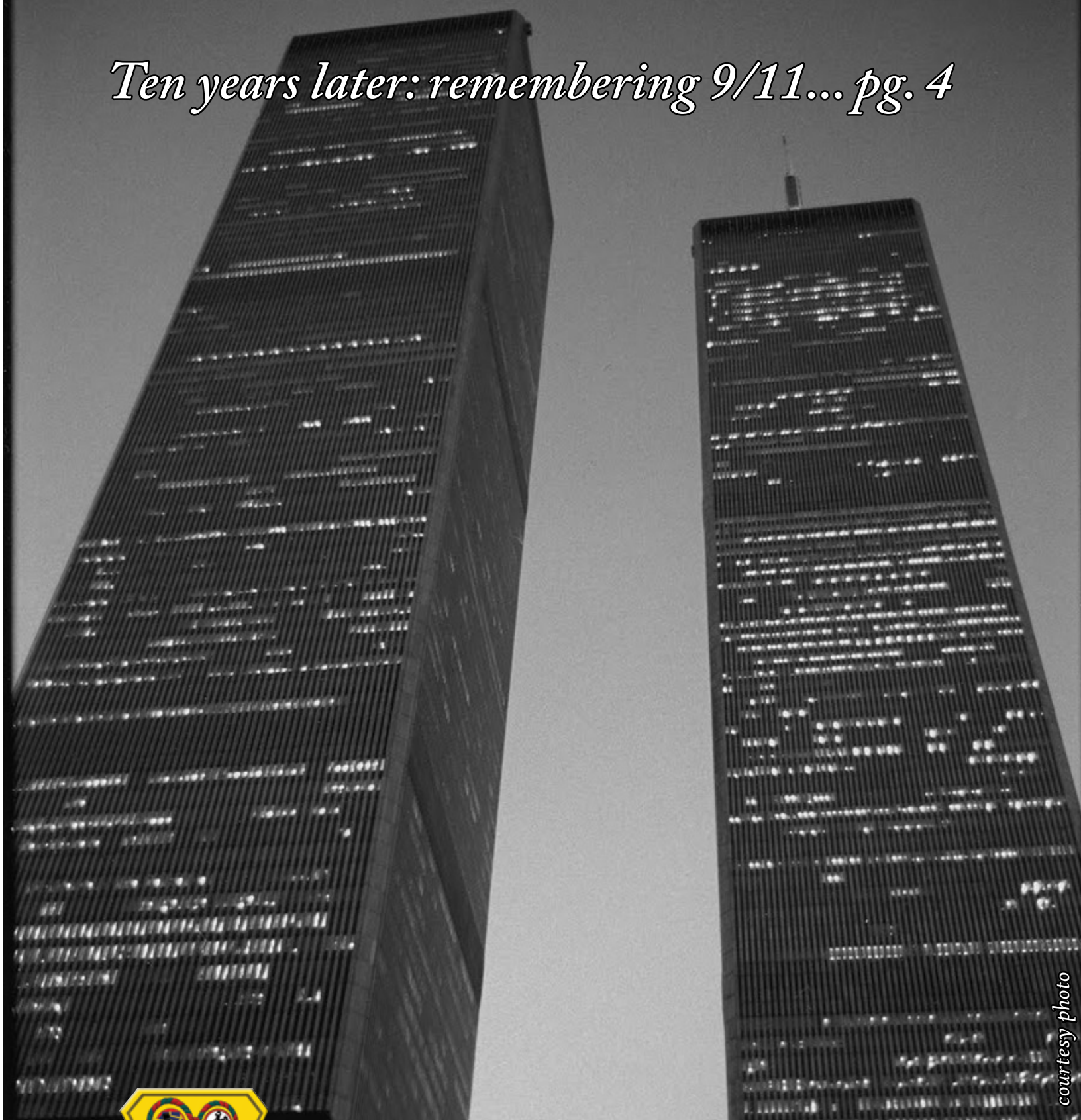


Ten years later: remembering 9/11... pg. 4



courtesy photo



THE GUARDIAN

Visit us on the web: www.153aw.ang.af.mil

A Publication of the Wyoming Air National Guard

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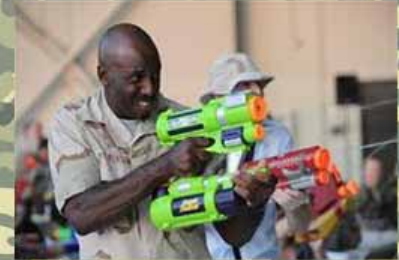
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COMBAT DINING-IN 2011



WHEN:
10 Sep 2011
1730-2100



PRICE:
\$5-50
(Dependent on pay grade)
Includes:
Commemorative
Mug
Dinner & 2 drinks

WHERE:
Wyoming ANG Base
Corrosion Control
Hanger

Dress to IMPRESS: any current or former duty uniform, NO BLUES or service dress

Sponsored by your Wyoming ANG Top 3

Please send *Guardian* submissions by COB the second Monday after UTA to:
153.aw.pa@ang.af.mil

Submissions that are not received by this date cannot be guaranteed inclusion.

Please feel free to submit article ideas, comments or corrections.

The Guardian is the unofficial newspaper published by the 153rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office for the members of the Wyoming Air National Guard. The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the United States Air Force, the Wyoming Military Department or the Wyoming Air National Guard.

Commander's Corner

by Col. Stephen E. Rader

commander, 153 AW



“It’s a great feeling to represent such a fantastic group of professional Airmen.”

Here I sit a little over a month since taking command of the best flying wing in the Air Force, fresh off of a wildly successful airshow and our 65th anniversary celebration. It’s a great feeling to represent such a fantastic group of professional airmen, but I also recognize the magnitude of the responsibility that comes with the position. It seems as if the pace of operations, and the requirements levied upon us only seem to increase. Meanwhile, our budgets and manpower are under perpetual threat of being reduced. The old “do more with less” is the normal state of operation these days. The only way to survive in such an environment is to continually look for ways to make ourselves more efficient in what we do and how we do it. My charter is that we all do what we can to make this a more efficient, capable, and professional organization, while still maintaining a working environment that allows us to have fun.

During August drill I held meetings with all the commissioned officers and top three enlisted ranks. During those meetings I outlined my expectations for our personnel going forward. In those presentations, I asked that we all refocus our attention on our AF core values. I asked both groups of leaders to set the right example for their troops in attitude, behavior and appearance. Most importantly, I asked them to power down the decision making process and take back their power.

We have a smart and capable group of individuals at all levels. I encourage everyone to identify problems and fix them at the lowest levels. It’s an opportunity to have things done the way that YOU want them done, instead of having upper level leadership dictate to you how it will be done. Non-commissioned officers need to take charge of their Airmen and provide the guidance, training, discipline and leadership expected of their rank. Officers need to provide the vision, direction, resources and intent for their NCOs to work from. As you source solutions to problems, I ask that you consider how your decisions will affect the other sections and functions on the base. Ensure that the course of action you take is for the good of the whole wing, and not just your work area.

We have many challenges ahead in the next couple of years. Construction projects that will force many of us to relocate to temporary facilities, a major deployment next year, and multiple exercises as we gear up for our Operational Readiness Inspection, in July 2013. That might seem like a long way off, but when you count up the number of drill days between now and then, you realize we don’t have all that much time to prepare. It isn’t easy being the best unit in the world. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to stay on top. I look forward to the challenges ahead, and the fun we will have meeting them. Thanks for what you do! 🇺🇸

Remembering...

Members of the Wyo. Air National Guard reflect on their 9/11 experience

From Lt. Col. Amy Olson:

“My life changed forever that day, as I’m sure it did for everyone else. I was a flight attendant for American Airlines during that time. Betty Ong perished that day as the jet she was flying on crashed into one of the twin towers.

She was a Boston based flight attendant who helped with my initial in-flight instruction as I was going through flight attendant training. That hit really

close to home. I was also a flight nurse in the 187 AES. We were getting ready to fly a routine training mission that day. We were out on the flight line when the jets crashed one by one. We had heard what happened and were fully prepared, almost expecting to be tapped while we were flying to head east for rescue operations.

We were in the middle of engine start when all



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planes were grounded. We trooped back to the squadron, turned on CNN, and immediately went into planning mode getting crews and support personnel on standby for whatever tasking may flow our way.

As with the rest of the wing, Air Evac has been deployed almost constantly ever since.”

From Senior Master Sgt. Leslie Raney:

“I enlisted with the WyANG July 2001, after seven years of active duty.

I joined the Guard because of the great educational benefits and was going to school full time when September 11 happened.

That morning, I took my daughter to the Child Development Center on base, then headed back to the comfort of my base house to do some studying before my college classes for that day. I remember hearing about a plane crash on the radio while I drove to the CDC, but didn't think much about it. It was when I got home and turned on the news that I realized it wasn't JUST a plane crash.

I called a good friend who lived in Delaware and is from Pennsylvania when I saw that plane crash, she hadn't heard anything about the crashes. We watched TV together, but from different parts of the U.S. as planes crashed into buildings, and as people ran from the debris. I decided to drive back to the CDC to get my daughter - I figured I lived on F.E. Warren, and if

terrorists were going to attack, a missile base might be a good target, and I wanted my 2 year old to be with me.

When I arrived at the CDC, they were in lock-down mode. No one was going in or coming out. I disagreed and after a few choice words, I was allowed in and got my daughter.

We went home and into the basement where we spent the rest of the day doing art projects and playing games. I knew I'd be recalled because I was Security Forces, so I ironed my uniform and polished my boots and waited by the phone until I got the call.

I'd been with the SFS unit less than two months, so no one knew me, but I said I'd come in as soon as my daughter's dad got home from work. I ended up working mid shift the rest of that week and decided to go back to school the following week. The Security Forces Unit was activated in October and because I was so new, I was fortunate and was able to stay here while we sent several teams of SFS to McConnell AFB, Kansas, to assist with security there. I had joined the WyANG to go to school and get my degree - September 11 greatly adjusted my five year plan.”

From Master Sgt. Dana Durand:

“It was my second day attending the First Sergeant Academy. We were on break and saw the surreal live feed on CNN as the second air-

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Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo

Man on the Street

What was your favorite memory from this summer?

“Coming home from Afghanistan on Memorial Day after eight months away.”



Senior Airman Andrew Horgan
187th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron



Tech. Sgt. Trevon Hunt-Thornton
153rd Maintenance Squadron

“I’ve been moving this summer so it’s been lousy. Last summer was off the chain so I should’ve known it was going to go down hill.”



Senior Airman Michelle Ramirez
153rd Maintenance Squadron

“I went on my first TDY, it was to Idaho as part of the Modular Airborne Firefighting System team.”

“I enjoyed going to the pool with my kids...they needed someone to throw them in.”



Chaplain Eli Dowell
153rd Airlift Wing

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liner impacted the tower.

As the world changed from that day forward, I am grateful that I was allowed to dedicate the next 10 years of my life to taking care of Airmen in this time of war.”

From Tech. Sgt. Micah Lile:

“I enlisted in the WYANG on the 14 February, 2001. At that time my motivation for joining the armed services of this fine country were monetary in nature. There was an enlistment bonus available for my chosen career field, and I received ample educational benefits. Although I had no desire to ever deploy with the military, my concern about this occurring was nil, as I didn’t believe our country would be “stupid” enough to enter into a war in the next six years, as there was no reason to.

On the morning of September 11, 2001, I was sleeping in my bed at my parents’ house. My mom came and woke me up and said a plane had crashed into one of the WTC towers. My thought was that a small, Cessna-type plane was what she was talking about. I got up, took my shower, then headed downstairs; at that point I found out the gravity of what had happened. I skipped my classes that day at the local community college, and went and watched the news unfold with my friends. It was at that point

that I realized our country would have a good reason to go to war, and that my enlistment might have a greater impact on my life than I originally realized.

As it turns out, I could have made it through my initial six-year enlistment without deploying. Over the years my thoughts about service in the military have changed though, and I went on my first deployment to Afghanistan on September 9, 2010. I am glad that our country has responded to the events of 9/11 the way it has, and I am glad to see the patriotism that has arisen in response to the attacks. I still wish though, with the rest of America, that the attacks had never unfolded, and I hope and pray that our response will prevent anything like it from ever happening again.

Let us remember the victims, and the families, of the 9/11 attacks and the subsequent losses of life from the prolonged war that we have found ourselves in.”

From Staff Sgt. Thomas Rammussen:

“I used to live in New York City in 1990. At one time I traveled up to the top of Tower 2, at 110 floors. The speed of the elevator ride up Tower 1 averaged two floors per second. It was fantastic to look out and see New York’s area and the Statue of Liberty. Sitting by the window, I could feel the tower sway up to 10 feet in

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the wind.

While at work, in Fort Collins, and watching on TV with co-workers, we could not believe the attack was real. The coverage on TV appeared too staged to be happening. I have a brother and some friends there in New York and I was wondering if they're surviving OK.

I couldn't contact my brother, Tim or his wife, Janet, who both live and work in the city area. Telephone lines were tied up and nobody was able to get through for several days. Janet has two uncles and one brother that worked there. Her brother was a little late leaving for work. He looked up from his home in Queens and when he saw the smoke from the first airliner, he decided not to go to work.

Janet's uncle Fred worked in World Trade Center

Building Seven. He looked up and saw Tower 1 burning and he ran for safety. Her uncle Tom was in Tower 1, the first building to be hit. He was on the 84 floor. The airliner hit on the 86 floor and it shook the whole building on impact. Uncle Tom's boss insisted that all employees get back to work and that the fire department will take care of everything. Uncle Tom and a fellow co-worker did not listen to the boss. They found the elevators out of service and they made their way for the stairway.

Running down 84 floors of stairway was frantic. At about the 40 floor, they met up with firemen and policemen running up. At that time, Tower 2 fell. Very few people were behind them descending and their co-workers were still at work. When they got to

the ground floor and out of the building, the air was filled with dust from Tower 2. They ran for their lives. A few minutes later, Tower 1 came down. They're still alive today.

November 2001, I flew into New York City to visit Tim and Janet. While the airliner I was traveling on was landing in Newark, N.J., the pilot lined us up to see the New York skyline. New York did not look like New York anymore. Smoke was still rising from Ground Zero and it was still a mess. After visiting with Tim and Janet for a few days, I left Queens and drove through Manhattan.

While visiting Ground Zero, I saw the skeleton of Tower 1 and dust in the air from the clean-up efforts. The atmosphere of New York City was still busy but it had a very eerie feeling.

There was a quietness of a very heavy loss. One city block from Ground Zero, was an old stone church and graveyard. On the iron fence surrounding the block, people were hanging pictures and writing messages to their lost loved ones that they were still looking for. A police officer standing guard to keep the public out of Ground Zero talked with me and learned of my military service. The cop gave me a hug of gratitude. I thanked the cop for his service. I had to walk back to the car and leave New York City. Even though I knew no one specifically, of those lost, the loss was still too heavy.

The events of 9/11 lead me to re-enlist in the Navy Seabees and serve in Iraq. Later, I transferred over to the Wyoming Air National Guard.

Traditional Positions at the Wyoming Military Department

AFSC/MOS	Job Title	Closing Date
3D0X1 or 3S0X1	Knowledge Operations Management and Personnel Specialist	Open Until Filled
44M3	Internist	Open Until Filled
48R3	Residency Trained Flight Surgeon	Open Until Filled
48R3	General Medical Officer	Open Until Filled
44F3	Family Practice Physician	Open Until Filled
46N3E	Critical Care Nurse	Open Until Filled

For the most up-to-date announcements, visit: <https://www.wy.ngb.army.mil/jobs/>

Upcoming military career building symposium

by **Chief Master Sgt. Jim Branom**

state human resource advisor



The Enlisted Force Development Council (EFDC) continues to provide educational opportunities to our Airmen with the upcoming “Military Career Building” symposium. This symposium is open to all enlisted and company grade officers. The symposium will be structured with break-out sessions for each topic to ensure smaller class sizes, which provides better opportunity for discussion and interaction.

The symposium will start at 7 a.m. on Oct. 2 at the new Joint Force Readiness Center. Col. Stephen E. Rader, wing commander, will kick off the symposium with Lt. Col. Christopher Smith, wing JAG, giving a short presentation on the improper use of social media by military members and its consequences.

The class schedule is listed with the times each class will be offered. Ten minute breaks are scheduled between each class. The final class of the symposium will be conducted with a five-panel board made up of current Air National Guard members and retirees. These members are available to take questions on a variety of military topics.

The cooperation and support by each commander is critical to the success of our symposiums. The EFDC understands the demands that current training requirements and a high ops tempo has placed upon your members. However, we believe the importance of the materials to be presented during this half-day event will be beneficial to the development of our Airmen and the information and discussion opportunities will prove invaluable to each of the attending members as they progress through their military careers.

0730; 0830; 0930

Understanding Financial

Credit and Budgeting

0730; 0830; 0930

Improving your Writing Skills

0730; 0830; 9030

Developing your Interview

Skills

1030 - 1130

Five Member Panel Board

(Question/

Answer session)



Dress and Appearance Standards

A directorate of services uniforms and recognitions branch program

The Air Force Dress and Appearance Program website is a one-stop shop for all questions on wear of the uniform, insignias, awards and decorations. It also provides the latest news updates and policy changes. For local installation guidance, consult your chain of command for clarification and further guidance on standards and policies.

Updated Dress & Appearance Instructions

The Air Force's instruction on dress and personal appearance received an appearance upgrade with the release of the updated instruction on 18 July. AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance, received the facelift after several years of interim updates as uniform items were introduced and phased out. Updates include:

- Integrated public display of affection (PDA) language
- Elimination of Friday morale T-shirts for flight suit wearers
- Added "dental ornamentation" as a prohibited item
- Exclusion of the Command Insignia from the count of maximum badges authorized
- Added authorizations for cosmetic tattoos for medical reasons for both men and women.
- Allows cosmetic tattoos for non-medical conditions such as eyebrows and eye liner for women (in line with other services)
- Tables are now integrated into text and each uniform has its own section in the AFI
- Photos of uniform combinations, drawings depicting hair standards, measurement tools for Airmen and commanders to determine if tattoos meet standards

All personnel are encouraged to review the entire AFI.

Phaseout Dates

Oct. 1, 2011

- 33S legacy badges

Nov. 1, 2011

- Battle Dress Uniform
- Desert Camouflage Uniform
- Tan boots (excluding Airmen deployed to the area of responsibility)

Wear of the Airman Battle Uniform and ABU items will be mandatory as of Nov. 1, 2011.

Remember to utilize your chain of command for clarification and further guidance on Air Force dress and appearance standards and policies.

Information provided by the Air Force Personnel Center

Policy Changes & Updates

- AFI 36-2903, DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE (Updated July 2011)
- WEAR OF COMMANDERS' INSIGNIA FOR PRT COMMANDERS
- WEAR OF SAGE GREEN FLEECE JACKET AS AN OUTER GARMENT
- FLIGHT DUTY UNIFORM POLICY WEAR CLARIFICATION
- WEAR OF ABU GARMENTS WITH THE FLIGHT DUTY UNIFORM
- AUTHORIZED ABU UNDER AND OUTER GARMENTS
- ABU HEADGEAR POLICY AND SAFE-TO-FLY BOOT UPDATE

<http://www.afpc.af.mil/dress/policy.asp>

65th Anniversary

Retired Brig. Gen. Bud Cooper, waves to attendees at the Wyoming Air National Guard's 65th Anniversary dinner, Aug. 6. More than 120 current and former members of the WyANG attended anniversary activities during the three-day event.



Current and retired members of the WyANG prepare to hit the links at the F.E. Warren Air Force Base golf course.

photos by Staff Sgt. John Galvin



Wyoming Air National Guard retirees look through photo albums and scrap books that were on display as part of the 65th Anniversary of the Cheyenne based unit. More than 120 current and retired members, along with family and friends, helped celebrate the connection with Wyoming and the Air National Guard.



Members of the 153rd Airlift Wing and the Wyoming Air National Guard attend a milk-can dinner during the three day festivities that were part of the 65th Anniversary of the Cheyenne, Wyo. based unit. WyANG retirees from across the United States traveled to Cheyenne, Wyo. to attend the dinner, hosted by the 153 AW.

We Salute

Promotions

Senior Airman Lee Filer
Staff Sgt. Nils Lorenz
Staff Sgt. Jason Powell
Staff Sgt. Brandon Rodriguez

Tech. Sgt. Zachary Austin
Tech. Sgt. Robert Gershmel
Tech. Sgt. Clifford Johnson
Tech. Sgt. Schuyler Sharpe

Master Sgt. Danielle Phegley
Master Sgt. Chad Wellman

Chief Master Sgt. Charles Engbretson

Retirements

Tech. Sgt. Ronald Rash

Master Sgt. Tim Liddle
Master Sgt. David Pierantoni

Chief Master Sgt. Joey Wells

Lt. Col. Kellye Simpson

Wyoming Air National Guard
217 Dell Range Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82009