

# Wing Tips

108th Wing -  
New Jersey Air National Guard



January 2011  
Volume 12, Issue 1

# Commander's Column

## New mobility chemical protection gear coming soon...

By Lt. Col. Daniel J. Rutkoski, 108th Logistic Readiness Squadron commander

If you have served in the U.S. Air Force and/or the Air National Guard for more than a few years, like I have, you should certainly be familiar with the many changes that have taken place to our military uniforms over those years. In fact, some of us can recall uniform changes that can only be remembered by a handful of Airmen! Uniform changes are nothing new to the Air Force or the other Armed Forces, and are made in an effort to update and improve the equipment that helps support our day-to-day jobs and the Air Expedition Force contingency missions.

One of the most important pieces of military equipment being updated right now is our mobility chemical protection mask. The older MCU-2/P or the M-45 series protective mask that all Airmen currently have been issued is now being replaced with a new M-50 Joint Service General Purpose Mask. The new mask is already in use throughout much of the Air Force. In addition, the 108th Wing is scheduled to receive the new M-50 masks later this month. The M-50 JSGPM is a lightweight, protective mask system – consisting of mask, carrier and accessories – that incorporates state of the art technology to protect U.S. forces

from anticipated threats.

Compared to its predecessors, the M-50 mask is designed to provide improved and increased periods of defense. According to U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard Mobility Readiness personnel, the new mask will have twin state-of-the-art filters that allow for more than 24 hours of protection against chemical agents. Other features of the M-50 JSGPM include reduced on-the-face weight; a single eye lens yielding a 23 percent larger field of vision; a self-sealing valve for filter exchange in a contaminated environment; a service life indicator; and breathing resistance reduction make this mask truly user-friendly!

Furthermore, the drinking system provides greater drinking capacity, and the carrier reduces dirt intrusion. Communications are enhanced by a 50 percent reduction in the weight of the audio amplifier system; enhanced integration with current and future communications systems; and an outlet valve cover which boasts direct speech capabilities.

A team consisting of emergency management, supply, medical, and bioenvironmental personnel are developing a plan for the issue, training, inspection, and fit testing for the M-50 JSGPM mask transition.



Personnel attending the 108th Wing ORI in 2011 and personnel scheduled to deploy with an AEF contingency mission will be the first to receive the new masks. Remaining personnel will then be completed over several unit training assemblies to ensure all UTC assigned personnel are trained, sized, and fit tested, as necessary.

The existing MCU2/P series mask will continue to be used pending completion of the M-50 JSGPM mask transition. After initial issue, training, and fit testing of the M-50 JSGPM all individuals will remain responsible for the maintenance and inspection of their issued mask.

On behalf of all 108th LRS members, I'd like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and we look forward to providing you the best equipment available to support your mobility readiness requirements.

### On the Cover

**Yummy, yummy!!...** Airmen from the 108th Wing enjoy some delicious food during the Wing's Holiday party held at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., during the December 2010 drill weekend. The Holiday party followed the Wing's Commander's Call. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Adrian R. Rowan, 108th Wing Public Affairs Office

Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff.....108th Wing Commander  
Capt. April Doolittle .....Public Affairs Officer  
Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez.....Public Affairs specialist  
Staff Sgt. Brian Carson.....Public Affairs specialist  
Senior Master Sgt. Ray Knox, Tech. Sgt. Eric Erbe and Senior Airman Adrian Rowan....Photographic Support

108th Wing, Attn: Public Affairs, 3327 Charles Blvd., Room 110, McGuire AFB, NJ 08641-5406; 609-754-4173; fax 609-754-4460. E-mails can be sent to [pa.108arw@ang.af.mil](mailto:pa.108arw@ang.af.mil).

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of Wing Tips are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 108th Wing. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

# Odds & Ends...

## NGANJ 2011 State Conference

The National Guard Association of New Jersey is pleased to invite you to the 2011 State Conference to be held at the Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, N.J., on Apr. 8-10.

Furthermore, the NGANJ will be electing a new slate of Association officer on Friday night Apr. 8.

In addition, on Saturday Apr. 9, a professional development training will be held there for any active NJNG officers.

Registration documents for both the conference and hotel rooms can be obtained by visiting their Website at <http://www.ngang.org> or contacting the NGANJ by E-mail at [nganj@aol.com](mailto:nganj@aol.com), or you can pick up a registration package at the 108th Wing Public Affairs Office located at 33-27 Charles Blvd, JBMDL, N.J.

The host command - 57th Troop Command - has put together a great program that will include additional hotel/casino in-house activities that will be both entertaining and enjoyable.

If you know of a company or organization that may want to support the NGANJ and their activities and would be willing to help the NGANJ meet their National Guard Support efforts, please visit <http://www.nganj.org/publications.htm> for some literature and publications.

## Veterans outreach campaign schedule

The DMAVA Veterans Outreach Campaign has kiosk displays at malls throughout the state and other special events to help veterans and their family members discover and apply for the benefits they are eligible to receive.

Jan. 11\*, 12, 13  
Moorestown Mall

\*Medal ceremony 10:30 a.m.

## On the Calendar

### January

Jan. 8-9 UTA  
Jan. 17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

### February

All Month Black History Month  
Feb. 2 Groundhod Day  
Feb. 12 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday  
Feb. 12-13 UTA  
Feb. 14 Valentine's Day  
Feb. 21 President's Day  
Feb. 22 George Washington's Birthday

### March

All Month Women History Month  
Mar. 13 Daylight Savings Time Begins  
Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day  
Mar. 19-20 UTA

## Officer vacancy announcement

The 108th Contingency Response Group based at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., has a traditional Guardsman military position vacancy for a security forces officer 31P3.

Complete position descriptions and qualification requirements may be found at the 108th Wing internal network within Y:\Training\CLASSIFY\OFFICER TRAINING 2011.

Submit applications to Col. Robert D. Brazel, 3305 Fiebelkorn Road, JBMDL, NJ 08641 no later than 3 p.m. on Monday Feb. 7. Questions regarding this positions may be directed to Col. Brazel at (609) 754-0331, DSN 650-0331.

## Helping a U.S Veteran to a better life

Rolling Thunder Inc. Chapter4 NJ has set a goal to purchase a pre-cast 12'x24' double occupancy male/female wheelchair accessible restroom facility. This facility will be used by the 300 veterans who currently reside at the Vineland Veteran's Home in Vineland N.J.

Rolling Thunder Inc., is a non-profit organization whose focus is on the POW/MIA issues and helping our Veterans from all wars: past, present, and future; and has been awarded the prestigious Presidential Service Award for Community Service, as well as the Volunteer Group Of The Year Award 2009.

Please visit their website at <http://www.rollingthundernj-4.org> for more information on how you can assist this organization to achieve their goals.

## Devils to host Military Appreciation Day

Here's a chance for the entire Guard family to enjoy a night on ice.

On Jan. 22, the Trenton Devils hockey team will be having their military appreciation night.

All National Guard members are eligible to buy \$8 tickets for themselves, friends and family for the game against the Wheeling Nailers. That's half off the regular game-day price. And it comes with an added bonus: an hour long post-game skate. So, bring your skates and round out a night of family fun.

Face off is at 7 p.m.

Make your reservations by calling Brian, Megan or Jackie at 609-599-9500 on any weekday

## Follow the 108th Wing on Facebook

The 108th Wing is now on Facebook.

Join our 108th Wing page by becoming a fan and receive upto date information on UTA dates, upcoming events, photo galleries, and Wing Tips.

Questions about the 108th Wing homepage on Facebook should be directed at the 108th Wing Public Affairs Office via email at [108arw.pa@ang.af.mil](mailto:108arw.pa@ang.af.mil) or stop by their office which is located at 33-27 Charles Blvd, McGuire AFB, NJ.

# Safety Tips

## Researchers caution: handle snow blowers with care

From the 108th Safety Office

As the winter weather approaches and snow fall a possibility, homeowners can prepare by dusting off the snow blower-and its safety manual.

Clearing the driveway with a snow blower doesn't have to be a dangerous task. But, unclog a snow blower with your hand, instead of the chute-cleaning tool, and you risk broken bones or amputation.

According to researcher Bart Hammig of the University of Arkansas, injuries most commonly occur when the operator does not follow the instructions in the safety manual and instead attempts to remove snow from the blades of the snow blower with their hand.

Hammig and colleague Ches Jones analyzed data from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System from 2002 to 2008 and found the majority of injuries occurred among those aged 40 and older, with males accounting for 90 percent of the visits to emergency rooms.

When a snow blower is operating, the auger blades sometimes become clogged with snow and will no longer spin. Although the machine is switched off, the researchers wrote, "The blades may store up rotational force and rotate briefly once the snow is cleared." If a hand is the tool being used to clear the snow, the blade will most likely amputate the limb or break bones.

The annual average of snow blower-related injuries is about 4,615 and has not lessened over time despite advances in safety standards.

When it comes to prevention, Hammig said, "Education is very consumer driven. It is just a matter of understanding how the machine works and getting to know the machine before using it."

Today, there are different types of snow blowers; some have one auger blade while others may have two



blades.

"Sometimes people don't realize there are actually two augers, and so they stick their hand in the top thinking there is only one on the bottom, and it cuts off their hand," said Hammig.

Manufacturers have addressed the risk by providing a chute-cleaning tool, which is now standard on most models and is a hand-held shovel-shaped device that is attached to the machine for use when blades become clogged.

"Unless manufacturers can come up with a new and safer design, prevention will rely on consumer education," Hammig said.

The researchers published results of their study in the journal *Academic Emergency Medicine*. Hammig is an assistant professor and Jones is a professor, both in health sciences at the University of Arkansas.



# Feature Story

## Final weeks to nominate for 2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award

The beginning of the new year marks the final two weeks for Guard and Reserve members and their families to nominate supportive employers for the 2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.

During the 2011 nomination period, Guard and Reserve members have nominated military supportive employers in all 50 states, D.C., Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

To date, California, Texas, Florida, New York and Ohio are the top five states submitting nominations for the award, indicating strong support by the state's employers for its citizen warriors. The Army National Guard, Army Reserve, and Air National Guard are leading among the seven service branches.

The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their outstanding support of their employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve.

Nearly one-half of the U.S. military is comprised of the Guard and Reserve, making the role of U.S. employers in support of employees in the military increasingly important.

Guard and Reserve members and



their families are eligible and encouraged to nominate employers that have provided exceptional support to Guard and Reserve employees beyond the federal law requirements. Nominations may be submitted at [www.FreedomAward.mil](http://www.FreedomAward.mil) through Jan.17, 2011.

The names of all nominated employers will be announced in the spring and the 15 Freedom Award recipients will be announced in early summer.

The 15 recipients for 2011 will be honored in Washington, D.C. at the 16th annual Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award ceremony in September.

The Freedom Award was instituted in 1996 under the auspices of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense agency, to

recognize exceptional support of Guard and Reserve members from the employer community.

In the past 15 years, 145 employers from across the nation have received this prestigious award. Established in 1972, ESGR's mission is to develop and promote employer support for Guard and Reserve service by advocating relevant initiatives, recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of applicable laws, and resolving conflict between employers and service members.

For questions regarding the Freedom Award nomination process, please visit [www.FreedomAward.mil](http://www.FreedomAward.mil) or contact Maj. Melissa Phillips, ESGR Public Affairs, at (703) 696-1171, ext. 519 or by email at [ESGR-PA@osd.mil](mailto:ESGR-PA@osd.mil).

## 108th Wing welcomes future Airman

Story by: Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez, 108th Wing Public Affairs

On Dec. 20 Technical Sgt. Tenisha Schexnayder returned back to work after a long absence. And she had a good excuse for her absence: maternity leave.

Schexnayder, a senior budget analyst with the 108th Comptroller Flight, gave birth to her daughter, Arielle, on Monday, Aug. 23, 2010 at Palisades Medical Center, North Bergen, N.J.

Schexnayder joined the 108th Wing

in 2001 and before that she was an active duty Navy security police. Her husband, Petty Officer 1st Class Khalif Schexnayder, is also in the military and is currently serving as a Navy liaison officer at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

Schexnayder and her husband currently reside in Old Bridge, N.J. along with their two other children, Immanuel and Daniel.





Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the Adjutant General, far left; Maj. Gen. Maria Falca-Dodson, Commander of the New Jersey Air National Guard; Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff, Commander of the 108th Wing; an official from Puente Construction; and Lt. Col Paul E. Novello, Commander of the 108th Wing, break ground for the new CE complex on Dec. 21 here at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Master Sgt. Raymond Knox, 108th Wing Public Affairs Office.

## Civil Engineers break ground for new complex

*Story by: Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez, 108th Wing Public Affairs Office*

With white hard hats and silver shovels, the 108th Wing held a ground-breaking ceremony Tuesday Dec. 21 here to commemorate the construction of the 108th Wing Base Civil Engineer Complex on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.

In attendance for the event was Army Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the Adjutant General of New Jersey; Air Force Maj. Gen. Maria Falca-Dodson, the Commander of the New Jersey Air National Guard; Air Force Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff, the Commander of the 108th Wing; Air Force Col. Gina Grosso, Commander of the 87th Air Base Wing; delegates from Senator Robert Menendez' office, Ms. Scarlett Rajski and Mr. Richard Locklear, and other distinguish visitors.

After thanking everyone in atten-

dance, both Rieth and Cunniff told all in attendance that this was a long and overdue project and a most deserved one for the 108th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Lt. Col. Paul E. Novello, commander of the 108th CES, also thanked everyone attending the ceremony and stated how he has been waiting for this new complex since his enlistment into the 108th Wing back in the '80s.

After having won the Major General Robert H. Curtin Award for the Air Force Outstanding Civil Engineer Unit Award in 2008 and then deploying to the Middle East from December 2009 through June 2010, there is no more deserving group of Airmen, said Novello about the new complex.

The \$5.9 million project will replace the 108th CES' current facilities, which

include four World War II temporary wood frame structures.

The 108th Wing Base CEC will support daily activities associated with maintaining/repairing base infrastructure and facilities for the 108th Wing, as well as the 108th CES' mobility and readiness requirements.

The contract for this project was awarded to Puente Construction Enterprises Inc., who is located in Woodbury, N.J., and is expected to take approximately 18 months for completion and be operational by April 30, 2012.

After the ceremony, the official party and distinguished visitors were invited to a post reception of food and refreshments at the 108th CES classroom.

# It's Photo Time!!!



# Guard Bureau gives social media rules

Story by: Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke, Army News Services

National Guard members need to know that even though a new DOD policy authorizes them to use many of the social media and other Web 2.0 platforms available on a non-classified government computer, there are consequences for their misuse.

“Access will vary among the states, but DOD has granted access to Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and YouTube as long as users don’t compromise operational security, participate in illegal activities or try to open prohibited websites,” said Jack Harrison, the director of public affairs for the National Guard Bureau.

Unofficial internet posts are not initiated by any part of the National Guard or reviewed within any official National Guard approval process. Official internet posts involve content released in an official capacity by a National Guard public affairs office.

Posting internal documents or information that the National Guard has not officially released to the public is prohibited, including memos, e-mails, meeting notes, message traffic, white papers, public affairs guidance, pre-decisional materials, investigatory information and proprietary information.

Guard members are also not allowed to release National Guard e-mail addresses, telephone numbers or fax numbers not already authorized for public release.

They are, however, encouraged to responsibly engage in unofficial internet posts about the National Guard.

“The National Guard is involved in various missions around the world every day, and Guard members are in the best position to share factually the National Guard’s story,” Harrison said.

When assigned to a federal mission, Guard members must comply with Army or Air Force guidelines for use of social media and are subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

As with other forms of communication, Guard members must also adhere to federal laws, National Guard regulations and governing policies when mak-

ing unofficial internet posts.

They are personally responsible for all content they publish on social networking sites, blogs or other websites.

“They must also be mindful of the content not related to the National Guard that they post, since the lines between a Guard member’s personal and professional life are often blurred,” Harrison said.

When communicating online about the National Guard in unofficial internet posts, they may identify themselves as Guard members and include their rank, military component and status.

However, if they decide not to identify themselves as Guard members, they should not disguise, impersonate or misrepresent their identity or affiliation with the National Guard.

When expressing personal opinions, Guard members should make it clear that they are speaking for themselves and not on behalf of the National Guard, Harrison said.

They are also encouraged to use a disclaimer such as: “The postings on this site are my own and don’t represent the National Guard’s positions or opinions.”

As with other forms of personal public engagement, Guard members must avoid offensive and inappropriate behavior that could bring discredit upon themselves and the National Guard. This includes posting any defamatory, libelous, obscene, abusive, threatening, racially or ethnically hateful or otherwise offensive or illegal information or material.

Correcting errors and misrepresentations made by others about the National Guard should be done professionally and respectfully, not emotionally. Guard members should contact their chain of command or public affairs office for guidance if they are uncertain about the need for a response.

When posting political content, Guard members must adhere to policy in Department of Defense Directive 1344.10. They should also not imply National Guard endorsement of any opinions, products or causes other

than those already officially endorsed by the National Guard.

Guard members should not release personal identifiable information, such as social security number, home address or driver’s license number that could be used to distinguish their individual identity or that of another Guardsman.

By piecing together information provided on different websites, criminals can use information to impersonate Guard members and steal passwords.

Guard members should use privacy settings on social networking sites so posted personal information and photos can be viewed only by their “friends.”

They should also recognize that social network “friends” and “followers” could affect determinations in background investigations for security clearances.

“Remember, what happens online, is available to everyone, everywhere,” Harrison said. “There should be no assumption of privacy when Guard members begin to interact with others online.”

Guard members should not post information that would infringe upon the privacy, proprietary or personal rights of others or use any words, logos or other marks that would infringe upon the trademark, service mark, certification mark, or other intellectual property rights of the owners of such marks without the permission of the owners.

The National Guard, Army or Air Force logo and other symbols may be used in unofficial posts as long as the symbols are used in a manner that does not bring discredit upon the Guard, result in personal financial gain or give the impression of official or implied endorsement.

Finally, Guard members should review their accounts daily for possible use or changes by unauthorized users and should install and maintain current anti-virus and anti-spyware software on their personal computers.