

Sandy Hoag Gazette



111th Fighter Wing

Pa Air National Guard

Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pa.

Volume 14 Issue 9

September 2009

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ON THE COVER:

An A-10 from the 111th Fighter Wing, Willow Grove Air Reserve Station parked in the Maintenance Hangar.

Photo by Nick Jushchyshyn

Personnel system to be updated

All unit members' middle names are being updated in the Military Personnel Data System as we begin our preparation to convert to e-records (electronic records).

You may receive other correspondence from other systems that feed off the MilPDS, (e.g. LES) to inform you a name change has been completed in the system.

If you find any discrepancies, please contact:

Tech Sgt. Acevedo at (215) 443-1402, email: talitacumi.acevedo@ang.af.mil or Senior Master Sgt. Scot Baughman at (215) 443-1362, email: scot.baughman@ang.af.mil.

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111TH FW MEMBERS

The Sandy Hog Gazette is no longer available in print. To have the Gazette e-mailed directly to you, please send your name and email address to: pa.111fw@ang.af.mil. Please put "Sandy Hog" in the subject line.

RETIREES

You will continue to receive a hardcopy unless you opt for an electronic version.

CONTACT US

The Public Affairs staff can be reached during UTA weekends at (215) 443-1450. For urgent inquiries, contact the 111th FW Wing Executive Officer at (215) 443-1410.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for submissions to the October issue of the Sandy Hog Gazette is Sept. 15. E-mail articles and photos for consideration to: pa.111fw@pawill.ang.af.mil

ABOUT SANDY HOG GAZETTE

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No such thing as **‘Winding Down’** in maintenance

By Lt. Col. Michael Regan
Acting 111th Maintenance Group Commander

The recent visit from the Air Combat Command Inspector General validated something that I think that we all knew about our aircraft maintenance operation: There's no sign of any quitters here.

There are certainly huge signs of change all over the maintenance complex. We are getting smaller, there's only a few aircraft left and our people continue to move to other parts of the Wing and to other opportunities in other units and in other government organizations. In spite of conditions that change almost daily, our Maintenance Group has continued to uphold the highest of standards. The organizations that pick up our people will be better places because they have done so.

The nature of our business here doesn't allow for a gradual decline in the work that we do. No standard may be lowered and no corner can be cut. The work that we do here and the efforts that we put forth will drop from 150% to zero, in one fell swoop. The zero point will not arrive until the very last A-10 has gone "wheels up" and is on its way to its new assignment. Until that fateful moment, we remain committed to providing the safest and most reliable aircraft in the world.

I was standing on the ramp in November of 1988 when the first A-10 arrived here. I was certainly very proud on that day. At that

time, I had no concept of where the aircraft would take us or of the things that we would enable the aircraft to accomplish. I will be standing on the ramp when the last A-10 departs as well. I will be even prouder on that day, even though I will not be happy to see that day arrive.

They can take our airplanes and our tools, but they can never take away the things that we have accomplished and the great impression that we have made on all of those that served beside us, all over the world. Our people and our aircraft have

Wherever our people end up serving, the bar will be raised, and those places will be better as a result.

— Lt. Col. Michael Regan

directly contributed to making the world a safer place. Wherever we went, people knew that we were there and we left behind a higher standard for others to chase.

Through the last very difficult four years, we kept our heads held high and served with distinction in everything that we did, including tours in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan. We have also been fortunate to have unwavering support from all parts of the Wing. We



Lt. Col. Michael Regan

couldn't have done it without a full team effort, and we will continue to rely on the same level of support until it is no longer needed.

In the coming year, you won't hear any moaning or groaning or see any signs of us winding down. You'll continue to see an

organization that remains proud of who we are and what we've done. Once we launch the final sortie and put the chocks away, it'll be time to shut down, and not a minute before. Many of us will then find other ways to continue to serve our nation. Wherever our people end up serving, the bar will be raised, and those places will be better as a result. There are no quitters here.

CCM Perspective: EANGUS Professional Development

By Command Chief Master Sgt. Ralph Braden
Pennsylvania Command Chief

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of The United States (EANGUS) 38th Annual Conference was held in Rochester, Minnesota during the month of August. I had the privilege of participating in this conference with sixteen junior enlisted Soldiers and Airmen representing the Pennsylvania National Guard. We attended the EANGUS Conference Joint National Guard Professional Development program.

Those of us attending Professional Development (PD) attended Joint, Army, and Air PD sessions during the conference. These sessions were very informative, timely and covered topics relevant to our Soldiers and Airmen.

Our future leaders had the privilege of being addressed by some extremely distinguished speakers which included Secretary Dennis M. McCarthy, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs; General Craig R. McKinley, Chief of the National Guard Bureau; Major General Patrick J. Moasio, Deputy Director Air National Guard; Major General Raymond W. Carpenter, Acting Director Army National Guard; Command Sergeant Major Kenneth O. Preston, Sergeant Major of the Army; Chief Master Sergeant James A. Roy, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force; Command Sergeant Major Victor S. Angry, Acting Command Sergeant Major of the ARNG; Chief Master Sergeant Christopher Muncy, Command Chief of the Air National Guard.

It was the highlight of this conference for our future leaders to be able to see, hear, meet, and ask questions of these senior leaders. During the Air PD session, Air National Guard members were given the opportunity to ask questions of a panel that consisted of the former Senior Enlisted Advisors and Command Chief Master Sergeants of the Air National Guard.

Another highlight of the conference was a dinner that all the Soldiers and Airmen attended which was hosted by Major General Jessica L. Wright - The Adjutant General, Pennsylvania



CCMSgt Ralph C. Braden

National Guard and Command Sergeant Major Donald D. Shiner – Joint Forces Senior Enlisted Leader.

Our Pennsylvania National Guard Soldiers and Airmen impressed me with how quickly they came together as a team. It was evident the first day of the conference that this was truly a Joint Operation when the Pennsylvania contingent came together as a team for an All States Parade that marched through the heart of Rochester, Minnesota.

EANGUS is one of the great Professional Military Associations that you as Enlisted Airmen have the opportunity to join and support. They represent the Enlisted National Guard members and strive to maintain and enhance our benefits. EANGUS and the Pennsylvania National Guard Enlisted Association (PNGEA) greatly support us. In return these amazing organizations deserve our support.

To the Airmen whom attended this year's EANGUS Conference, I want to say thank you for your enthusiastic participation. Please share what you have learned with your fellow Pennsylvania Air National Guard Airmen and encourage them to attend in the future.

Col. Carrelli assumes leadership of 111th Fighter Wing

By Tech. Sgt. Jonathan White
111th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

During a change of command ceremony held Aug. 2, Col. Paul Comtois, 111th Fighter Wing commander, passed the guidon and relinquished command of the 111th FW to Col. Tony Carrelli, 111th Maintenance Group commander, in Hangar 3 at Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pa.

“We chose Colonel Carrelli to lead the 111th Fighter Wing into the future,” said Maj. Gen. Stephen M. Sischo, Deputy Adjutant General-Air and Commander of the Pa. Air National Guard. “It’s a huge responsibility and he is very enthusiastic about it. I have nothing but the greatest confidence in his ability to lead you and I’m sure I can count on you to support him to make the future of the 111th successful.”

After assuming command, Colonel Carrelli thanked Colonel Comtois for his mentorship and for leaving him with a Wing that’s 100 percent. “I couldn’t walk into a better position and unit,” he explained.

Colonel Carrelli began his career with the 111th in 1999 as an A-10 pilot. From 2003 until 2006, he served as 111th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Commander. Then, from 2006 until 2009, he served as the 111th Maintenance Group commander. He is a command pilot with more than 4,500 flying hours and has also flown the T-37, T-38, and AT-38B. He served two assignments in the T-37 and four assignments in the A-10 before coming to the 103rd FS at Willow Grove.

Colonel Carrelli has a Bachelor of Science degree from the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colo. In 1995, he received his Master’s degree in aviation science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona, Fla. He has completed Air War College, Air Command and Staff College and Squadron Officer School. His military awards and decorations include: the Bronze Star, Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with one device, Air Medal with five devices, Aerial Achievement



(Top photo) Maj. Gen. Stephen Sischo passes the 111th Fighter Wing guidon to Col. Tony Carrelli during a Change of Command ceremony held Aug. 2.

Top Photo by Tech Sgt. Marie Harmon

(Right photo) Outgoing commander, Col. Paul Comtois thanked the Wing and his family for their dedication and support throughout his tenure as the 111th FW commander.



Photo by Master Sgt. Alvin Farrow

Medal with five devices, Air Force Commendation Medal with three devices, Air Force Achievement Medal with one device, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Award, and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor and eight devices.

Col. Paul Comtois served as Wing Commander for three years, was instrumental in navigating the 111th FW from base closure actions stemming from Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission actions to the establishment of a joint interagency installation (JII), leaving the Wing strong and ready to assume future missions. He joined the 111th in 1994 as an A-10 pilot and has over 2,700 flying hours. During his tour, he also served as Chief of Safety, Air Operations Officer, 103rd Operations Support Flight Commander, Wing Plans Officer, Operations Group Commander, Vice Wing Commander, and Air Commander.

Factoring the human factor in maintenance, safety

By Chief Master Sgt. Ross Barford
111th Maintenance Group

We are a diversified unit these days. We continue to fly the best maintained and piloted A-10s in the Air Force even with reduced manpower and equipment. Our 270th Engineering Installation Squadron provides outstanding engineering installation support whether at home or locations around the world. Our newly formed RED HORSE unit is already sending troops to assist other units in the AOR as it grows to full strength.

However, the one area which can adversely affect our capability is an accident involving a fatality. It has been found that Human Factors account for 94 percent of all military aviation fatalities and four of five Military Class A (destroyed aircraft, fatality, or over \$1 million damage) mishaps involve Human Error.

As a result, several years ago the Maintenance Resource Management (MRM) program was created. It is a program to aid aircraft maintenance types to recognize potential and current maintenance errors and stop them before they can become catastrophic events. The program piggy backed from the Cockpit Resource Management (CRM) program which emphasized airline crew training to improve communication, situational awareness, decision making, and teamwork.

The information and guidance is applicable to all maintenance fields. No matter whether you climb antenna towers for the 270th or pave asphalt for RED HORSE, as maintainers you will fall short of perfection. However, your goal should be to minimize the errors and deviations by properly using the following tools to increase your maintenance capability.

PLAN/PREPARE

- Are you trained and capable to perform the task? Do you possess the right tools and PPE? Is the technical data available and being used?

COMMUNICATION

- Good listening skills, clear and effective communication and the knowledge to call a "TIME OUT" when work should be halted.

MUTUAL SUPPORT/TEAMWORK

- Know your assigned duties and local procedures and be able to coordinate tasks among other team members and groups.

TASK MANAGEMENT

- Prioritize work to make use of your teammates' strengths. Stress, fatigue, and overtaking prevention can ensure successful maintenance operations.

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- Combat confusion/frustration of an event gone wrong by knowing ahead what your alternatives are and be flexible.

DECISION MAKING

- Avoid complacency, know your limits, and halt an operation to reset if need be.

These must be the tools of your trade!

Don't be "That Guy"



Super Soldiers: *Military scientists working to make next generation of American soldiers*

By MSgt Steven L. Muschelli
270th EIS First Sergeant

With the help of the military's development pipeline, tomorrow's warfighters will be here sooner than you think. By the end of this decade and into the next you will see changes in the warfighter that will be amazing and will astound us all.

Our scientists have been busy making the military's dreams come realities and it is just the beginning. I only mentioned a few technologies in this article but all you have to do is search the internet for things like "Future Combat Systems" or "Future Force Warrior" to learn more about them and other new and exciting technologies.

Network Node

These new technologies and more will be control by an on board computer. It will control all these systems as well as place the warfighter on the network just like any other network node where their life signs and positions can be monitored remotely.

Exoskeleton

In its final phases of development, there will be head-to-toe exoskeleton that will be used to augment the strength, endurance and speed of the warfighter. They are predicting that a warfighter will have 300 percent added load carrying capability. A warfighter could have weapons mounted right on their uniform.



Helmet

Today's warfighters will soon be wearing helmets that contain integrated electronics that will transmit and receive directly into the head removing the warfighter from the need to have an ear piece and a microphone. When a warfighter needs access to intelligence all they will have to do is use their voice activated dropdown screen that is built right into their helmet. It will provide things like maps, video, and access to intelligence from aircraft and satellites.

Liquid Body Armor

Magnetorheological (MR) fluid will be contained in pockets all over the soldier's uniform. They will be networked with an electronic charge controlled by the uniforms on board computer. When it detects a threat the armor will solidify in milliseconds.

Photos courtesy U.S. Army Natick Soldier Center

111th Fighter Wing: Ready to rock and roll!

By Staff Sgt. Julie Parker
111th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Sixteen members of the 111th Maintenance Group deployed to Ft. Drum, NY, in support of flying operations and live-fire training missions July 30 through Aug. 9.

As a Forward Operating Location, or FOL, Ft. Drum provides the pilots and ground crews the opportunity to experience loading and firing live weapons, to include MK-82 and High Explosive (HE) rockets on



Tech. Sgt. Dennis Donahue preps a live MK-82 low drag bomb before it is lifted and attached to the aircraft, during live loading operations at Fort Drum.

the aircraft.

Four of the six A-10s currently belonging to the 111th Fighter Wing deployed, and because the location of Ft. Drum is so close to Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, pilots were able to rotate in and out throughout the exercise, maximizing the efficiency of training.

“From the Ammo troops who build the bombs, the weapons troops who load them, and the crew chiefs who launch and recover the aircraft, this is an exceptional opportunity for training and live munitions experience that they would not be able to get back home,” expressed Capt. Aaron Shick, 111th Maintenance Squadron officer. “It is also a great experience to get accustomed to the way we operate during wartime.”

FOLs usually include a runway and a couple of tents, conex, or small buildings. Although fully operational there are limited resources on site, and it is left to the troops to adapt and overcome.

According to Captain Shick, FOLs are used in real world operations to get the A-10 closer to the war zone. In 2003 when the 111th Fighter Wing deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom, a small group of troops were deployed north into Iraq to an FOL in order to participate in “Shock and Awe” in Bagdad.



Staff Sgt. William Arters, a crew chief from the 111th Fighter Wing Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, marshal an A-10 after a successful sortie.



Master Sgt. Tony Thalachira, a crew chief from the 111th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, performs a post-flight check on the rudder of an A-10 Thunderbolt.



Staff Sgt. Ryan Somers waits patiently in the jammer while Lt. Col. Bill Griffin steps off the aircraft.



Tech Sgt. Vance Sample (right) locks in a MK-82 on a Triple Ejector Rack (TER), while other members of the crew assist. The three-man team includes Staff Sgt. Ryan Somers and Airman 1st Class Vince Hill.



Staff Sgt. William Arters exchanges aircraft maintenance forms with pilot Lt. Col. Bill Griffin after landing.

Photos by Capt. Aaron Shick

EMEDS: It's all about saving lives

By Staff Sgt Julie Parker
111th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Fifty-five Air National Guardsmen from the 111th Medical Group joined together with 20 additional ANG colleagues from Pittsburgh and New York to complete their five-year Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS) certification review during a field exercise at Willow Grove Air Reserve Station Aug. 3 to Aug. 7.

The purpose of the exercise is to train the medical personnel with the actual equipment they will use in their mission of homeland defense or alongside their active duty counterparts in time of war.

The EMEDS team, which included physicians, nurses, and a variety of medical technicians, had hands-on training and lectures, lots of planning before several exercise scenarios, and then a 12-hour mass casualty exercise, in which they were evaluated by a cadre team from Alpena, Mich.

According to Lt. Col. Preston Smith, the 111th MDG Administrative officer, EMEDS teams typically travel to the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center in northern Michigan for a week-long certification exercise, once every five years. "We have all the equipment we need so we requested the cadre to come down to our unit," explained Colonel Smith.

An important element of the training exercise is the opportunity for the EMEDS team to work closely with members of other units, the colonel said.



Deputy chief nurse for the 111th Medical Group, Lt. Col. Angel Burris agreed with that statement, "Not only was this an excellent opportunity for us to see our own capabilities, but the best part was working with members from Pittsburgh and New York."

She said that exercises like this are imperative because in a real-world scenario, the younger troops may be working alongside members of units they have never met before, and they must understand the complexities of treating war casualties and how difficult it can become if members of the medical team don't work together.

"I was so impressed with the professionalism and how well everyone melded together into one cohesive group. You couldn't tell one unit from another," said Colonel Burris.

Staff Sgt. Alica Singh, a medical technician with the 111th MDG, explained that her experience with the EMEDS exercise was a positive one.

"As a traditional Guardsman, you don't always get a chance to experience the clinical aspect of the job. This was very realistic and incredibly hands-on," she said.

Being prepared by providing as realistic of a scenario and bringing members of different units into one team are exactly the goals of an exercise like this, said Colonel Smith.

"The 111th Fighter Wing and the Air National Guard brings trained personnel together who are able to support a community that has suffered a disaster. Our country and our state put faith in our ability to be ready," he said. "It's about saving lives ... that's our job."



Photos by Staff. Sgt. Gordon Beecroft

PROMOTIONS

To Senior Airman

Jeremy Williams	270th EIS
Derrick Smith	111th SFS
Robert Morrison	270th EIS
Alexander Ryder	270th EIS

To Staff Sgt

Amy Saranchuk	111th FSS
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To Tech Sgt

Kevin Watson	111th MSG
--------------	-----------

To Major

Oscar O'Neill-Rosado	111th MDG
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ENLISTMENTS

SrA Shaun Monahan	111th SFS
SrA Aaron Barber	111th SFS
A1C Chris Selinsky	201st RHS, Det.1
A1C Remington Kauffman	201st RHS, Det.1
A1C Steven Roberts	201st RHS, Det. 1

EXTENSIONS

TSgt Sean Pearson	111th AMXS
MSgt Brian Curry	201st RHS, Det. 1
TSgt Jason Robbins	201st RHS, Det. 1

RETIREMENTS

TSgt Nellie Montanez	111th LRS
	22 Years
TSgt Joseph Cutolo	111 FW
	20 Years

RE-ENLISTMENTS

MSgt John Staats	111th LRS
TSgt Julia Dodge	270th EIS
MSgt David Pritts	111th MOF
MSgt Mark Knorr	201st RHS, Det. 1
SSgt Thomas Campbell	111th SFS
TSgt Richardo Maestas	111th MXS



A special thanks ...

(Left to right) Jean Moretti, 111th Family Readiness Group coordinator; Sarah Blank, former FRG president; and Chief Master Sgt. (Ret) John Moretti.

During the general session held July 27 at the National Guard Family Program Volunteer Workshop in Dearborn, Michigan, General Craig R. McKinley, chief of the National Guard Bureau presented Family Program Volunteer awards to Mrs. Blank and Chief Moretti for their dedication and countless volunteer hours.

UTA MENU DINING HALL

Saturday, Sept. 19

Roasted Pork Loin
Marinated Chicken Breast
Baked Macaroni and Cheese
Mashed Potatoes
Creamed Spinach
Glazed Apples w/ Raisins
Pork Gravy
Soup of the Day: Broccoli Cheese Potato

Sunday, Sept. 20

Country Fried Steak with White Gravy
Buttered Noodles
Vegetable Fried Rice
French Cut Green Beans
Beef Gravy
Soup of the Day: Classic Vegetable

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UTA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Protestant Service will be held at 8:30 a.m. in Building 320, Room 228. An additional Protestant Service will be held at 10:30 a.m. in Building 203, Room 203.

Catholic Service will be held at 10:00 in Building 203 Auditorium.

The Chaplain's Office is located in Building 203, Room 204-205 on the second floor and can be reached at (215) 443-1534.

FY 10 UTAs:

3-4 October 2009
7-8 November 2009
5-6 December 2009
9-10 January 2010
6-7 February 2010
6-7 March 2010
10-11 April 2010
15-16 May 2010
5-6 July 2010
10-11 July 2010
7-8 August 2010
11-12 September 2010

TAKE A LOOK!

Photos from unit events are updated and posted on Y: drive at Y:\111fw Shared\Photos

Congratulations!



*Tech Sgt Jessica Rice,
11th FSS,
became Mrs. John Bruck
on
Saturday July 25,
2009*



Master Sgt. Lisa Luckenback, 111th FSS, and husband, Mr. Charles Williams, welcomed Lillian Marie Williams to the world July 26, 2009.



Congratulations!

Statewide News:

View newsletters of our sister units:

193rd Special Operations Wing
"The Scope"

<http://www.193sow.ang.af.mil>

171st Air Refueling Wing
"Tanker Times"

<http://www.171arw.ang.af.mil>

Pa. Guardians Magazine

<http://guardians.aqppublishing.com>

National News:

On Guard Magazine

Published every Jan., April, July, Oct.

<http://www.ngb.army.mil/news/theonguard>

Airman Magazine

Published bi-monthly and now available online

<http://www.airmanonline.af.mil>

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DEFENDING FREEDOM

