

THE

180TH FIGHTER WING, OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD, TOLEDO, OH

STINGER

VOLUME 50, ISSUE 04, AUG. 2011



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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

TO CAC OR NOT TO CAC, IT'S NO LONGER A QUESTION

Many years ago, I filled out Air Force technical order Form 349's when documenting maintenance on aircraft. The forms were collected daily and entered into a computer somewhere so the data could be consolidated and analyzed. A few years later, we were given terminals to enter the data ourselves. About that time, direct deposit of our military pay became mandatory and PC's began showing up in work areas. The transformation had begun from paper to digital. It's been a slow (but steady) conversion ever since. For some of us from the pre-computer generation, it's been quite remarkable and challenging. We didn't grow up with magnetic media but with paper. Military orders, AF2096's, DD214's, SGLI forms etc., were all typed by hand with the original put on file and a copy given to you. Some of you may remember the thick multipart carbon forms.

Although the transformation continues, today I can comfortably say the Air Force has finally arrived.

Today, the last vestiges of that old era are practically gone. Almost everything has gone digital. Along with those old paper systems have gone some of the personnel that managed them. The folks who used to do that typing have been replaced by, you guessed it, you. You're spending more time entering data than ever before and it continues to increase. Today, you have the Common Access Card! It is the element that finally links/locks digital information directly to you. You should have noticed more and more AF systems are requiring a CAC for entry. In computer terms it's called "two factor authentication," you have the card and you know the pin. Today practically everything in the Air Force is done on computers and all requiring a CAC.

All of your personnel records are computer-



**By Col. James Reagan
180th Fighter Wing
Vice Commander**

(i.e. home). With a CAC reader from the Communications Flight, you can log in from home to check E-mail, get UTA schedules, update your records, file for and get paid for travel, complete ancillary training, update your civilian employer information and the list goes on. If you don't have a reader I would strongly suggest you get one. I would much rather digitally sign or complete a requirement at times from home on my own PC than spend \$4 per gallon driving to the base.

With your CAC comes responsibility. After all, when properly used it certifies you are you. It lets you digitally sign documents that can be legally binding. It is your key to the ranch and needs to be protected as such. After all, our computer networks are a weapons system. Its part of C4 (Command, Control, Communications and Computers). When leaving a computer, remove your CAC and stow it. Use safe computing methods both at work and home.

ized in Virtual Military Personnel Flight (vMPF). Awards and personal evaluations are digital (vPC-GR). In addition, the only way to access the AF Portal or Advanced Distance Learning System (ADLS) is with the use of a CAC. Heck, you can't even retire today without logging in with your CAC to apply!

Soon all travel will be on the Defense Travel System (DTS). Although fulltime personnel have been using DTS for a while, by this October everyone will be required to use it. DTS is how you will schedule and get paid for your travel. It won't be optional.

By now you should be getting the point that everything is digital. Computers have become ubiquitous. One of the nice things about your CAC is you can use it from your home. All of the systems mentioned above can be accessed from a non .mil network

AIR FORCE 15TH ANNUAL MARATHON

On September 16 and September 17, the AF will be holding its 15th annual Marathon, Half-Marathon, 10K and 5K. There are a few 180th FW members that have already signed up for one of the events.

While the Marathon, Half, and 10K registration are CLOSED, 5K Registration is still OPEN. The 5K will be held on FRIDAY evening, September 16, at 6:30.

If you're interested in participating with fellow Stingers, whether already registered or not, please contact Chief Master Sgt. Jefery Light an e-mail at jefery.light@ang.af.mil.

You can register for the 5K at http://www.active.com/register/index.cfm?CHECKSSO=0&EVENT_ID=1912905 <http://www.active.com/register/index.cfm?CHECKSSO=0&EVENT_ID=1912905

Stinger <http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/>

CHANGE OF COMMANDS

By Airman 1st Class William Winston
Public Affairs

180TH MISSION SUPPORT GROUP

On July 16, the Mission Support Group held a change of command ceremony where Col. Trevor Noel passed the torch of leadership to Lt. Col. William Giezie. The backdrop for this event was the excellent rating the MSG received during last ORI. Col. Noel led the MSG to do something that few Mission Support Groups accomplish based on the nation-wide results from the ORIs. These results illuminated Col. Noel's ability to lead, guide and inspire. This serves as a standard, or even a goal to surpass, as this group moves forward without Col. Noel.

Col. Noel accepted the Director of Personnel position at the Air National Guard headquarters here in Ohio. As luck would have it Col. Noel's birthday fell very close to the date when he learned he would
See MSG, Page 11



Photo by Master Sgt. Elizabeth Holliker, Public Affairs

On July 16, Lt. Col. William Giezie assumed commander of the 180th Mission Support Group from Col. Trevor Noel. Pictured left to right: Col. Steven Nordhaus, 180th Fighter Wing Commander; Master Sgt. Amy Rodriguez, MSG Acting First Sergeant; Lt. Col. William Giezie, MSG Commander; Col. Trevor Noel, Director of Staff Ohio ANG)

112TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

On the afternoon of June 12 there was a change of command in the 112th Fighter Squadron; Lt. Col. Christopher "Bucket" Belli assumed command of the squadron from Lt. Col. Scott Reed. Some may have thought that because this event was delayed due to the near government shutdown in April that it would have lost its significance, as the leadership had already changed responsibilities prior to this ceremony. However, the circumstances that delayed this event did not impact the level of enthusiasm and emotion that poured from each of these men as they took the podium.

Lt. Col. Reed admonished the group ensemble at the change of command to "bring it strong everyday", and this seemed to be a reoccurring theme throughout his remarks. He spoke of the high level of commitment that is a part of a leadership role, which often requires making sacrifices. He talked about how he had missed several important dates with family, such as birthdays and anniversaries, while in this leadership role. He thanked his family, who were present, for their love and support because, through his service they too were committed to the missions and responsibilities he has had in 112th.

One of the most remarkable moments in Lt. Col. Reed's tenure as commander of the 112th squadron was retold by Col. Newell, Operations Group Commander. While Lt. Col. Reed was on a deployment, tragedy struck when Maj. Kevin "Sonny" Sonnenberg died when his F-16 went down outside of Joint Base Balad in 2007. While managing this crisis personally he also was able to direct the focus of his group to the completion of their mission. What was most impressive about this feat was this didn't occur in a matter of days, or weeks,

See 112TH, Page 11



Photo by Master Sgt. Elizabeth Holliker, Public Affairs

On June 12 Lt. Col. Christopher Belli assumed commander of the 112th Fighter Squadron from Lt. Col. Scott Reed. Pictured left to right: Lt. Col. Scott Reed, Maintenance Group Commander; Col. Keith Newell, Operations Group Commander; Master Sgt. John Gibson, Operations/Fighter Wing Headquarters First Sergeant; Lt. Col. Christopher Belli, 112th Fighter Squadron Commander)

STORY OF A "LIFER"

OVER 41 YEARS OF SERVICE AT THE 180TH FIGHTER WING

**by Master Sgt. Thomas Coy,
180th Maintenance Squadron**

After 41 years and 10 months, Master Sgt. Thomas Coy is retiring from the 180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, USAF. He is also retiring after 24 years serving as a fulltime federal technician at the same location. After graduating from Rogers High School in June of 1969 he was persuaded to enlist into the 180th

My punch out is 30 June, 1745 for technician and on July 3rd, I turn 60, ending my military career. This November, my wife & I will celebrate 40 years of marriage. What a Year! One last word....when you see something that isn't right - make it right! Good Luck to ALL!

--Master Sgt. Thomas Coy

Fighter Group by his older brother Dennis, who was already a member. On Sept 4th, 1969, Coy enlisted, thus beginning his long military career.

Upon his return from boot camp, he was assigned to the 180th Communications Flight as their administrative clerk. He served the Communications Flt. as an administrative clerk till 1980. In 1980, Master Sgt. Coy transferred from the Communications Flt. to the Base Administrative office. As the Base admin office downsized, Sgt. Coy was then moved to the Base Training office in 1983, and supported the Ancillary Training and Weapons Training for the 180th Fighter Group members with his

administrative abilities.

In the spring of 1986, the Western Auto Store that Tom worked at since high school went out of business, thus ending a long retail career of 18 years, starting as a clerk and moving up to an assistant manager position.

During that year and part of the next, he worked for Appliance Parts Store and also part time for Purolator Courier. Then in 1987, the Base Training office that he was assigned to was dissolved. At the same time there was a training manager opportunity with the Civil Engineering Squadron opening up and Master Sgt. Coy was lucky enough to be selected for the position which began his fulltime technician career.

While assigned to the Civil Engineering Squadron from 1987 to 2008, Coy took on many responsibilities to include Unit Training Manager, Prime BEEF NCO, Mobility NCO, Resource Advisor, Work Day Control Officer, Deployment NCO, Unit SORTS Monitor and Government Purchasing. During this time he was able to deploy to various locations to include Alpena, Michigan; Volk Field, Wisconsin; Gulfport, Mississippi; Panama, Honduras; Eglin AFB, Florida; Nova Scotia; Camp Navajo Flagstaff, Arizona; and Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania.

In the spring of 2008, Master Sgt. Coy's position as training manager with the Civil Engineering Squadron for 21 years was abol-



**Master Sgt. Thomas Coy
180th Maintenance Squadron**

ished. Coy was able to transfer to the Maintenance Squadron where he continued his training manager duties and other assigned tasks until his retirement in June of 2011. He was recognized several times for his outstanding service and support to the 180th Fighter Wing and the Civil Engineering Squadron. MSgt Coy and his wife Jeanne, are proud of their five children.

Master Sgt. Coy served his country during his military career, while he mentored and befriended many individuals through out his time with the 180th. He provided training guidance to members, and provided advice, counseling, and offered a helping hand to many in their time of need. He was an advocate of common sense management and incorporated the core values of the Air Force in all he did.

MSgt Coy was never one to stop short of going the extra mile to get an answer for someone or to solve a problem. MSgt Coy leaves

See LIFER, Page 10

QUESTION AND ANSWER..

LT. COL. MICHAEL MASIKER REMEMBERS HIS SERVICE

Lt. Col. Michael Masiker, 180th Fighter Wing Logistic Readiness Squadron Commander, retired after 41 of service. Below are his answers to questions the Public Affairs office asked him about his time with the 180th.

1. When did you enlist in the military? I enlisted February 19, 1970

2. Were you always at the 180th? If not, where were you before? I left the 180th and enlisted in the United States Coast Guard Reserve and served from Dec. 1975 – Sept. 1979. I returned to 180th in 1979.

3. What jobs (AFSCs) did you have in the military? I started in Avionics, known then as Airborne Radio and served in this AFSC until commissioned in 1983. In the USCG I was an Electronics Technician (ET) and served at Marblehead Station doing Search and Rescue.

4. Looking back, what was one of the most memorable moments in your time at the 180th Fighter Wing? Two most memorable: 1. The year-long deployment to Afghanistan. 2. Getting a hero's welcome at the site in Serbia where the missions were flown to rescue downed WWII aircrews, the subject of the book, *The Forgotten 500*. I actually got to meet some of the Serbian people who helped build the airfield

and helped our aircrews escape. I was truly humbled as these people who gave me a hero's welcome were themselves 100% heroes.

5. What did you enjoy the most

major regrets.

8. What advice would you give a new enlisted person? officer?

To both ... 1. Be involved ... if you aren't the lead dog your scenery will never change ... the only way to become the lead dog is to be involved. 2. No matter how insignificant you may think your words or actions are there is going to be someone who sees or hears them and takes them to heart.

9. Which position did you learn the most in? LRS Commander.

10. What do you feel are your biggest accomplishments as a Guardsman?

Helping our people reach their goals. Many of the people I worked with over the years I saw come into the unit. They are now in senior positions. I like to believe I gave some them a bit of advice or a nudge

that helped shape their careers.

11. What will you miss most about the 180th Fighter Wing?

Not the early morning start times ... I will miss the trips and the experiences we shared on them. Our deployments used to be the entire wing would go to a Combat Readiness Training Center ... they were great trips. Good for unit morale.

A former member of our unit returned after a ten year break and he eventually went on to retire.

*See QUESTIONS, Page 9
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Photo by Master Sgt. Elizabeth Holliker, Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Michael Masiker, 180th Logistic Readiness Squadron Commander, is present with an engraved flag brick by Tech. Sgt. Barry Beale The brick, which was purchased from the 180th's Flag Brick program, will be placed around the flag pole located near the pavilion and building 114. The 180th's Flag Brick program's purpose is to honor and/or memorialize someone and to support the Minuteman Trophy program for individuals retiring from the 180th Fighter Wing.

about being at the 180th Fighter Wing? Everyone rapidly says the people and I agree. I have met and worked with some really great individuals.

6. Are your children in the Guard/military? My son was in our unit (and may be returning) and my nephew is currently in SFS.

7. Are there any experiences that you would have handled differently knowing what you know now? I'm sure there are many things, but overall I don't have any



The next Top Three meeting is scheduled to be Sunday Aug. 6, at 11 a.m.

180TH FW T-SHIRT SALE

The Top-3 Council of this outstanding unit is selling t-shirts to help raise funds for various functions (i.e.: family day, etc). These shirts are available in short sleeve and long sleeve, with three color options: black, white and grey.

The front of the shirt will have the State of Ohio with our F-16 swooshing from the underneath.

Both types of shirt will have the following printed on them: 180th Fighter Wing. On the L/S t-shirts, it will be printed down the right sleeve and the S/S will have it printed around the right sleeve.

The cost of the shirts are as follows (pre-order only):

Type: S/S	Sizes: S-XL	\$12.00 each
	Sizes: XXL-XXXL	\$15.00 each
Type: L/S	Sizes: S-XL	\$15.00 each
	Sizes: XXL-XXXL	\$18.00 each

To order contact Master Sgt. John Madison at John.Madison@ang.af.mil, visit the 180FW Sharepoint on your desk top, Top 3 Council or copy and paste the following link <https://exchsp1.ang.af.mil/sites/180fw/top3/TShirtSweatshirt%20Sales/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

ONGEA SUMMER MEMBERSHIP "SURGE"

From June 1 through August 31, the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association will donate \$5.00 from every paid membership into ONGEA to the Wing Airmen & Family Readiness Program where that Airman is assigned. The same will be done for the Army National Guard. For more information visit <http://www.ongea.org/>.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

The Top Three have organized the 2011 adopt-a-highway clean-up on the Eber Road, Weckerly/Salisbury Loop. If you would like to volunteer meet at the pavillion Sept. 10 at 4:30 p.m. in civilian clothes. For more information please contact Master Sgt. Jennifer Rozick at 419-868-4219.

REMINDER... RUTA AND BUTA DEADLINES

RUTAs for missed UTAs from October, 2010 through July, 2011 must be made up not later than Sunday, 21 Aug 2011. These NGB 105 forms must be submitted for pay not later than Monday, 22 Aug 2011

RUTAs for missed UTAs for August and September 2011 can be made up any date through 30 Sep 2011 (does not need to be done by 21 Aug 2011 - this is a change).

Supervisors, please ensure as you schedule your folks make-ups that you take this into consideration.

PROMOTIONS

To Tech. Sgt.

Jerry Risner, MXS

To Staff Sgt.

Alexander Balogh, AMXS
 Brandon Bonnett, FW
 Casandra Brockway, MDG
 Jamison Chicolini, CES
 Abel Contreras, MXS
 Aaron Grime, AMXS
 Amanda Kelly, FW
 Jarrod Konz, MXS
 Lee Marquette, LRS
 Megan Pollock, MXSF
 Matthew Reichardt, MXS
 Brendan Roslan, MXS
 Madeline Ruyle, FSS
 Scott Sonnenberg, 555th
 Band
 John Urbina, AMXS
 Timothy Woodward, MXS
 Justin Zeisloft, MXS

To Senior Airman

Peter Barber, MXS
 Joseph Boyer, AMXS
 William Boyer, AMXS
 Andrew Brenot, MXS
 Noah Colson, MXS
 Rolando Corpus, AMXS
 Nathan Cousino, AMXS
 Patrick Cowan, MXS
 Robert Flanders, MXS
 Jacob Gritzmaker, AMXS
 Benjamin Hendrickson, MXS
 Tyler Kibler, MXS
 Grace Owens, MDG
 Joshua Parker, MDG
 Douglas Pyle, AMXS
 James Razor, AMXS
 Samuel Schrock, MXS
 Christie Smith, LRS
 Andrew Smithhisler, AMXS
 Michael Stella, MXS
 Jason Wasserman, MXS

RETIREMENTS

Lt. Col. Michael Masiker, LRS
 Lt. Col. Thomas Rademacher, MDG
 Master Sgt. Paul Cowdrey, CEF
 Master Sgt. Thomas Coy, MXOT
 Master Sgt. Thomas Dalton, MDG



SHOULD I DIAL 911? vPC-GR IS NOW AFPERS

by *Tim Reed,*
180th Assitant Fire Chief

Sometimes you know for sure that you need to pick up the phone and dial 911 for emergency assistance from the fire department, but other times you may not be sure. The answer is pretty simple. But first here is a typical situation where the fire department receives a call on an administration phone line instead of 911.

You are sitting at your desk in your work space and your coworker ask you if you smell anything funny (natural gas, smoke, mustard, etc.) You respond "Yeah I smell a little something but I just can't put my finger on it." As you discuss this smell, both of you contemplate calling the fire department but aren't sure. "Well I know they have those sniffer things and they might be able to tell us if it is something to be concerned about or not" your coworker responds. To which you reply "Let me look up their admin number and I'll call them to see what they can do." This type of scenario plays out too often here at Toledo ANG base as well as every other Air Force installation. You don't want to be a bother or make a big deal out of nothing but there is a bit of uncertainty. It might be an injury but it's not that bad of an injury.

Here is the simple answer. If you even begin to think, "should I call the fire department or not", then make the 911 call. It is always better to error on the side of safety. Here at the fire station we certainly don't mind receiving a call for assistance via 911. As a matter of fact we would prefer the 911 call over the admin phone call, that's why we're here, to serve you. Also the 911 call gets us into the proper mindset when we leave the station so we can better deal with the situation at hand.

So remember if you're thinking "should I call the fire department on 911 or the admin line?" then the answer is always 911.

In July 2011, access to the virtual Personnel Center - Guard and Reserve (vPC-GR) has been moved to a new website called Air Force Personnel Services or AFPERS, <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil>. AFPERS recently launched in support of establishing a Total Force source for online information and services for the Regular Air Force, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, civilian members, and retirees.

Although the access route changes, vPC-GR services remain the same with the exception of a few functions that become part of the AFPERS website; for example, account and profile management, and new requests. Everything associated with a customer's vPC-GR account will still be there: action requests, roles, coordination's, delegations, etc.

On the change date, a web redirect will take customers using the current vPC-GR web address to AFPERS. AFPERS is a secure website, so an account is required. Once an account is obtained, access can be by either a userid and password or a Common Access Card (CAC). Once logged into AFPERS no other login is needed. Just click on the vPC-GR Dashboard link.

vPC-GR users that are also AFPERS account holders can use their AFPERS userid and password or CAC for access. Customers with a vPC-GR account only should use either their vPC-GR userid and password or their CAC at first login and follow the prompt to change and add security information to finalize their AFPERS account.

The AFPERS website, although in its beginning stage, provides convenience by bringing together searchable information and access to online services, as well as several other features. There are plans working now to make the AFPERS website experience more personal in the near future.

Assistance for login errors or AFPERS website issues should be directed to the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102.

180TH RETIREES ANNUAL PICNIC

The Afterburners will be having their annual picnic on August 20th at the 180th Pavilion. Included this year will be a 50th anniversary for all those who were activated in 1961 during the Berlin call-up. If you know of anyone who was activated during this period, who has not yet been contacted, please contact Kim Grimes at 419-825-3777 or Steve Drake at 419-475-7342.

Hope to see you at the Picnic/Reunion

FYI....

ASA IS NOW ACA

The 180FW's Air Sovereignty Alert (ASA) Mission has officially been renamed by NORAD to Aerospace Control Alert (ACA). According to NORAD this is a "name change" only and is reflected in our recently updated WI10-203 IC3, Alert Operating Procedures. Please make updates to your applicable publications when appropriate.

GET YOUR NEW CSA CARD!

by 1st Lt. Brad Luring
180th Budget officer

As if there aren't enough acronyms in the military, we need to introduce you to yet another, the controlled spending account (blue card) or CSA. The CSA will replace the government travel card (silver card) or GTC for all official travel. The CSA looks like a credit card, but credit is only loaded on the card when an order for travel is produced. This means the person writing the order must be very careful to input the correct estimate for travel and per diem. The order tells Citibank how much money to load on the card for the member who is traveling.

For example, if you are going on a four-day trip and the nightly rate at the hotel is \$100 per night then \$300 would be loaded on your card for three nights. What happens if you have to stay an additional night, but you only have \$300 of credit loaded on your card? How do we resolve this problem so you're not stuck doing dishes or cleaning rooms to pay the additional \$100? Two things need to be accomplished. First you need to call Citibank and request a temporary spend limit (TSL) of \$400, and second, call your orderly room and let them know the order needs to be modified an additional day.

Per Diem is also loaded on your card if authorized by your orders. If you are authorized \$150 worth of per diem then you can spend \$150 during your trip on food and incidentals. Any residual money, money you don't spend on the trip, stays on the card and can be spent by using the card, performing an ACH transfer, requesting a check, or an ATM withdrawal (2% fee non-reimbursable).

The CSA program is in place because of the high number of defaults on the GTC. Familiarize yourself further at <http://www.citibank.com/transactionservices/home/sa/2010q3/csa/index.jsp>.

The process of doing business has indeed changed, but if you understand that the amount of money loaded on your card comes from your orders then you're well ahead of the game. This is a mandatory program for all members, so if you don't have an active GTC or haven't yet applied, check out the CSA links page on the FM sharepoint website for application procedures.

SUICIDE PREVENTION: ACE ASK, CARE, ESCORT

Suicide interventions are not always easy things to do, but saving a human life is an extraordinary event with such enormous value that every effort is justified.

General guidelines for suicide intervention

- Start interventions immediately after the threat is recognized.
- Be patient. Do not rush a person. Take time to manage the situation.
- Be calm and flexible.
- Know your objectives (to minimize the suicidal behavior, not solve all their problems.)
- Be direct in your questioning.
- Guide the person in defining the problem.
- Focus on the main issue.
- Emphasize the temporary nature of the problem.
- Explore possible solutions.
- Identify reasons to live.
- Small changes may be effective in causing huge improvement in a person's condition.

Aim at reducing pain, pressure and agitation.

Aim at resolving the immediate crisis or referring the person for professional assistance. If an attempt has already taken place, referral to a mental health professional is the ultimate goal.

***Excerpt from the ANG Suicidal Prevention handbook.**

EFAC'S WARRIOR WELLNESS HELPFUL HINTS TO LOSING WEIGHT

Nutrition

Whole Grains vs. Refined Grains: Buying a loaf of bread? Next time you go to buy a loaf of white bread, try substituting whole grain bread in its place. Depending on the brands and types of breads, whole grains can easily have 2-3 times the protein in the bread! Not to mention 2-3 times the fiber, the best part is, the calorie difference is minimal. What does fiber do for you? Fiber can help in weight loss by slowing digestion and preventing the body from absorbing too much starch and sugar! Fiber also aids in digestion... and we'll leave it at that.

Fitness

Are you trying to lose inches off your waist line? What are you doing to accomplish this, and is it helping? If you're trying to lose inches, a common misconception is doing sit-ups, or crunches. While this does increase your abdominal strength, it isn't effectively helping you burn calories. Burning the fat off, through cardio is the most effective way of losing inches off of your waist line. Keeping your heart rate elevated for over 30 minutes is a must. Don't worry, if you aren't able to do this right away.

Ease in to a routine, taking it slowly, and work your way up. It may take awhile to see results, but once you do, it is great feeling! Get in contact with our wellness adviser to help jumpstart your fitness goals! Staff Sgt. Amy Lolo: amy.lolo@ang.af.mil.

From QUESTIONS Page 4

I asked him why he returned and his response was the Guard offers a sense of being, a sense of responsibility that you cannot get anywhere else. He was right and I think I'll also miss that sense.

12. Was there a motto you maintain throughout your career? I always tried to live by the core value my Dad taught and most of us know ... it is the one that incorporates all of the Air Force core values ... do unto others as you want them to do unto you.

13. Did you have a mentor or role model that you admire or helped to shape your career? I had so many good people help me along the way I would fill the Stinger listing their names. Lots of great folks ... far too many to mention.

14. Of the places and missions you have participated in with the 180th Fighter Wing, are there any which stand out in your mind? Why? Afghanistan was a true challenge. I did lots of things that I never thought I would be doing, everything from buying foreign aircraft to building airbases throughout the country to working closely with the Afghan Forces to help them shape their military. I could write an entire article on this experience alone.

I went to Serbia and briefed the Serbian military leadership on the inspection processes of the USAF.

I worked in Serbia with the Serbian Army on homeland defense exercises.

And watching and helping our unit respond on Sept 11th. I never thought in all of my life I would see our aircraft loaded and ready to respond while sitting in Toledo Ohio ... it was numbing.

15. In all the people you've met so far in your career, which has impressed you, the most? Arthur Jibilian ... the man was a true hero in WWII and was

only recognized a few years ago. To meet him you would never know what he was a part of unless you read the book.

16. What is some advice that you give to young members of the National Guard? Take advantage of every educational benefit the Guard offers; not only through the colleges and universities but also through the opportunities to grow into leadership positions in the unit. This will only help you whether it is in the Guard or in the civilian sector.

17. What are your plans for retirement? I will be starting in the fall at Waterville Primary School as a volunteer to tutor kids in reading and arithmetic (now a days it is Math). My wife retires in September and we have promised each other that one day a week we take a day off. We love doing short day trips and we are so looking forward to these. In September/October we will be in England for two weeks or so and this year we want to make it to Wales (I think my wife is hoping to see Tom Jones).

18. Many folks have seen you on a daily basis, but don't really know you. What else can you tell us about you and your career? I was enlisted for 13 years and was a Tech. Sgt. before I got commissioned. I spent 27 years working in the private sector before becoming a technician. Much of that time was working as a management Labor Relations Advisor.

19. If you had to narrow it down to one thing, what has changed the most during your time at the 180th or throughout your career? The Guard has grown up. When I came in we used to joke that the Boy Scouts would be activated before the Guard ... after all they had knives and we didn't. We were flying aircraft that the active duty no longer had a use for and in some cases the only way to get parts was from the bone yard. Things have sure changed.

180TH EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OFFICE

Who's in charge?

Capt. Elizabeth Vossler, Director
Capt. Doug Ford, Assistant Director
Master Sgt. Sara Rooks, Specialist

Some of what we do:

- Advise supervisors and commanders concerning equal opportunity topics and other human relation topics to keep their organization healthy (subject matter experts).
- Make ourselves available to help all members resolve perceived discrimination, sexual harassment or other conflicts thru the lowest level possible (chain of command).
- Provide mediation to help resolve workplace

conflict.

- Provide human relations education to members as required per AFI/ANGI (2 hours every 4 years).
- Provide commanders with feedback about their organization's climate by doing "out and abouts" and surveys.

Some of what we don't do:

- Dig in work areas to try and find "issues"
- Sexual Assault (SARC).

Located:

- Sonnenberg Building (LRS), Room 142 (back by break room).
- Phone numbers: 419-868-4132 and 4055

"Our office is here to help!"

VA HEALTHCARE BENEFITS

**From Mr. Isbell,
ADA & VA Coordinator, Columbus OH**

A lot of our returning military members are not going to the VA to enroll in their system after they get off of active duty. You only have a five year window of eligibility to use the VA. Recently one of our City employees found out the hard way that he missed the boat.

Servicemembers, even if you currently are participating in an insurance program, the VA is an "additional/earned" benefit extended to you from the Federal Government.

The whole reason the five year eligibility window exists is solely to allow enough time for any residual symptoms of any suspect ailment or injury to surface, be detected and diagnosed and to allow treatment to begin. And more significant - if that ailment or injury debilitates into a more serious condition then the obvious action to pursue a service connected disability rating is at hand.

All Title 10 military personnel who return stateside and conclude terminal leave should take the time to enroll via the form 10-10EZ and provide a copy of your DD214 (separation paperwork.)

Should you fail to enroll within the five year window, you can be denied access to VA healthcare benefits. Then you have the uphill battle to go back and try to prove any injury or ailment is service connected. A much harder row to hoe, ladies and gentlemen.

If you have any questions regarding your enrollment, please call my good friend Jack Selig, Outreach Coordinator at the VA (614)257-5579.

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

**by Capt. Douglas Ford,
180th Equal Opportunity**

Women's Equality Day is celebrated every August 26th. This date was selected to mark the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote. As we approach August 26th this year we should stop to recognize a time in military history when women weren't offered the equality they deserved.

Throughout our military history there are many examples of when minorities were "rejected" from serving in the military. Then at the convenience of the military that same minority group was "recruited" to participate in a conflict. Finally, at the end of the military conflict that same group would be "rejected" again.

"Reject, Recruit, Reject" was the case with women pilots during World War II. Before the U.S. was involved in WWII, two women were instrumental in efforts to try and allow women pilots to help ferry airplanes from the manufacturers to the different air bases. Those

women were Nancy Harkness Love and Jackie Cochran. Their ideas were "rejected" until the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the official entrance of the United States into WWII. The women were then "recruited" to organize a women's flying program that would become known as the Women's Air Service Pilots (WASP). The need for women pilots now existed to deliver airplanes backing up on the manufacturer's line to air bases across the country. This allowed the male pilots to fly overseas missions. After the end of World War II, the WASP was dismantled and the 1,830 women pilots were "rejected" and sent home without veteran status even though their efforts directly led to a U.S. victory. It wasn't until 1977, over 30 years later, that these women would be recognized as Veterans!

As we pay tribute to Women's Equality Day this August 26th, please remember the women of the military in the past, present and future.

From LIFER, Page 4

behind many friends, many memories, and will retire with 41 years and 10 months of service to the 180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, and the USAF. He joins his brothers, all previous members of the 180th, Master Sgt. Ronald Coy, 180th military service from 1971 to 1994; Lt. Col. Dennis Coy, 180th military service from 1964 to 1997; Master Sgt. Robert Coy, 180th military service from 1969 to 2001; and Chief Master Sgt. John Coy, 180th military service from 1976 to 2008. Master Sgt. Thomas Coy's retirement brings to an end the military career of the five Coy brothers which began in 1963 and ends with a total of over 176 years of combined military service to our country, and 162 years of service to the 180th.

From 112TH, Page 3

of days, or weeks, but in a matter of mere hours. Instances like this one are the reason why he said with confidence that “he left nothing on the table”, as he relinquished his command to Lt. Col. Belli.

Lt. Col. Belli seemed to be utterly humbled by the whole event and said he was surprised when he initially was offered his new position. This was quite an interesting contrast considering his impressive record. His message to the group had two themes intertwined. They were to use warrior spirit and accept new challenges in order to stay motivated in your work. Lt. Col.

Belli told two stories that illustrated these ideas, but a better illustration of these ideas is his career at the 180th FW. Lt. Col. Belli enlisted in 1986 and was commissioned 1993. He has a command pilot rating and has flown 65 combat sorties during his deployments to Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, Northern Watch and Southern Watch. For many, one of the toughest tasks throughout your career is to keep these ideas in the forefront because it is so easy to be complacent. Lt. Col. Belli worked his way up from being an enlisted guardsman to the commander of the 112th Fighter

Squadron, and there is probably no better example of these ideas than a career like his.

A change of command is one of the rare moments in a military career where both the outgoing and incoming commanders receive special acknowledgement for their service. A legacy is cemented, while a new vision begins to unfold. There has a long line of great commanders for the 112th, and with Lt. Col. Belli in leadership this tradition will continue. Lt. Col. Reed summed up the occasion best by saying, “I am convinced Bucket will make the fighter squadron better.”

From MSG, Page 3

be working in his new position. He talked about how special this was for him as he thanked his staff. “You have given me the best birthday gift a man could ask for. Growth, opportunity and to move forward and advance in their career. This is not just about me but what you have done for me. I will be honest if you guys did not do a good job of taking care of me as your commander then I would not be moving forward.”

Lt. Col. Giezie in his remarks stressed the importance of the function of the Mission Support Group. He spoke of how there have been many motivated and technologically advanced armies who lost because they lacked the proper mission support. Therefore, it is critical that the Mission Support here at the 180th FW maintains the level of dedication to their mission that they displayed during the ORI. Additionally there are many challenges facing the Air Guard as a whole, such as budget concerns. Lt. Col. Giezie said in his speech that with great challenges come great opportunities, so he feels ready to face those challenges in his new role. Finally, he believes that if he receives the same level of support and dedication that Col. Noel received then the Mission Support Group will have a bright future in spite of the tests that lay ahead.



180TH FIGHTER WING INSPECTOR GENERAL

Lt. Col. Thomas R. Gee
Building 114, Room 135
Comm.: 419-868-4444
DSN: 580-4444

Inspector General Complaints Program

Don't let a minor complaint turn into a serious, unmanageable issue. The U.S. Air Force has a well established complaints program. You have

the right to present a complaint without fear of reprisal and you can get help quickly when you communicate your complaints to the IG.

Initially, seek resolution by using the following process:

- 1st - Talk to your immediate supervisor
- 2nd - Talk to your First Sergeant
- 3rd - Talk to your section, squadron and/or group commander
- 4th - Talk to your Inspector General

Not all matters are appropriate for the IG complaint system (AFI 90-301, table 2.5), but the IG will help in any way possible. Remember, the IG door is always open.

Air Force Fraud, Waste and Abuse Prevention and Detection Program

Fraud: Any intentional deception designed to unlawfully deprive the Air Force of something of value

Waste: The extravagant, careless, or needless expenditure of Air Force funds or the consumption of Air Force property

Abuse: Intentional, wrongful or improper use of Air Force resources

Report suspected fraud, waste and abuse or mismanagement to:

- Your section, squadron and/or group commander
- 180th FW IG Hotline: Comm.: 419-868-4444, DSN: 580-4444
- AFRC Hotline: 800-223-1784, DSN: 497-1495
- AF Hotline: 800-538-8429, DSN: 425-1562
- DOD Hotline: 800-424-9098

180TH FW MINI FAMILY DAY

The 180th will be holding a Mini Family Day on Sunday, September, 11 from 1-4:30pm. This is not the traditional family day, but a new opportunity for families to get to know one another and learn more about the mission and work center of their Airman. It is open to immediate family: spouses, children, and parents; individuals that Airmen have listed on their family data sheets. Each Family Readiness Group (FRG)/section will hold their own activities for the afternoon. Activities will include an ice cream social, information on role of the FRG and the role of that particular unit in the overall mission of the 180FW, and games and activities for children and adults. Families and Airmen will be receiving more detailed information from their FRG leaders and unit commanders.

GET RECOGNIZED!!! HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE

The Air Force Hometown News Service is a chance to publicize your career achievement through your hometown newspaper, radio or television station.

The Hometown News Service was designed to showcase the worldwide accomplishments and activities of Airmen and present a positive image of Air Force people through print and electronic news releases.

To submit your Hometown News release you can come to the 180th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office in building 114 and fill out a paper form which will be submitted for you or e-mail DD Form 2266 to 180fw.pa@ang.af.mil.

In other words, we want to show off what our Airmen have done. There are numerous occasions that merit a hometown news release:

- » Graduation from basic training, Officer Training School or technical schools
- » Promotion to E-3 and higher (as the promotion occurs)
- » Selected for promotion to E-9 and O-6 and above
- » Permanent change of station
- » Awards and decorations
- » Re-enlistments
- » Retirements
- » Receipt of college degree
- » Participation in a national news event

Let your family know about your accomplishment. For more information or help call the 180th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office at 419-868-4072.

STINGER

Vol. 50, Issue No. 4, August 2011

180th Fighter Wing
2660 South Eber Road
Swanton, Ohio 43558-9645

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Commander
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PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PA Officer Capt. Katherine Cherolis
Editor Airman 1st Class William Winston
PA Manager Master Sgt. Elizabeth Holliker
Photos Senior Airman Amber Williams
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Tech. Sgt. George Wolfe
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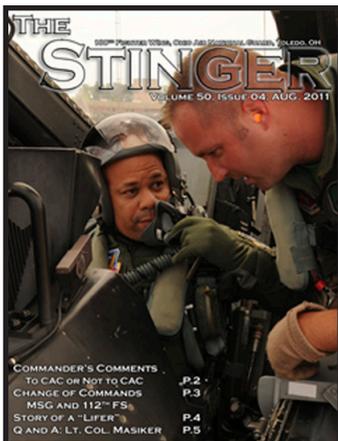
DEADLINE

Deadline for the next Stinger is the Saturday of the UTA @ 3 p.m. Hand deliver articles to the Public Affairs Office in Building 114 or e-mail:

180.stinger@ang.af.mil
For more information call ext. 4072 during the UTA.

ABOUT THE STINGER

The Stinger, a funded Air Force newspaper, is an authorized publication for the personnel of the 180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, 2660 S. Eber Road, Swanton, Ohio 43558. Contents of The Stinger are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, the National Guard Bureau or the Adjutant General of Ohio. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 180th Public Affairs Office.



ON THE COVER

Col. John Harris, Jr., Ohio National Guard Assistant Adjutant General for Army, received pointers from Maj. Brad Glanz, 112th Fighter Pilot, in preparation for his F-16 familiarization flight, July 14 at the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, OH. Col. Harris assumed the duties as the Assistant Adjutant General for Army, Joint Force Headquarters-Ohio, Ohio Army National Guard on January 11, 2011. As assistant adjutant general for Army, he is responsible for establishing policies, priorities and oversight for the readiness of over 11,400 Soldiers. After his flight Col. Harris said "he had a deep appreciation for CAS (close air support) missions and all the work that goes into making the target. I will never look at it the same."