



Wing Tips

**108th Air Refueling Wing
New Jersey Air National Guard
June 2004 Volume 4 Issue 6**



Vehicle Registration

Effective June 1, 2004, the 305th Security Forces Squadron will be taking over the issuing of vehicle decals for the 108th Air Refueling Wing. Vehicle registration will take place at the Visitors Center located next to the 24-hour gate. For your convenience, the Visitors Center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Tour the 108th ARW

The Public Affairs Office routinely conducts tours of the 108th Air Refueling Wing for cadets, scouts, schools, and other civilian organizations. If you are interested in bringing a group to tour the 108th contact Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz at 754-4173. Please specify if there are any areas of the base you would specifically like your group to see.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Dave Mullen, Civil Engineer Squadron

Heritage Center Hours

The New Jersey Air National Guard Heritage Center will be open on the first Wednesday of every month starting on June 2, 2004 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Heritage Center will also be open every Saturday of the UTA from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information about the Heritage Center or to book it for tours please contact Connie Cisek at 609-562-0901.

Members of the 108th Civil Engineer Squadron wait to board the KC-135 that will bring them home from their deployment to Puerto Rico in April.

CE Mission: Improvements

By Senior Airman Len Gilbert
108th Civil Engineer Squadron

The 108th Civil Engineer Squadron recently completed its two-week annual training at Borinquen, a U.S. Coast Guard Air Station in Puerto Rico.

Just because the mission was in a tropical paradise doesn't mean the trip was all fun and games. "We are required by ANGI 36-501 to perform annual deployment training," said CE commander Major Paul Novello.

While the training could technically be done at the home station, Novello says that the squadron gains valuable, real-world experience through worldwide training deployments. "By deploying to different

areas throughout the world we have the opportunity to use different construction methods and work with materials." For example, at Borinquen most of the structures are concrete whereas on McGuire Air Force Base wood and metal frame structures are more common. "Running wires, installing windows and doors, and hanging ceiling grids all require different methods and procedures than we typically use," Novello said.

Besides providing crucial training the deployments have other benefits. "In addition to providing planning logistics experience the training deployments are a good tool for recruiting, morale and retention," he said, "It's a win-win situation."

This month in *Wing Tips*

Commander's Column.....	page 2
Odds and Ends.....	page 3
Boom Box.....	page 6
Kudos.....	page 7
Chaplains Corner.....	page 8
Say What?.....	page 8

Commander's Column

By Col. Michael Moore
Mission Support Group Commander

Thoughts on Leadership

As I sat down to write an article for the Commander's Corner, I thought with all my years of experience maybe I could write on something that I think I know about. So I thought, what about leadership? After all I have been a Commander for over 21 years. But as I began to think about **Leadership**, I wasn't quite sure I could really put my finger on what it really is. So I went to the dictionary to get a clearer understanding of what defines **Leadership** so that I might head in the right direction as I attempt to explain what I think **Leadership** is.

The dictionary was not much help. In fact the dictionary has several explanations on what the meaning of leadership is. In actuality the dictionary does not define leadership, but defines leader, and only mentions leadership as a sub-paragraph of leader. Ok, then what is a leader according to the dictionary, 1) "something that leads," "something that ranks first," I guess I want to say that is obvious, 2) "a person that leads," "a guide, conductor;" "a person who directs a military force or unit;" a person who has commanding authority or influence;" "the principal member of the party elite in a totalitarian system endowed by official ideology with a heroic or mystical character, exercising governmental power with a minimum of formal constitutional restraints, and characterized by extreme use of national demagoguery and claims to be above narrow class or group interests." After reading the definitions and really thinking about what I think leadership is. I found that my definition and the dictionary's are not similar at all.

The dictionary certainly gives a good "definition of a leader," but does not explain leadership. To me leadership is that individual, regardless of rank, who takes an uncomfortable or difficult situation and moves those individuals who are with him/her through the dilemma, without hesitation or after thought. Through Leadership he or she is the one who tries to find the solution to the problem, takes the situation in hand and moves forward. Through good Leadership, Leaders make those around see the glass as half-full and not half empty. Leadership is understanding the needs of those that you lead and what is best for them, not you. Leadership is making hard decisions, for the right reasons, in other words, doing the right thing. Not all leadership is pleasant all the time; sometimes the hard decisions can be agonizing and insurmountable. But a leader makes them because that is what leadership is, making the hard decisions when no one else steps up to the plate to do so.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Ray Knox

When things are going well, Leadership can be very enjoyable, especially when those that you lead are succeeding. That is when your leadership shines like the brightest star in the heavens, because the ones that you lead succeed beyond their wildest dreams and you, as the leader, helped make it happen. Most would view this as a perk or as "rank having privilege." I view this as simply having the intestinal fortitude to carry out the missions that need to be carried out!

Many people believe that Leaders are born, not made. I believe good leaders are made, and their Leadership is born through their hard work, attentiveness and caring about those they lead. It takes time and initiative to learn leadership skills. But if you stay the course, learn from your

mistakes, take care of your people and do the right thing, leadership is second nature to being a good leader. If you learn good leadership, it will definitely not be a sub-paragraph in your leaders dictionary; it will be the primary tool in your leadership toolbox. As the operations tempo become more intense, leadership must move to the front. Because these are the times that try men and women's souls, these are the times when leaders must emerge and take charge.

Through your Leadership efforts, the 108th Air Refueling Wing can only move forward to greater accomplishments and successes. Show Leadership today, so that you can be counted as a Leader for tomorrow.

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Odds and Ends

EFAC

The Enlisted Field Advisory Council (EFAC) proposes solutions, changes and other policy actions that impact enlisted members. The EFAC team meets four times a year to discuss current Air National Guard issues. Some of the current issues they are dealing with are: VA home loans - Guard members should not have to wait six years to be eligible; ALS instructor criteria; etc. The EFAC publishes minutes of all their quarterly meetings and posts them on the ANG EFAC Website.

To submit an issue:

- Complete the EFAC Issue Submission Form (found on the EFAC Website listed below).

- Send the form, with any supporting documentation, to your Wing CCM, Command Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Ortu.

or

- E-mail the form and any supporting documentation directly to the EFAC Chairman.

For more information, to keep track of current issues, submit an issue or to see how your issues are being handled visit <https://airguard.ang.af.mil/cf/cfc/efac/efac.asp>.

TSP open season

Civilian and military employees can sign up for or change their Thrift Savings Plan contribution amounts during the "open season" now through June 30, 2004. For more information please visit the TSP Web site at www.tsp.gov or call Master Sgt. Jennifer Noble-Slaton, 108 MPF, at 609-754-6073.

Family Appreciation Day

This year's Family Appreciation Day will take place on August 21 at Sea Girt. The festivities will begin at approximately 10 a.m. and end around 10 p.m. with a fireworks display. There will be games, food, and a live band. The days' festivities are free to unit members and their immediate families. For more information contact Tiffany Colby in the Family Readiness Center at 609-754-4479.

Wing Tips deadlines

The deadline for July *Wing Tips* is July 1. Articles and photos should be emailed to: pa.108arw@njmccgu.ang.af.mil. Please ensure digital photos are a minimum of 300 dpi and send the raw file. Articles must be in MS Word format. Deadline for August *Wing Tips* is August 5 and September *Wing Tips* is September 1.

Wing Tips is now accessible to unit members, retirees and the public on three different Web sites.

It will be placed on the following public Web sites – <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mcguireairguardians> and <http://www.108arw.ang.af.mil>.

Unit members will also find it on the members-only Web site at <https://108mbr.ang.af.mil>.

Printed color copies will be distributed to buildings 3305, 3306, 3324, 3333, 3369, 3390 and 1818.

What's happening

June

June 13	Burlington County Earth Fair
June 14	Flag Day
June 15	NJNG Youth Camp applications due
June 18	Unity Day
June 20	Father's Day
June 21	Summer begins

July

July 4	Independence Day
July 7-8	Air National Guard Band at McGuire

August

August 19	Enlisted Council Golf Tournament
August 21	Family Appreciation Day - Sea Girt

Earth Fair Fun

The 2004 Burlington County Earth Fair will be held on Sunday, June 13 at the Historic Smithville Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Learn about solar energy and composting, participate in canoeing and various workshops, be entertained by the Peppermint Playhouse Puppeteers and much more. Environmental fun for the whole family! Volunteers are needed to help run a recruiting booth. For more information or to volunteer contact Senior Master Sgt. Michele Evans at 609-754-4984.

Free admission to Colonial Williamsburg

Colonial Williamsburg is offering a 2-day consecutive special free admission for active-duty, retired, guard & reserve personnel and their families on the following holidays for 2004:

Memorial Day – 31 May
Independence Day – 4 July
Veterans Day – 11 November

You must have a current member or dependent ID card and go to the visitor center to pick up the tickets. Two consecutive days includes the dates listed and either the day before or after.

This information is not yet posted on their website, but if you call 800-HISTORY (800-447-8679) and ask for the ticket office they can answer any questions you may have.

108th Security Forces Squadron

By Capt. Brian Grier
108th Security Forces Squadron

The 108th Security Forces Squadron is made up of approximately 115 men and women who have chosen a physically challenging career field with many different mission responsibilities. Entry into this career field begins with basic training, and then leads to a lengthy technical school where students learn about military law enforcement, physical security, and the particular needs of our nation's nuclear security mission. Incorporated within this training is a period of instruction that includes the basics of operating and fighting effectively in a field environment.

After our nation was attacked on September 11, 2001 the 108th SFS responded to our nation's needs and mobilized. Throughout the almost two year mobilization, squadron members performed a variety of missions both here in the United States and in many overseas locations. During these deployments, unit members gained valuable experience and knowledge, which will benefit them far into the future. Personnel in this unit were faced with challenges and missions that tested leadership, job knowledge and the ability to adapt to a high operations tempo. Personnel performed installation security, law enforcement patrol duties, town patrol, flight sergeant duties and other security

missions. Unit members who have attended Air Mobility Command's Phoenix Raven School performed fly-away missions which included being responsible



for aircraft security in forward operating bases.

Since de-mobilizing, the squadron is looking to the future and is still performing all of the duties that the Wing requires of us. The squadron's Combat Arms Training and Maintenance section provides the firearms training for all Wing members, schedules and runs firing ranges, and assists in maintaining all Wing weapons. If

you take a moment to consider the number of people and factors involved in this, the magnitude of the task they perform becomes evident. The squadron's Mobility and Supply section is responsible for acquiring and maintaining all equipment and documentation needed in order to keep our squadron worldwide deployable at all times. Our squadron's training section works hand in hand with Wing training in order to schedule all levels of formal schools and training for security forces members as they advance in their careers. Our full-time and administrative staff members are responsible for vehicle registrations and security clearance packages. The squadron's operations section consists of seven, 13-member squads whose function is to train and fulfill any deployment orders that the unit receives. As needed, members of the Mobility, Training, and Administrative section are temporarily re-assigned to the Operations section for training and deployments, in addition to their other duties.

As the Wing moves into the future and the Air National Guard continues to prove its relevance and importance in the over-all Air Force Mission, the 108th Security Forces Squadron is looking to the future. We are continual working to improve all our individual sections in order to better serve the Wing, the Air Force and the Nation.

Burkel takes first place

When the dust settled at the end of the day, Master Sergeant Joe Burkel of the 108th Air Refueling Wing Marksmanship Team topped the field.

Burkel competed in a Highpower Rifle Match at HH Range in Winslow, N.J. on May 16, 2004 and shot a 474-12X out of a possible 500 points to walk away with first place honors. Sgt. Burkel's strong showing in the prone rapid fire and prone



Courtesy photo

slow fire events pushed him to the top of the field.

The 108th ARW Marksmanship Team competes in matches on weekends from March through October. If anyone is interested in becoming a member of the Marksmanship Team, please call Lt. Col. Andy Kুক্তik at 609-754-6140.

Left: Master Sgt. Joe Burkel takes aim at his target.



Courtesy photo

Congratulations to Tech. Sgt. Robin Jimenez on her graduation from Rutgers University. On May 21, 2004, Sgt. Jimenez received a Bachelor of Science from the Rutgers School of Business in Camden, N.J.

Possible tax savings if mobilized

By Lt. Col. Edward Ramras
108ARWJAG

If you were involuntarily mobilized, and your civilian employer paid you part or all of your civilian salary while you were on active duty, you may be entitled to a tax refund.

A recently reconfirmed 1969 Internal Revenue Service Revenue Ruling (RR 69-136) held that continuing salary payments to activated Guard and Reserve employees are not considered to be "earnings" for purposes of Social Security, Medicare, and unemployment compensation taxes. Those taxes make up a large part of the deductions from your paycheck. Federal and state income taxes still apply.

If your civilian employer paid all or part of your salary while you were mobilized, check your pay stubs or W-2 forms for that period. If Social Security (also listed as FICA or OASDI), Medicare, or unemployment taxes were withheld, ask your civilian employer for a refund. Remind them that it is in their best interests to do so, since they will also receive a refund of the employer portion of these taxes.

If the employer refuses to refund the taxes, you can file an IRS Form 843 directly with IRS. Do not file a Form 1040X to try to get this refund. The 1040 is only for income taxes.

For more information and forms, visit the IRS web site www.irs.gov.

Front and Center

Name: Christian Lescano
Rank: Senior Airman
Age: 26
Time in service: Five years active duty and two years in the Air Guard
Job in the 108th: AGE Mechanic
Family: Mother and Father
Favorite food: Peruvian Cuisine
Favorite movie: *Scar Face*
Favorite Actor: Samuel L. Jackson
Favorite TV show: *Friends*
Favorite author: JRR Tolkien
Favorite music genre: Salsa
Favorite sport: Football
What I do with my spare time: Hang out with my friends and Salsa dance
People I most admire: My father and my supervisors
Dream vacation: A trip around the world
My goal is: To someday work with a police force as a hostage negotiator
Words I live by: Lead by example
Pet Peeve: People who lie
What I like most about the 108th Air Refueling Wing: Very family orientated
If I were commander for the day I would: Give everyone the day off for their hard work



Courtesy photo

Boom Box



Photo by Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz

Retired Master Sgt. Sandy McHugh completed a seascape mural on a wall in the Family Readiness Center. Stop by to check it during the week or on the Saturday of the UTA and pick up your copy of the Family Readiness Organizer while you're there.



Courtesy Photo

Senior Airman Lennard Gilbert, 108th Civil Engineer Squadron, participates in an incentive flight on a Coast Guard helicopter while he was deployed to Puerto Rico in April.

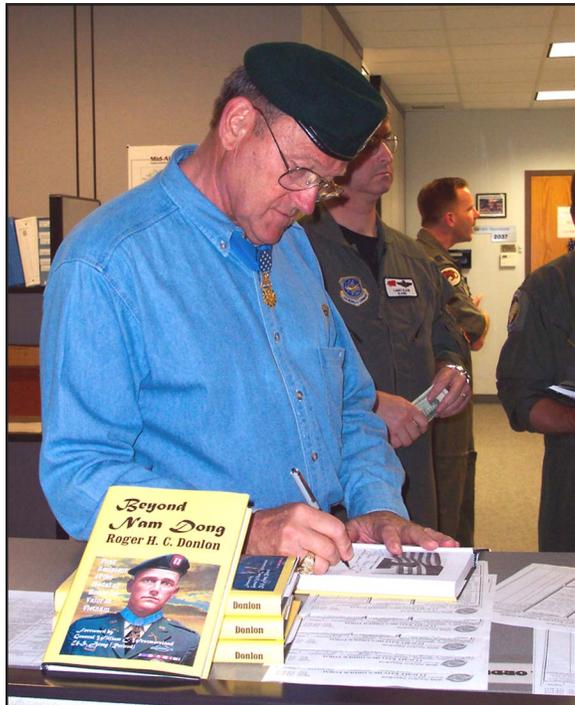


Photo by Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz

The 108th Air Refueling Wing received an impromptu visit and book signing by Medal of Honor recipient retired Col. Roger H.C. Donlon on May 21. Col. Donlon received his Medal of Honor while serving as the commanding officer of the U.S. Army Special Forces Detachment A726 during the Vietnam War.

Tech. Sgt. Audley English, 108th Fabrication Parachute Specialist, demonstrates how to use a one-man life raft to the 892 Snow Owl Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets.



Photo by Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz



Photo by Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz

Master Sgt. Courtney Wisdom, 108th Aircraft Electrical/Environmental Systems Mechanic, adjusts the auxiliary power unit intake door so the fuselage of the aircraft will seal when it is closed.

Kudos



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Ray Knox

Brig. Gen. Eugene Chojnacki, NJANG Commander, presents Master Sgt. Miguel Justiniano, 108th Recruiter, the Flying Unit Recruiter of the Year Award for 2003. Sgt. Justiniano enlisted the largest number of applicant ever in a one year period by a New Jersey Air National Guard recruiter. He is consistently a top performer recruiting 40% of all 108th enlisted personnel in 2003. Over 60% of those recruits were in mission critical AFSCs such as Weather Forecaster, Aerospace Maintenance, Readiness and Security Forces. For Sgt. "Who" it's more than just a numbers game. He also measures his success by the positive effects on the lives of his recruits "I enjoy helping to give them the opportunity to be successful in their lives, which makes me successful," he said.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Ray Knox

Brig. Gen. Eugene Chojnacki, NJANG Commander, presents Master Sgt. Darlene Bouffard, 108th LRS, with a Unit Career Advisor Award for her professional skill and military leadership during 2003. The UCA award is given for maintaining a 90% or higher strength level within the members' unit. Sgt. Bouffard has received the Region 5, State, and Wing level UCA awards.

Master Sgt. Francisco Beltran-Bell, the Retention Office Manager for all UCAs, commented on Sgt. Bouffard's outstanding performance, "She has taken her position as a unit career advisor and stepped it a notch to become a leader."

Mr. Rocco Lanzetti, Engineering Assistant the 108th Civil Engineer Squadron, is presented the "Best of the Best" award by Gen. Maria Falca-Dodson, the Deputy Adjutant General. Mr. Lanzetti is responsible for providing assistance to the base civil engineer by developing drawings, performing site plans, cost estimates, project book development and project coordination. Maj. Paul Novello, 108 CES Commander, says "Rocco is doing a great job, his accurate estimates have saved the government thousands of dollars during construction change orders."

The Community Service Award was awarded to **Mr. Charles Beam** who is serving as Environmental Coordinator for 108th Air Refueling Wing. Mr. Beam is responsible for providing assistance to the Wing Commander

by ensuring full environmental compliance for wing operations. He has been key in saving the government from potential fines. For the past 12 years Charles has been visiting the Cooper Hospital Medical Center's Children's Hospital, and during the holiday seasons he donates toys from local retail stores and individuals to the children. Mr. Beam also supports prison ministries, helping children of incarcerated parents.

The Exceptional Service Award was awarded to **Mr. Robert Lauderman**. As an armorer for the 108th ARW, Mr. Lauderman is responsible for maintaining and operating the wings boiler plant and performing building and ground maintenance. Beyond his official duties



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Ray Knox

he has assumed the responsibilities of the unit's locksmith, a complex task involving the maintenance of all locks within the wing's facility.

The Exceptional Service Award was awarded to **Jill A. Priar**. Ms. Priar serves as the Real Property Management Specialist for the 108th ARW. She is responsible for updating and maintaining all records and data concerning real estate owned by the 108th. The National Guard Readiness Center has invited her to teach real estate classes. Ms. Priar also assists engineers in the planning and programming of multi-million dollar construction projects and has volunteered to compile project folders and to maintain critical financial investment metrics data used by the Air National Guard Readiness Center for funding.

The Exceptional Service Award was awarded to

Mr. Gregory Stevens. Mr. Stevens serves as a Heavy Equipment Operator for the 108th ARW. He is responsible for maintaining and operating the unit's heavy equipment. Excelling in all tasks assigned, Gregory is meticulous in his work and his attention to detail is second to none.

The Teamwork/Partnership Achievement Award was awarded to the **Civil Engineer Snow Removal Team**. During the 2002-2003 snow removal season, when numerous meteorological records were set, the Civil Engineer Snow Removal Team performed flawlessly, not only meeting but exceeding expectations and requirements.

Chaplain's Corner

Memorial Day - 2004

By Ch. Maj. Tom Klaasen
108th ARW Chaplain



This past Tuesday was a big day in my family. It was my wife's birthday. June 8th also happens to be my parents' anniversary – they happily celebrated 56 years of marriage this year. Their anniversary was especially happy since my dad had a number of very serious heart attacks during the past year. I won't tell you how old my wife is, but my parents were married exactly two years on the day she was born.

Why should anyone but me care about this? I don't intend to make you care about my family's special dates, but I do want to use this occasion to celebrate families in general. As I think about the sacrifices my own family has made for me to keep my military commitments, I am

simply humbled. The one time we can almost guarantee that we'll get choked up in a military ceremony is when one of us, from our general officers to our enlisted airmen, acknowledges our families' steady support. During the past few years, our wing's families were tasked very hard. Our military leadership knows that it's going to be difficult – from a family point of view - to keep up this tempo for much longer. As we think about our family's contributions, we have much to be grateful for!

Since all of us are called upon to exercise leadership in a variety of ways in the military, I propose that each of us consider ways that we can celebrate our families' support. If we don't do so already,

it's worth asking some hard questions of ourselves. For example, "Do I ever put my family's needs before those of the wing?" Sure, our mission is vital to our national interest, but if we never put our family first, have we in some senses not lost some of the most important things we're trying to defend, "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness?"

Conversely, with a large Family Appreciation Day coming up soon, it's worth asking whether we've done all we can to help our families understand what we're all about in our wing. It's important to give them a chance to get together with other wing families, to celebrate our extended family ties together.

Here's a benediction that I think is appropriate for us as a nation, as individuals, and perhaps most of all, as families, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, that you may overflow with hope, by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13).

Say what?



Courtesy photo

"Okay, pop the clutch."
-Senior Master Sgt. Dave Whalen
108th Fabrication Section Supervisor

The rules

1. Write a comical or imaginative caption or cutline.
2. All entries must be submitted by July 1, 2004. Submit your entry via e-mail to pa.108arw@njmccgu.af.mil or drop off your entries to the public affairs office in bldg. 3327, room 110. When submitting your entry please be sure to include your name, rank, duty section and duty phone.
3. Please limit your entries to two per person.
4. The person with the funniest or most imaginative entry will receive a 305th Services Squadron Gold Card.
5. The winner can pick up his or her prize anytime in room 110 of bldg. 3327.



Courtesy photo

Write a caption or cutline for this photo. The writer with the funniest or most imaginative entry will be printed in the next issue of *Wing Tips* and receives a 305th Services Squadron Gold Card.