base-wide e-mails and work section visits from CFC coordinators to remind people of the opportunity to donate to charities of their choice via the CFC. For more information, please contact Lieutenant Barnett at 295-6787 or Lieutenant Gonzales at 295-6686.





Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Jordan Jones
Public Affairs

During a peaceful lull between training deployments, the Snowbird ramp at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base sat empty save one F-16 jet used for maintenance training – it would likely never fly again.

Standing on the second floor of the Snowbird operations building, looking through the glass at the empty ramp, anyone who took a moment to wonder would have to ask what Snowbird was all about.

Initially started in 1975, Snowbird was the Guard's answer to provide pilots from northern states the opportunity to continue to hone their flying skills during the dreadfully cold days of winter, said Lt. Col. Jeff Butler, commander, Snowbird.

With temperatures up north constantly freezing and storms layering thick ice and deep snowdrifts, multi-million dollar assets would sit, unable to fly until the storms passed and the ramps and equipment could be cleared. Taxpayers' money would continue to be spent but with little return.

And thus, Snowbird began. And aptly named, too, for in Arizona



Snowbird: Southwest training for Middle East operations

Artistic hand-decorated ceiling tiles grace the ceiling at the Snowbird facility; the tiles are a reminder of the people who have received vital war-skills training here, some on their last training they received before heading to the Middle East. One ceiling tile is given to each maintenance group that comes through Snowbird. They are given a blank 2-foot-by-2-foot square tile and told to "leave their mark."

typical Snowbirds are tourists or part-time residents who come here to enjoy the warmth of the southwestern winters, and then return before the heat of summer spikes.

Like tourism, Snowbird brings in millions of dollars to the local economy from out of state, dollars which have boosted the economy and continued to make it possible for businesses to thrive and grow.

But what is the real value of Snowbird aside from the dollars it

brings into our community?

"We provide units with buildings and airspace, they bring their own people and equipment," said Master Sgt. Debra Hruschka, personnel manager.

"The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war." said Lt. Col. Rex Carpenter, vice commander and operations officer. "Snowbird provides the opportunity for Coalition aircrew to put in hard 'workouts,' and to do so safely, prior to combat deployment."

"The four acres that Snowbird occupies serves as the Air National Guard's portal to the Barry Goldwater Range providing deploying pilots with current flight skills demanded while in the warzone," said Colonel Butler. It is one of the few Guard-owned places in the Nation that has access to a military runway and the Barry Goldwater Range, he said.

The vast 2.7 million acres of range has provided pilots with more than 57,000 cubic miles of airspace





to train since 1941. Its Middle East-like desert conditions make it perfect for current warfare training.

This makes Snowbird one of three best-suited locations where pilots can train for war – Luke, Davis-Monthan, and [the 162nd Fighter Wing], said Colonel Butler.

“Because of our partnership with the Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve Command Test Center at the airport we have special benefits to boost pilot training;. One of them is an automated truck that allows pilots to practice strafing on realistic, moving targets,” he said. “Helicopter pilots can also practice brown outs – where visibility on landing is significantly lowered due to dust in the air.”

“Another requirement for the pilots going to war is to be able to work with Predator before deploying – we have that too,” Colonel Butler said. Arizona’s 214th Reconnaissance Group is one

of only five Guard units actively employing the Predator.

“The 214th allows visiting aircrew to observe real-world Predator missions and learn the capabilities and limitations of the system so that they can integrate more effectively in combat,” said Colonel Carpenter.

But the real advantage of Snowbird is the flexibility to give the pilots just what they need before going to war.

“They create their own training list and book the ranges through the 56th Range Management Office in Phoenix. We are the liaisons – we put together their request. In essence, we are a shell to assist as needed and ensure 100 percent mission accomplishment,” said Tech. Sgt. Brian Petrie, range scheduler.

“The main value is the pilots can work on what they need to do. If they need to drop a particular

type of ordnance for training we’ll make it possible here,” said Colonel Butler.

“Also, because the pilots we are training are going to war we have first priority for use of the ranges,” he said. “That’s really significant because it eliminates a lot of scheduling conflicts.”

Working to ensure American Airmen come home safely after they serve overseas is something Snowbird officials say the Guard can be proud of – its worth can’t be assessed in dollars.

Snowbird operations today have evolved so much in the past decade. It is truly something Tucsonans can stand up and say “I’m proud to have Snowbird here – to know we supported the efforts to bring our Guardsmen home safe.”





McKinley: National Guard a great value for America

by Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) -- In response to Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates' effort to find efficiencies throughout the services, National Guard officials are taking a hard look at how they operate.

Gen. Craig R. McKinley kicked this off by releasing a report titled, "The National Guard: A Great Value for America," which will guide efforts to improve efficiency at the National Guard Bureau and push resources to the operational force.

In May, Secretary Gates called for a 2 to 3 percent reduction in overhead costs in the fiscal 2012 budget request with the money saved being dedicated to force structure.

The National Guard plays an important role in achieving the secretary's goals, said General McKinley, the chief of the National Guard Bureau.

The National Guard adds value to America by supporting domestic missions and defending our nation's interests overseas with our active-duty counterparts, he said.

"While America's military represents a balance between what this country needs to guarantee its security and what we can afford, the National Guard delivers an exceptional value in this security equation," General McKinley said.

In 2010, the Army National Guard has consumed less than 11 percent of the Army's budget while providing almost 40 percent of the Army's operating force, Guard officials said. The Air National Guard has operated on less than 7 percent of the Air Force's budget during this fiscal year, and it currently comprises about one-third of the Air Force's capability.



General McKinley

"These same forces also stand ready to save lives and ease suffering at home because of our National Guard's 'dual mission' nature," General McKinley said. "Whatever people, expertise and equipment we maintain as America's operational reserve can also be used here on the home front in a variety of missions that directly benefit American citizens."

"As everyone in the Department of Defense continues to navigate this fiscally constrained environment, it is critical for defense planners and decision-makers to understand the great benefit that the National Guard brings as a dual-use military force," General McKinley said. "And rest assured that the National Guard is working to identify further efficiencies that offer even greater value to America."

After nearly 374 years of successfully meeting the nation's needs, General McKinley said National Guard officials intend to stay relevant for generations to come.

"As the Department of Defense continues to work innovative solutions to the changing fiscal and global security environments, it would be

hard to imagine what an America without its National Guard would look like," he said.

Here at home, the Guard's expertise includes the air superiority mission, which is performed by the Air National Guard, response to natural disasters across the country and emerging missions, such as security support on the southwest border and oil cleanup efforts in the Gulf of Mexico, Guard officials said.

Overseas, the Guard's presence is strongly felt as well. About three-quarters of today's National Guard have deployed in support of operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom, Guard officials said. Almost 25 percent of the Guard's current force has deployed more than once in support of these operations. Guardsmen are also serving in the Balkans, Guantanamo Bay and the Sinai.

"Together with the active components, we can fulfill critical overseas commitments that otherwise would simply be impossible to sustain," General McKinley said.

It also takes sacrifice from the Guard's Soldiers and Airmen and their families and employers, who must endure the long separations of a combat deployment, he said.

"Our value proposition, along with all we're called upon to do at home and abroad to keep Americans safe, makes for one potent force to confront America's enemies and hazards at home," General McKinley said. "I don't think there's ever been a better or more important time to be part of the Guard family, and I thank each family member from the bottom of my heart for all they do."

To view the entire report, go to: The National Guard: A great value for America: http://www.ng.mil/Images1/docs/Value_of_the_National_Guard.pdf.



Medical care available for all military retirees

by Chief Master Sgt. (ret.)
Barry Soulvie
Retirees Office

Retiree's health insurance – complete coverage available

Active duty and Active Guard Reserve (AGR) military personnel are covered for medical expenses through TriCare. This program ensures that full-time Air National Guard personnel will have a medical plan available during all phases of their military careers and into retirement.

A TriCare plan is also available for ANG Gray-Area retirees prior to age 60. It's called TriCare Retired Reserve. For information go to www.tricare.mil/trr or call TriWest at 1-888-874-9378.

Federal civil service employees are provided medical insurance through the Federal Employees Health Benefit (FEHB) program while working and may continue this coverage after retirement with no change in cost.

All ANG military retirees are eligible to continue, or sign up for, health insurance coverage through TriCare at age 60. TriWest is the TriCare west region provider. For information visit TriWest on-line at www.triwest.com, call 1-888-874-9378, or visit the TriCare Service Center at the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base Clinic, building 400.

There is a change in medical coverage for all retirees at age 65. At that time Medicare becomes the primary medical plan. Since Medicare has limitations to its coverage, most people sign up for a Medicare supplement insurance plan that enhances medical coverage and helps fill gaps in Medicare. For military retirees TriCare For

Life (TFL) becomes the Medicare supplement plan. Eligibility for TFL requires signing up for Medicare Part B at age 65. There is no additional charge for TFL. For details on TFL call Wisconsin Physicians Service at 1-866-773-0404 or go on-line to www.tricare4u.com.

Dental and vision insurance options for retirees

Unfortunately, there are some items not covered in the Medicare/TFL system.

Two areas that affect most people are the limited coverage for dental and vision care. The only dental and vision procedures covered are for those called adjunctive care. This generally means coverage only for injuries to eyes or teeth that are caused by a traumatic accident or a related illness.

Routine care is not covered; consequently, if you want insurance coverage for dental procedures such as routine exams, x-rays, fillings, crowns, etc.; or vision procedures such as routine eye exams and glasses or contact lenses, there is a need for additional supplemental insurance.

Fortunately, ANG retirees have some viable options to obtain supplemental insurance. These plans are in addition to the normal Medicare/TFL covered services so there is a fee for these services.

TriCare has a program, administered through Delta Dental, which provides the opportunity for military retirees to sign up for supplemental dental insurance. Information on this plan is readily available on-line at www.trdp.org or call 1-888-838-8737. You can sign up for this plan at any time as there is no open season.

ANG retirees who are also former federal civil service employees have another option available. Supplemental dental, and also vision, insurance can be purchased through

Retiree Remembered

Tom Julian passed away recently. Retirees may remember Tom from his position in Maintenance Training. Sincere condolences are extended to Tom's family and friends. His name has been added to the 162nd memorial.

Fall 2010 Events:

Oct. 13, Semi-Annual Retirees Luncheon. HomeTown Buffet on Wilmot Rd. in Tucson. 11:00 a.m. (This event held in lieu of breakfast on this date)

Nov. 6, Annual Awards and Hometown Hero Ceremony, on base, Hangar 10, 12 p.m.

Nov. 7, Annual Steak Fry, on base, 12 p.m.

Nov. 10, Monthly Breakfast, HomeTown Buffet on Wilmot Rd. 7:30 a.m.

Dec. 8, Monthly Breakfast, HomeTown Buffet on Wilmot Rd. 7:30 a.m.

the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP), administered through the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

This program has several options to choose from for both dental and vision insurance providers. All retired federal civil service employees (annuitants), and their eligible family members, may sign up for FEDVIP. Being currently enrolled in FEHB is not required. For information on these programs call 1-877-888-3337 or go on-line to www.benefeds.com.

Although information is available on the FEDVIP programs any time, sign-up is limited to the Annual Federal Benefits Open Season. The 2010 open season will be from Nov 8 to Dec 13. Now is the time to check out these programs -- before the 2010 open season begins.



All in the EL TIGRE Family

Military Promotions:

To Senior Master Sergeant

Brandi Watkins, Civil Engineering

To Tech. Sergeant

Raymond Valles, Comm Flight
Leonard Moreno, LRS
Sean Ehlert, LRS
Scott Finn, 214th RG
Dennis Wheatley, Maintenance
Wendall Jones, Headquarters
Raynaldo Fuentes, LRS
Zachary Stewart, Maintenance
Ana Bojorquez, Headquarters
James Gilbert, Aircraft Maintenance
Danny Pacheco, Maintenance
Dianhyram Soto, LRS

To Staff Sergeant

Jeffrey Palmiero, Maintenance
Sandra Usita, 214th RG
Kristen Taskila, Maintenance
Jonathon Aguilar, 195th FS
Jason Adams, 214th RG
Veronica Ornelas, Maintenance

John Knepp, Maintenance
Virginia Shott, Force Support
Johnathan Foulkrod, Weather Flight

To Senior Airman

Justin Gervais, Maintenance
Leslie Ramirez, Force Support
Evan Ortiz, Maintenance
Laryssa Morales, Maintenance
Nichole Knight, Security Forces
Christopher Esparza, LRS
Andrew Cznarnowski, Comm Flight
Gregory Leyba, Civil Engineering

To Airman

Gregory Ferreira, Mission Support
Vanessa Fitzsimmons, Force Support

Births

Master Sgt. Phil Watson and Staff Sgt. Dana Watson welcomed their daughter Helia Catherina Aug. 27. She was 7.6 pounds and 19.5 inches.

Tech. Sgt. Marina Leyba and her family welcomed her new son Matthew

Christopher July 31. He weighed 8 pounds 15 ounces and was 20.5 inches.

Staff Sgt. Danny Watton and his wife Lauren welcomed their son Finnegan Daniel Aug. 13. He weighed 6 pounds 12 ounces and was 19.5 inches.

Staff Sgt. Eric Larson and his wife Rachel welcomed their daughter Ally Aug. 29.

Tech. Sgt. David Pazak and his wife Amanda welcomed son Garret David Sept. 11. He weighed 8 pounds 1 ounce.

Tech. Sgt. Alvin Conde and his wife Marion Ben welcomed their son Brennen Aug. 10. He weighed 7 pounds 2 ounces and was 19 inches.

Staff Sgt. Jeff Ubry and his wife Nancy welcomed their son Mason Aug. 6.

Wing Quarterly Award winners: 2nd Quarter 2010

Read about their accomplishments at 162fw.ang.af.mil/quarterlyawards.



SrA Jonathan Jackson
162FW Airman of the Quarter
Apr - Jun 2010



TSgt Nicole Thomae
162FW NCO of the Quarter
Apr - Jun 2010



MSgt David Hollis
162FW SNCO of the Quarter
Apr - Jun 2010



Maj Patrick McClelland
162FW Officer of the Quarter
Apr - Jun 2010



Farewell to a Minuteman, friend

Ora Mae Harn, the “Matriarch of Marana,” succumbed to cancer. She was 77.

She was a founding member of the 162nd Fighter Wing Minuteman Committee and served since 1992.

She will always be remembered for her selfless dedication to the people and mission of the 162nd.



Ora Mae Harn

**Nov. 8, 1932 -
July 29, 2010**

WEPTAC conference October 18-22

The Air National Guard Air Force Reserve Command Test Center (AATC) will host the annual Weapons and Tactics Conference (WEPTAC) here, Oct. 18-22.

The conference theme this year is “Legacy Platforms, Future Fight.”

WEPTAC is an important event involving the 162nd Fighter Wing’s direct support of the rest of the Air Reserve Component convening on base. This year’s WEPTAC is of vital importance as Guardsmen and Reservists continue operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the topics set for discussion are strongly affected by feedback from warfighters in theater.

During the week-long conference, more than 1,000 Reserve component and active duty members will assemble for the event to attend briefings and discussions throughout the base and working groups will discuss the tactical development and modernization planning for the future of their respective airframes.

“Through this conference AATC gathers experts from all weapon systems at one time to discuss and prioritize modernization requirements and testing of equipment and tactics for the current war and to prepare for future conflicts,” said AATC Commander Col. Richard Dennee. “The conference helps the test center focus on the warfighter’s needs so we can get them what they need quickly and efficiently,” he said.

On a local level, WEPTAC gives the 162nd a chance to interact with Airmen from around the world said Col. Ted Maxwell, wing vice commander.

“WEPTAC is a great opportunity for the Guard and for our wing. It provides everyone some time to exchange ideas and reestablish relationships,” he said. “Each year we’re given a chance to show our fellow Guardsmen and Reservists what a great unit we are. I ask everyone to welcome our guests and help out in any way you can to make it another success.”

AATC has reserved meeting rooms and facilities throughout the base, with some scheduled at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

Everyone on base is reminded of the following:

- Parking will be limited during WEPTAC and everyone should plan accordingly.
- Be aware of customs and courtesies as numerous senior leaders will attend the conference.
- Most attendees will be in constant contact with their units via cell phone, however be prepared to assist guests with finding and using base telephones.
- Should someone need a pen, paper, a fax machine, printer or driving directions, be prepared to help.

For more information about WEPTAC please visit www.aatc.ang.af.mil/weptac.

Tig Bits

SAFWPIC Scholarship

The Southern Arizona Federal Women’s Interagency Council is pleased to announce its annual educational scholarship award. The Council will offer one or more scholarships to current federal employees. The dollar amount of each scholarship will be approximately \$1,000 but may vary based on numerous factors. Download the application at 162fw.ang.af.mil.

Uniform Website

The Air Force launched a new public website to help educate and inform Airmen about the service’s dress and appearance standards and policies. Visit the Air Force Dress and Appearance public website at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dress/index.asp>.

Concealed Weapons

The new Arizona weapons law that took effect July 29 makes it legal for most people over the age of 21 to carry a concealed weapon without a permit - in most places. One place the law doesn’t apply is here at the 162nd Fighter Wing. When on base, the commander’s policy is that privately owned firearms or weapons brought onto the installation will be kept inside the vehicle in a locked glove compartment, trunk, or other suitable locked container. For more information, consult 162 Fighter Wing Instruction 31-101.



October

SATURDAY

Yankee Pot Roast
Herbed Baked Fish
Steamed Rice
Mashed Potatoes
Brown Gravy
Peas & Carrots
Green Beans
Calico Corn
Peanut Butter Cookies
Cheese Cake w/Fruit Topping

SUNDAY

Grilled Bratwurst
Jagerschnitzel (veal with mushroom sauce)
German Potato Salad
Sauerkraut
Buttered Noodles
Steamed Broccoli
Carrots Amandine
Steamed Corn
German Chocolate Cake w/Coconut Pecan Frosting
Fruit Crisp

November

SATURDAY

Breakfast (Annual Awards Day)

Bacon
Ham Steak
Scrambled Eggs
Hash Browns
Freach Toast
Biscuits and Gravy
Coffee Cake
Fresh Fruit*
Assorted Bread
Assorted Beverages

Served 6:30 - 8:45 a.m.

SUNDAY

Steak Fry
Grilled Steaks
Chicken
Pinto Beans
Salsa
Tortillas
Potato Salad
Macaroni Salad
Assorted Cookies
Assorted Beverages

Begins at 12 p.m.

December

SATURDAY

Cost for AGRs & Officers \$7

Roast Turkey *
Honey Baked Ham
Steamship Round
Turkey Gravy
Savory Bread Dressing
Mashed Potatoes
Glazed Yams
Steamed Corn
Green Beans w/Mushrooms
Glazed Carrots
Pecan Pie
Cherry Pie

SUNDAY

Meatloaf
Baked Chicken
O'Brien Potatoes
Rice Pilaf
Brown Gravy
Succotach
Mixed Vegetables
Green Beans
Chocolate Cake
Fruit Crisp
Chicken Rice Soup

SHORT ORDER & STANDARD ITEMS EACH MONTH

Grilled Hamburgers/Cheeseburgers
Hot Dogs
Grilled Chicken sandwich
Chicken Strips
Special ITEM TBD
Tuna Sandwich
Baked Beans
French Fries
Onion Rings
Baked Potato Bar
Assorted Breads
Assorted Desserts
Frozen Yogurt
Jell-o
Salad Bar w/Condiments *
Fresh Fruit
Assorted Beverages

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

* "CHECK IT OUT PROGRAM" is an Air Force wide nutrition education program implemented in Air Force-operated food facilities. This nutrition education program will consist of providing healthier food choice items for our patrons.

The menu is based on availability and is subject to change without notice. Try our recorded menu at 295-6460.

2010 UTA Schedule
January 9-10
February 6-7
March 13-14
April 10-11
May 1-2
June 5-6
July 10-11
August 7-8
September 11-12
October 2-3
November 6-7
December 4-5

- 1. Clip this page.
2. Post it in a visible place.
3. It's a helpful reminder that looks cool all year.

162ND FIGHTER WING

2011 UTA SCHEDULE

JANUARY	8 - 9
FEBRUARY	5 - 6
MARCH	5 - 6
APRIL	2 - 3
MAY	14 - 15
JUNE	4 - 5
JULY	9 - 10
AUGUST	6 - 7
SEPTEMBER	10 - 11
OCTOBER	1 - 2
NOVEMBER	5 - 6
DECEMBER	3 - 4



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