

102nd INTELLIGENCE WING

# Seagull



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**FAMILY DAY**  
**2009**

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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 organization. *(Please limit articles to 500 words.)*

**The next Seagull deadline is 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009.**

**DINING HALL MENU**

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

**Saturday:**

Main Dishes:

Beef Ball Stroganoff with buttered noodles  
Sweet and Sour Chicken with rice

**Sunday:**

Main Dishes:

Shepherds Pie  
Chicken Cacciatore with spaghetti

**ON THE COVER >>**



Josiah Joyce, son of Master Sgt. Brian Joyce, poses for a photo with his cotton candy while enjoying the 102nd Intelligence Wing's Family Day celebration, Sept. 13.

U.S. Air Force Photo/Staff Sgt. Kerri Cole

**UPCOMING UTAs >>**

Unit Training Assembly duty hours are 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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## FROM THE DESK OF THE 102 IG COMMANDER



By Col. James LeFavor



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
102D INTELLIGENCE WING (ACC)  
MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD  
OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE MASSACHUSETTS

What does it mean to be an "Intelligence Wing," anyway? Can any/every Wing member define "Intelligence" in this context? It was fairly straightforward as a Fighter Wing...we flew fighters in an Air Superiority role in order to shoot down enemy aircraft. Nice and clear - it was a distinct mission with concrete objectives. Intelligence, however, is very much different in that even the simple task of asking for a definition becomes challenging. Ask 10 102nd members to define "intelligence" and you will get 11 different answers. One response that I received was, "...it's like information...and computers and stuff..." Well it goes beyond just information gathering and reporting. If that were the case, one could argue that journalism is intelligence, and we know that's not true. The Intelligence Community, as a whole, even has difficulty agreeing upon a suitable definition. A simple Google search reveals a multitude of definitions. I came across one I like that is very succinct, yet covers almost all aspects: "Intelligence is secret, state activity to understand or influence foreign entities" (Dr. Michael Warner, CIA History Staff). Not a bad one-liner to keep in your hip pocket if ever asked.

As an Intelligence Wing, we should all have at least a rudimentary knowledge of the larger discipline we call intelligence. The reason I like the above definition is that: a) it can be remembered, and b) it does a good job of rolling-up most of the intel activities from Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), to foreign military order of battle, to espionage, to counter-intelligence, to counter-drug...the whole spectrum. As we begin our mission here to process, exploit, and disseminate intelligence, it behooves us to step back and view where we are in the big picture of national security and the national intelligence strategy.

The National Security Act of 1947 did more than just establish the Department of Defense and the Department of the Air Force. The Act defined the basic charter of America's intelligence services. The National Security Council (NSC) was established as the executive branch's principal forum for national security matters. Additionally, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) was transformed into what we know as the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The CIA Director (DCIA) was given the additional responsibility of leading the entire intelligence community (such as it existed at the time) via his role as the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI). The mission and role of the intelligence community grew steadily during the Cold War and the DCI continued the overall responsibility for the entire community, as well as for his own critical agency.

The events of Sept. 11, 2001 represented a turning point for both the nation and the intelligence community. In the wake of the many intelligence shortfalls that were uncovered by the attacks, Congress conducted a joint inquiry, known by most as the September 11 Commission. The result of this was the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) in 2004. IRTPA established the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) as the Chief of the Intelligence Community (IC), with oversight of all 16 intelligence entities. The rationale was that having a single director would prevent information from getting stuck in any single agency, and allow greater collaboration across the entire enterprise. The current DNI is retired Navy four-star admiral, Dennis C. Blair. He is also the Senior Intelligence Officer in the United States and is responsible for providing information to key decision makers, including the President. So for all you intel briefers out there, realize that briefing the boss never ends.

### The Intelligence Community (IC)

An IC member is a federal government agency, service, bureau, or other organization within the executive branch that plays a role in the business of national intelligence. The DNI is the chief of the Intelligence Community. The DNI coordinates intelligence matters related to the Department of Defense (DoD) with the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (USDI). The USDI provides oversight and policy guidance for all DoD intelligence activities.

The 16 agencies that currently make up the IC are:

1. **Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)** - The Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) and the CIA are the only members of the IC that are not part of another cabinet-level department.
2. **Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)** - The DIA is a major producer and manager of foreign military intelligence (DOD).
3. **National Security Agency (NSA)** - The NSA is the United States' cryptologic organization, with responsibility for protecting the government's information systems and producing foreign signals intelligence information (DoD).
4. **National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA)** - NGA collects and creates information about the Earth for navigation, national security, and humanitarian aid efforts (DoD).
5. **National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)** - The NRO designs and builds reconnaissance satellites (DoD).
6. **Department of State** - Bureau of Intelligence and Research provides interpretative analysis of global developments to the State Department.
7. **Department of Justice - FBI** - focuses on terrorist organizations, foreign intelligence services, WMD proliferators, and criminal enterprises.
8. **Department of Justice** - specifically the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).
9. **Department of Energy** - focuses on assessing worldwide nuclear terrorism threats, nuclear proliferation, and evaluation of foreign technology threats.
10. **Department of Treasury** - collects and processes information that may affect United States fiscal and monetary policies.
11. **Department of Homeland Security (DHS)** - responsible for fusing law enforcement and intelligence information relating to terrorist threats to the homeland.
12. **U.S. Coast Guard** - now part of DHS, deals with information relating to maritime security and homeland defense. The Coast Guard's missions include port security, search and rescue, maritime safety, counter-narcotics, and illegal alien interdiction.
- 13 - 16. **U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, and U.S. Air Force** - the four military services concentrate largely on concerns related to their specific missions.

There are a myriad of additional intelligence centers and offices, but all stem from the "Big 16." In the course of our Distributed Ground Station and Air Operations Center missions, we have and will collaborate with each and every one of the 16. Gone are the days in the flying world where Intel was a small shop in the back of Weapons and Tactics (filled with some odd ones) that we'd occasionally toss a chicken bone to. We are a part and player in the big game called National Intelligence, America's first line of defense.

So if an inspector, civic leader, or average citizen comes up to you and asks, "What is Intelligence anyway?" You can answer with confidence. However, before you start flinging acronyms around like Jack Bauer, please energize your OPSEC filter and assess what you are about to say. For further reading, refer to the DNI web site: <http://www.dni.gov>.

# BIG CHANGES AT THE 102ND MEDICAL GROUP

By Tech. Sgt. Cynthia Thomas, 102nd Medical Group

A few months ago, the 102nd Medical Group began implementing some new forms and processes. As we progress, our hopes are to simplify the PHA process, reduce or eliminate the time spent at the medical group on a drill weekend, and to better take care of our Airmen.

## WEB-BASED HEALTH ASSESSMENT (WEB-HA)

Have you come over to the clinic on your birth month and sat in the waiting room for a few hours waiting to see a provider, only to be told to come back the next drill with information from your civilian doctor? Or waited an hour to be seen for one minute? We understand your frustration. Time is valuable on a drill. With the new Web-Based Health Assessment (Web-HA) process, patients and the medical group staff will be better prepared for your appointment.

What is the new Web-HA? Basically, it is an online medical questionnaire that will be accessed through the Air Force Portal and will take the place of the paper SF 507 that is filled out in the clinic. Members are required to complete this form at least two weeks prior to their birth month. At this time, the form can only be accessed with a Common Access Card (CAC). We understand the limitations this puts on our traditional Guardsmen so you will be notified two drills prior to your birth month to complete while on base.

Why are we going virtual? Studies show that people are more honest with answers when they do not feel pressure to complete the questionnaire with others in the room or under a time constraint. This will also allow the medical group staff to notify patients who are required to bring in information from their civilian doctor before the drill, thus reducing the amount of trips a member needs to make to the clinic. At this time all AGR and technicians are required to fill out the Web-HA prior to their birth month; traditional Guardsmen will be phased in over the next four months. By Jan. 1, 2010, all members will be required to complete the Web-HA. Contact your Unit Health Monitor or Tech. Sgt. Cynthia Thomas at 508-968-4554 for more information.

## AF FORM 469 VS. AF FORM 422

The AF Form 469 has replaced the AF Form 422 when a member has a duty or mobility restriction. In the past, if a member had a condition that precluded them from safely performing their mission or a disqualifying diagnosis they would be placed on a "4T" and not allowed to attend drill or be placed on orders. Now we are using the AF Form 469, which allows unit commanders some flexibility when one of their members has a medical condition that in the past would keep them from performing drill, annual training, or being placed on orders. There are three types of AF 469s: duty restrictions only, mobility restrictions only, or both duty and mobility restrictions. For injuries and illness that are expected to be resolved within 30 days, a member will be placed on a duty restriction with limitations. Members are allowed to drill and be placed on orders at their commander's discretion. Members who have an illness or injury that is expected to last 31-365 days, or a disqualifying condition that requires a worldwide duty evaluation, will be placed on a mobility restriction AF 469 with limitations if necessary. These members may attend drill but are not allowed to be placed on Title 32 or Title 10 orders. For more information on the AF Form 469 process, contact Tech. Sgt. Cynthia Thomas at 508-968-4554.

## ARMED FORCES HEALTH LONGITUDINAL TECHNOLOGY APPLICATION

Beginning in early 2010, all medical and dental records will be going electronic. AHLTA is a DoD-wide system (including the VA) that will allow any Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) access to medical records of treatment at other MTFs. This is especially beneficial to those members who received care while deployed or TDY and those separating or retiring that are going to be receiving care at the VA. More information will be released as we begin the implementation by January or February 2010.



# DISTRIBUTED GROUND STATION - MASS. : LEADING THE WAY

By Tech. Sgt. Alicen Hogan, 102nd Intelligence Group

They say that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. The ramifications are especially serious when it comes to the functioning team members in a kill chain.

From command and control, to intelligence teams, to the war fighter on the ground, these series of links work together to complete missions that keep enemy threats in check.

But what if those links don't speak the same language, work in the same military branch, or understand each other's capabilities and toolsets? Then the wartime mission to find, fix, track and target enemy forces, assist in engagements and perform damage assessment becomes seriously compromised. That's where DGS-MA's Ground Subject Matter Expert Training Program is making a difference in the kill chain.

Airmen from the 102nd Intelligence Group are a critical part of the overall Air Force Distributed Common Ground Station weapon system. All DGS-MA crewmembers have gone through rigorous training at various DGS locations; assessed by standardization and evaluation processes to attain and maintain mission crew qualifications. However, even after all this training there is still a noticeable barrier between the Air Force and its interpretation of characteristics for its main customers: U.S. and Coalition land forces. This is where DGS-MA is breaking new ground toward better integration.

Personnel from DGS-MA are working on a curriculum called the Ground Subject Matter Expert (SME) Program. The purpose of this program is to educate DGS-MA crew members on U.S. Army, Marine Corps, and Coalition Ground Forces. The training consists of clear, concise lessons on land-based forces organization, structure, command and control, doctrine, and tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs).

Trainers from the 102nd IG have been working with the Army National Guard located at Camp Edwards. Camp Edwards is home to the Training Support Center (TSC) which is responsible for facilitating all training exercises for Army units for proficiency and prior to deployment.

The team at the TSC prepares soldiers by providing training and maintaining facilities at the Tactical Training Base (TTB Kelley), Military Operation in Urban Terrain site (MOUT Calero), and the state of the art Virtual Convoy Operations Trainer (VCOT). The most recent collaboration effort centered on bringing Airmen up to speed in a convoy operational setting using the VCOT.

Utilizing a series of virtual reality headsets and full motion turrets, the VCOT puts participants into the setting that most convoy operators experience while on patrol. Teams consist of a group of vehicles made up of vehicle commanders, drivers, and gunners. The simulators respond to input commands that simulate steering and velocity commands from the driver. The gunner actually sits in a moving turret that responds to the operator's decision on where to scan and acquire targets. The vehicle commander receives and issues communications back to the simulator operator which builds what happens next in the scenario.

"Your mind was really fooled because of what you were seeing and feeling," said Airman 1st Class John Emery, 101st Intelligence Squadron. "It's recommended to take motion sickness meds," he chuckled.

"The training was really valuable because it helps us as 1N1s (imagery analysts) understand what we'll be looking at through their [the convoy members'] eyes," said Airman 1st Class Adrienne Harvey, 101st Intelligence Squadron.

This understanding can be crucial when actual missions are running and every second counts in analyzing a situation.

"Instead of looking at what's going on and wondering 'Why are they doing that?', we'll understand why they're doing it," said Airman 1st Class Derek Lafontaine, 101st Intelligence Squadron. "We will

know what they're doing, not what we think they're doing."

This joint collaboration has already seen many rewards. Soldiers are gaining exposure to the capabilities of Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (AFISR) tools and their impact on the fight; while Airmen are getting a chance to observe, participate, and discuss with Soldiers about Army doctrine and TTPs. This type of experience and cooperation typically does not happen until each branch of service is in a deployed environment. At that point, there is little room for gaining Situational Awareness (SA) of each service's capabilities. This SA is equally important to the Soldier/Airman, as it is to each and every commander.

While the training is thorough, it is not easy. Each team runs through scenarios but is not always successful. That's where the real learning occurs.

"The Army was great because they put it all in perspective," said Airman Harvey. "They would tell us where we went wrong, what we should have done, what the normal convoy trainer is going to do in that situation, then we got to try it again."

Simple errors, such as using the wrong communications terminology, can have serious consequences.

"One of the hardest things was being able to use the 'comms.' There's a big difference between 'Repeat' and 'Say again,'" remembered Airman Harvey. 'Repeat' tells an Army artillery squad to hit their prior target again while 'say again' means 'I didn't understand what you said, please retransmit.'

"There were a lot of things getting blown up before we figured that out," said Airman Emery.

Both the Army and Air National Guard believe this training to be invaluable.

"It is great to see both services train like we fight," said Army Sgt. John Slager, Camp Edwards training sergeant.

Airman Lafontaine summed it up saying, "I like the idea that as intel folks, we can think with them and get the information they need to them ahead of time. The more we know, the more we can help them and that's what it's all about."

As the program grows and builds on its successes, the U.S. Marine Corps and Coalition elements of the program will need to be completed. If you have any experience in these areas, please contact Master Sgt. Curtis Pierson, 101st Intelligence Squadron, at 508-968-4275 or [Curtis.pierson@ang.af.mil](mailto:Curtis.pierson@ang.af.mil) for more information.



**Airmen from the 101st Intelligence Squadron work in the Virtual Convoy Operations Trainer (VCOT) at Camp Edwards, Mass., to gain a better understanding of what U.S. Soldiers, Marines and Coalition Forces experience on the ground at deployed locations around the world.**

# FAMILY DAY 2009



The "younger" crowd on hand took advantage of the amusement rides and entertainment.



Col. Anthony Schiavi, 102nd Intelligence Wing commander, and Maj. Gen. Michael Akey, Massachusetts Air National Guard commander, present various medals to members of the Wing.



The personnel carrier on display seems to have a new driver.



The spinning tea cups were a big draw and fun for this group of youngsters.



The Air National Guard Band of the Northeast provided music throughout the celebration.

## TIPS FOR "SPACE A" TRAVEL

Information provided by the 102nd Force Support Flight

Space available or "Space-A" travel is a program that serves active duty, reservists, retirees, and family members of military personnel. The purpose of your travel and status determines your eligibility and the category for flying. Here are some tips:

- Pick a range of days you can fly just in case of flight changes.
- Get command sponsorship.
- Register at the Web site (<http://www.takeahop.org/>) and follow the prompts to sign up for a flight.
- Be certain to have all family member's Social Security Numbers readily available, and passports if you travel outside the U.S. After filling out the online registration, you must be very resourceful and willing to do some legwork to map out your travel.
- Prepare to be flexible.

For more information on command sponsorship or Space-A travel, visit your local Air Mobility Command passenger terminal or visit the Space-A Travel Sign-Up Request Web site: <http://www.takeahop.org/>

## CONTEMPORARY BASE ISSUES

Information provided by the 102nd Judge Advocate General's office

The next Contemporary Base Issues (CBI) Course is scheduled for Oct. 16-17, at the Hanscom AFB Minuteman Club. The course is co-hosted by the 102nd Intelligence and 104th Fighter Wings.

The course is geared toward commanders, first sergeants, personnel chiefs, directors of staff, unit chiefs of staff, public affairs officers, inspector generals, judge advocates, paralegals and other personnel who commanders believe would benefit from this course. An array of topics via lecture, student interaction, and seminar will be discussed. The primary goal of the CBI Course is to allow commanders and their support staff to prepare to face command/legal issues as a team. Participants may wear the duty uniform in which they feel most comfortable. Therefore, attendees may wear flight suits, ABUs, BDUs, or any combination of blues. Attendees may register at the CBI Community of Practice (CoP), located on the Air Force Portal. Seats are filled on a first come-first served basis. You may reach the CoP in the following ways:

- Direct CBI CoP link: <https://wwwd.my.af.mil/afknprod/ASPs/CoP/OpenCoP.asp?Filter=AN-ED-00-36>.
- From the Air Force Portal home page: Under the "Air Force Indexes" box on the far right, click on MAJCOM A-Z listings. Now click on Air National Guard. Next, click on the "COMMUNITIES" tab on the top. In the "Search for a Community" box, type in "CBI" and hit enter. Now click on the "Contemporary Base Issues (CBI) Course" link. Once at the CoP, click on the FY2010 schedule, just below the "Register Online" logo. You will be directed to a list of CBI courses that are open for registration. Click on the Massachusetts course and enter the required information. Should you experience difficulties, contact Master Sgt. Lori Jung at [lori.jung@cox.net](mailto:lori.jung@cox.net) or 602-421-6508.

## HISPANIC-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

By Senior Master Sgt. Michael Poirier

This year's celebration of National Hispanic Heritage History Month testifies to the historical resilience over the years of the broad and geographically diverse group of Hispanics and Latinos who have proudly served this country in numerous ways.

Whether originating from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Central America, South America, Cuba, The Dominican Republic, or even Spain, there have been many famous Hispanics/Latinos in and out of the military. Many include soldiers, sailors, pilots, engineers and lawmakers serving with distinction.

Many famous Hispanic/Latinos in the military include Raul Morin, who spent three years in Army hospitals recovering from wounds, and later wrote the book, "Among the Valiant," because he could not find Spanish-named soldiers in novels and movies made about the war years, and wanted to discuss the experiences of Hispanic soldiers. In 2002, Rudolph Villarreal wrote a book about Arizona's Hispanic Flyboys, while Lt. Col. (retired) Henry Cervantes told his personal story in "Piloto" about the son of migrant field workers who became a pilot in World War II and later had a successful career in the Air Force.

In addition to these fine men, there have been many Hispanic/Latino military "firsts." In 1919, Private David Barkley became the first Hispanic Medal of Honor Recipient (posthumously) after successfully completing a scouting mission behind enemy lines (he later drowned as he swam back across the Meuse River). In the 1970s, Gen. Richard E. Cavazos not only became the first Hispanic brigadier general in the Army's history, but in 1982, became the first ever Hispanic four-star general. Whether it was Dr. Franklin Chang-Diaz (the first Hispanic Astronaut), or Dr. Antonia Novello (first Hispanic and first female Surgeon General), Hispanic and Latino Americans have served this country proudly. Since 1993, the total number of Hispanics in the military has

increased by over 30,000 (19.3% increase) and now currently reflect almost nine percent of our military. In a May 2005 study, it was determined that Hispanics are expected to be the fastest growing race-ethnic group over the next 20 years and by 2025 will eventually become the largest minority in the U.S.

Beyond the military, there have been other Hispanics and Latinos who have provided dynamic and thoughtful leadership for this country. In February 2005, Alberto Reynaldo Gonzales became the first ever Hispanic to serve as this nation's U.S. Attorney and more recently, Sonia Sotomayor was sworn in to the U.S. Supreme Court in August 2009. In the process, Judge Sotomayor became the Court's 111th justice, its third ever female justice and most importantly the first Hispanic justice to serve this nation's highest court in its 220-year history.

Holidays also play a special role for some Hispanic and Latinos. On May 5 every year, during Carnival (aka Cinco de Mayo), there is a celebration in Mexico of the victory of the Mexican Army over the French at the Battle of Puebla. Another celebration, Carnival (aka Mardi-Gras), just recently had an Hispanic first when, in 2007, Otto Cesar Mehrgut was named its Mardi Gras King.

During his campaign for president last year, President Barack Obama said, in relation to National Hispanic Heritage Month that, "It's a time to honor the achievements and sacrifices of Hispanic Americans, from their long and proud tradition of military service to today's ongoing struggles for opportunity and prosperity. It's a time to recognize all Hispanic Americans who have helped write the social, economic, and cultural story of America. What has always distinguished the Hispanic community – and what distinguishes us as Americans – is our belief that in America, you can make it if you try. This month, and every month, we keep that promise."

# RESERVE COMPONENT SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN

Information provided by the 102nd Force Support Flight

Make sure your completed election form (DD form 2656-5) is received at the Air Reserve Personnel Center or postmarked within 90 calendar days of receipt of the package, otherwise Airmen may be considered to have made an election that they may not want and would be liable for the premiums once they receive retired pay. Please read the eligibility section for further details.

The basic statutory provisions of SBP law are in Title 10, USC, Chapter 73. The election made in this plan is IRREVOCABLE, except as indicated.

## Retired pay stops at death!

The Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP) is the only program that allows Airmen to leave a percentage of future Air Force retired pay as a monthly annuity to beneficiaries. Read this information very carefully and if married, discuss it with your spouse. Gather facts and data unique to situation, consider options, and then decide what is best.

RCSBP pays a benefit at death. The Plan doesn't make a single, lump sum payment like insurance; instead RCSBP pays benefits to eligible survivors each and every month.

### Eligibility

By completing the satisfactory years of service that qualify for retired pay usually at age 60, Airmen are eligible to participate in the RCSBP. The RCSBP packet is sent out (by return receipt mail) with your 20 year notification letter. Airmen have 90 days from receipt of the packet (at the mailing address on file) to make the election and return the form to ARPC.

Failure to respond within the 90 days could result, if Airmen have dependents, in an automatic Option C coverage for spouse and/or children. And the member will be responsible for the premiums. If Airmen do not have dependents and fail to respond within the 90 days, they will have automatic coverage under Option A. Also, if Airmen elect Option A and fail to provide spousal concurrence, they will automatically have Option C and will be responsible for the premiums.

Spousal concurrence is required for anything less than full coverage or selecting "Child Only Coverage." Effective May 1, 2008, Airmen who elect under RCSBP anything less than full coverage or selecting "Child Only Coverage" will be required to complete a DD Form 2656-5 and acquire spousal consent. This form as required by law must be notarized.

### Legislation: Section 655

Requires retirement-eligible reservists to obtain the concurrence of their spouse before making a decision to decline or defer participation in the Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan, to select a level of participation that is less than the maximum available, or to select the coverage of a child but not the spouse.

If Airmen are on an AGR, 10211 or 12310 tour, they are still eligible to participate in the RCSBP. If they elect RCSBP coverage and for some reason don't complete 20 years of active duty for retirement, their dependents would have protection. If they make an RCSBP election and retire from active duty, the RCSBP election will be void, and they will be allowed to make a new Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) election as any other retiring member.

If Airmen do not have a spouse or dependent children at the time they are entitled to make a RCSBP election, but later acquire a spouse or children, they may elect RCSBP coverage for that spouse or children within one year of acquisition.

Airmen have three options regarding RCSBP protection for their family:

**Option A** (Decline to make an election when eligible to draw retired pay):

If Airmen choose not to participate in the plan at this time, and they live to draw retired pay, they will be given another opportunity to enroll in the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP). There are three ways to defer an election. They are:

- Select Option A on DD Form 2656-5, Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan Election Certificate (preferred method).
- Fail to return DD Form 2656-5 (and do not have dependents).
- Return DD Form 2656-5 beyond the allotted 90 days (and do not have dependents).

Important things to remember are that if Airmen die while drawing retired pay, their beneficiaries will not receive any portion of their retired pay.

If they die before eligible to draw retired pay, spouse will receive exchange and commissary privileges immediately (tied in with the 20 year letter).

Medical privileges will begin on the anniversary of the Airman's 60th birthday or earlier if drawing retired pay before age 60.

Airmen will get a chance to participate in the SBP usually at age 60 when applying for retired pay.

**Option B** (Deferred annuity): Provide coverage for an annuity to begin upon eligibility to draw retired pay, usually at age 60, or if they die before, to begin immediately if they should die after age 60.

For example: Option B elected at age 45 and the Airman dies at age 47, beneficiary will not receive annuity for 13 years; when the Airman would have been age 60 (Exception if the Airman was eligible to draw retired pay before age 60).

**Option C** (Immediate annuity): Provides coverage for an annuity that begins immediately regardless of age at time of death. For example: Option C elected at age 45 and the Airman dies at age 47, beneficiary would receive the annuity effective the day after the Airman's death.

## HOW CAN RETIREES ACCESS THE SEAGULL MAGAZINE?

Recently, the 102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs staff has received a high volume of inquiries about how retired 102nd Intelligence Wing Airmen can access the Seagull magazine.

Here are two options:

1. Access the Seagull magazine online via the Wing's new and improved public Web site ([www.102iw.ang.af.mil](http://www.102iw.ang.af.mil)). This option gives

readers free access to information approximately two weeks earlier than the hard copy magazine due to printing timelines.

2. Contact Lt. Col. Pat McNamara (508-968-7241) for details on joining the Massachusetts Air National Guard's Historical Association. The MA ANG Historical Association mails a hard copy of each new Seagull magazine to their current members.

**BEST OF THE BEST >>**



Col. Anthony Schiavi, 102nd Intelligence Wing commander, announces the winner of the Military Person of the Year for 2009 during the Family Day celebration. Master Sgt. John Mallard, 102nd Force Support Flight, (in blues) was the recipient of the award. Mallard was also the winner of the 2009 Senior NCO of the Year for the Wing. The other two nominees for the MPOY award were Senior Airman Aaron Wolfgang, 102nd Security Forces Squadron, Airman of the Year; and Tech. Sgt. Alicen Hogan, 101st Intelligence Squadron, NCO of the Year. Each Airman received a check for \$150 from the Chiefs' Council and also received a 1-year complimentary membership to the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) courtesy of the Otis ANGB First Sergeant Council.

**MILITARY DEPENDENTS RECOGNIZED >>**



Kids who had a parent deployed during the past year were recognized for their support and dedication during the Family Day celebration. Pictured with the honorees are Col. Anthony Schiavi and Command Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Raymondo.

**QUARTERLY AWARDS >>**

**MSgt. John Mallard**  
102nd Force Support  
Sr. NCO of the Quarter

**TSgt. Alicen Hogan**  
101st Intel Squadron  
NCO of the Quarter

**SrA Aaron Wolfgang**  
102nd Security Forces  
Airman of the Quarter

**PROMOTIONS >>**



Evan Lagasse



Robert Frazier



Kevin Teves

**ANNOUNCEMENTS >>**

**GORE-TEX POLICY EXTENDED**

The Gore-Tex mix-and-match waiver, which allows Airmen to wear the Battle Dress Uniform (BDU) style Goretex jacket with the Airman Battle Uniform (ABU), has been extended until May 2010.

**HISPANIC/LATINO HERITAGE CELEBRATION EVENT: OCT. 3**

On Oct. 3, the Otis ANGB Diversity Council is hosting a celebration of National Hispanic/Latino Month in the Eagles' Nest from 6-9 p.m. Come out and enjoy food, drink and salsa dance lessons. Please contact Senior Master Sgt. Mike Poirier (508-968-4661) or Tech. Sgt. Carlos Alicea (508-968-4512) for more info.

**BAND OFFICER/CONDUCTOR**

The Air National Guard Band of the Northeast is hiring for a new band officer/conductor. Applicants must possess a Bachelors Degree, have experience in concert and jazz idioms, and be less than 35 years old when commissioned (enlisted candidates). For an application package, contact Capt. John Keeler at 508-233-6675 or john.keeler@us.army.mil.

**TRICARE RESERVE SELECT**

Monthly premiums for TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) member coverage dropped 42 percent as of Jan. 1, 2009. To qualify, candidates must be members of the Selected Reserve and cannot be enrolled for the Federal Employee Health Benefits program. For more information about TRS visit [www.tricare.mil/TRS](http://www.tricare.mil/TRS).

**SERVICEMEMBERS LIFE INSURANCE**

Airmen are opting out of SGLI coverage at alarming rates; in fact, more than 6,800 Airmen don't have any SGLI coverage and many more carry only partial benefits. Opting back into SGLI or increasing coverage to full benefits requires a commander's approval and sometimes a medical screening. One dollar of the monthly amount provides up to an additional \$100,000 in traumatic injury coverage. So whether you die or suffer a traumatic injury -- on- or off-duty -- SGLI has you covered. For a small amount more, spouses/children can be covered with Family SGLI. For more information please visit the 102nd Force Support Flight or to speak with a counselor, call 800-525-0102 and ask for the Entitlements and Benefits office.

# CHAPEL CALL

By Chaplain (Capt.) Mary Scheer  
102nd Intelligence Wing Chaplain

I'm writing this article on the evening of Sept. 11, reflecting on the tragedy that marked this day eight years ago when some 3,000 people died. As a result, 1,600 people lost a spouse, more than 3,000 children lost a parent and some 422,000 New Yorkers were reported to be suffering from post traumatic stress disorder.

Six months after the Dec. 26, 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the U.S. Geological Survey reported 283,000 dead, more than 14,000 missing and 1.7 million people displaced.

We also continue to experience human loss in conflicts overseas. Then in 2005, Hurricane Katrina left hundreds dead and thousands homeless.

Closer to home, many folks are struggling with grief and loss on multiple levels, from the death of a loved one, divorce, unemployment, financial problems, family issues, children in crisis, health concerns, anxiety, uncertainty, stress and exhaustion. Adding to these issues are those that the families of the 102nd Intelligence Wing and other bases that have been affected by base realignment and closure have recently dealt with.

As a people, we have witnessed a series of sudden, unexpected disasters, traumatic losses and suffering that can rock the steadiest foundations. We may know on an intellectual level that the world is not always safe and stable, that accidents happen, that acts of nature can be devastating, that cruelty and catastrophes are not always avoidable or preventable, yet this knowledge is not always comforting.

We have seen that the world is not always certain, safe, stable, predictable, and controllable, that structures sometimes crumble, waters sometimes disobey their boundaries, and wind that should be gentle and refreshing can cause utter destruction. And yet we reach. We reach beyond our ourselves and our natural limitations. As a nation, as a global community, we pull together to help.

We may fight about how we do it, but we still do it. We know that today we have today, and hope for tomorrows that hold the promise of new beginnings. So, before the sun sets, I will make one more call to encourage a friend and I will pray for tomorrow.



## UNIT SPOTLIGHT

202nd Weather Flight



The 202nd Weather Flight's primary mission is to train and deploy with the 42nd Infantry Division of the New York National Guard. The flight supports soldiers and Army aviation assets (Blackhawk and Apache helicopters etc.) as well serve as the Staff Weather Officer (SWO) for the commanding general of the 42nd Infantry Division. The Flight provides weather support covering a specified region of the world. Professional meteorologist and weather technicians operate the flight around the clock ensuring continuous monitoring of any terrestrial and space weather activity. The unit is responsible for producing and disseminating mission planning and execution weather analyses, forecasts, and briefings for Air Force, Army, Guard and Reserve forces operating around the world providing installation commanders advanced warning of severe weather to protect personnel, weapon systems and infrastructure.

*Second Annual  
Veterans Day Ball*

**Saturday, November 7, 2009**

**Union Station, Worcester, MA**

**A Celebration of 2009**

**“The Year of the NCO”**

**Time: 1700-2300**

**Uniform:**

Mess Dress

Dress Blue

Air Force Semi Formal (Enlisted)

Army Class A with White Shirt and Bowtie (Enlisted)

Civilians: Tuxedo / Business Suit / Gown

**Guest Speaker: Command Sergeant Major Raymond Chandler**

Commandant, United States Army Sergeants Major Academy

**TICKETS:**

E1 - E5	\$25
E6, E7, W1-W3, O1, Retired	\$42
E8, E9, W4-W5, O2-O3	\$50
O4 and Above	\$60

Checks payable to:  
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