102nd INTELLIGENCE WING

Seagull

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Hail to the Chief!

CMSAF Visits Otis

Pg. 8

Seagull

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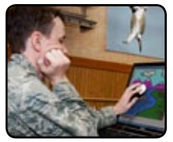

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ON THE COVER

The cover photo shows Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody talking with members of the 102nd Intelligence Wing during an all-call on October 20, 2014.

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Message From a Commander

Taking time for the Important Things

This has been one busy year! In 2014, we had numerous units deploy, Engineering & Installation, Civil Engineers, Security Forces, Intelligence, as well as others, and many of them are on the road still. Countless exercises to include: our first-ever domestic-operations (DOMOPS) exercise in June, Red Flag, Green Flag, Silver Flag, CERF-P exercise/evaluation, Global Lightning, and Global Thunder. We've been used for DOMOPS in real world events, as well as, ending a large mobilization of the Intelligence Group for deployed in-garrison operations. Buildings have been completed, such as the new intelligence facility and two more are on the way. You have much to be proud of and to reflect upon on what you've accomplished as a wing. One thing is certain, 2015 will be just as busy with many challenges ahead of us.

In 2015, we will start transitioning to our new missions, cyber, and ensure that our Airman are ready to meet the challenges with that new mission. All the while, continuing our current work, executing the missions needed by the Air Force. We'll be finishing the stand-up of the new Air Force Inspection System at our base and getting ready for a large inspection the beginning of 2016. For sure, next year will be a challenging one for all of us.

Please take time during this month for the important things in your life. Enjoy time with family, friends and those you care for during the holiday season. As uncertain as life can be sometimes, we really can be thankful for all that we have. Also, please take a moment to remember those currently deployed during this month, and drop them an e-mail or care package to let them know you're thinking of them. There is a saying in recruiting and retention… Recruit the Airman, retain the family. Our family sacrifices much to allow us to serve in the military and this time of year is a great time to show them how much they really mean to us.

The 102nd Intelligence Wing has a proven track record of excellence and hard work. Please continue to take care of yourselves and your loved ones this holiday season. Happy New Year to all of you and I look forward to helping us meet the challenges for next year and make it a banner one for 2015!

Virginia I. Doonan
Vice Commander, 102nd Intelligence Wing

History, Heritage & Honor

By: Master Sgt. Tori Kenny, 102nd Mission Support Group

Otis Air National Guard base has a varied and rich history with regards to fighter aircraft. One of which was the F-100 Super Sabre also known as the "Hun". According to www.planesofthepast.com, "The F-100 was the first Air Force jet fighter capable of supersonic speed in level flight. In addition to its nuclear bomb armament and four 20 mm cannons, the Super Sabre could be equipped to fire rockets and missiles, including the heat-seeking the GAR-8 Sidewinder. The F-100 had a service ceiling above 50,000 feet and a range of more than 1,000 statute miles."

On October 9, 2014 an F-100C Super Sabre was set in its final resting place next to Arnold Hall Dining Facility. The Hun was put in place by the Base Civil Engineering Structures Shop. Most of the restoration efforts were completed by Master Sgt. John Abril from Fuels Management and Mr. Russell Timms from Vehicle Maintenance. Retired Lt. Col. Robert (Bob) Faux and Senior Master Sgt. Thomas (Tommy) Connors were honored by having their names placed on the aircraft. A special dedication ceremony took place on November 1, 2014 where many members of the unit, and family and friends of the retirees were in attendance. Both Bob and Tommy shared some of their experiences with the F-100 during an interview.

Faux enlisted on March 5th, 1957 and piloted the F-100 at Otis from 1971 through 1972. When asked what his most memorable flight in the F-100, he stated, "It was my first solo flight, which was my third ride in the airplane. We started in the F-100F (two seat) for two rides, then went solo in an F-100C (one seat) followed by a chase pilot." He continued to recollect with a smile about that memorable flight adding, "We were doing unauthorized air combat tactics, I said to the other flight over the radio, let's go back home because my arm is getting tired." When asked what he didn't like about the F-100, he said "It had an adverse yaw problem, if you put in aileron at high G/angle of attack the aircraft would go opposite of your input." Lt. Col. Faux shared that "air refueling in the F-100 was one of the harder things I've ever had to do in an airplane." Faux recalls, "I was doing a preflight on an aircraft that had not flown for over a year since being delivered from Vietnam. The plane was being transferred to the Indiana ANG at Ft. Wayne. I saw a strange blob in the wheel well which had been spray painted with aluminum paint. It turned up to just be a blob of grease. I had a non-eventful flight thanks to our superb maintenance personnel."

A former crew chief, Sergeant Connors had some stories to share during his time working on the F-100. While at school to learn how to repair the aircraft, one of the instructors said "Don't get that involved, you're not going to need it." He couldn't tell Tommy at that time, but the F-100s would soon be replaced by the F-106s. He said "a lot of times; the crew chiefs would have to "cannonball" (cannibalize) aircraft to make others work." At one point, there were over fifty aircraft on the flightline and only about twenty crew chiefs to do the maintenance work keeping the aircraft safely in the air. He mentioned that "even the guard guys had their names on planes, there were so many." During the short time the F-100s were at Otis, they were still trying to get rid of the F-84s. "We had to hide 84s for the 50th Anniversary Air Show in 1971." Sergeant Connors said maintenance on the F-100 was difficult, for example "The guns had to come out to get to anything underneath the aircraft." The planes came from Vietnam and were flown in combat so they were in bad shape. Sergeant Connors explains, "They came direct from the combat zone with bullet holes that weren't patched, they just flew them as is." Sergeant Connors reflects on some pranks back at the 102nd. When an F-100 was on display in front of Bldg. 197, Sergeant Connors and a few other crew chiefs placed a "dummy" in the cock pit and sealed it. "A month later, the "dummy" was missing and the canopy was missing", he says with a hearty laugh.

Life was very different at Otis in the 70s as both Colonel Faux and Sergeant Connors reported. We went from drilling (now they are UTAs) at Logan on two Wednesday nights and a Sunday each month to one weekend per month...

...Continued on next page.

History, Heritage & Honor (cont.)

...The pilots and crew chiefs were still trying to figure out the all the inner workings of the F-100 when they converted to the F-106. With the F-100s only being flown from Otis for just a short time period of a year, there wasn't enough time to figure out the pros and cons of the "Hun". By each man's feedback, it was understood that the F-100 was not their favorite fighter to fly or conduct maintenance on but it was part of each of their careers in the Massachusetts National Guard which is admirable.

The next time you are at the Eagle's Nest, pull up a stool and ask Bob to share some of his stories of the way things were and the same with Tommy if you should bump into him out in town or on base while he is visiting as he so often does.

A lot of blood, sweat and tears went into the restoration and placement of the F-100 and special thanks go out to Master Sgt. John Abril, Mr. Russell Timms, Senior Master Sgt. Michael Mortell, 102nd Civil Engineering Squadron Roads and Grounds shop Brian Ouimet, Bill Greenwood, Mike Burroughs, Rob Walsh, Gerald Towns, Russ Armstrong 102nd Civil Engineering Squadron Structures shop, Tom Jones, Chris Lewis, Dan Oja, Technical Sgt. Fred Carreiro, Dennis Mcnevin, Rich Connor, Austin Karson, Greg Camarota, Robert Pina, Everett Johnson and Wallace Musser. All the personnel that restored the fighter, helped preserve the flying history of Otis Air National Guard Base.

Chapel Call

By: Chaplain, Capt. Derek L White

A quick look at this month's calendar reveals a great number of religiously-oriented holidays. It is always important to respect the beliefs of others, yet this month provides an almost ongoing reminder. Many wing members will be celebrating Christmas; our Jewish members will be celebrating Hanukah; our Pagan members will be celebrating the Winter Solstice; and Buddhist members will celebrate Bodhi Day. Given this great diversity of celebrations and traditions, "Happy Holidays" can communicate good will to others.

If you know someone celebrating a religious holiday in December take time to say "Happy Hanukah", "Happy Bodhi", or "have a wonderful Winter Solstice". A focused greeting like that is a small interpersonal gift from you to them. The Air Force recruits talented individuals from all backgrounds to ensure we have the best for mission success. Our diversity of beliefs and world views make us a strong force.

From your Chapel team we wish you a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukah, a Happy Bodhi, and have a Wonderful Winter Solstice – Happy Holidays. We are here to provide you with the resources and support to celebrate your religious holiday traditions. Our mission is to lift people up.

Starting in January the chapel team is excited to offer a Saturday Contemporary Worship service at 1130hrs on the 3rd floor of Building 158. We are looking for musicians and singers from around the Wing interested in being part of a worship band. Contact the chapel office at 968-4508 if you are interested, or email Chaplain Derek White.

UTA WORSHIP TIMES AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Roman Catholic Mass: 0900 Sunday at the Coast Guard Chapel

1100 Sunday, Building 158, 3rd Floor (next to Chaplain's Office)

Interdenominational Christian Worship: 1145 Sunday at the 102nd IW, Building 158, on the 3rd Floor

Contact the Chaplain's Office for information on other faith groups or other times of worship (968-4508)

New Officer On Base Has No Idea What's Going On

By: 102nd Intelligence Wing, Office of Satirical Writing

The Military Equal Opportunity office for the 102nd Intelligence Wing has a new director. Major Erik Anker comes to us from March Air Reserve Base in California. At March, Maj. Anker served in the Force Support Squadron and not only figured out who controlled the squadron golf cart keys, but also attained full knowledge of the hours for the base's gates. When we asked Master Sgt. Carlos Alicea, who has been piloting the MEO shop on his own, about his first drill weekend with the new director, he responded, "Maj. Anker has almost figured out the label maker."

After graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy, 2nd Lt. Anker was stationed with the 92nd Air Refueling Wing at Fairchild Air Force Base, Spokane, WA. Serving as Deputy Chief of Manpower, he helped lead his shop to win "Best Small Manpower Office in the Air Force." Lauded by the 92nd ARW commander for his versatility and thoroughness, 1st Lt. Anker inevitably departed Fairchild, leaving behind a robust "wally-ball" league and several alphabetized SNACKOs.

Capt. Anker's next assignment, and final active duty tour, was back at the Air Force Academy in the athletic department. There, he taught everything from volleyball to unarmed combat to scuba diving, successfully becoming the highest paid P.E. teacher in the country. He also administered the intramural sports program, one of the nation's largest with over 3,000 cadets. Capt. Anker was then promoted to Director of Intercollegiate Logistics and led an office managing all travel details for 29 Division 1 intercollegiate teams. Maj. Anker is remembered at the Academy for his innovative style of leadership and for once calling a bomb squad, including a dog and a robot, to his office to inspect a suspicious-looking package from China. Fortunately, it turned out to be his Nike travel uniform from the football team, and everyone made it home by 2300hrs on a Wednesday.

Fascinated by MEO since his cadet days, Major Anker is excited for this opportunity with the 102 IW. When we asked him about his new role, he replied, "I haven't been to MEO school yet, but I'd like to help the 102nd be a place where every member knows that every promotion, demotion, CC coin, or adverse action is based solely on performance and never on race, gender, religion...let me look up the other categories." We were also curious about the new MEO Director's take on organizational culture.

"Culture abounds in humor. Jokes are fine when they promote camaraderie, but a jibe should be based on what someone does without any connection to what they are (gender, race, disability, etc), because that's where the mean part of the joke is, and it makes people doubt the equality of their environment."

Major Anker concluded that he can't wait to meet everyone he'll be working with, learn how to transfer phone calls, and stop accidently driving off base when looking for the BX.

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Visits Otis

By: Timothy Sandland, 102 IW Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody and his wife, retired Chief Master Sgt. Athena Cody visited the airmen of the 102nd Intelligence Wing on November 20th. It was the first-ever visit by a Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force at Otis Air National Guard Base.

During an all-call, attended by enlisted, officers, and civilians, Chief Cody talked about many relevant issues affecting the Air Force and its people, and focused on the important areas of performance, evaluation, and education.

In terms of performance and evaluation, Chief Cody emphasized the new system for measuring enlisted job performance. When asked about how he saw the new system playing out in the Air National Guard, the chief said "What you do for your state and country, it's about performance. How we value that – how we recognize and reward – acknowledge that performance is really important."

The chief went on to say, "We need a system that is credible, transparent, and has as much objectivity placed into it as possible, so the institution [the Air Force and Air National Guard] can look at something and have a tool that really helps us discern amongst our people."

Other hot button topics for the chief were education and mentorship.

"We value education in our United States Air Force. We put a lot of money into it. We are the only branch of service that offers a two year degree (through the CCAF) by maintaining accreditation for our technical schools and professional military education schools" the chief explained.

Chief Cody lauded the program that the Commonwealth offers full 100% tuition reimbursement for guard members attending Massachusetts state schools, "When you talk about the state of Massachusetts – an extremely generous educational benefit for young men and women coming in., they will pay 100% for an undergraduate degree in a state school – an awesome incentive for those who decide to come in and serve"

"We are the best trained, most experienced, most educated force we have ever had in the history of the military. We should be proud of that, we've invested in that. This is an all-volunteer professional force. We are the most educated Air Force we have ever been."

Mentorship is certainly an important topic of discussion in today's Air Force and when asked about what is important about a good mentoring relationship Cody said, "It needs to be a relationship that is based on respect and trust and there needs to be a level of caring. Someone who gives you candid honest feedback – not just someone who tells you, you are great and that's all you ever heard about yourself."

When asked about his thoughts on the changes he has witnessed over the years in regards to total force the chief said, "The biggest change to acknowledge is over the last 20 years we have gone from a strategic ready reserve to operationalizing the entire Air Force, that's all four components; active, guard, reserve, and civilians; and it's been that way since Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Put into perspective the dynamics of how we operate as an Air Force and now how we are structured is in that model. We can't go back to the strategic ready-reserve that we used to be."

Continuing the discussion in terms of future integration of the active and guard components in the areas of intelligence and cyber, Cody reflected, "What are the right mission sets for the reserve components, and the active duty? What is the proper blending of those mission sets, and where does the capacity need to reside and readiness levels need to be?"

He went on to say, "We are really good at doing our mission together. You put the best mixture of airmen together. Integration is who we are today, it will be who we are in the future, and it is what we have been doing for some time now – there's only one Air Force; active, guard, reserve, and civilian.

Wrapping up the day's events, Chief Cody toured several of the wing's operations such as the 102nd Intelligence Group's Digital Ground System operations floor, the Arnold Hall dining facility, and the 102nd Medical Group's [Chemical, Biologic, Radiologic, Nuclear, Explosive] Enhanced Response Force Package (CERF-P) tent static display.

During the tour, Chief Cody recognized several exceptional airmen by presenting them with his personal coin – a distinct honor for anyone serving in uniform.

Throughout the day, the chief also took time to meet with members of the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) and Victim Advocates to discuss the SARC program, as well as the Recruiting and Retention staff to get a feel for the local issues in those areas.

During the all-call Chief Cody reflected on the legacy of the Air Force, "We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us. The legacy they established for us we carry forward and we're proud of it – when you think about our Air Force, think about those who came before us. The path they paved for us, all of their challenges. Make no mistake about it; they had great challenges before us."

Looking ahead, Cody continued, "This is our time, our challenges. This will be the smallest United States Air Force since our inception in 1947, yet, we are more globally engaged today around the world in the history of our country; the longest ever sustained combat operations, and for the first time in all of that history, this has been done with an all-volunteer professional force. You should be proud of that."

Holidays Stress and Depression

By: Ms. Jill Garvin, Director of Psychological Health

The stress of the holidays triggers sadness and depression for many people. This time of year is especially difficult because there's an expectation of feeling merry and generous. People compare their emotions to what they assume others are experiencing or what they're supposed to feel. Then they think that they alone fall short. They judge themselves and feel like an outsider. Many of you have experienced recent losses and this may be your first holiday without your loved one. Holidays are really never the same. There're a host of things that add to stress and difficult emotions during the holidays so I encourage you to be mindful of the following.

☑ **Finances** - Not enough money or the fear of not having enough to buy gifts leads to sadness and guilt. The stress of financial hardship during this economic downturn is often compounded by shame. When you can't afford to celebrate, it can feel devastating. Many of you do not know what your future financial situation is going to look like with the wing and mission changes.

☑ **Stress**. There is the stress of shopping and planning family dinners when you're already overworked and tired.

☑ **Loneliness**. Around 43 percent of Americans are single, and 27 percent of Americans live alone. When others are with their families, it can be very painful for those who are alone. We can also feel lonely in relationships when there is not a sense of connectiveness with our partners. That's why it's so important to have a good support system of at least 7, which is the magical number is regards to support system networks.

☑ **Grief**. There have been so many losses for many of you. It's okay to not feel "joy" or the holiday spirit without your loved one. Think of doing something this holiday to remember or honor your loved one. Reach out to others experiencing loss. Don't feel guilty for just not "feeling it" over the holidays!

Divorce/Break up. If you're newly divorced or a relationship has ended, the holidays may remind you of happier times and accentuate your grief and sense of isolation.

☑ **SAD**. Many people experience the blues during gloomy weather due to decreased sunlight, called Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). I have suggestions to help with this, such as "therapy lamps." Studies show that light therapy helps reduce the debilitating and depressive behaviors of SAD, such as excessive sleepiness and fatigue. Light therapy is preferred over antidepressants in the treatment of SAD because it is a relatively safe and easy therapy

Some measures you can take to cope with the holiday blues include:

☑ **Make plans in advance**, so you know how and with whom your holidays will be spent. Uncertainty and putting off decision-making add enormous stress.

☑ **Ask for help from your family**, children and support system.

☑ Don't buy things you can't afford. Shame prevents people from being open about gift-giving when they can't afford it. Instead of struggling to buy a gift, let your loved ones know how much you care and would like to, but can't afford it. That intimate moment will relieve your stress and nourish you both. Consider home-made gifts!

☑ **Don't allow perfectionism to wear you down**. Remember it's being together and goodwill that matters.

☑ **Make time to rest and rejuvenate** even amidst the pressure of getting things done. This will give you more energy. Even if you cannot take a nap or sleep, resting your body for 20 minutes can help rejuvenate the body.

☑ **Spend time alone to reflect and grieve**, if necessary. Pushing down feelings leads to depression. Let yourself feel and try not to judge whatever feelings arise. Try to make a plan to do something nice for yourself. Nurture your grief instead of fighting it.

☑ **Don't isolate**. Reach out to others who also may be lonely. If you don't have someone to be with, volunteer to help those in need. It can be very uplifting and gratifying. It is a spiritual truism that when we reach out to others, we get out of ourselves and feel more connected.

Be mindful of the signs of depression which are feelings of sadness, worthlessness or guilt, crying, loss of interest in usual activities, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, irritability, social withdrawal, and changes in sleep, weight, or appetite. If these symptoms are severe or continue for a few weeks, more than the holidays may be the cause. Please see me or the Chaplain so we can help give you the support and encouragement you deserve!

New Anti-Terrorism Office Member's Chaotic Past

By: Master Sgt. Paul Stewart, 102 IW Anti-Terrorism Office

For the last year and a half I lived in a world of hurricanes, earthquakes, tornados, blizzards, and cyber threats as a member of the US Northern Command's (USNORTHCOM) Vigilant Guard Exercise planning team.

What would happen if an ice storm immobilized the state of Maine, the release of a toxic chemical resulted from a truck crash, and a cyber attack on state's computer systems was discovered all during the same week? Officials in Maine wanted to be sure they could address a complex disaster situation and turned to the Vigilant Guard exercise team as part of their preparation.

Vigilant Guard is designed to help states prepare for a series of cascading events that over-burden the civilian response and necessitate assistance from the National Guard. Sponsored by USNORTHCOM, in conjunction with the National Guard Bureau (NGB), Vigilant Guard provides state National Guards an opportunity to improve cooperation and relationships with their regional civilian, military and federal partners in preparation for emergencies and catastrophic events.

Though the exercises themselves were typically high profile, the real work began up to 18 months before, when we collaborated with host-state National Guard planners and civilian emergency managers to determine how we could construct an exercise that would drive the response needed to meet the state's objectives. What level of damage was needed, what facilities should be impacted, how many people were hurt and what agencies would be involved in the response were all questions that had to be considered. Additionally, real-world concerns such as safety plans and logistical issues needed to be addressed. Once that was determined, we focused on designing the exercise to assure that both civilian and military responders were synched up to ensure all of their training objectives were met.

Exercises typically involved thousands of participants and were based around scenarios that were most likely to occur in the hosting state. From hurricanes in Florida to earthquakes in Alaska, the exercises were all based on the real concerns of state officials. I was part of a team of four responsible for planning exercises in Maine and Utah, working jointly to be sure all of the moving pieces came together in exercised that included multiple venues spread out over a large geographic areas.

When the exercise finally occurred, it was all-hands-on-deck to make the experience as authentic and realistic as possible. Exercises typically included hundreds of role players portraying injured civilians, carefully constructed rubble piles to simulate collapsed buildings and the activation of the state's Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), National Guard Joint Operations Center (JOC) and a Dual Status Commander led Joint Task Force (JTF). Vigilant Guard Team members worked long days to resolve issues that will always occur when plans become reality and thousands of personnel are set in motion at multiple exercise venues.

During my time at USNORTHCOM there were daily opportunities to interact with Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard in both officer and enlisted ranks. It was the ultimate joint environment, with each participant bringing a unique and complimentary perspective to the mission. The position forced me to shift my long held tactical perspective, developed during sixteen years in Security Forces at the 102nd IW, to the 40,000 foot strategic level required at USNORTHCOM.

The vital role that the National Guard has in the nation's response to disasters was quickly and consistently reinforced. While always working in a supporting role to civilian leadership at the state level, the National Guard provides unique capabilities to save lives and protect property when a state's residents are at their most vulnerable. The Vigilant Guard Exercise Program is a key part of making sure that when a "real life" event occurs the National Guard is ready to respond, integrate and communicate with civilians responders. The Boston Marathon bombing and resulting shelter in place order showed how important this skill set can be in a time of crisis.

In planning and conducting these exercises, I was frequently reminded why I joined the National Guard – the opportunity to be a part of something bigger then myself, collaborate with professionals who share a focus on the mission of protecting the residents and property of our local communities and prepare for the worst case scenario. The National Guard is and will continue to be a critical resource to states, expanding their capacity to address the increasingly complex weather, security and other issues that occur.

The Vigilant Guard team was second to none – whether in planning the exercises or participating in extracurricular activities together (including a wild cow milking contest at a local rodeo; it's harder than you would imagine!) – we were a cohesive team focused on helping local organizations prepare for the worst and achieve the best possible outcomes.

Oct. - Jan. Promotions

KIERSTIN SCHMIDT
PAUL CHITPANYA
TYESHIA BARFIELD
ADAM FERREIRA
NICHOLAS GENDRON
MALCOLM DONALDSON
JACK WU
JONATHAN HURRELL
JENNIFER BUSSUM

ASA LEIGHTON
JOSEPH RICE
KAITLIN EWALD
KYLE RIZZOTTO
JOHN HEALY
THEODORE TROWBRIDGE
ROBERT FERRARO
FE SAYDA WOLFGANG
MICHAEL SCHMIDT
ANDREW HILL
ANDREW KAVENY
LAUREN THOMAS
JOHN CLEVERLY
NIKOLETTA KANAKIS

JEFFREY SMITH
MARIA ESCOBAR
KAITLYN DANIELS
LUKE BENNETT
JASON CUDDYER
ERIC SMITH

VINCENT AMATUCCI
BETH HERNANDEZ
DOUGLAS CAMPELL

MICHAEL WALSH

SHAWN DOYLE
MICHAEL MOULIS

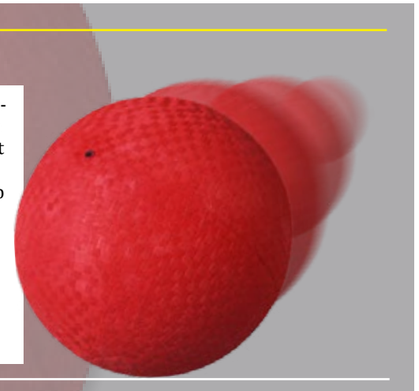
Commander's Cup

DODGEBALL! JANUARY 10TH

Due to holiday parties scheduled throughout the Wing during the December Unit Training Assembly, the Commander's Cup is postponed until the January UTA. The next event will be Dodgeball on Saturday, 10 Jan., at 1600 in the Bldg 158 hangar. Get your teams ready now and remember...

"If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball*."
--Patches O'Houlihan

Contact Capt. Dennis Swift for more information about the upcoming Commander's Cup events at *dennis.swift@ang.af.mil*



* Don't throw wrenches

SEAGULL IDEAS?

Do you have an idea for a *Seagull* article? Is your unit or shop doing something impressive? Is there something on base you don't think gets enough attention? Or do you simply have an announcement? Stories and ideas are always welcome. Email us at *102iw.pa@ang.af.mil* *(Please limit articles to 500 words.)*

The next *Seagull* deadline is Monday, Jan. 5, 2015.

Announcements

1

Wreaths Across America

This annual patriotic event will be on Saturday, December 13th at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne. Decorate a veteran's grave for the holiday season. If you would like to participate in the ceremony, contact Master Sgt. Dennis Mills at extension 4389.

2

Remembering Deployed Members

Donations are welcome to be used for care packages for our deployed members. Donations may be dropped off at the LRF Warehouse in Bldg. 158 until December 7th. Items such as Gatorade powder, Christmas decorations, new or used books, or small denomination Amazon gift cards would be very much appreciated by our members: POC: Master Sgt. Victoria A. Kenny, 102MSG/CCF

3

Multiple Red Cross Blood Drives Planned

Mark your calendar for Thursday, February 12th and Saturday, May 2nd 2015. The American Red Cross will be on base on both dates to conduct blood drives. Details to follow as they become available. Thank you for your continued support of the American Red Cross.

4

DeCA Scholarships for Military Children Program

Applications for the 2015-2016 school-year awards become available starting Dec. 15. Applicants should ensure that they and their sponsor are enrolled in DEERS and have a military ID; and must attend or plan to attend an accredited college or university, full time, in the fall of 2015. Applications must be received by COB Feb. 13, 2015. Learn more at http://www.militaryscholar.org.

5

2015 ESGR Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is now accepting nominations for the 2015 SecDef Employer Support Freedom Award. The award is the Nation's highest honor presented to civilian employers for exceptional support of their National Guard and Reserve employees. ESGR encourages Guardsmen, Reservists, or family members acting on their behalf, to submit nominations at www.FreedomAward.mil by January 19, 2015.

6

New Government Travel Credit Card

Please see the link below concerning the rollout of the new Citibank issued government travel cards with the new chip and pin technology. All GTC cardholders should verify their home address on record with Citibank to ensure they receive their card. Roll out of the new cards will start in January and finish by October of 2015. More information HERE.

7

Enter Stage Left Theater presents 'A USO Christmas'

"A USO Christmas, A Star-Studded, Star-Spangled Holiday Tribute to the USO Shows of WWII" will be held on December 5th, 6th, at 7:30 p.m. and December 7th at 2:00 p.m. Ticket Information: http://www.enterstageleftthea tter.org