



# HQ AND ASOS RIBBON CUTTING



## STRONG BONDS CONFERENCE

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Floyd White

AUGUST 2011, VOL. 45, No. 8

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### COVER: SNIP!

From left to right, Rep. Frank A. LoBiondo (R-2nd Dist.), U.S. Senator Robert Menendez, Col. Robert C. Bolton, Commander, 177th Fighter Wing and Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General of New Jersey, prepare to cut the ribbon during a ceremony at the 177th on August 11. For more, turn to page 4. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen)

During the last few months the chaplains' office has been involved in the Strong Bonds training.

The program is designed to assist couples and single Airman in relationship development. The chaplains' office will be hosting a retreat from August 19-21.

The topics that will be covered during the conference are Premarital Interpersonal Choices and Knowledge better known as PICK. PICK

is an educational program based on the concept of how to avoid falling for a jerk. The Strong Bonds retreat is an opportunity to discuss difficult challenges in relationship development. The core of the course revolves around the importance of keeping your head and heart in balance.

The course will also cover such topics as difficult partners that come in both genders; ingredients of a lasting relationship and why expectations lead to disappointments. This training will involve the wing's single Airman. Each session begins with an outline and overview of the content of



each session, there are fill in the blanks, graphics activities, and numerous questions that personalize the material.

During the training, it will be vital to develop a deeper understanding of oneself, the people you date and the mysterious connections which create the thing we call love. Learning how to keep your heart working together with your mind will empower you to build a healthier relationship and know what to explore in the exciting journey of picking a partner.

We look forward to an exciting and fun filled training event.

### Annual dental exam

**The annual dental exam will be completed by your civilian dentist.**

Exceptions include pilots, base newcomers, class three individuals or those who have never been seen by a wing dentist.

Start with DD Form 2813 from the clinic or it is available on the local area network (K:\FORMS\DD\ 2800\dd2813.pdf); have your dentist complete the form and return it to the clinic. Questions call x6240.

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE WING COMMANDER



Hello All,

It's August already and I'm asking myself where is the summer going? During the last drill I was in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan attending a planning conference. In case you didn't know, I'll be going back there for about a month this fall. Like last year, I'll be in charge of the U.S. Forces for the annual Falcon Air Meet. This year's competitors include the U.S. Air Force and Navy, the Jordanians, and the Turkish Air Force. It's a tough call for me leaving our base for a month, but I feel it's worth it considering the relationships that are fostered and it gives the Guard a good name when we share leadership roles with the Active Duty.

In other events, all our folks made it back safely from Red Flag Alaska in what was a milestone event. The deployment was a big success from a training standpoint, and it was a milestone because we have never before deployed that many aircraft! This past weekend we also successfully deployed the Medical Group, along with some Services personnel, to Alpena for their annual Field Training exercise. We look forward to their safe return this drill weekend.

This past week I received a memo from the Air Combat Command commander regarding a revision of the ACC Inspection cycle. The intent is to give ACC units some relief from the hectic inspection cycle. Inspections will now



Col. Robert C. Bolton addresses a crowd of more than 100 at a dual ribbon cutting ceremony at the 177th Fighter Wing on August 11. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen)

occur every 30 months versus the old system of 24 months. Also, beginning in July 2012, all ACC Operational Readiness Inspections – Phases I and II – will now be combined. While it may sound a little scary, the Phase I is greatly reduced. The bottom line is an ACC unit will take an ORI, then take Unit Compliance Inspection 30 months later, and back to an ORI 30 months after. More to follow as I get more information, but you can plan on us changing the way we perform Operational Readiness Exercises.

I would like to share with you a special event I had the honor of attending on August 9. The event was the ribbon cutting for a \$2.7 million dollar multi-purpose room at the Paramus Veterans Memorial Home. It was quite a moving event and was attended by Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, Senator Menendez, and three congressmen. Aside from the fact that the veterans needed and deserved the room, I was moved by the support we receive as New Jersey Guard members from our elected officials and the communities – just something for you to be aware of.

Speaking of support, all of you single unit members pay attention: there is a Strong Bonds singles retreat on August 19-21. Meals and hotel are included and you get paid! See Family Support or the Chaplains' office for more information. If you are interested, make sure you get your orders request in this drill weekend.

As most of you have noticed by now, facebook can be accessed from your desktop. The wing – 177th Fighter Wing, NJANG; the New Jersey National Guard and the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs all have a presence on facebook. Each of these sites provides great information, as well as pictures of the unit. So when you get the chance, do a search and be sure to Like these three sites.

Don't forget we have our Air show on August 17 and the practice on the day before. If you've never been before you need to make it out. It's a great time to relax on the beach and enjoy an air show at the same time. As a reminder, full-timers can go in a duty status on one of the days. Personally I've always like the practice day better because the crowds are much smaller. Coming down the road we have the Governors Review during our September drill weekend and shortly after is the Enlisted Annual Conference on Oct. 7-9 in Galloway. Have a good drill!

Have a safe and productive drill!

ROBERT C. BOLTON  
Colonel, NJANG  
Commander





**COVER STORY**

# Wing holds ribbon cutting ceremony

Story and photos by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177FWIPA

**"It's a big day for the New Jersey National Guard, specifically the New Jersey Air Guard and the 177th Fighter Wing,"** said Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General of New Jersey.

Federal and state officials joined senior New Jersey National Guard commanders and 177th Airmen in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the wing's new Headquarters and 227th Air Support Operations Squadron (ASOS) buildings on August 11.

"It's a cornerstone," said U.S. Senator Robert Menendez. "I am pleased to stand with all of you in full support of keeping our military strong and well-equipped."

The new headquarters provides space for the commander and staff, conference rooms, and a training classroom, while the 227th ASOS facility has offices for flight operations and mission planning, along with maintenance, weapons and other storage areas. The 227th is assigned to provide direct support for the New Jersey Army National Guard's 50th Brigade Combat Team and Pennsylvania National Guard's 2/28th Brigade Combat Team.

"This is one of the good news stories," said Rep. Frank A. LoBiondo (R-2nd Dist.). "This is the premiere homeland security base in the entire United States of America. No one else can lay claim to that; you do it magnificently."

"These facilities are a symbol of the future and the Guard is America's future," said Wing Commander Col. Robert C. Bolton. "This is one cut we'll all look forward to." 🇺🇸

**Above, from left to right, State Senator James Whelan, Rep. Frank A. LoBiondo (R-2nd Dist.), U.S. Senator Robert Menendez, Col. Robert C. Bolton, Commander, 177th Fighter Wing, Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General of New Jersey and Maj. Gen. Maria Falca-Dodson, Commander, New Jersey Air National Guard, prepare to cut the ribbon at the 177th on August 11. Photo below: Staff Sgt. Melissa Cortez recites the Airman's Creed to a crowd of more than 100 at the conclusion of the ribbon cutting ceremony.**





# Working on the engine

U.S. Air Force photos by  
Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen



During the July drill, Airmen in the 177th Fighter Wing's Engine Shop were taking a part a variety of components that make up the General Electric F110-100/129 engine, which powers the wing's F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft fleet. Below, turbo jet mechanic Senior Airman Matt Sherer separates the turbine section from the engine core. Turbo jet mechanic Staff Sgt. Chris Wetzal, top right photo, and aerospace propulsion technician Senior Airman Erik Cohn, center right photo, disassemble the F110-100/129's main gearbox. Bottom photo: Staff Sgt. Robert Taylor attaches a lift and turn hoist that will remove the engine's low pressure turbine portion.





# JERSEY DEVILS IN THE NEWS



## SF Night Out

The 177th Fighter Wing Security Forces Squadron members participate in the "28th Annual National Night Out", a crime/drug prevention event hosted locally by Victoria Pointe Homeowners' Association in Mays Landing, on August 2. The Airmen displayed a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle, an all-terrain vehicle, personal protective gear and night vision equipment. (U.S. Air Force Photos by Master Sgt. Andrew J. Moseley)



Photos clockwise beginning top left: Master Sgt. Donald Meddings, left, and Tech. Sgt. Keith Curtis, right, help Pat Millikin and his sons, Patrick and Michael, test out an All-Terrain Vehicle. Tech. Sgt. Keith Curtis helps Katharina San Pedro get familiarized on an All-Terrain Vehicle. Tech. Sgt. John Banta assists Leonard Bustos in trying out personal protective equipment and night vision goggles. Tech. Sgt. James Eckert explains the features of a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle to Valaniece Martin.





# WASPs reflect on roles as aviation pioneers

By Carl Bergquist, Air University Public Affairs

**Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. (AFNS) -- Three members of the Women Airforce Service Pilots reminisced about their World War II experiences as part of a Squadron Officer College Warrior Symposium series.**

The WASPs were a select group of women pilots who by becoming the first women in history to fly American military aircraft, became pioneers, heroes and role models.

The ladies who spoke to Squadron Officer School Class 09C were Dawn Seymour, Mary-Helen Chapman-Foster and Doris Tanner -- three of about 1,070 pilots who received their wings, ferried aircraft and participated in troop training during World War II.

## **Dawn Seymour**

Mrs. Seymour said Gen. Henry "Hap" Arnold, then the commanding general of the U.S. Army Air Forces, was responsible for forming the WASP in August 1943, and she was part of the first group of 23 women to go to the training facility at Sweetwater, Texas.

"I received orders for Texas, and was off to Sweetwater. West Texas is something else. It is a place where the sky is bigger than the earth," she said. "I remember after my first flight, I got out and kissed the ground. It was a great feeling to be back on earth."

Following her training, Mrs. Seymour was assigned to Wilmington, Del., to fly the B-17 Flying Fortress. She said, in her estimation, the B-17 was the best aircraft ever made.

"Can you imagine jumping from PT-19s to B-17s, and can you imagine working around pilots who had just returned from combat," she said. "I remember one flight we were doing figure -8s when suddenly the No. 3 engine caught fire. We put the fire out and continued the training mission. I knew this was the plane for me."

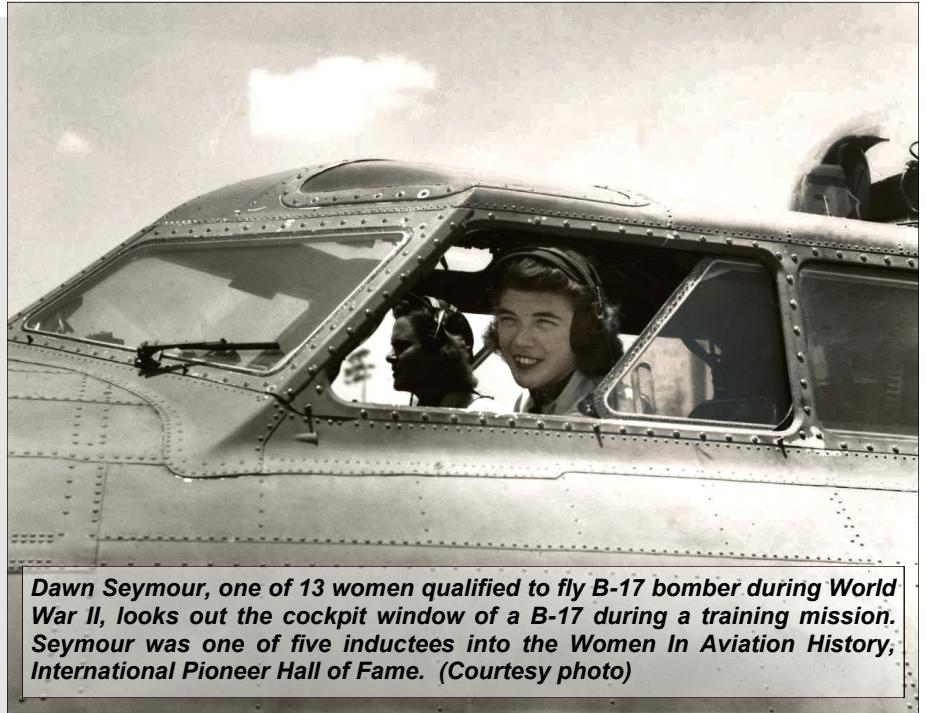
Mrs. Seymour said she later went to the Florida Everglades to help train gunners for the D-Day invasion and duty in the Pacific Theater. A B-26 Marauder would drag a long cloth sleeve behind the plane, and gunner trainees would shoot at it with color-coded bullets that would leave marks on the sleeve. The number of hits on the sleeve was their score for the session. She said after about four hours of training, the gunners graduated and were sent off to combat.

She was later assigned to the Army base at Roswell, N.M., where she conducted flights that tested changes made to existing aircraft. Mrs. Seymour said she thought it was "quite a remarkable thing" to have been accepted by her government to do what she did so long ago.

"However, we suddenly received word in December 1944 that the WASP program was over," she said. "General Arnold said we completed the job and were successful. We went home, and the door closed on the WASPs until nearly 30 years later."

## **Mary-Helen Chapman-Foster**

Mrs. Foster said she is often asked what motivated her to



*Dawn Seymour, one of 13 women qualified to fly B-17 bomber during World War II, looks out the cockpit window of a B-17 during a training mission. Seymour was one of five inductees into the Women In Aviation History, International Pioneer Hall of Fame. (Courtesy photo)*

join the WASP and said an experience with flying during a vacation prompted her to go to the local flying school to take lessons.

"I was not the type to want to fly, but after the vacation I wanted to learn," she said. "When I returned home, I went to Brown's Flying School and told Mr. Brown I wanted to go up. He took me up reluctantly, and when we returned, he told me I wasn't the type for flying. My reply was that I was the type, and he was going to teach me."

Mrs. Foster said after she got her wings, she decided to start a flying club with other women pilots. The famed woman aviator, Jackie Cochran, a pilot who held speed, altitude and distance records, was in the process of helping set up the WASP program, and she came to help establish the club.

"I had read a newspaper article about Ms. Cochran and how she was setting up the WASPs, and three of us applied for the program," Mrs. Foster said. "I flunked my first physical because I didn't weigh enough but was able to gain just enough weight to make it through the second time. We were all sent to Sweetwater, and to look out and see all the planes on the field, well, we were so excited."

Mrs. Foster said at Sweetwater trainees lived in bays with six women in each bay, and two bays shared a bathroom. They got up at 6 a.m., wore khaki pants and white shirts as uniforms, marched everywhere.

"Twelve women trying to share a bathroom was quite remarkable," she said.

After graduation, Mrs. Foster was sent to Malden, Mo., where she encountered a less than enthusiastic commander.

"When I arrived, I was proud of my wings and my snappy salute, but the commander told me he had not asked for a

**Continued on Page 8**



# THE WOMEN'S AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

By Dr. Robert Kane, Air Armament Center Historian Office

With pending U.S. involvement in the global war in the summer of 1941, the Army Air Force faced a shortage of male pilots.

Gen. Henry H. Arnold, the AAF commander, asked famous female aviator Jackie Cochran, the recipient of four international and 17 national aviation awards, for suggestions. She offered to recruit female pilots as civilian pilots for the AAF to release males for combat missions.

When the AAF turned her down, Cochran recruited and trained American women pilots to ferry aircraft to Britain for the British. As a result, 25 American women went to Britain in the spring of 1942 became uniformed civilian pilots of the British Air Transport Auxiliary.

Meanwhile in September 1942, famous female pilot Nancy Harkness Love formed the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron with 38 pilots to fly aircraft to Britain for the Air Transport Command. The success of the WAFS program caused the AAF to revitalize Cochran's women pilot training program. The first class of her Women's Air Force Service Pilots graduated April 28, 1943, after 23 weeks of military, ground school and flying training at the Houston airport.

On Aug. 5, 1943, Cochran's group merged with the WAFS to form the Women Air Service Pilots, or WASP. WASPs, assigned to 120 bases across the United States, ferried aircraft, towed targets, flew experimental aircraft, conducted bombardier and navigational training, and transported personnel. They flew virtually every type of military aircraft, including the C-47, P-38 Lightning, B-17 Fortress, B-26 Marauder and even the B-29 Superfortress.

By mid-1944, the return of male pilots to the United States signaled the end of the WASP program, which the AAF inactivated Dec. 20, 1944. By that time, 1,074 WASPs had graduated from the program, and 38 had died in the line of duty. Many WASPs returned to private life, while others continued to



Women's Airforce Service Pilots at Camp Davis Army Air Field, N.C. (Photo courtesy of N.C. State Archives)

fly. Some joined the Air Force Reserve with their WASP service counting as commissioned service. Few ex-WASPs made military service a career.

Unfortunately, neither the Army Air Force nor the Congress provided these women pilots with any recognition for their contributions to the allied victory during the war.

After the Air Force announced plans to train its "first women military pilots" in the mid-1970s, former WASPs campaigned for recognition as veterans. In 1977, Congress awarded them veteran status from the Air Force. In 1984, each WASP received the World War II Victory Medal, and those who had served for more than a year also received the American Theater Medal. 🇺🇸

## Continued from Page 7

woman pilot. I replied that I had not asked to come to Missouri," she said. "He later asked me what I could do, and I told him I could fly anything the Army had. His reply was, 'I doubt that.'"

Ms. Foster was eventually assigned to do maintenance check flights on aircraft that had undergone maintenance procedures, and there she became acquainted with the C-47 Dakota twin engine troop carrier.

"I'll tell you for a fact the C-47 was the best airplane we had," she told the audience. "They would do what you wanted them to do."

Mrs. Foster said on one occasion she had to make an emergency landing at the field with one engine on fire. She said she had so much confidence in the airplane, she didn't get nervous until she saw the ambulances and fire trucks on final approach.

### Doris Tanner

Mrs. Tanner said she arrived at Sweetwater with "a little bit different attitude" than many of the other women. After all, she

was from Texas.

"I came in with the attitude that we were going to have a good time," she said. "I'm from Dallas, Texas, and Texas girls are different. We don't wear hooped skirts."

Mrs. Tanner said her time with the WASPs was one of the best times of her life. She said people were always talking about how courageous WASPs were, but she "had a ball." She was surrounded by men.

Mrs. Tanner said a trip to the local airport with a friend resulted in her first flight, and that was it. She was hooked on flying. Her favorite airplane was the B-25 Mitchell.

All the ladies agreed they enjoyed their time as WASP and would do it again. Mrs. Seymour said due to the sudden deactivation of the WASP, with so little fanfare, she was surprised at the invitation to come to SOC to speak.

"We were civilian pilots during the war, and we can't quite believe what's happening here today, considering we were so abruptly asked to leave the service," she said. "It's wonderful to be invited here because we thought the WASPs were long ago forgotten."





# NEWS AIRMEN CAN USE



## SFRC Increases grants

The New Jersey National Guard State Family Readiness Council has increased the amounts of family and business grants up to \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Both are what are known as TIER I grants. TIER II family grants are also available to Guard non-deployed service members who were on State Active Duty or State Missions (e.g., hurricanes, floods, border missions) for more than 20 consecutive days. Those who meet these criteria can apply for a financial hardship grant up to \$1,500.

Applications are available at all New Jersey Army and Air National Guard Family Assistance Centers. Contact Jean Perry if you are interested in applying at (609) 645-6248.

## Get your Contrail Photos

Contrail photos are at the Y Drive type in: Y:\\_177 FW HEADQUARTERS ELECTRONIC FILE PLANS\177FW PA ELECTRONIC FILE PLAN\00 - Items to be filed\PA\2011 Images. Photos are categorized by month.

## Vacancies at the 177th

From the 177th Force Support Squadron

The 177th Fighter Wing has numerous openings in both its enlisted and officer ranks.

Currently the Wing has three officer openings – security forces operations officer, executive officer and aircraft maintenance officer. Contact Lt. Col. Ronald Williamson at 6213 for more information on the application process.

There are several full-time enlisted openings including sheet metal mechanic, electronics mechanic supervisor, aircraft mechanic leader, electronic integrated systems mechanic, aircraft mechanic, aircraft ordnance systems mechanic supervisor, Wing Training Assistant, aircraft ordnance systems mechanic and finally a production supervisor.

For more information about full-time vacancies go to [www.state.nj.us/military/vacancy/index.html](http://www.state.nj.us/military/vacancy/index.html) or call Airman 1st Class Kristina Reinhard at extension 6209.

There are also openings for traditional Guardsmen in tactical aircraft maintenance, aircraft fuel systems, special purpose vehicle operations, knowledge operations management and fire protection. Contact Master Sgt. Christina Vidro at extension 6217 for information about any of these positions.

## Women's Equality Day

August 26

I AM  
where I am  
BECAUSE OF  
the

# BRIDGES

that I  
CROSSED.

SOJOURNER TRUTH  
was a bridge.

HARRIET TUBMAN  
was a bridge.

IDA B. WELLS  
was a bridge.

MADAME C. J. WALKER  
was a bridge.

FANNIE LOU HAMER  
was a bridge.

Oprah Winfrey

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

## AUGUST 2011

Recognize the diversity of our National Guard team

- ✓ Celebrate a multicultural event
- ✓ Identify your diversity successes (newsletters, etc)
- ✓ Recognize, reward and foster leadership

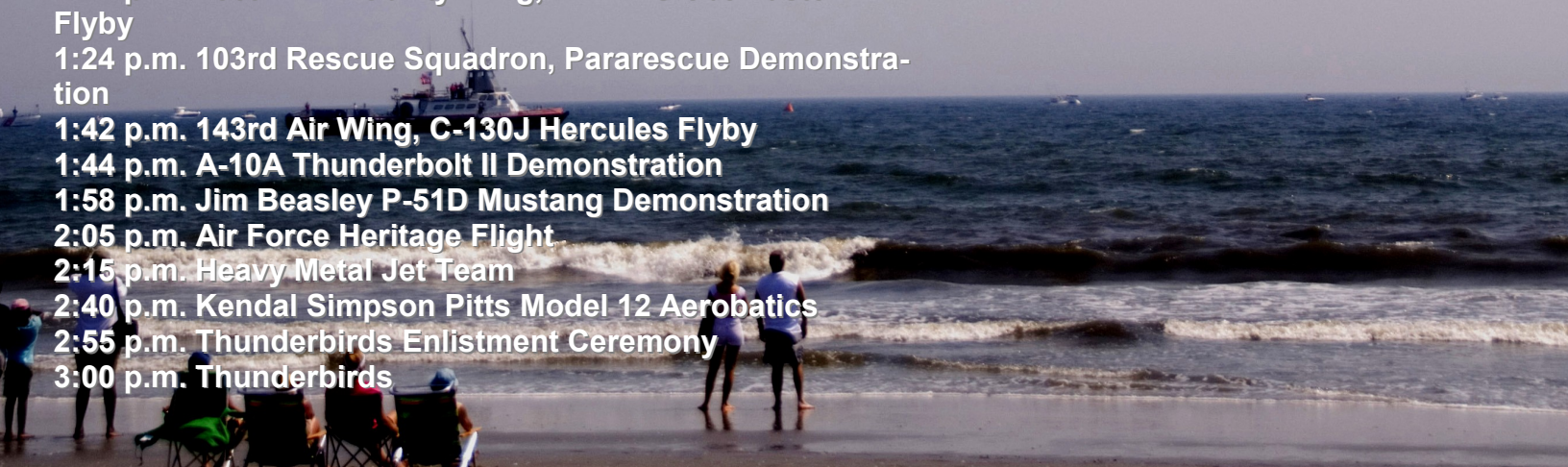
*If we are to achieve a richer culture, rich in contrasting values, we must recognize the whole gamut of human potentialities, and so weave a less arbitrary social fabric, one in which each diverse human gift will find a fitting place.*

- Margaret Mead



# 2011 ATLANTIC CITY AIR SHOW SCHEDULE

10:30 a.m. Horizon Blue Cross Blimp of New Jersey Flyby  
10:45 a.m. Tow Banner Aircraft Sponsor Signage Flyby  
11:00 a.m. Canadian Skyhawks Parachute Team Flag Jump  
w/Canadian National Anthem  
11:02 a.m. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team Flag  
Jump with US National Anthem  
11:10 a.m. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team Mass  
Show  
11:23 a.m. Canadian Skyhawks Parachute Team  
11:35 a.m. 177th Fighter Wing F-16 Fighting Falcon Flyby  
(four-ship)  
11:37 a.m. 108th Wing KC-135 Stratotanker Flyby  
11:39 a.m. 514th Air Mobility Wing, KC-10A Extender Flyby  
11:41 a.m. New Jersey Air National Guard Composite Flyby  
(KC-135 and F-16s)  
11:43 a.m. 166th Air Wing, C-130H Hercules Flyby  
11:45 a.m. MiG-17 Aerobatic Demonstration  
11:55 a.m. L-39C Aerobatic Demonstration  
12:07 p.m. 514th Air Mobility Wing, C-17A Globemaster III  
Flyby  
12:10 p.m. FAA William J. Hughes Technical Center Global  
5000 and Convair 580 Flyby  
12:15 p.m. GEICO Skytypers  
12:35 p.m. Jim Beasley Jr. Spitfire MK4 Demonstration  
12:45 p.m. Coast Guard HH-65 Search & Rescue Demon-  
stration  
12:52 p.m. Coast Guard HU-25 Guardian Flybys  
1:00 p.m. Navy F/A-18F Super Hornet Demonstration  
1:14 p.m. Marine Corps HMM-466 CH-46E Sea Knight and  
Navy HCS-26 MH-60S Seahawk Flybys  
1:18 p.m. B-25J Mitchell/F4U Corsair and T-28B Trojan Fly-  
bys  
1:22 p.m. 436th Air Mobility Wing, C-17A Globemaster III  
Flyby  
1:24 p.m. 103rd Rescue Squadron, Pararescue Demonstra-  
tion  
1:42 p.m. 143rd Air Wing, C-130J Hercules Flyby  
1:44 p.m. A-10A Thunderbolt II Demonstration  
1:58 p.m. Jim Beasley P-51D Mustang Demonstration  
2:05 p.m. Air Force Heritage Flight  
2:15 p.m. Heavy Metal Jet Team  
2:40 p.m. Kendal Simpson Pitts Model 12 Aerobatics  
2:55 p.m. Thunderbirds Enlistment Ceremony  
3:00 p.m. Thunderbirds



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Shawn Mildren





# End-of-Summer Family Picnic

Lake & Shore Resort  
545 Corson Tavern Road, Ocean View, NJ  
<http://www.1000trails.com>

**Saturday September 17 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm**  
**Rain or Shine**

Price for AFSA Member and IMMEDIATE FAMILY:

Tickets: \$15.00

Children 4-12: \$10.00 Children 3 and under: FREE

NON-MEMBERS and GUESTS ADD \$5 to the PRICE of each Adult TICKET

Tickets available until **Sept 12th** or until sold out

**NO TICKETS SOLD AT GATE!**

**FOOD:** Famous Dave's BBQ pork, roasted chicken, ribs, side dishes.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, Soda and Water

## BYOB

**ACTIVITIES:** (Weather Permitting) Swimming, paddle boats, miniature golf, horse-shoes, volleyball, shuffleboard, basketball, baseball field, play ground, Big Arcade, face painting, games for the kids, evening beach bon-fire.

**Contact the following for tickets**

Alex Trombetta MSgt-6107 Daniel Miller SMSgt-6015 Brian Murray TSgt-6129  
Kara Kauffman TSgt-6240 Dorothy Lanthier TSgt-6214 Daniel Kelly SSgt-6156  
William Mosher SSgt-6134 Justin Paggi SSgt-6349 Michelle Herman SSgt-6387  
James Leopardi CMSgt(RET)-6748 Marie Madara A1C-6107

To join AFSA go to : [HTTP://WWW.HQAFSA.ORG](http://WWW.HQAFSA.ORG) and request assignment to Chapter 258  
Optional overnight camping and cabin rentals are available at additional charge if you are interested,  
more information available when you purchase your ticket



# RED FLAG



RED FLAG-Alaska 11-2  
July 11-22 2011



# UNITED