



Wing Tips



108th Wing
NJ Air National Guard

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Commander's Column

Military associations are looking for new members

By Lt. Col. Lawrence J. Klein, 108th Global Mobility Readiness Squadron

Whether you've been in the military for two years or 20, you probably have been approached at one time or another to consider joining some form of military association. These associations include such organizations as the Air Force Association, the National Guard Associations (both officer and enlisted), the Non-commissioned Officers Association, the Military Officers Association of America, and others that focus on military services and personnel.

On the local, state and national level there are groups that cater to just about every imaginable job, personal experience, or interest. These military organizations foster esprit-de-corps and camaraderie, encourage community service, advocate on the behalf of current and former military members, and even provide scholarship opportunities for members and their families.

I encourage you to take a look at these groups. Their conferences and meetings provide forums for professional development and education. They also provide opportunities to meet new people outside your work environment and expand your understanding of the "big picture". The social opportunities give you a chance to foster friendships and relationships that can last long after you have retired from the

New Jersey Air National Guard. Furthermore, you will also find that some of the annual conferences are held in pretty nice locations.

So what organization should you join? Which one is right for you? Only you can decide that. Ask around the Wing; you will find there are any numbers of groups represented in the 108th. I'm personally involved in seven different military or professional organizations and I'm a life member of four of them. If you can't find someone in the Wing to talk to, a Google search for "National Military Associations" or "Professional Military Associations" will give you hundreds of organizations to choose from.

To quote the U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. Norton A. Schwartz: "These groups work hard to increase awareness of our mission with the American public and foster strong and mutually beneficial relationships among government, industry, and civic leaders...Military associations represent an important non-governmental dimension of our country's strong interest in national defense." So you can see, the highest levels of leadership in the Air Force and Air National Guard encourage you to get involved. So what are you waiting for?



The following military associations are always looking for new members to join their ranks: The Air Force Association – <http://afa.org>; Non Commissioned Officers Association: <http://ncoausa.org>; Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States – <http://eangus.org>; National Guard Association of the United States – <http://www.ngaus.org>; and Military Officers Association of America – <http://www.moaa.org>.

Please note that no endorsement is implied by providing this information.



Outstanding Airman of the Year Awards Winners



Several Airmen from the 108th Wing, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., were recipients of Outstanding Airman of the Year awards for New Jersey in 2011. Front row left to right, Col. Kevin J. Keehn, Acting 108th Wing commander; Senior Airman Courtney Beard, 204th Intelligence Squadron, Tech. Sgt. Angela Miller, 108th Force Support Squadron; and Chief Master Sgt. Vincent Morton, 108th Wing command chief. Back row left to right, Staff Sgt. Isiah Thomas, 108th FSS; Airman 1st

Class Paula Daniels, 108th FSS; and Master Sgt. Jill Moore, 108th Wing, pose for a group photo. Beard was named Outstanding Airman of the Year; Daniels was named Outstanding Honor Guard Team Member of the Year; Miller was named Outstanding Noncommissioned Officer of the Year; Moore was named First Sergeant of the Year and Thomas was named Outstanding Honor Guard Program Manager of the Year. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Master Sgt. Raymond Knox, 108th WG/PA)

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A Message From the Safety Office

ROAD RAGE

"In recent years, we have seen an increase in incidents of aggressive driving that result in physical attacks on one or more drivers. It has become so frequent that the practice of aggressive driving has triggered its own term, "Road Rage".

Below are a few examples of how just how dangerous "road rage" can be and why it should be avoided.

Several years ago on Highway 26 in Oregon, west of Portland, two males driving pickup trucks got into an argument and exchanged gestures. One of the motorists shot the other one to death. The shooter has never been found.

In late 1997, a truck driver traveling through Portland became angry at two teenagers who had apparently cut him off in traffic. He had a gun and shot and wounded both of them. The truck driver was arrested and convicted.

A truck driver for a local company became angry at two people who cut him off and made an obscene ges-

ture. When traffic was forced to stop, he left his truck and engaged in a fist fight with the two drivers. Considerable

blood was exchanged, which could also place any of the combatants at risk of HIV.

In Washington, two mo-

torists got in to an argument about an obscene gesture and one pinned the other between the two cars, crushing his legs.

It is critical that professional drivers (any driver, for that matter) remain focused on the job at hand, that of safely

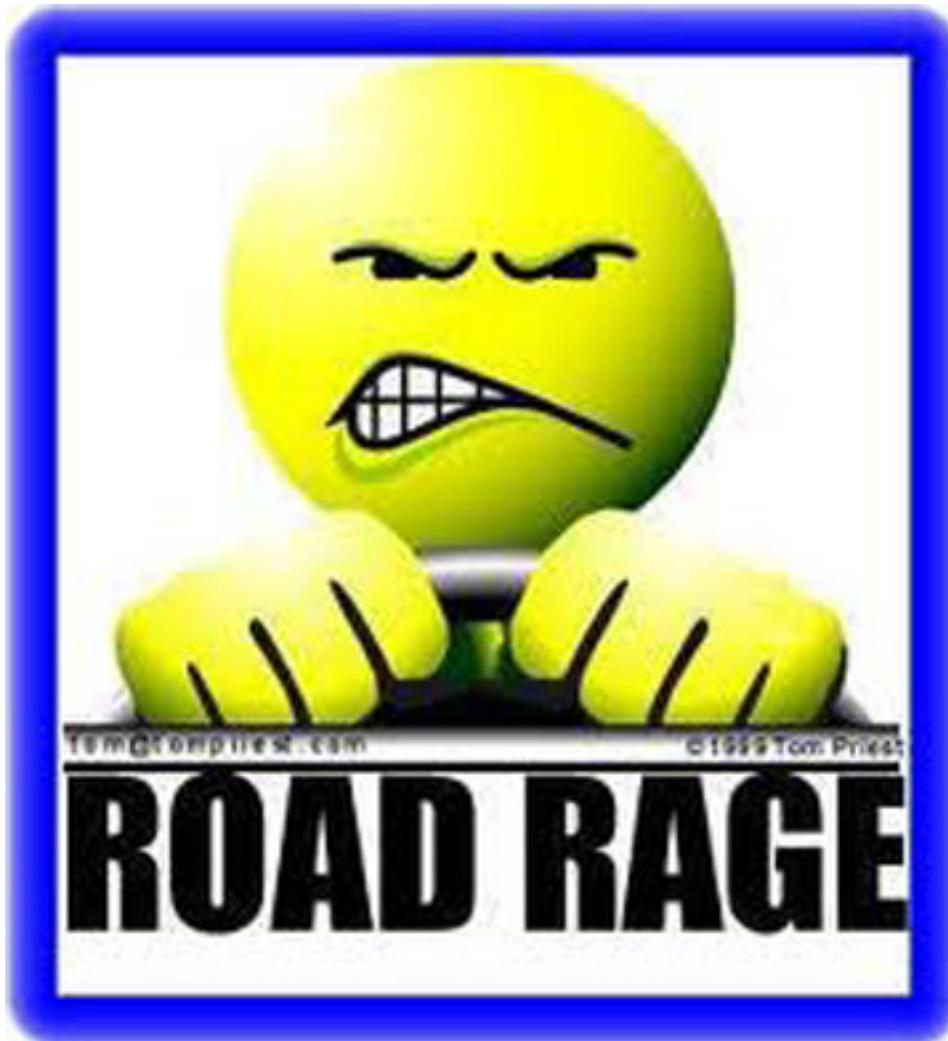
operating a large, heavy vehicle on the highway. It is said that truck drivers make over 100 decisions per minute that affect the control of the vehicle.

With that much going on, there is no time to be gesturing, glaring at, or chasing drivers who have offended you. You must let it go, if someone does something stupid in the vicinity of your vehicle.

Actions that may cause "Road Rage" can include: Tailgating, flashing headlights at other vehicles, honking horns, improper lane changes, driving too slowly and blocking a lane, and speeding.

These are some strategies that may help to prevent "Road Rage": Be polite, even if the other driver is not, avoid discourteous traffic actions such as tailgating and honking your horn, assume the other driver's ac-

tions are not personal, practice "A-B-C" - Avoid eye contact: Be courteous: Call authorities, if necessary.



Photos of the Month



Lt. Col. Daniel Rutkoski, right, relinquishes command of the 108th Logistic Readiness Squadron to Col. Ron Alfors, left, 108th Mission Support Group commander, during a Change-of-Command Ceremony at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Jan. 21. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Eric Erbe, 108th WG/PA)



Tech. Sgt. Michael Robison, 108th Maintenance Squadron, participates in a fire extinguisher safety class taught by the 87th Civil Engineer Squadron at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Jan. 20, during the Wing's Safety Down Day. The 87th CES trained the 108th WG members on the proper use of hand-held fire extinguishers in any normal environment. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Kellyann Novak, 108th WG/PA)



Tech. Sgt. Robert Feeley, 108th Maintenance Squadron, repairs hydraulic lines on a KC-135 Stratotanker's engine Jan. 22. Airmen from the 108th MXS worked on the plane during the 108th Wing's January Unit Training Assembly at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez, 108th WG/PA)



Staff Sgt. Lawrence Robinson, 108th Maintenance Squadron, works on one of the four engines from a KC-135 Stratotanker Jan. 22. Airmen from the 108th MXS made several repairs on the KC-135 during the January UTA at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez, 108th WG/PA)



Red Tail Angels: The Tuskegee Airmen

By Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Prior to World War II, the situation for African-American military aviators was grim.

The Army Air Corps had completely barred blacks from their ranks and the other services had assigned blacks only the most menial of duties.

Civil rights organizations and the black press exerted pressure that, combined with congressional legislation, resulted in the formation of 99th Fighter Squadron based at the Tuskegee Institute in June 1941. The graduates of that program would become known as the Tuskegee Airmen.

Class 42C, the first Tuskegee class, began training on July 19, 1941 and included 12 cadets and one student officer, Capt. Benjamin O. Davis Jr.

In 1936, Davis was the first African American to graduate from West Point Military Academy in 47 years and only the fourth to ever graduate from the institute. Davis served as an aide to his father, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., at Fort Benning, Ga., before transferring to Tuskegee. He would later retire as an Air Force lieutenant general, the Air Force's first black



general and the nation's second African American general officer.

After completing basic training at nearby Moton Field, the Airmen were sent to the segregated Tuskegee Army Airfield to complete their pilot training.

Class 42C earned their wings in March 1942, becoming the nation's first black military pilots. Between 1941 and 1946, Tuskegee trained 992 aviators for the war effort, 450 would be deployed, 66 were killed in action and 32 were shot down and

became prisoners of war.

Despite all the training, the unit did not receive their deployment orders. After months of delays by the War Department, the 99th Fighter Squadron was deployed



to North Africa where they joined the 33rd Fighter Group in April, 1943. Their first combat mission was to attack the island of Pantelleria, which was located in the Mediterranean Sea. The attack began on May 30 and ended on June 11. The enemy forces surrendered solely due to air power.

For this singular accomplishment, the 99th received a Distinguished Unit Citation. The 99th would go on to be awarded another DUC for successful air strikes against Monte Cassino, Italy during May 12-14, 1944.

In spring 1944, the all-black 332nd Fighter Group was deployed. The 332nd was comprised of the 100th, 301st, and 302nd African-American Fighter Squadrons. The 332nd was initially based at Montecorvino Air Base near Salerno, Italy and then moved to Capodichino Airfield and finally to Ramitelli Airfield near Ancona, where, under Davis' command, flew missions over Sicily, the Mediterranean and North Africa. The 99th joined the 332nd in July 1944.

American bomber crews nicknamed the 332nd the Red Tails or Red Tail Angels after the distinctive red tail markings on the vertical stabilizers of the unit's fighters. The German pilots called the Tuskegee pilots "Die Schwarze Vogelmenschen", liter-

ally the Black Birdmen.

On March 24, 1945, Lt. Col. Davis led the 332nd on a 1,600-mile mission to Berlin where they escorted B-17 bombers whose mission was to level the Daimler-Benz tank works. The 332nd was supposed to be relieved by another fighter unit prior to arriving at the target, so when the relieving unit failed to show up, the 332nd continued the mission and went on to shoot down numerous enemy fighters including three German Me-262 jet fighters. As a result, the 332nd was awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation for "outstanding performance and extraordinary heroism" for the longest bomber escort mission of World War II.

By war's end, the Tuskegee Airmen had completed 15,553 sorties, 1,578 missions, destroyed 262 enemy aircraft, more than 600 railroad cars, one enemy destroyer and numerous enemy installations. Their awards included three Distinguished Unit Citations, 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses, several Silver Stars, eight Purple Hearts, 14 Bronze Stars, 744 Air Medals, the Croix de Guerre and the Red Star of Yugoslavia.

The Tuskegee Airmen overcame prejudice and helped pave the way for President Harry S. Truman's Executive Order 9981 in July 1948, which mandated that the "highest standards of democracy" were essential in the armed services, and that "there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons without regard to race, color, religion or national origin."



Photos courtesy of the Library of Congress

Odds & Ends

Free tax assistance at JB MDL

The McGuire and Dix Tax Center, which is located at 2907 Tuskegee Airmen Avenue in Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, is currently providing free tax assistance to all qualifying active-duty members, AGRs, retirees and military dependents.

The Tax Center is open for appointments Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., as well as Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. until mid-April. Additionally, walk-in appointments are available Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In addition, the Lakehurst Tax Center is located at 150 Berry Rd. and is open Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To have tax returns prepared on a walk-in basis, community members must:

- File as single or married filing jointly
- Be under 65 years of age and not blind at the end of 2011, unless the person is only taking the standard deduction
- Not claim dependents
- Not receive any advanced Earned Income Credit payments
- Only have wages, salary, tips, taxable scholarships or fellowship grants, unemployment compensation or Alaska permanent fund dividends
- Not have taxable interest exceeding \$1,500
- Not claim any adjustments to income
- Only claim EIC.

Joint base community members should receive their tax returns in approximately two to three weeks after filing their taxes here.

Community members must bring the following paperwork to file their 2011 tax return:

- A filled out Form 13614-C, "Intake/Interview Quality Review Sheet," one day prior to a scheduled appointment (it may be dropped off or emailed to JBMDLTaxCenter@gmail.com)
- This year's tax package documents
- Social Security cards for themselves, spouses and children
- All W-2's
- Form 1099
- Routing and accounting numbers
- A copy of last year's tax return

Clients can find a digital copy of Form 13614-C at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-utl/13614-c.pdf

Service members and civilians within the joint base community interested in VITA training, becoming a volunteer tax assistant or setting up an appointment should call the JB MDL Tax Centers at 609-754-8106.

Black History Month lunch and learn

Come join us at the Operations Auditorium this Saturday Feb. 11, starting at 11:30 a.m., for a special LUNCH & LEARN.

This Special Presentation serves as a brief homage to "Black Women in American Culture and History" highlighting both known and unsung accomplishments.

There will be a brief presentation followed by light dessert refreshments. Bring your own lunch as well.

All are welcomed to come.

ONLINE DATABASES

One of Pentagon's goals: combat terrorism

- www.GlobalSecurity.org
- International Security & Counter Terrorism Reference Center (access via EBSCOhost)

EBSCOhost
www.search.ebscohost.com
(ebooks & audiobooks)
Username: mgdlib1
Password: qzswzwd

MILITARY ONE SOURCE
www.militaryonesource.com
(under Resources, click Doc MWR Library Resources)

PROQUEST
proquest.umi.com/login
Username: mgdlib1
Password: welcome

SAFARI ONLINE BOOKS
Accessed via Service Portal or Military One Source account
(Mobile App available)

COUNTRY WATCH
www.countrywatch.com
Username: mgquire
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WORLD CAT
www.worldcat.org
Username: library
Password: library
(Mobile App available)

TRANSPARENT LANGUAGE
Accessed via Service Portal

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information
gadgets
services

The "flgs collection" is the library's newest offering of resources using today's technology. Comprised of our "future information gadgets & services," the collection includes:

- NOOK Colors
- SONY eReaders
- MP3 Players
- Overdrive audiobook/ebook URL
- EBSCOhost database URL's
- QR Library Codes URLs

The Joint Base Library at McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst is proud to present our newest collection of innovative library resources.

17th Force Support Library

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- Facebook "17th FSS Library"
- Twitter "17th FSS Library"

ACCESS YOUR ACCOUNT THROUGH

- BookMyne Mobile App
- <http://amcc.sirsi.net>

Locations:

2907 Tuskegee Airmen Ave.
JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ 08641
T: 609-754-8278 F: 609-754-8108
Hours: Mon to Thurs 10 AM - 8 PM
Fri to Sun 12 PM - 6 PM

SFAC Bldg 5644 Doughboy Loop (Fort Dix)
Hours: Mondays 8:30 - 12 Noon

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Mysteries
Nookbooks
Nookbooks

Download Station

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Interlibrary Loan

We can request items from other libraries to supplement your educational needs.

Note: Except for Textbooks.

Career opportunity within the Wing

The 108th Logistic Readiness Squadron has a vacancy for a First Sergeant. Any eligible enlisted member desiring consideration should prepare a detailed resume of military and civilian experience, letter of recommendation from member's Unit Commander, a letter of intent and a brief statement indicating why the member desires the position. Applications will be submitted to the 108th Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Vincent Morton, no later than COB March 11, 2012. You will be notified of the date and time of when the First Sergeant Board will be held. A position description of the job can be found in AFI 36-2113, *The First Sergeant*.

SPECIALTY QUALIFICATIONS: The person selected must meet the requirements of AFI 36-2113 and must fully comply with AFI 36-2903. Strong written and verbal communication skills are necessary as well as the ability to work long and irregular hours.

PRE-BOARD REQUIREMENTS: Must be a promotable technical sergeant or master sergeant; obtained a minimum score of 75 - within the past 12 months on the Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA). To attend the school, you must be able to run the 1.5 mile portion of the PFA. Must have a minimum ASVAB score of 41 Administrative or 62 General; have a minimum physical profile of PULHES 322221 and possess a 7 skill level.

Questions may be directed to the 108 WG command chief master sergeant at 609-754-8510.

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