Second Intelligence wing

November 2008

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SEAGULL IDEAS?

Do you have an idea for a Seagull article? Would you like to be the subject of a story? Births, marriages, sympathy notices and other information are always welcome. Let us know what is going on in your section. 500 word maximum.

The next Seagull deadline is 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2, 2008.

102nd IW COMMANDER

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NOVEMBER DINING HALL MENU

Hours: 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 1

Roast Turkey Baked Ham **SUNDAY, NOV. 2** Chicken a la King

Lasagna

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

Prime Rib Pork Loin

SUNDAY, DEC. 7

Pizza

Steak and Cheese Subs

ON THE COVER >>



An F-15 Eagle formerly maintained and flown by 102nd Fighter Wing Airmen is positioned outside of a Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod hangar during the airfield changeover ceremony Oct. 4.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Kerri Cole)

UPCOMING UTAs >>

UTA duty hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m on Sunday

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FROM THE DESK OF THE 102 IW SCOMMANDER By Col. Anthony Schiavi

WHAT'S YOUR CAREER PLAN?

For those in the wing that attended my commander's call in September, you heard me discuss the imperative of managing career expectations and the importance of each person in the wing understanding the ins-and-outs of managing their career path in the Air National Guard. I thought I would take the opportunity in this commander's column to provide some additional food for thought on the importance of having a career plan.

I received some very sage advice during my initial tour in the U.S. Air Force that has served me well for the last 25 years and is as applicable today as it was then. It cannot only benefit our youngest Airmen, but also those in mid-career. In fact, it is probably never too late to start. The advice that I received was actually quite simple. It boiled down to taking the time to understand what a successful career in your given Air Force specialty code should look like and how it will provide you the job experience, education (both civilian and professional military education) and ever increasing leadership responsibility to take you from airman basic to chief master sergeant, or second lieutenant to general over the course of a typical military career. It has to be a living and flexible plan; it has to change over the course of your career to handle opportunities that might arise along the way.

My own personal plan had three major changes over the last 25 years. I started out in the acquisition career field on active duty, changed to a rated officer and pilot after four years and then from an active duty Air Force career to one in the Air National Guard at the 10-year point. These changes provided me with the opportunity to reassess my career path and manage my goals and expectations as a career military professional.

Like most things, the hardest part is getting started, however, you only have to take a look around the wing, our state or across our service and you have surely met someone or several people who have already attained the goals you hope to achieve. I would suggest you start with them, as they have already walked the path that you are hoping to follow. We often call these people "mentors" and I strongly believe that every military professional should have one, or several. I know I have had mentors and I still talk to them today. Seek out those that you admire and respect and whose opinions mean something to you. They can be either formal or informal mentors, but regardless of which one(s) you choose they can be immensely helpful in assisting you to manage your career expectations, thereby, meeting your career goals. The senior enlisted and officers above you are great resources. I know they would be more than willing to assist you in mapping out each of your respective career paths. I believe that one of the hallmarks of a true leader is the willingness to look down the chain of command often and be ready to extend a hand down to those that are looking up the chain and provide them the same advice and mentorship that they surely received in their rise to the senior leadership level.

Lastly, remember that no one will look out for your career more than you. It is ultimately up to each one of us to ensure that we ready ourselves for that next opportunity for advancement. Do your homework. Have a plan and fine-tune it. Share your plan with others. Talking about your goals and how you expect to fulfill them reflects confidence and belief in yourself. The feedback and direction you receive may be what makes you stand out, both personally and professionally.

ANNOUNCEMENTS >>

EXTRA EARNINGS FOR YOUR MILITARY SERVICE

Military members who served on active duty any time from 1940 to 2001 qualify for a higher social security payment. Up to \$1,200 per year of earnings credited at time of application. A valid DD-214 must be submitted to the Social Security Office to apply. This benefit is only provided to those who ask to receive it! For more information, visit: http://www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm.

FIRST QUARTER AWARD PACKAGES

Nomination packages for Airman, NCO and Senior NCO of the Quarter for first quarter, fiscal year 2009 are due to the commander's office no later than close of business Dec. 7. Interviews will be held Jan. 10, 2009.

"CIAO, FRANCESCO"

A Readers Theatre Presentation Otis ANG Base, Building 165, Main Conference Room Nov. 2 at 2 p.m.

A World War II story about the real life experience of a 20-year old tail gunner who, after being shot down over Northern Italy, evaded the enemy for eight months while secretly living with two families of the Italian Resistance.

DINING FACILITY

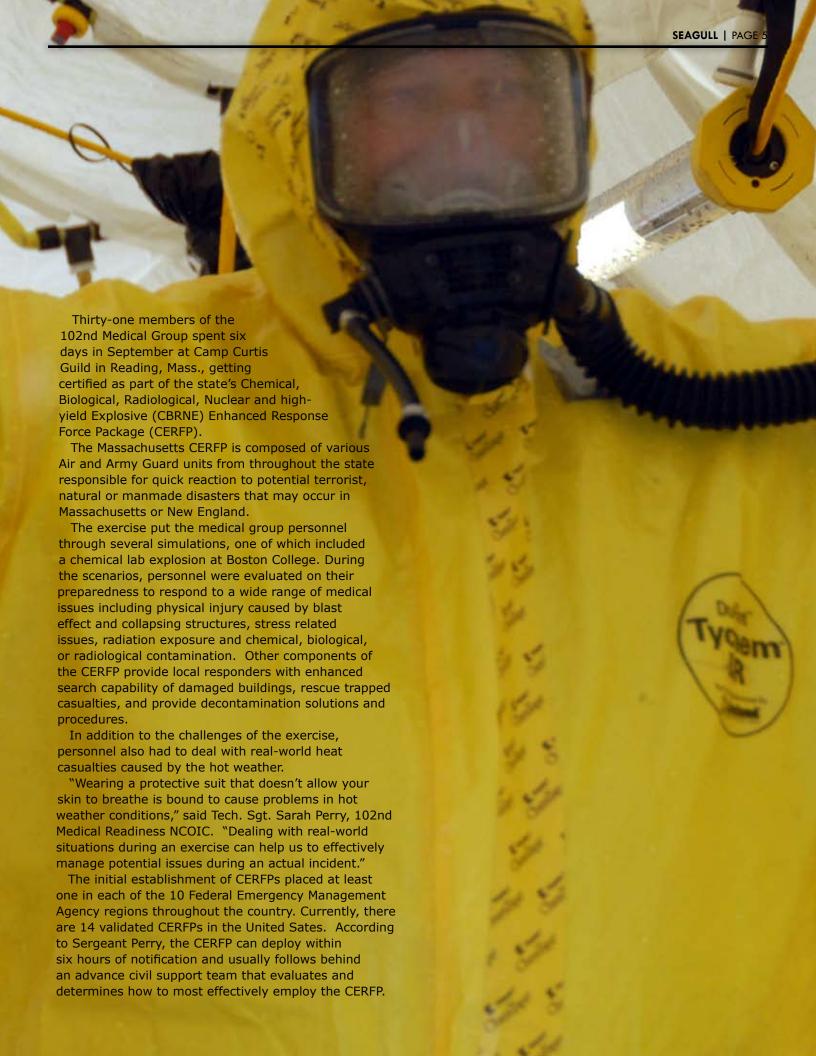
Many Airmen have changed their status from Technician to AGR. With that change, they are required to reimburse the government for their meals in the Dining Facility. Drill status members are still afforded their meals at no cost as a benefit provided by the government. Questions can be directed to Senior Master Sgt. Lynds at (508) 968-4150.

102nd Airmen participate in joint medical exercise

By Tech. Sgt. Andrew Reitano 102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs



U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. Aaron Smith





By Senior Airman Matt Benedetti 102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

On a brilliant autumn morning, the airfield at Otis Air National Guard Base was officially transferred to the Coast Guard. The well attended ceremony featured remarks by several of the dignitaries in attendance which included Massachusetts Senate President Therese Murray (D-Plymouth); Maj. Gen. Michael Akey, Massachusetts Air National Guard commander; Rear Adm. Dale Gabel, First Coast Guard District commander; Capt. Dan Abel, Air Station Cape Cod commander; and Col. Anthony Schiavi, 102nd Intelligence Wing commander. Brig. Gen. L. Scott Rice, Massachusetts Air National Guard Assistant Adjutant General was also in attendance.

The event marked the next phase in the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission directive which redistributes assets and responsibilities previously tasked to the 102nd Fighter Wing.

The ceremony also served as a benchmark of the partnership between tenants of the Massachusetts Military Reservation, including the Coast Guard, the Massachusetts Air National Guard, the Massachusetts Army National Guard and the Executive Office of Public Safety. The Coast Guard will assume control of the aviation facilities -- runways and taxiways -- while the Air National Guard will manage the utilities. The Commonwealth will fund emergency services and fire protection.

President Murray's senate district includes Bourne and the Massachusetts Military Reservation. She recognized the importance of the base and the change in public perception regarding the facility in recent years.

"Before 9/11 we used to get complaints about the jet noise. Since that day we haven't received one complaint from any of the neighbors. In fact, when they discovered that the base might be closed, they were scared," she recalled. "They wanted the base here and appreciated the military presence on the MMR. I am glad we were able to put all the pieces together with the state being part of the host community; stepping up to the plate financially, saving the fire station and creating a state fire service."

The transition of the airfield has been underway for approximately 18 months. Colonel Schiavi was happy to see the process in its final stages.

"It is a sign of great cooperation. There were some bumps in the road here and there but through cooperation between all the services on the base and the National Guard Bureau, the plan came together -- it all worked out," said Colonel Schiavi.

"It is a sign of great cooperation. There were some bumps in the road here and there but through cooperation between all the services on the base and the National Guard Bureau, the plan came together — it all worked out."

Colonel Schiavi

"The base and airfield are obviously very important not only to the Coast Guard but to the Army and any potential future missions that should come to the MMR. Having an operational airfield with the Coast Guard managing and the state taking care of

the emergency services piece is vital. The support we received at all levels, both federal and state leadership, was outstanding. The offices of Senator Kennedy and Congressman Delahunt were instrumental in terms of attracting new missions and making sure the base remained vibrant," said Colonel Schiavi.

Members of the 102nd Intelligence Wing will be available to assist with the transition if necessary. "We have personnel with a lot of expertise and we are still here to assist the Coast Guard if necessary. They are taking it over on the verge of winter which will present some challenges but they are up to the task," noted Colonel Schiavi.



A ceremonial key to the airfield is presented to Coast Guard officials (left) by Senate President Therese Murray, Maj. Gen. Michael Akey and Col. Anthony Schiavi (right).

ENLISTE Protlight

Airman 1st Class James Newton

Hometown: Rockland, Mass. Time in service: Less than 1 year

AFSC: 3C0X1, **Computer Systems** Specialist Full-time: Student **Hobbies:**



Senior Airman Alexis Colonna

Hometown: Putnam Valley, N.Y.

Time in service: 3 years AFSC: 1N0X1, Intel **Operations Specialist**

Full-time: AOC **Hobbies:**

Running, walking, swimming, bicycling and exploring

Cape Cod

Senior Master Sqt. Reggie Graham

Hometown: Brockton, Mass. Time in service: 19 years

AFSC: 2WOX1,

Weapons Safety Full-time: Asst. Chief Court Officer

Hobbies: Golfing



Master Sgt. Roger Chouinard

Hometown: Fairhaven, Mass. Time in service: 20 years

AFSC: 3E3X1, Structural Repair Full-time: Maintenance Mechanic for 102nd Civil Engineering Hobbies: Facilitating "Band of Brothers" Groups



Staff Sqt. Sheena Green

Hometown: Rochester, Mass.

Time in service: 7 years

AFSC: 3SOX1, Personnelist Full-time:

Office Manager **Hobbies:**

Skating



Senior Airman Aramis Tirado

Hometown: Roslindale, Mass.

Time in service: 4 years

AFSC: 3AOX1, Knowledge Mgt. Full-time: Director of Development **Hobbies: Strategy** games, camping, time with family, baseball and football



Master Sqt. Matthew Stockwell

Hometown: Westborough, Mass.

Time in service: 20 years

AFSC: 1SOX1, Safety technician

Full-time: Firefighter

Hobbies: Computers, hiking and working



Senior Master Sgt. Steven Brown

Hometown: Bridgewater, Mass.

Time in service: 26 years

AFSC: 1N1X1, Intel Full-time: **Intel Supervisor**

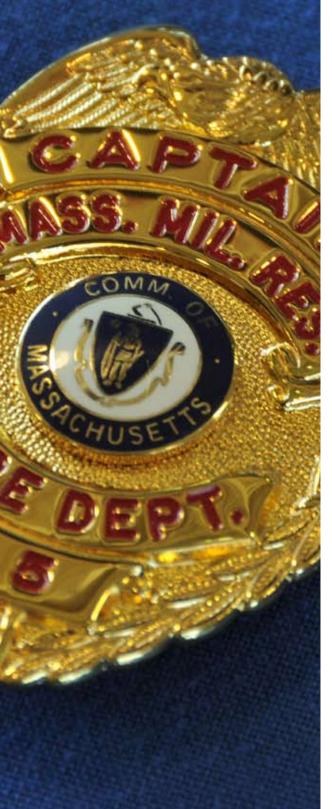




Otis Fire Department transfers to state, changes name

By Evan C. Lagasse 102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

Members of the Otis Fire Department officially transitioned from federal civil service employees to state employees of the Massachusetts Military Reservation Fire Department at midnight on Sept. 27.



The fire department's transfer from the federal chain of command to that of the state was formally recognized in a transfer ceremony here Sept. 29.

"This ceremony marks the culmination of many months of hard work," said Maj. Gen. Joseph C. Carter, Massachusetts National Guard adjutant general, in his opening remarks to ceremony attendees.

General Carter continued by detailing the storied past of Otis Air National Guard Base -- the many names it has operated under and the various missions its Airmen have executed. The general assured the crowd that no matter the name or mission of the base, it will continue to be an active, relevant and vital component of our nation's military force.

At the conclusion of the general's remarks, he asked the MMR firefighters to stand, raise their right hand and repeat after him as he administered the state firefighter oath.

While the 2-year-old firehouse building is still owned and maintained by the 102nd Intelligence Wing, the transition of authority from federal to state of the maintenance equipment and personnel comes under the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security.

In his speech to the assembly, Secretary of Public Safety and Security Kevin M. Burke explained that the MMR firefighters now fall under the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's 'umbrella' and with a chuckle, assured the crowd he had not made that comment to scare anyone.

Secretary Burke emphasized the importance of the role the MMR firefighters will continue to play in homeland security saying, "your uniform patch has changed, but your mission has not."

Next on the agenda was State Fire Marshal Stephen Cohen who thanked the key people who made the transition possible for their tireless efforts and spoke about the MMR firefighters' unique responsibility to both the military and Barnstable County.

"You're needed in the surrounding communities. Remember the importance of the awesome responsibility you have because you wear the firefighter badge. Do not take your duties and responsibilities lightly," urged Fire Marshal Cohen.

Fire Marshal Cohen called Otis Fire Chief Walter Stecchi forward and by the power vested in him, officially delegated the authority to Chief Stecchi to carry out the duties of MMR Fire Chief.

Newly-minted MMR Fire Chief Stecchi expressed his thanks to numerous key players for creating the MMR fire district and the MMR Fire Department, which he noted is the first fire department run by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Despite the vast number of behind the scenes changes, Chief Stecchi assured the community there will be no difference in the professional service his firefighters provide.

"The customers that we provide fire protection service to will not notice any difference at all. Everything will stay the same as far as our operations go. People, property and environment are our main goals. It's our mission to protect those three items and that won't change," said Chief Stecchi.

The MMR Fire Department employs 32 trained, traditional firefighters and specialists in aircraft fire and rescue emergencies and other unique emergency situations that can be resourced if necessary by the surrounding communities.



Air Force Orientation Program participants practice drill and ceremonies (top) and learn self-aid and buddy care (bottom). (U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Matt Benedetti)

Air Force Orientation Program takes off

By Senior Airman Matt Benedetti 102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

"Dress Right, Dress," exhorts Senior Airman James Hightower of the 102nd Security Forces.

The 10 young men and women clad in civilian athletic clothes stand in formation and glance at one another before tentatively following the command. Airman Hightower calmly instructs the group on the proper facing movement and repeats, "Dress Right, Dress!"

His charges respond with purpose and quickly execute the command like the Airmen they will soon become.

The young adults participating in the drill movements have recently enlisted in the 102nd Intelligence Wing and are preparing for basic training in the Air Force Orientation Program. This initiative is designed to give individuals entering the wing an understanding of the Air Force as well as allow them to make a smooth transition from civilian to military life. Prospective Airmen no longer need to fear the unknown.

Master Sgt. David Rogissart, Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Lovering and Airman Hightower are the chief instructors. The primary focus of the course is to teach prospects blocks of instruction that pertain to rank structure, history, drill and ceremony, physical training standards and weapons training.

Twenty-six young men and women are involved in the program and will be ahead of their peers from other states who have not had this training, according to Sergeant Rogissart.

"This instruction will give them a better understanding of what to expect and the confidence to excel."

"The program is new and in its second month for the entire wing. Security Forces established the program about five months ago," said Airman Hightower. "A lot of recruits that participate in the program assume leadership duties like team leaders or ropes and dorm chiefs at (basic training). In Security Forces, we have already seen a few who have participated in the program come back as honor grads," he said. "It is rewarding to see that the work you put forth is going to significantly help them-kind of like paying it forward.

They are going to go down to basic training with a knowledge base and the stress level is going to be a lot less for them. They will be able to take their knowledge and be able to lead and help the next Airmen."

The Air Force Orientation Program provides the wing with a valuable development tool and the initiative will certainly continue to grow. "What we have here is our wing of tomorrow and we hope to teach them leadership early," said Airman Hightower.

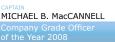
102ND INTELLIGENCE WING

UTSTANDING

Airmen

OF THE YEAR 2008





CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON



GEORGE A. BURR

CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON



BRYAN G. BURGER

SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON



SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON



BRIAN M. EASTMAN LOGISTICS READINESS SQUADRON



ELINOR I. BROSSEAU COMMUNICATIONS FLIGHT



JENNIFER L. LOVERING

Intelligence Group
Information System Security Officer



Flynn, Award

MASTER SERGEANT ROSE B. GOULD

102nd Intelligence Wing Chaplain Services Specialist

The Master Sgt. Thomas Flynn Award recipient for 2008 is Master Sgt. Rose Gould, 102nd Intelligence Wing chaplain services specialist. Sergeant Gould received the Master Sgt. Thomas Flynn Award for her contributions to patriotism and unit morale as well as her constant display of genuine concern for her organization and community.

Airman's Council addresses issues

By Tech. Sgt. Alicen Hogan Contributing Writer

The Otis Airman's Council met during October drill to discuss issues of concern to the enlisted force.

Topics covered included projects to raise esprit de corps. A process for a formalized retreat ceremony is being drawn up for review. In addition, a Legacy Park commemorating members with engraved bricks is also in the works.

Professional development concerns were also brought to the table. For transferring NCOs who have successfully completed the NCO academy career development course while at their prior unit, the question of pursuing a waiver for the in-residence NCOA requirement was elevated. A professional development library, consisting of recommended reading items from the CSAF Reading List, is also

being explored.

The status of dormitory housing is under review. Airmen are interested in knowing if there are any plans in the works to refurbish the existing dorms, build a new dormitory facility, or contract out rooms to local hotels.

"The only way to get these [issues] moved is to bring them up at the Airman's Council. Spread the word to your workgroups," said Command Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Raymondo. "The Airman's Council is the place to take your concerns and get them resolved."

The Airman's Council meets every unit training assembly Saturday at 1 p.m. Meeting attendance is open to all enlisted members from airman basic to technical sergeant. See your supervisor for more details or visit the Airman's Council website on the Otis Intranet under Other Groups.

Band Officer Position Opening

Position Title/Maximum Grade:

Band Officer/O4

Minimum Grade eligible to apply:

O1 or eligible for commissioning

Unit:

567th Air Force Band, JFHQ, Milford, Mass.

Supervisor:

Col. Gary W. Keefe, Director of Staff, MA ANG

Application Deadline:

Close of Business Nov. 25

Board Date and Location:

Dec. 6, JFHQ, Milford, Mass.

POC for more information:

Col. Gary W. Keefe, DSN: 256-6538; Commercial: (508) 233-6538, Email: gary.keefe@mabarn.ang.af.mil

Duties and Responsibilities:

Administers, manages, and directs Air Force Band programs, including procurement and training of band directors and band personnel. Monitors use of bands,

including scheduling and performances of band units and subunits. Ensures necessary funding, facilities, transportation, administrative support, and effective use of band personnel.

Technical Background Required/Desired:

An undergraduate degree specializing in music, music education, business administration/management, or related field is desirable.

Application Procedures:

Please submit a resume that includes all experience relevant to this position, both military and civilian, before the application deadline to:

Col. Gary W. Keefe, Director of Staff, MA ANG 50 Maple Street

Milford, MA 01757

You may submit copies of any certifications that are required or that apply to the position. Please make note of any special qualifications listed above. Non-members of the MA ANG must submit references from their previous three military supervisors. On board officers must submit last three Officer Performance Reports.



Commander praises past, focuses on future

By Tech. Sgt. Alicen Hogan Contributing writer

The September unit training assembly saw the first official Commander's Call of the 102nd Intelligence Wing. Colonel Anthony Schiavi held two sessions at the base movie theater on Sept. 13 to share his vision for the 102nd Intelligence Wing and applaud the accomplishments of its Airmen.

Colonel Schiavi first addressed the general assembly with short, middle, and long-term goals for the wing. In standing up the mission, the 102nd IW is on target for meeting its timelines in bringing facilities online for operations while recruiting continues to be a focus area.

"I greatly encourage everyone to become involved in G-RAP (Guard Recruiting Assistance Program), if you aren't already," Colonel Schiavi advised.

Staffing levels continue to move in a positive direction, but there are many shops with vacancies.

"Please get involved with recruiting to help them with events they attend. It helps (recruiters) enormously to have Airmen who are qualified in the jobs, standing beside them, available to answer questions that potential recruits have."

As the 102nd continues the transition from a fighter wing to an intelligence wing, Colonel Schiavi outlined the restructuring and re-allocation of wing buildings and functions. The runway, taxi ways, ramps and general flight line area of operations will be handed

over to the Coast Guard for management and operations. Firefighting responsibilities will be transitioned away from the 102nd to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The entire 102nd base footprint will slim down significantly to mirror the streamlined, efficient operations demanded of its new mission.

"We have successfully, and safely, concluded the 100 Days of summer," remarked Colonel Schiavi.

The Air Force wide initiative to raise safety awareness hopes to keep unnecessary and preventable injuries from occurring among service members. Colonel Schiavi took this opportunity to commend 102nd members for their accomplishment and to highlight the importance of the Wingman concept.

"Take the time to ask," Colonel Schiavi advised. Suicide awareness and prevention are the focus of the Wingman concept. Supervisors and crew members are trained to spot early signs of depression, post traumatic stress disorder, and overwhelming stress symptoms displayed by fellow Airmen. Emphasizing that it is not enough to just recognize the signs, Colonel Schiavi called

for 102nd Airmen to take action and seek help, especially for wingmen who may not be able to ask for themselves.

Dovetailing the ideal of compassion, Colonel Schiavi re-iterated the wing policy of "zero tolerance" for any type of sexual assault or misbehavior. Successful missions depend upon teamwork and trust that are built upon respect for each other. The wing commander thanked the assembly for understanding this and maintaining an environment that does not foster inappropriate behavior. The 102nd has had zero complaints in the past, "and it needs to stay that way," stated Colonel Schiavi.

Colonel Schiavi encouraged members to take part in a variety of initiatives to improve operations and community. The wing commander announced a goal of 100 percent contact and education for members regarding the Combined Federal Campaign with a wing goal of raising more than \$5,000 in funds. Additionally,

Colonel Schiavi hopes to see increased membership in Airman, Officer, and Diversity Councils. "These are great ways to address issues important to the wing and grow future leaders within the wing," Colonel Schiavi explained.

Wrapping up the Commander's Call, Colonel Schiavi took time to recognize various members of the 102nd who have performed above and beyond expectations. Airman, noncommissioned officer, and senior noncommissioned officer of 2008 winners were applauded for their accomplishments. Also commended for outstanding performance were the many

Airmen of the 102nd who have been awarded Distinguished Graduate or Honor Graduate while retraining into their various Air Force specialty codes.

"You do not know how great it feels to be able to say that over 20 percent of our Airmen have been not only able to successfully complete the technical school, but leave with some form of Distinguished Grad or Honor Grad award. Especially when the average washout rate for active duty recruits is about 30 percent. Makes me very proud," said Colonel Schiavi.

The last Commander's Call was held in late May. At that time, Colonel Schiavi's message focused on praising the past accomplishments of the 102nd Fighter Wing and retiring the fighter mission with heads held high. September's Commander's Call may have changed gears in addressing a new mission, new buildings, and new responsibilities but one thing has remained unchanged: the sense of pride and focus on 100 percent mission success.

"We are second to no one and will continue to be the example to learn from," concluded Colonel Schiavi.



SCHOOL HONORS >>

TOP GRADUATES

Master Sgt. Brian Joyce Master Sgt. Mark Swanton Tech. Sgt. David Olson Tech. Sgt. Aaron Leger Staff Sgt. Stephen Erickson

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES

Master Sgt. Mark Baker Tech. Sgt. George Mahanna Tech. Sgt. Scott Manamon Senior Airman Alexis Colonna Senior Airman Michael Corkren

ACADEMIC HONORS

Senior Master Sgt. Jose Franco Senior Master Sgt. Michael Marquez Master Sgt. Brian Joyce Master Sgt. Joe O'Brien Tech. Sgt. Scott Manamon Senior Airman Alexis Colonna

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION

Master Sgt. Mark Baker Tech. Sgt. David Anelundi Tech. Sgt. Jorge Torres

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

Tech. Sqt. Scott Manamon

(Voted by classmates: Operations Intelligence Apprentice Course, Goodfellow AFB, TX)

ACADEMY OF MILITARY SCIENCE

2nd Lt. Robert Blanchette 2nd Lt. Matt Cusack* 2nd Lt. Ryan Olsen* 2nd Lt. Chad Pimental* 2nd Lt. Jean Riordan

*Received Physical Fitness Award for scoring above 95% on the fitness exam.

PROMOTIONS >>





hoto by Master Sgt. Sandra Niedzwiecki

102nd Intelligence Wing Airmen attended the Otis Civilian Advisory Council dinner honoring Senior Master Sgt. George Burr for his military and civilian accomplishments. Sergeant Burr was recently chosen as the 102nd IW Military Person of the Year and Senior NCO of the Year 2008. (L-R; Lt. Col. James LeFavor, Lt. Col. Stephen Demianczyk, Col. Christina Stevens, Senior Master Sgt. George Burr, Col. Anthony Schiavi, Lt. Col. Chris Faux, Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Raymondo and Chief Master Sgt. Buddy Manamon)

CHAPEL CALL

By Chaplain (Maj.) David G. Berube 102nd Intelligence Wing Head Chaplain

As the days get shorter and the temperature begins to cool, I find myself talking with many people about how quickly the summer seems to have gone and how tired we are. The pace of life seems to have been extra fast this year, so that almost everyone I know feels like they blinked and summer was over. This summer's pace seemed more hectic than normal. I, and the people I've talked with, find that as we've reached the end of summer and stopped running we're exhausted and almost overwhelmed. In fact, this year it took until almost October to slow down enough to have the conversation about how fast the summer seems to have gone.

I once had a computer that put in a lot of hard work over several years and then one day would not turn on. It indicated that it was alive, but was not ready to work. It could acknowledge its existence, but could not perform even basic functions. It was overworked, it seemed, and we wondered if it was worn out for good. When the computer was diagnosed, it turned out the problem was a worn out battery. Nothing major, the computer just didn't have the basic power it needed to work. All its memory was intact and nothing was broken. The computer just couldn't use the electricity coming into it. It simply needed to recharge.

Have you ever felt like that? Have you ever

"Taking time to recharge"

opened your eyes in the morning and thought, "That's enough work for one day?" Life sometimes saps our energy to the point that we feel we can't keep up and aren't even sure we can get up. Or maybe you sometimes just feel so busy that you don't think you have time to recharge. You know the energy of life is out there but can't seem to access it.

If that drained feeling sounds familiar, it's important for you (and me) to know the feeling isn't fatal. It's important to remind ourselves that the best way to deal with that energy problem is to take time to recharge – to set aside our routines and challenges, regularly and for long enough, to do things that feed us. We give much of our lives to meeting deadlines, completing projects, attending meetings, and "being productive." It's vital that the energy flow in life is regularly coming toward us so we don't burn out.

Fall is a good time to reassess our recharging plan and open up space in our schedules for it. It's a good time to get back into a habit of committing time for quiet, reading (for pleasure or personal learning, not work), exercise, hobbies, entertainment, unstructured time with friends and family and practicing our faith. When we plug ourselves into these energy sources we'll insure we keep our batteries topped up. That will help us stay engaged, productive, and fulfilled in our busy lives.

Combined Federal Campaign Sept. 1 – Dec. 15 By Maj. Bill Dyer

102nd Combined Federal Campaign coordinator



As this year's Combined Federal Campaign coordinator for the wing, I would like to take a moment to discuss the campaign. Whether you are familiar with what the campaign is all about or this is the first time you are hearing about it, the bottom line is that the CFC is a worthwhile cause that provides many ways for us to support our community.

Recently, I was at Newport Naval Base, R.I., attending the official kickoff meeting for this year's CFC. The crowd consisted of representatives from the military services, federal workers, civic leaders, and members of both local and national level charities. I was encouraged to hear speaker after speaker talk about how contributions made through the CFC made a difference in the work they do for the community as well as the lives of people within those communities. Even though I was hearing stories about successes in Rhode Island, these success stories can occur in any community. It is a way that we can connect with people in need locally, nationally, or even globally, and the choice is yours.

Last year the Southeastern Massachusetts

(SEMA) region contributed more than \$176,000 in support of organizations that are doing such great work within the community. The one thing about the CFC that I think brings out its appeal is that the campaign offers so many diverse ways to contribute. Maybe you would like to donate to local charities that don't have much overhead, but are making a direct impact with your local community....you can give to that charity! Maybe you would prefer to donate to a more global foundation engaged in research to cure a specific disease or aid in the fight against hunger...you can give to that organization! You can give to a single organization or to multiple organizations. The important thing is to consider giving, because your gift makes a difference!

In the upcoming months, we will identify CFC representatives for each unit and will have the materials needed to make your donations. If you have any questions about the CFC please give me a call at (508) 968-4565.

Fall Safety Tips...

PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WINTER:

- Hire a professional to check your heating system, fireplace chimney and/or wood-burning stove.
- Replace expired fire extinguishers in your kitchen, garage and/or workshop.
- Test or replace smoke detector batteries and perform any manufacturer-recommended maintenance according to manufacturer directions.
- Check cords on all electrical equipment for cracks or damage.
- Insulate water pipes running through unheated spaces.
- Check and repair caulking around doors and windows.
- Clean leaves and debris from gutters.
- Drain the gas and oil from your yard tools.
- Be sure to store gas cans safely away from sources of flames and sparks and out of reach of children.

(Information provided by the 102 IW Safety Office)





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