

‘Swap Foxes’ trade places mid-AEF

About 200 Swamp Foxes traded places last month. Close to 100 members of the wing reported for duty in Afghanistan, releasing an equal number of folks to return home at the Operation Enduring Freedom deployment’s midpoint.

At the send-off for the second wave of deployers, wing commander Col. Mike Hudson said, “This is a big day for us. We are the only unit in the Air Force that can have a full allowance of jets down range, while maintaining our Aerospace Control Alert mission and other flying requirements here at home.

“Everybody should be proud of what they have done to get ready for this day.”

TSgt. Sachet Ratulowski, who handles flying schedules for 169th Maintenance Management, said she was looking forward to the experience though she will miss her children. “My husband, who is stationed at Shaw, recently returned from deployment, and now I’m leaving. It’s a challenge.”

Ratulowski finds comfort in knowing she can Skype with family members regularly.

As a matter of fact, Hudson encourages the use of social media and electronic technology to keep in contact with families at home. “You’ve got no excuse for not keeping up with your family with all the Internet technology, Skype and phones available,” he said. “Just be very careful about the specific details you post online.”

Hudson also reminded the deployers that they are privileged to travel half-way around the world to influence world affairs. “It might not seem like a big deal now, but, 15 years from now, you’re going to remember these days,” he said. “This is likely to be one of the highlights of your career or even your life.”

MSgt. Ritchie Sprowls, 169th Maintenance Squadron, said he looks forward to representing the SCANG on the national



(Photo by TSgt. Caycee Cook, 169th FW/PA - Deployed)

Members of the 169th Fighter Wing arrive at Kandahar Airfield in June 10 to begin the second half of the unit’s Air Expeditionary Force deployment. Swamp Fox F-16s, pilots, and support personnel took over flying missions and began providing close air support in Afghanistan in April.



(Photo by TSgt. Stephen Hudson, 169th FW/PA)

Distinguished Visitors

Col. Michael Manning, 169th Fighter Wing vice commander, briefs U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham (left) and U.S. Representative Joe Wilson on the capabilities of the SCANG’s F-16s, the Aerospace Control Alert mission and the ongoing deployment in Afghanistan.

— See Swap-out, page 5

Commander's Corner



Maj. Brian Doyle
169th MOF Commander



At a remote airfield, a pair of F-16 “Viper” fighter aircraft zooms overhead, turning left on knife’s edge as they get into the landing pattern. Amidst the fleeting sound of the jet engines overhead, the chirp and whine of landing gear coming down on the two airborne fighters signal their intentions to land.

As they make their downwind leg, two more jets gracefully land on the small runway in front of the flightline. Soon after that, two F-16s begin to taxi onto the flightline parking ramp as the crew chiefs signal their parking location.

The flightline is loud; the high pitched sound of air being forced into the jet intake mixed with the blast of thrust coming from the back of the jet is deafening, but a rich sound of power.

Through the heat waves generated by the hot exhaust from the back of the engines, weapons crews stand near the aircraft with

munitions ready to load. As the aircraft shut down, the flightline stays alive with the smell of jet exhaust and the sound of big JP-8 fuel trucks rumbling by for refueling operations, while the whine of a weapons jammer lift truck is heard from the weapons loading teams.

Diesel tow vehicles from AGE growl past pulling equipment to Avionics personnel who are repairing a radar system, then to Sheet Metal fixing a panel. Hundreds of repair jobs are scheduled, loaded and tracked simultaneously by other personnel in MOC and PS&D.

Soon, two more aircraft start up and taxi to the end of the runway. Blinking white anti-collision lights are seen moving across the runway as they get into position for takeoff. A whine, then blast is heard as a turbojet engine spools up. The afterburner superheats the air, sending deafening sound waves that shake the ground and vibrate chests as the

jet blasts by and becomes airborne, en route to the fight.

To many, this scene might sound like something out of a movie, but it’s actually what the 169th Maintenance Group does every day and at every drill!

The maintenance generation of just one sortie is amazing to watch; each person vital to the team. Air Force Core Values of Integrity, Service Before Self and Excellence must be in play on the flightline for safety and quality reasons. However, in addition to Core Values, a few other attributes should be expected of teams to improve performance. I would like to introduce a leadership model called C-Cubed or C3.

Initially, the concrete foundation of our Core Values must exist on the team and within all individuals. This is the base for C3. On top of this foundation, Conviction, Commitment and Courage are built.

First, our members should have a Conviction (or passion) to be on the team. Coaches call this “heart,” and it often shows in the form of a positive attitude.

Secondly, Commitment is expected—or perseverance. We must fight through mental or physical challenges to ultimately succeed while still supporting our team.

Lastly, we want to foster “Courage.” Being “professionally pushy” when needed demands a certain amount of boldness so risks might be taken for the greater good. It is never comfortable, but always necessary.

Lastly, the very top of C3 is “Stay Focused.” Don’t let distractions hinder your progress toward accomplishment.

Those who live by the foundation of our Core Values and demonstrate C3 while staying focused are high performers. Leaders at all levels should strive to improve their teams by measuring and improving them with a tool like this and, of course, by leading by example.

C3 can be used in all facets of life. Think about students battling a tough semester or maybe consider your family relationships. Conviction, Commitment and Courage ... while staying focused.

When I walk the flightline or through the shops of McEntire, I always am in awe of the Swamp Fox team. Thank you for your hard work; it is truly noticed.

On a personal note, I want to thank Lt. Col. Chris Shannon, a former boss of mine, for introducing C3 so I might pass it you. I truly hope it helps you become a better leader and/or follower.

As always, Semper Primus!

SCANG (ACC)
McEntire Joint National
Guard Base
1325 South Carolina Road
Eastover, SC 29044-5010

Col. Calvin Elam
Assistant AG for Air

Col. Mike Hudson
Commander, 169th FW

Lt. Col. Michael Dunkin
Commander, 245th ATCS

Lt. Col. Les Carroll
Public Affairs Officer, 169th FW

SMSgt. Ed Snyder
Superintendent, Public Affairs

Maj. Jim Roth
TSgt. Caycee Cook
TSgt. Stephen Hudson
Editors

Lt. Col. Jim St. Clair
MAJ Cindi King
MSgt. Pelham Myers, Jr.
SSgt. Jorge Intriago
Writers

The SCANG News is the official newsletter published by and for the members of the South Carolina Air National Guard. The contents of The SCANG News are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the US government, DoD, Department of the Air Force or the SCANG.

Official Mission Statement of the 169th Fighter Wing: To provide a trained and equipped citizen fighting force that exceeds the capability of any Guard, Reserve, or active-duty Air Force unit in the protection and defense of state and nation; to maintain the capability for worldwide deployment of combat-ready assets to meet contingency and general war requirements; to employ conventional munitions in close-air-support, interdiction, offensive counter-air, defensive counter attack, suppression of enemy air defenses and special capability AGM-65 Maverick missiles; to provide world-class units that are recognized as being the best of the best when directed by the governor to preserve and protect the life, property, peace and public safety of the citizens of South Carolina.

Submission of SCANG News material: Articles and photography are welcome and should be submitted prior to the deadline (see below). E-mail submissions to 169FW.PA.SCANGNews@ang.af.mil.

Tel: (803) 647-8208 FAX: (803) 647-8225

DSN: 583-8208

WWW.169fw.ang.af.mil

www.facebook.com

Deadline for the August issue is July 15



SCANG promotion opportunities are available!

Promotions are based on the need for qualified individuals and the extent to which folks prepare themselves to meet those needs. The organization's needs are always changing, but the need for qualified individuals to fill them is constant.

Promotions recognize excellence in past performance and expectations of increased contributions to the organization through added responsibility. Both these factors are basic career needs for motivated Airmen. To get a need met takes action on the individual's part. I hope you read carefully ... "get" is a verb that requires effort by the individual. I did not use the word "give." Most of the time, the competition to be promoted is stiff, and it's up to you to be prepared.

Is there a best way to become qualified? Yes! The way to become qualified for promotion is clearly defined, and it's no secret. Like everything these days, you can find it on Google at <http://www.af.mil/shared/media/epubs/AFI36-2618.pdf>. No government network. No CAC card required.

Here are the AFIs in order of requirements you should understand to get your promotion to the next rank. The three instructions below are the road map. They represent about 100 pages of instructions and references. They all start with "COMPLIANCE WITH THIS INSTRUCTION IS MANDATORY." Ignoring

any part of the instruction is not an option. When reading each of the AFIs, remember your supervisors and commanders are looking at your growth with these instructions as their reference.

First in importance is AFI 36-2618, The Enlisted Force Structure (commonly known as "The Little Brown Book"). This instruction is not "I did that once or I only did not do it once." This is the "I do it all the time even when no one is looking" instruction. It covers organization tiers, leadership and development tiers, specific responsibilities and general responsibilities. This is your plan. Do not over think it; just execute it. If you are doing what is required in AFI 36-2618, you are ready for ANGI 36-2502.

ANGI 36-2502, Promotion of Airmen, contains the rules of how to promote and determine promotion eligibility. This ANGI covers promotion criteria, minimum time in grade and minimum time in service in the Air Guard. It also describes the Air Guard promotion programs, including Position Vacancy Promotion, Deserving Airman Promotion Program and the Exceptional Promotion Program. The DAPP is an opportunity only for those highly qualified and most deserving Airmen based on demonstrated potential. The EPP is not an extension of the DAPP, but a competitive process used for selecting nominees. EPP was developed to provide promotion opportunities to senior and chief master sergeant for truly exceptional



traditional Guard enlisted leaders where vacant Unit Manning Document authorizations do not exist.

Finally, to really understand any program you need to have the big picture. ANGI 36-2101, Assignments Within the Air National Guard, is that big picture. It covers maintaining strength and grade manning.

It is extremely rare that promotion opportunities go unfilled in the SCANG. Sadly, there are occasions when individuals failed to prepare themselves for these opportunities. Remember, being prepared for promotion is not a chore; it is an integral part of our service to country and a great opportunity to expand our horizons!



Recruiting & Retention

Military Personnel Summary

Strength

Officers:	
Authorized	138
Assigned	132
Percent Manned	95.7%
Enlisted:	
Authorized	1191
Assigned	1192
Percent Manned	100.1%
Total:	
Authorized	1329
Assigned	1324
Percent Manned	99.6%

(as of June 29th, 2012)

Recruiting/Retention

Gains:	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Prior	0	16
Non-Prior	3	52
Total	3	68
Losses:		
ETS	2	11
Discharge	2	42
Medical	0	0
Resignation	0	3
Retirement	6	27
Transfer	0	16
Other	0	2
Total	10	101
Net Gain/Loss	-7	-33

Recruiting Progress We're at 99.6 percent!



We must maintain 100% strength through 2012!
Recruit & Retain!

There are many positions open for immediate recruiting...

Honoring their memory and service

SMSgt. Jamey Edwards



9 December 1960 ~ 17 May 2012

TSgt. Kenny Moore



17 August 1975 ~ 14 June 2012



For Your Information ...

HRE/POSH training

This mandatory training will be held at 0930 Saturday of July drill in the 245th Air Traffic Control Squadron auditorium.

2nd Annual Diversity Day

The time of year when McEntire recognizes the many contributions and accomplishments of the diverse groups that make up the SCANG is swiftly approaching. The Diversity Day celebration Sept. 8 at 3 p.m. is a tribute to various cultures, featuring music, dance, food and informative displays. Members who would like to help coordinate the event should contact MSgt Selina Chavez at 803-647-8200 or selina.chavez@ang.af.mil (by July 15).

DOD drug testing expanded

All DoD Forensic Toxicology Drug Testing Laboratories are expanding military drug testing of urinalysis specimens submitted to DoD labs for the more commonly abused prescription drugs hydrocodone and benzodiazepine. Service members using prescription medications without a valid prescription or in a manner not prescribed by their health care provider are encouraged to voluntarily seek medical treatment and/or rehabilitation on a self-referral basis before the initiation of increased testing for these

drugs. Military members seeking substance use counseling can talk to their doctor, chain of command or self-refer to the substance abuse programs in their service. Military One Source can provide confidential assessment and counseling to military personnel and their families and can be contacted at 1-800-342-9647 or www.militaryonesource.com/mos/about/counselingservices.aspx.

Web-HA mandatory for PHAs

SCANG members must complete their Web Health Assessments on-line. The standard paper questionnaire is no longer offered. WHAs are due during birth months but can be completed up to two months sooner (but no later than one week before that month's drill. Contact SMSgt. Candace Cox, 803-647-8296.

New NCOA Course (00015)

The Noncommissioned Officers Academy correspondence course has been updated from Course 00009 to Course 00015. Enrollments in Course 00009 before Feb. 1 remain intact (those members can complete Course 00009).

Veterans Job Assistance

The Vow to Hire Heroes Act of 2011, was included in the Veterans Retraining

Assistance Program. VRAP has begun accepting applications for unemployed 35-60 year-old veterans in the new retraining assistance program, May 15th. The program officially starts, July 1st. This program will offer to eligible participants up to 12 months of training at the full-time payment rate as dictated by the Montgomery GI Bill, currently \$1,473 per month. For additional information about VOW and VRAP, visit <http://benefits.va.gov/vow/education.htm>.

Ideas wanted

Have an idea to improve McEntire? Send it to the Community Action Information Board. The CAIB meets quarterly to improve the quality of life for Airmen on McEntire. Submit suggestions to 169FW.CAIB@ang.af.mil.

Job Openings

The 169th Medical Group is seeking a Unit Training Manager. Current training manager experience preferred. This is an E-5 position. Contact SMSgt. Candace Cox, 803-647-8296.

NGB's senior enlisted leader visits 'ones who wear the stripes'

The senior enlisted leader for the National Guard Bureau spent half a day at McEntire last month during her whirlwind tour of South Carolina National Guard installations. That tour began in Myrtle Beach where she had dinner with enlisted leaders and made an appearance at the SCANG's Yellow Ribbon event. She visited several McEntire facilities, addressed a standing-room-only crowd of Airmen in the 245th ATCS auditorium and had lunch with recent award winners before leaving McEntire for the SCNG's McCrady Training Center.

CMSgt. Denise Jelinski-Hall is responsible for advising the Chief of the National Guard Bureau on enlisted matters affecting training and utilization, health of the force and enlisted professional development of National Guard Soldiers and Airmen. She is the first Air Guard chief to hold the position.

"I'm a Guardsman, and I'm proud to be an Airmen," she said, during her town hall forum. "I'm also very proud to represent you and your concerns at the national level, which really is my primary role." She said her job is to work for the enlisted Soldiers and Airmen of the National Guard – "the ones who wear the stripes."

Col. Mike Hudson, 169th Fighter Wing commander, said it was a real privilege to have the chief visit McEntire. He told the enlisted call participants, "I would recommend her to you as a mentor for your careers, along with the fine chiefs we have here. Take a look at these folks, see how they got to this level in their military careers and emulate them."

While addressing the audience at McEntire, Jelinski-Hall quizzed the gathered Airmen on the birthday of the Guard and challenged them to reflect on its heritage. She mentioned how the organization has evolved greatly since its original inception and factored so prominently into the events of the past 20 years, specifically America's response to 9/11.



(Photo by SSgt. Jorge Intriago, 169th FW/PA)

CMSgt. Denise Jelinski-Hall, Senior Enlisted Leader of the National Guard Bureau, speaks to Airmen of the SCANG and 169th FW, June 3, 2012. She spent the day visiting McEntire JNGB units and had lunch with the SCNG 2011 Outstanding Airmen and Soldiers of the Year.

"I saw at the Yellow Ribbon event how your families are standing strong while their loved-ones are away," said Jelinski-Hall. "You are our nation's heroes, but your families are the unsung heroes who must be prepared. It's tough being the ones left behind."

She also spoke of the significance of the Air Guard having one of its own, Gen. Craig R. McKinley, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, seated on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. She said this means the collective voice of Guardsmen is being heard at the highest levels.

Jelinski-Hall said, "The enlisted must be safe, and be the best Airmen possible in all things, both technical and PME. We also must have our chief's and senior's leading from the front by keeping our Airmen focused on the mission while they assume the responsibility of sorting out all other issues."

She said some of the primary social issues of greatest concern within Guard leadership are suicides, sexual assaults, substance

abuse and hazing. Jelinski-Hall said, "We are a more mature force, and I expect a zero tolerance for all these issues. We must seek assistance from the available resources and utilize our battle-buddies and wingmen so these issues don't become obstacles."

"We are expected to have the highest standards and ethics and this doesn't change as the stripes go up. I expect greatness from each and every one of you," she said.

Jelinski-Hall enlisted in the Air Force in 1984, and completed Air Traffic Control Training at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska in 1986. In 2004, she was selected to serve as the Command Chief in the Hawaii Air Guard, and, in 2006, was selected as their Command Chief Master Sergeant. Before assuming her current position, she served as the State Senior Enlisted Leader for the Hawaii National Guard.

And, by the way, the birthday of the National Guard is December 13, 1636.

(Story by MSgt. Pelham Myers Jr., 169th FW/PA)

Swap-out, continued from page 1

scope. Sprowls said, "I want to use this opportunity to improve my NCO abilities, and bring back as much as possible to making my entire unit better."

The wing deployed more than a dozen F-16s and 400 personnel to Afghanistan in April, including pilots, maintenance specialists, and support staff. According to Col. David Meyer, deputy operations group commander while deployed to Kandahar, the swap-out allows traditional Guard members, who might have time constraints from their civilian jobs to deploy for a shorter period of time.


That swap-out culminated June 23 when the nearly 100 members

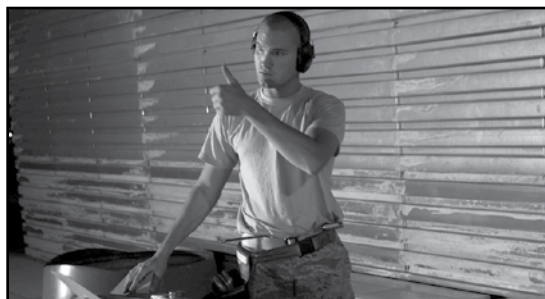
scheduled to be replaced returned to McEntire.

This deployment is the wing's largest since Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, and the fourth major deployment of its F-16s since 2002 when the Swamp Foxes deployed to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and flew more than 200 combat missions in the early days of the Afghan Campaign. The wing also deployed in 2003 and 2010 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

(Story by MSgt. Pelham Myers Jr., 169th FW/PA)



 **AEF - Swamp**



Milestone: 4,000 hours for “Cleetus”

Lt.Col. Scott “Cleetus” Bridgers recently joined the elite class of F-16 Fighting Falcon pilots to cross the 4000-hour flying threshold, stepping to his aircraft with nearly 3,996 hours in the seat of a Viper and landing with 4,000.5.

Bridgers is deployed to Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He achieved the milestone while providing armed overwatch for troops in contact with enemy ground forces.

“I was honored to be able to reach my 4000th hour during a contingency operation, supporting the coalition forces on the ground,” said Bridgers.

After graduating F-16 pilot training at MacDill AFB in 1992, Bridgers completed active duty assignments at Shaw and Osan Air Force Bases before joining the 157th Fighter Squadron at McEntire JNGB in 1999. He has flown 2,391 F-16 sorties; 166 of them amounted to more than 720 combat hours.

Bridgers’ landmark sortie makes him the third McEntire pilot to reach such a significant achievement in his career. He has deployed and flown in four Operation Southern Watch assignments, twice in support of Operation Northern Watch as well as twice each for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

He is an Instructor Pilot, and currently serves as the 169th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander at McEntire.

“Over here in Afghanistan, I’m just a fighter pilot again,” he said. “At home, I don’t fly as much because of my role as the 169th AMXS Commander and the challenges that come with leading such a busy squadron.”

Bridgers said he enjoys flying such a multi-role aircraft. “Working with the F-16 and being able to fly several different missions, with air-to-air or air-ground capabilities, is challenging. And that’s what I enjoy ... having to remain proficient for the numerous operations we might support.”

Though he already has set his sights on his next viper milestone of 5,000 flying hours, Bridgers said his main focus once he returns will be leading the 169th AMXS and being a good officer and leader to his Airmen.



(Photos & Story by TSgt. Caycee Cook, 169th FW/PA - Deployed)

Fox Scrapbook



Selected as a Kandahar
“Warrior of the Week”

Rank/Name: SrA Glen Delozier

Job Title/Responsibilities:

- Hydraulics Journeyman. Inspects, tests and repairs aircraft hydraulic components on the aircraft and in the backshop

What do you do on your downtime?

- Running on the track, reading his Kindle and Skyping with his wife Dioni

What is your favorite part of being deployed?

- Having a great team in Phase to work with

Best service memory and why:

- Snipe hunting. Everyone from Security Forces up to the squadron commander got involved to convince me it was real. They showed me a “Snipe Hunting License” that needed to be signed after a “Safety Briefing.”

Hometown: Rockledge, Fla.

Wing Safety stresses summer caution

The Wing Safety Office is emphasizing summer safety and encouraging Airmen and their families to stay safe this summer when more people take to the highways and water. Memorial Day weekend was the unofficial start of summer and the beginning of the Critical Days which runs until Labor Day.

The objective of the Air Force Critical Days of Summer Campaign 2012 is to call attention to the tragic loss and/or injury of Airmen during the summertime and to make Airmen realize that safety is personal for them, their families, friends and co-workers. Since fiscal year 2002, the Air Force has

experienced 218 fatalities during the Critical Days of Summer (201 off duty, 17 on duty).

MSgt. J.J. Jones with the Wing's Safety Office, said this year's vision is to ensure all Airmen have zero preventable fatal mishaps and an injury-free summer.

During the summer months, the chance for Air Force personnel to experience a mishap or fatality increases, so supervisors at all levels are encouraged to engage their Airmen and ensure they understand their role in mitigating risk for themselves and their families.

The Critical Days safety campaign goes

beyond operating cars and motorcycles. The safety staff will be emphasizing safety for boating, sun exposure and avoiding heat related injuries, countering fatigue, and not driving while intoxicated. The Safety Office will provide Critical Days of Summer briefs to Unit Safety Representatives and supervisors to brief all personnel.

"Our shared goal is that the SCANG, the Air National Guard, and the Air Force suffer no losses and have an injury free summer this year, on or off duty," Jones said.

(Story by TSgt. Stephen Hudson, 169th FW/PA)

STARBASE Swamp Fox has another record year

STARBASE Swamp Fox, a Department of Defense math and science program for 5th graders held at McEntire, set an attendance record this year and surpassed over 1,000 students served for the second year in a row.

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) John "Coach" Motley, the program's director, said, "I can hardly believe we are at the close of another school year. Time really does 'fly' when you are having fun.

"Not only are the students having fun but our instructors are making a difference in these children's lives."

The DoD's vision statement for STARBASE is to raise interest and improve the knowledge of skills of at-risk youth in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, which will provide for a highly educated and skilled American workforce who can meet the advanced technological requirements of DoD. The program at McEntire offers 25 hours of hands-on learning and experiments and includes a curriculum focusing on such topics as Newton's Laws of Motion, Bernoulli's Principles, and Properties of Air.

SCANG pilots and other personnel from McEntire participate in the program by serving as teachers, role models and mentors.

Secondary goals of the program include the promotion of healthy lifestyles and drug

avoidance. All this ties into the program's motto "Dreams + Action = Reality."

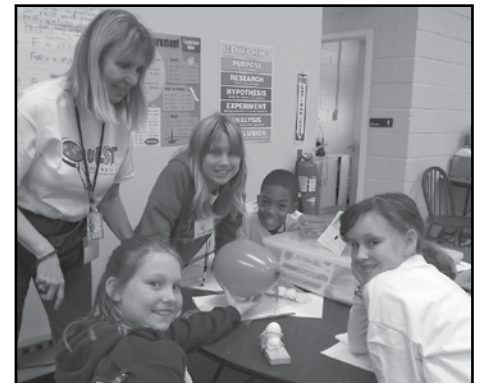
Students and STARBASE staff come up with their own "call-signs" during the program and the week of instruction culminates with the students building and launching their own model rockets.

This past academic year, STARBASE Swamp Fox served a record 1,098 students, 72 percent of whom the DoD classifies as "at-risk." STARBASE Swamp Fox taught 50 classes this year, and McEntire's program received an increase in their operating budget because of its increasing enrollment. The record attendance also allowed them to fund two part-time instructors.

Some of the new participating schools this year included Nursery Road Elementary School from Lexington-Richland Five School District, West Lee Elementary School from Lee County Schools, and Catawba Trail Elementary School, a new school from Richland School District Two.

Motley is quick to credit his staff, the instructors and the volunteers that make STARBASE Swamp Fox team such a success year after year. "We have an outstanding staff and great volunteers on McEntire.," he said. "'Lightning' Hiott, 'Sugarr' Banks, 'Mad Scientist' Willing, 'Sharkbite' Peraza and 'Boo' Brooks create an atmosphere that is both professional and personal as they adapt to each and every child. They build strong teacher-student relationships in the short period of time the students are at STARBASE.

"The volunteers who assist us on a weekly basis represent the icing on the cake as our students get to mingle with our military and civilian employees in various work centers



(Photo courtesy of STARBASE Swamp Fox)

Jodi "T-Bird" Thompson, a teacher at Catawba Trail Elementary from Elgin, observes her students working on the EGG-bert exercise, one of the many hands-on experiments the students conduct during their week at STARBASE Swamp Fox.

around the base," Motley said.

The schedule for the 2012-2013 school year has filled up and there's already a waiting list of schools who would like to participate, according to Lt.Col. (Ret.) Jim Hiott, the STARBASE Deputy Director. In the meantime, the STARBASE staff will be busy this summer preparing for next year as well as conducting their annual summer camp. This month, STARBASE Swamp Fox will host a four day summer camp for the children of SC National Guard members (rising 5th and 6th graders only) from July 17-20. Guard members who are interested having their children attend should contact Hiott at 803-647-8127 for more information.

(Story by Lt. Col. Jim St.Clair, JFHQ/PA)

STARBASE Swamp Fox 2011-2012 stats

- 1,098 students served
- 72% at-risk population
- 50 classes taught
- 23% average improvement on post assessment scores

KVG wreath project strengthens families

This project started out small. I made a wreath to put on my front door while my husband Ryan was deployed. I took that wreath to our next Key Volunteer Group meeting to see if anyone else wanted one for their door.

During the meeting, we were talking about fundraising and decided to make the wreaths and sell them. So I got to work, and I sold wreaths to the first people I saw ... my neighbors. I decided it would be a nice surprise when Ryan came home and saw our neighbors with wreaths on their doors! I explained the money was for the KVG, so we can do things for our Airmen and their families when they deploy, when they come home and as other needs arise. So, needless to say, they were all in!

The ideas continued while I was making the wreaths. I send Ryan an e-mail every night with a picture of something that happened during that day. It's like I am sending a little piece of home to him. Again I thought how neat would it be to have all the families stand outside and hold their wreaths and let that be his picture of the day!

I contacted a photographer who specializes in families and children, Willa Eve Photography, and told her my idea and asked her if she would be willing to help me. Rachel,



(Photo by Willa Eve Photography)

the owner, also is part of a military family, so she jumped on board.

We all gathered Memorial Day weekend and took a picture to send Ryan to show our support for not only him but all the troops. We wanted to show the troops who are home and deployed that the families in the Lake Frances Subdivision support our troops 100 percent.

I feel it is very important to tell not only my husband but all the troops who sacrifice time with their families that we don't forget

them when they are gone or when they are at home. We appreciate everything these men and women do for us, and I want all of them to know.

The wreaths have become quite popular. I have sold almost 50 by myself! I hope the families and Airmen understand that our volunteer group is here to help in any way we can!

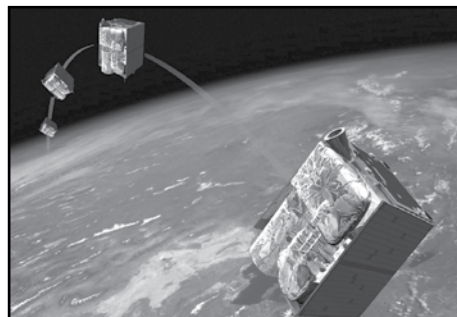
(Commentary by, Anne Plantin, wife of TSgt. Ryan Plantin from the 169th AMXS)

EV4 Acquires RapidEye Satellite Imagery

The SCANG's Eagle Vision IV (EV4) Tactical Mobile Satellite Ground Station is now able to downlink raw imagery directly from the RapidEye constellation of satellites. EV4 is the first and only RapidEye customer allowed to do so. Typically, RapidEye downloads its raw imagery to a data down-link station in Svalbard, Norway before delivering finished products to its customers. Being able to directly download raw imagery eliminates the middle-man processing and allows EV4 to provide imagery to its customers faster.

The advantage of using RapidEye is that it consists of five satellites equally spaced 40 minutes apart and each of the satellites follows the same sun-synchronous orbit. This configuration allows RapidEye to revisit the same locations everyday verses having to wait two to three days for a single satellite to revisit a specific location multiple times. Additionally, RapidEye is capable of providing 6 meter (m) resolution imagery, meaning that each pixel is an area of 6m by 6m.

EV4 is one of only five Tactical Mobile Satellite Ground Station owned by the Department of Defense (DOD) and is stationed at McEntire JNGB. The Eagle Vision program offers a service of producing near



real-time unclassified commercial imagery for use by various government agencies. First responders to disaster caused by hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, fires, etc. use the imagery to develop disaster response plans. These plans may include identifying the most logistically feasible routes into areas that need assistance, where to set up relief

aid stations for maximum effect, and where to set up command centers for effective relief response. This can be performed by comparing the new post-disaster images with the pre-disaster images to identify changes to infrastructure.

In addition to being able to download images from the RapiEye 1 thru 5 satellites, EV4 is also able to collect, process, and distribute images from the Spot 4 & 5 and RadarSat 1 & 2 and CartoSat 1 & 2 satellites.

EV4 started the process of obtaining RapidEye images in the spring of 2011. Since then, Rapid Eye representatives from their headquarters in Brandenburg Germany have visited McEntire JNGB to configure the EV4 equipment. As a result, EV4 successfully acquired its first imagery in July 2011.

In addition to contributing to another first for the SCANG, EV4 is excited to be able to acquire images from additional satellites; especially one with such great capabilities.

(Story by Capt. Roy Condrey, 169th CF/CTE)



Personally, I'd have to rate our most recent breakfast as one of our most interesting. Here is why. We had a rainy morning but still had around 75 people show. We had a Guest of Honor who we honored as the longest-serving (18 years) Maintenance Officer at McEntire ... Homer Keisler. We had a great speaker in Civil Engineering commander Lt. Col. Tim Dotson, with follow up by the wing commander himself. It just doesn't get any better than that.

McEntire was presented a hologram of Homer with an inscription of his career accomplishments. It will be hung outside the Maintenance Officer's doorway in the hanger for all to see. It was a very inspirational and emotional time for all those who attended this breakfast.

I forgot to mention a first timer from last month, one of our former legal beagles, Rachel Thompson. Nobody would fess up as being a first timer this time; however, we had several guests who work for the CE commander, state employees who came to support their boss.

McEntire History: We are highlighting our second batch of 2001 retirees this month. They are: Col. Philip E. Gee; Capt. Zerah M. Gibson; CMSgts. Dane Brown, Charles D. Tinsley and Daniel R. Simons; SMSgts. James B. Smith, III, Jimmie James, Jr., and Winfred (Midget) Williams; MSgts. Robert D. Miles, John L. Cardamone, Troy L. Abraham and Marion K. Hart; TSgts. Albert D. Scott and Guy Brewer.

A quick continuance review about the planes based at McEntire. Remember, no planes, no Air Guard! The new era of the latter days of the 3rd Generation of fighters, the F-16A model. Living up to our motto, Semper Primus, a press conference was held by Senator Strom Thurmond Feb. 9, 1982, stating that the SCANG was noted to be "the best in the country," and this was the reason we were to be the first Air Guard or Reserve unit to receive the F-16s. From that point on, there was an orderly scheduled transition to switch from the A-7s to the new and sleek F-16s. One hundred forty technicians were scheduled training on a staggered basis to learn the new plane. The different shops began to evolve into the switch, including training, etc. We had the active duty folks at Shaw assisting us in the transition with their guidance. George Inabinet, Chuck DeVlaming and John Marshall were in the first instructor pilot class, while Stan Hood completed the Commander's Course at MacDill in an F-16. Actually, the first Guard pilot to fly the F-16 was Lt. Jody Weston (while in flight school). On July 16, 1983, Inabinet flew in with the official papers transferring the F-16 he was flying over to the command of SCANG. He was greeted by Governor Richard Riley, and many of us watched in the hanger at this transfer of command. Many of us probably remember that moment.

Next month, our semi-annual luncheon takes place. Particularly for those who can't or don't make our breakfasts, we plan to

have the wing commander give us the annual 'State of McEntire.' Also, he probably will expound about the current deployment. So we would like to have everyone attend. Now here is the kicker. We will be located at a club on Fort Jackson called Macgruder's. It is located just off Jackson Blvd. You can get to it several ways. If it is via Gate 2 (Forest Drive), come through the gate, go down three blocks and turn right on Jackson Blvd., after passing Headquarters, start looking for the Movie Theatre and Bowling Alley on the right, then take the side road in between them and the Club will be staring at you. For those of you who come through Gate 1 (Fort Jackson Blvd.), go around the traffic circle and take the 3rd right (Jackson Blvd.), go up a ways and key on the Base Theatre and Bowling Alley and take a left on the side road. For those of you who come in the back gate, Gate 5 (Leesburg Road), go all the way down Semmes Road, take a left at the end, take a right on Cleburne, and you should see the Theatre and Bowling Alley when you run into Jackson Blvd., go straight across and there will be parking above the club on the right.

I know it's a bit difficult to keep adjusting this way. We just have to remain flexible and go with the flow. The key is, as always, comradeship and fellowship among us SCANG Retirees. By the way, I almost forgot with all the directions, the luncheon is at noon July 10. I hope to see many of you there.

SCANG Recruiters 1-877-926-7369 / 187-SWAMPFOX www.goang.com

McEntire JNGB

1325 South Carolina Road, Ste. 25
Eastover, SC 29044
1-877-926-7369

SMSgt. Brad Gibson

Superintendent of
Recruiting & Retention
Office: (803) 647-8414
BB: (803) 315-7419
william.gibson@ang.af.mil

MSgt. Ceomara Timmons

Retention Office Manager
Office: (803) 647-8211
ceomara.timmons@ang.af.mil

Village at Sandhill

110-8 Forum Drive
Columbia, SC 29229
Phone: 803-462-0405 or x0455
1-87SWAMPFOX

MSgt. Chris Sewell

Recruiting Office Supervisor
BB: (803) 206-2499
christopher.sewell@ang.af.mil

TSgt. Steve David

Production Recruiter
BB: (803) 608-3098
steven.david@ang.af.mil

TSgt. James Rodriguez

Production Recruiter
BB: (803) 391-6348
james.rodriguez@ang.af.mil

MOVIN' In MOVIN' Up, & MOVIN' On

Officer Promotions

Lieutenant Colonel

Robert Tarrant, 169th FW

Captain

Walter Woods, 169th MDG

Enlisted Promotions

Master Sergeant

Mickey Hamrick, 169th CF

Technical Sergeant

Troy Robinson, 169th OG
James Williams III, 169th MXS

Staff Sergeant

Daniel Hesson, 245th ATCS

Senior Airman

Danielle Fifis, 169th AMXS
Tyleisha Gaffney, 169th CES
Rachel Leamon, 169th MXS
Orinn Williams, 169th MXS

Enlistments

Maj. Ryan Corrigan, 157th FS
SSgt. Clifton Russell, 169th LRS
A1C James Belue, 169th MDG
A1C Victoria Caldwell, 169th CFT
A1C Christopher Gainous, 169th MXS
A1C John Hulsey, 245th ATCS
A1C Chad Kelly, 169th SFS
A1C Daniel Kirkland, 169th MXS
A1C Brett Morton, 169th MDG
A1C Mark Pierce, 169th MXS
A1C Haeden Stevens, 169th MXS
A1C Lucas Stokes, 169th MDG
A1C Heather Vanvalkenburgh, 157th OSF

Blood Drives

August 5

October 14

Contact MSgt. Selina Chavez
at 803-647-8200 or selina.
chavez@ang.af.mil

~ Walk-ins are welcome. ~

Fitness Center Tips

Make sure you are eating five small meals a day. Be sure to have a protein source with each meal. Examples of protein are lean chicken, turkey, tuna, egg whites, whole egg and low-fat cottage cheese (just to name a few).

Recipe to try for the summer using your lean protein and clean carbs.

½ cup egg whites

½ cup low-fat cottage cheese

¾ cup oatmeal

1/8 tsp brown sugar

Pinch of sea salt

1/8 tsp cinnamon

Mix all together. Spray Pam in warm skillet and cook. Delicious, great energy, and good for you.

Remember, if you don't yet have a routine for the summer or want to be proactive for that next PT test, e-mail me at michelle.walkerctr@ang.af.mil or call 803-647-3510/8712 to set up a time to train.

(Provided by Michelle Walker, 169th FSS)

Base Training

TESTING SCHEDULE

Tuesdays, 1 p.m.

Drill Sundays, 12:30 p.m.

Report for testing no later than 15 minutes before the test. Members testing on CDCs required for upgrade training must bring their AFIADL 9 course card with the following items documented:

Date review training began
Date due completion
Date review training ended
Supervisor's signature
Trainee's signature

Members without the card and required information are not allowed to test. For more information, contact a unit training manager.

Airman Leadership School
(class start dates -- five-week duration)
(56 seats for ANG members)

2012

Noncommissioned Officers Academy
(class start dates -- six-week duration)
(75 seats for ANG members)

PME Schedule

MCGHEE TYSON NCOA

23 JUL 12 - 29 AUG 12
17 SEP 12 - 24 OCT 12



What's for Lunch?

Saturday

Steak or Baked Cod, Baked Potato,
Corn-on-the-Cob, Cauliflower & Broccoli Mix

Sunday

Barbecue Ribs or Baked Chicken, Rice Pilaf,
Squash, Green Peas & Carrots

Snack Line

SAT: Grilled Chicken Sandwich, Baked Beans,
French Fries & Assorted Chips

SUN: Hamburger, Hot Dog w/Chili &
Assorted Chips

* All with Soup / Salad Bar / Desserts / Beverages

The Dining Facility is open 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Everyone using the facility must present a valid ID card.

South Carolina ANG
McEntire Joint National Guard Base
1325 South Carolina Road
Eastover, SC 29044-5010

FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TEMPLE HILLS, MD
PERMIT NO. 4004

United States Air Force
Columbia, SC
Official Business

TO THE FAMILY OF:

REFLECTIONS

"To have really lived, you must have almost died. To those who have fought for it, freedom has a flavor the protected will never know."

-- Scrawled on a bunker outside Khe Sahn, Rep. of Vietnam

It has been said that only two people have ever offered to lay down their life for someone else. The first was Jesus Christ and the other is the American service member. Jesus died for our freedom in eternity, and our service members have made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom of others in this life.

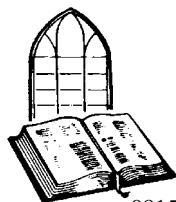
While serving in the trauma center at Craig Joint Theater Hospital, Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, I ministered to many severely injured service members, some who lost one or more limbs. These brave heroes will forever be a visible reminder of the true cost of freedom.

When I returned from my Afghanistan deployment, I had a fresh perspective on what's truly important in life and a new sense of gratitude for the many freedoms I sometimes take for granted.

As we celebrate our freedoms on July 4th let us never forget that freedom is not free. Say a prayer of thanks daily for the unique freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America. Remember to continue to pray for our deployed Swamp Foxes and those who recently returned from their deployment.

May the Lord bless you and keep you in peace. God bless America.

(by Chaplain, Lt. Col. Brian Bohlman)



Worship Schedule Saturday

Maintenance (hangar) & SFS after roll call

Sunday

0815 - 0845 - Traditional Worship (Wing HQ Auditorium)
1100 - 1130 - Contemporary Worship (Wing HQ Auditorium)
1330 - 1400 - Catholic Mass (Eagle Vision Conference Room)

TOP ACHIEVERS

Outstanding Academic Achievement

(100 % - Perfect Score!)

MSgt. Mickey Hamrick

169th Communications Flight

Senior NCO Academy - Course C

(90 % or Higher)

MSgt. Rosemary Hawthorne

169th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Senior NCO Academy - Course C

MSgt. Chris Wimberly

169th Security Forces Squadron

Senior Enlisted Joint PME Course