

Contrail

SEPTEMBER 2011, Vol. 45, No. 9



HURRICANE IRENE

STRONG BONDS RETREAT A SUCCESS

By Chaplain's Assistant (Master Sgt.) Diane E. Johnson

SEPTEMBER 2011, VOL. 45, No. 9

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COVER: IRENE HITS

Tech. Sgt. Todd Butcher (right) Damage Recovery and Assessment Team and Staff Sgt. Mark Naughton, both with the Civil Engineering Squadron, remove aluminum trim from a facility damaged by Hurricane Irene's winds at the 177th Fighter Wing on August 27. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Andrew J. Moseley, 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

The 177th Fighter Wing Chaplain's Corps sponsored its first Strong Bonds Singles Retreat August 19-21.

In the past when Guard and Reservists returned from deployments, the support system that was in place for the Active Duty did not exist for them. To rectify this imbalance the Joint Services Support Program developed a host of programs to support Guardsmen and Reservists. One of the many programs to evolve is Strong Bonds.

We are writing to share with everyone that our first Single's Retreat was a success. Fifteen 177th Airmen took a chance and signed up for the retreat. The retreat was held at the Chauncey Hotel and Conference Center located in Princeton. The setting was idyllic for a relaxing getaway to participate in a singles seminar named Pick a Partner or better known as "How To Avoid Falling In Love With A Jerk"(or Jerkette).

The Airmen had the opportunity to interact among their peers and Senior Enlisted in a relaxing non-business setting opening up opportunities for new friendships and mentoring opportunities. The Airmen learned about the Relationship Attachment Model that uses the Know,



Trust, Rely, Commit and Touch process to build a rewarding relationship between two individuals. The process is the brainchild of John Van Epp, Ph. D. The National Guard Bureau sponsored seminars for the Chaplain Corps who received their instructor training directly from Van Epp.

The Chaplain Corps looks forward to hosting two retreats in the next year. We will offer one retreat for couples and one retreat for singles. When your path crosses with one of our participants featured in the picture, take a minute and ask the Airmen to share his or her experience about the retreat.

Special thanks goes out to the Wing Commander, Col. Robert Bolton, for his support and for allowing Airmen to attend the retreat in a paid status; and to Jeannie Perry from Family Support for coordinating the location, securing the funds, ordering the supplies and so much more!

Finally, thanks to the 177th Contracting Staff for their diligent search to find a site that met our criteria to host an event on short notice.

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



will be important in the future!

Hello All,

Fall is upon us and I have to say that September is my favorite month. I say that because the weather is great, the ocean is still warm enough to enjoy, and the crowds are gone. I want to start off by thanking everyone involved for such an outstanding job with the annual Air Show. It was a resounding success and estimates put the attendance at around 800,000 people! Many people do much work behind the scenes to make this the biggest and most successful mid-week Air Show in the world! Great job all!



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Andrew J. Moseley , 177FW/PA

I also need to give a big thanks to all those who came in to support state relief and rescue efforts during Hurricane Irene. Soldiers and Airmen rescued more than 540 people and accomplished hundreds of missions supporting civilian authorities throughout the storm and in its aftermath. For many of you, this storm was your first introduction to accomplishing our state mission. I know it was extremely painful at times and I was impressed by your patience and professionalism. Please understand that this process of using Airmen on such a scale is new and it will take time to increase the efficiency of the process. But you were a part of something really BIG and extremely important and the public is extremely grateful and certainly more knowledgeable of the National Guard and its value. This

I spent the last three weeks on temporary duty and wanted to tell you a few highlights. The first week I was at Tyndall Air Force Base for the 1st Air Force Commander's Conference and the change of command ceremony for the new First Air Force Commander, Lt. Gen. Sid Clark. Good news is our new commander is now a three star. The second week I was at Hill Air Force Base getting a Block 40 F-16 checkout as I will be with the 4th Fighter Squadron from Hill during my upcoming Jordan deployment. I had a great time at Hill and was fortunate enough to get checked out with the helmet mounted cueing system, but I will say that the quality of their jets was nothing like ours!

This month marks the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. It is hard to believe that ten years have passed since that day. We have fought in two wars taking the fight to those who would destroy our country and all that it stands for. Airmen from our Wing helped commemorate the lives and memories of those who died that day at several events throughout the state including the dedication of New Jersey's Empty Sky Memorial at Liberty State Park across the Hudson from where the World Trade Centers' North and South Towers stood. But whether part of a formal ceremony or reflecting in our own homes, we should never forget what we are training for and what we protect.

Have a safe and productive drill.

ROBERT C. BOLTON
Colonel, NJANG
Commander



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177FW/PA

WING TAKES ON IRENE

Photos by Master Sgt. Andrew J. Moseley, 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs



New Jersey Army National Guard Spc. Catalina Ospina performs ground guide duty in pouring rain for a Lightweight Medium Tactical Vehicle as it is positioned at the 177th Fighter Wing on August 27. NJARNG units from Cape May, Teaneck and Vineland staged their equipment and vehicles at the newly opened 227th Air Support Operations Squadron as they prepared for Hurricane Irene's arrival. Inset photo: nearly 200 177th Airmen prepare to deploy to various locations in New Jersey to provide support on August 27. The Airmen, in conjunction with the New Jersey Army National Guard, provided assistance for New Jerseyans who were evacuated due to Hurricane Irene.

Airmen and Soldiers aid Humane Society

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht, 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

New Jersey Guard Soldiers and 177th Airmen were sent to the Atlantic County Humane Society on August 28 to help load dogs on an M35 two and half ton truck. The animals were being relocated in anticipation of Hurricane Irene. Photo right: Senior Airmen Kane Lawlor and Ethan Hugg, both Tactical Air Control Party members from the 227th Air Support Operations Squadron, 177th Fighter Wing, move a dog onto an M35 truck. Bottom right: Lawlor waits to move a dog onto a M35 truck. Photo bottom left: Spc. Bill McCaughey stands over a dog he's preparing to move from the shelter.



AIR SHOW SETS NEW “WOW” VALUE

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY
MASTER SGT. MARK C. OLSEN
177TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

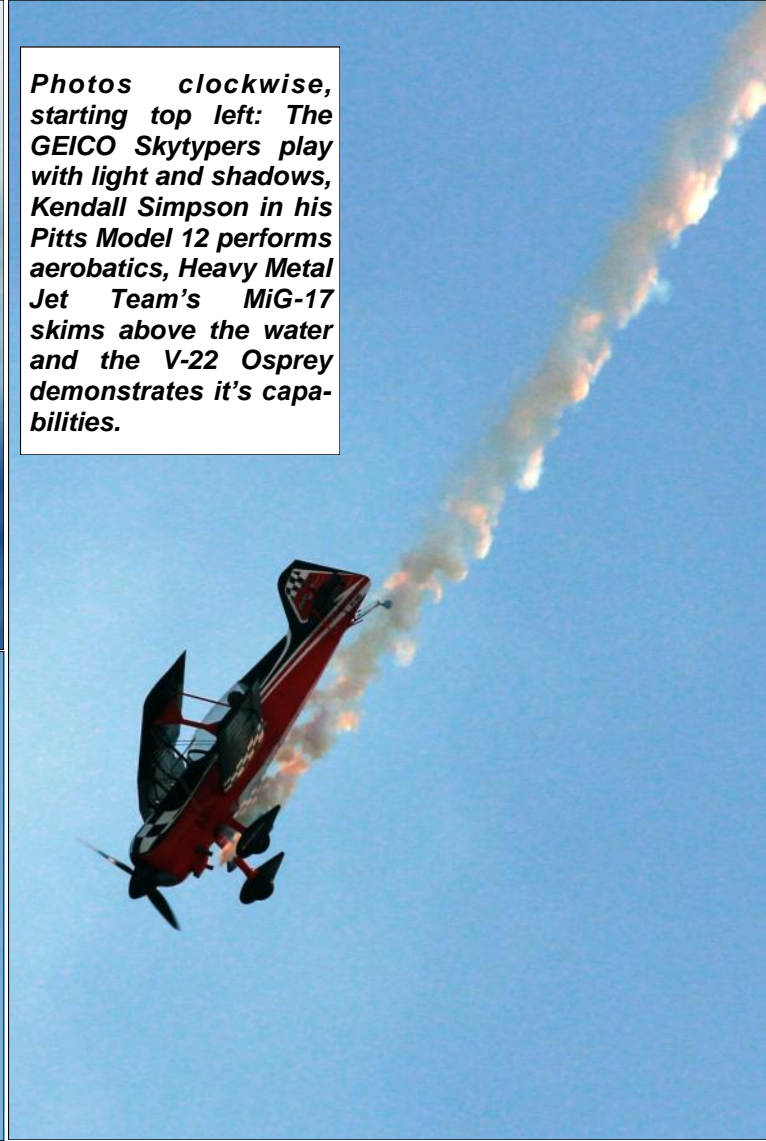
An A-10 Thunderbolt II, left, pursues a P-51 Mustang during the 2011 Atlantic City Air Show Thunder over the Boardwalk on August 16.



Photos clockwise, starting top: The Army Golden Knights touch down, Canada's Skyhawks Parachute Team perform numerous thrilling stunts, a Spitfire Mk4 does a flyby and below a MiG-17, part of the Heavy Metal Jet Team, catches up with a pair of Aero Vodochovy L-39s.



Photos clockwise, starting top left: The GEICO Skytypers play with light and shadows, Kendall Simpson in his Pitts Model 12 performs aerobatics, Heavy Metal Jet Team's MiG-17 skims above the water and the V-22 Osprey demonstrates it's capabilities.



JERSEY DEVILS IN THE NEWS



Top first sergeant

Master Sgt. Christopher R. Taggart, center, 177th Security Forces Squadron was named the Air National Guard First Sergeant of the Year for 2011. The award was presented at the Outstanding Soldiers and Airmen of the Year banquet in Arlington, Va. Presenting the award are (left to right) Gen. Craig R. McKinley, Chief, National Guard Bureau, Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III, Director Air National Guard, Chief Master Sgt. Denise M. Jelinski-Hall, Senior Enlisted Leader for the National Guard Bureau, and Chief Master Sgt. Christopher E. Muncy, Command Chief Master of the National Guard. (Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Marvin R. Preston, 169th FW/PA)



White House recognizes 177th pilot

Maj. Raj Shah, right, 177th Fighter Wing F-16 pilot and Capt. Iyer Srivats, 349th Air Mobility Wing C-5 pilot, were recognized at a White House summit on July 29, for executing numerous combat missions in Southwest Asia since Sept. 11, 2001. The summit, "Impacting change in America and abroad," recognized the contributions of South Asian Americans. The event marked the first time South Asian American military heritage was honored at the White House. (U.S. Air Force photo/courtesy photo)

What so proudly we hail

The 177th Fighter Wing Color Guard, left to right, Tech. Sgt. Anthony Gonzalez, Master Sgts. Darren P. Custis and Julius E. Simmons and Staff Sgt. Jamie A. Tonkinson stand at attention as Olivia Milne sings the national anthem at the reception for the 2011 Atlantic City Air Show Thunder over the Boardwalk on August 16. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen)





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.

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) 761-6248.

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

The 177th Fighter Wing has four first sergeant vacancies—227th Air Support Operations Squadron, 177th Headquarters Element, 177th Medical Group and 177th Maintenance Group. Contact Command Chief Master Sgt. Raynaldo Morales at 761-6218 for more details.

Legal Notes: Deployments

From the 177th Fighter Wing Legal Office

Here at the 177th, we are no strangers to deployments. But have you really planned for deployment and its effect on your personal affairs?



The simplest way to think about a deployment is to focus on the underlying fact that you will no longer be here. You will be somewhere else.

So everything you now routinely do—like making a phone call—will become a significant task. Either it won't get done or someone else will have to do it. With the upcoming Air Expeditionary Force deployment we at the Legal Office strongly encourage you to stop by and find out about all the legal documents available to you.

Don't wait until the processing line to realize you need a will or power of attorney.

Call 761-6059 or e-mail Tech. Sgt. Rusty Litterer for an appointment.

HISPANIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

MANY Backgrounds MANY Stories

ONE AMERICAN Spirit

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

SEPTEMBER 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

The Air National Guard: Best Value for America

“Given the...looming fiscal challenges the nation confronts, the projected demands for forces, the unique capabilities resident in the reserve components, and their cost effectiveness, the Commission sees no reasonable alternative to an increased use of and reliance on the reserve components”

- Commission on the National Guard and Reserves, 2008

Our People: 106,700 Americans on call in 50 states, three territories, and the District of Columbia

<p>Air National Guard members provide <i>full-time</i> readiness at a <i>part-time</i> cost; minimal burden on taxpayer unless called for duty</p>	<p>Cost-effective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35% of USAF capabilities for 6% of budget • Reserve component retirement costs 10% of active duty • Reserve component pay averages 25% of an active duty member 	<p>Available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the past year, 18,366 Air Guardsmen have deployed to 62 countries and every continent, including Antarctica • An average of over 30% of all deployed Air Force aircraft needs filled by ANG units 	<p>Dedicated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 70% of all deployments filled with volunteers • With over 146,000 deployments since 9/11, the ANG maintains the highest retention of any service (active or reserve)
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Our Infrastructure: Cost effective capabilities across the nation and in your community

<p>Locally-based facilities across America means reduced cost to the taxpayer and increased regional support</p>	<p>Community Contributor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of facilities “dual use” with civilian airfields • Strengthens communities by providing capabilities like air traffic control, and communications. 	<p>Efficient</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community basing allows use of existing civilian infrastructure • \$4 million in taxpayer money gains \$12 billion in airfield facilities 	<p>Homeland Defenders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Air National Guard operates 90% of the US air defense alert sites • Dispersed smaller bases aid in domestic response
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The Air National Guard: Best Value for America

"In fiscal year 2006, it cost the federal government more than \$126,000, on average, to provide annual compensation to active duty service members...Most reservists are part-time, and their per capita compensation was \$19,100 in FY 2006."

- Government Accountability Office, "Military Personnel"

"...we find that the total amount budgeted is approximately \$51,000 for each reserve component service member and \$223,000 for each active component service member."

-Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)

"When...personnel appropriations are compared, it is striking to note that Air Reserve Component members use about 14 percent of appropriated personnel funds, but perform over half of all Air Force missions." - The Heritage Foundation

"Our analysis found that reservists are the best buy for the taxpayer...by any metric they are a cost-effective source of trained manpower, particularly as the cost of active-duty manpower has grown exponentially in recent years. We consulted CBO, GAO, the DOD comptroller, and outside think tanks. There are many studies and lots of data, but they all come to the same conclusion..."

- Commission on the National Guard and Reserves, 2008

References

- Commission on the National Guard and Reserves (CNGR), Final Report to Congress, 2008
- GAO Report 07-828, June 2007
- Congressional Research Service, RL30802 (10 Feb 2009) and RL32965 (30 Nov 2009)
- The Heritage Foundation, Web Memo #1942 (2 Jun 2008)
- Statement for the CNGR concerning final report, testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee

Learn more at www.ang.af.mil