



Vol. 34, No. 10

BAM

115th Fighter Wing, Truax Field, Madison, WI



Commander's Commentary

2008 – One For The Record Books



Col Joseph J. Brandemuehl
115 FW Commander

There has hardly been a year in the history of the 115th Fighter Wing that hasn't been remarkable. This year was no exception. 2008 was a demanding year, full of many challenges, and you all rose to meet every challenge with our distinctive "Dedicated to Excellence".

The most obvious highlight of this year was our unit's 60th anniversary, which we celebrated last UTA. The event in the newly-renovated Hangar 400 was spectacular, featuring great food, meeting old friends, wonderful guest speakers, and a very entertaining and moving video presentation. Thank you to all who attended, and a special thanks to those who help prepare and set up the event. Simply a magnificent occasion!

As for the rest of the year, let me recap some of our great accomplishments:

The BAM

115 FW Commander

Col. Joseph J. Brandemuehl

Public Affairs Officers

Lt. Col. Chris Rodel

Capt. Suzanne VanderWeyst

Public Affairs NCO Staff

Master Sgt. Paul Gorman

Master Sgt. Dan Richardson

Tech. Sgt. Don Nelson

Staff Sgt. Christen Bloomfield

Printing

Government Printing Office

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Badgers at Balad:

In the first quarter of this year, we performed our AEF and ECS missions flawlessly. The impression we made at Balad AB, Iraq, and in many other places around the world

with our ECS deployments, was incredible. We were the weapon system of choice, and asked for by name, by the special ops forces on the ground. We showed the world how to get the job done with excellence and professionalism...any time and anywhere. Thanks for your volunteerism!

State of Emergency: The 115th Fighter Wing, along with many other Wisconsin Air and Army Guard units, responded to the massive flooding last spring. One of the unique capabilities we brought to the operation was the RC-26 aircraft and its ability to downlink real-time video to the state's Department of Emergency Management. This capability better allowed our state leadership to effectively deploy resources where and when they were needed and would be most effective. When our RC-26 crews were not helping at home, they were overseas helping fight the war on terrorism. These crews have really stepped up this year and executed at the highest levels. Great job!

Achieving Excellence: Among all the other activities, we had several inspection and evaluations this year, including the ESOHCAMP for environmental, occupational health, and safety, the Alert Forces Evaluation, and a major Communications Security (COMSEC) inspection. All of these inspections went spectacularly well. In addition, we earned a major environmental award for clean-up of an old Air Force POL site on base.

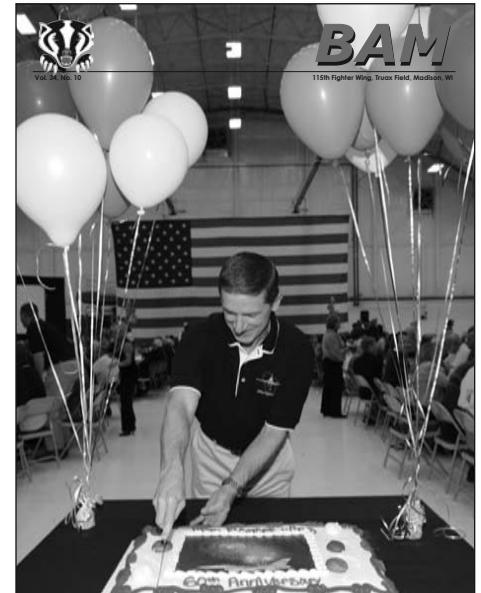
Changes at the Top: Earlier this year, our vice-commander, Col. Gary Ebben, moved "across the street" to become the new state Director of Staff for Air. He replaced Col. John McCoy, who was selected as the new Deputy Adjutant General for Air, replacing in turn the retiring Brig. Gen. Gerald Olesen. Taking Col. Ebben's place at the wing was Col. Mike Hinman, former Support Group commander, who was replaced by Lt. Col. Don Hamilton. The Medical Group also changed commanders as Lt. Col. Philip Hasler took the reins from Col. Thomas Wildes. And the ripple

effect of command changes, too numerous to mention, continued down through the Squadrons and Flights. There are more to come, which is just part of our effort to put the right people in the right place to continue our legacy of excellence.

Goodbye, Friend: This year also brought sadness, as we lost our former commander, Brig. Gen. David B. Hoff. General Hoff was one of the hardest-working people I ever knew. He demanded the best from himself and from everyone around him, and it showed. He coined our motto and really exemplified it, truly "Dedicated to Excellence".

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

As we make our way into the holiday season, let me wish you and your families the best. You have worked hard this year and your efforts have been remarkable. Take some time to relax with your family and friends. Please express my sincere thanks to your families for their sacrifices. Without their support, we could not be the best year in and year out. Enjoy your holiday season, be careful, and come back ready for a new year full of new challenges!



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Paul Gorman

On The Cover, Col. Joseph Brandemuehl 115th Fighter Wing commander, cuts the first piece of cake at the recent 115 FW 60th Anniversary dinner. The celebration was held in the newly refurbished Hangar 400. The event brought current and past members of the Wing together in celebration of the history of the Air National Guard in Madison, Wisc. The dinner also featured a video history of the unit highlighting many of the major milestones the wing members have been part of over 60 years.

Free to Believe and Speak



Chaplain (Maj) James Chizek
115 FW Chaplain

How do you deal with conflicting claims to exclusive truth, personally and as a supervisor?

Some people blow off all truth claims as irrelevant to their lives. Others believe various religions are all talking about the same god using different names. Some pick and choose what they want to believe

while others buy into one exclusively. Can two opposing claims both be true at the same time?

For instance, compare the Muslims' claim in the Shahadah, "There is no god but Allah, and Mohammed is his prophet" to the Jews', "Hear O Israel, The LORD Thy God, the LORD is One," ("The LORD" in the Hebrew text of Deuteronomy 6:4 is not "Allah,") to Jesus Christ's words, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:26) How do you deal with conflicting claims to exclusive truth?

Personally, you study the truth claims and the lives of the persons who made them and determine what is real or not. What is at stake is the destiny of your soul.

As a supervisor, you cannot codify

discomfort with religious speech by banning all such speech from the work place. Enforcing gag rules denies troops the First Amendment rights they have sworn to protect.

Yes, there are limits and coercion is never acceptable. At the same time, model your high commitment to liberty. In the Declaration of Independence, Americans wrote, "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness."

They realized all people would not pursue happiness or God in the same way and accepted it. So should you.

Diamond Talk

The Holiday Blues



Master Sgt. David Melby
115 MSG
First Sergeant

Although the holiday season should be a time of joy and for spending time with those we care about, many people find it a very stressful time of year. Whether its financial problems, stress at work, fatigue and anxiety, or simply having more people at home than usual, there are many sources of stress during the holidays. To avoid excess stress and to ensure that you enjoy the holiday season, remember to follow some basic rules on how to avoid "The Holiday Blues."

1. Avoid excessive alcohol consumption. The holidays are typically filled with office parties and social events, some of which may involve alcohol. Moderation is the key. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to stress by increasing depression or other emotions.

2. Don't overeat: The holidays and

food are synonymous. Turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie... To start, don't skip your favorite foods, but instead, limit your portion sizes and stay within your allowable servings.

3. Exercise: It's a proven fact that exercise is an excellent stress reducer! It gets your blood flowing and allows you physical release for bottled up stress.

4. Get adequate sleep. During the holiday season, it's not uncommon to find yourself with a full schedule. Between the shopping, parties, decorating, and spending time with loved ones, there often isn't enough time in the day. The lack of an adequate amount of sleep can cause you to be irritable and short tempered during the day, so make a point of getting a good night's sleep to avoid this problem.

5. Stay within your financial means. During the holiday season, the financial pressures on all of us are tremendous. Try to rein in your inner Santa and remember a few important tips.

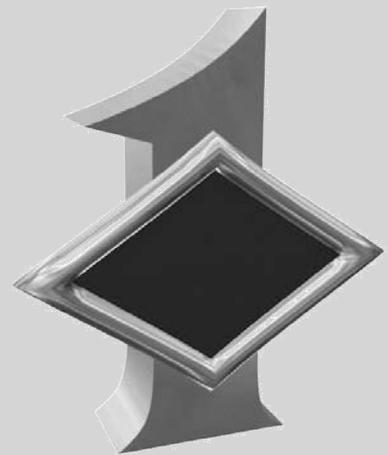
First, decide how much money you can afford to spend by reviewing your budget and then make a list before heading to the stores.

Second, curb impulse spending by sticking with your list and trying to avoid making impulse purchases spurred on by those in-store specials.

Finally, stay on budget and save your

receipts. They can be used as a reality check to see how well you are doing and verify how much you have left to spend. Just remember, don't let your gift-giving exuberance lure you into unmanageable debt!

For more information on any of these or other topics you may need help with, always remember that Military One-Source is there for military personnel and their families on-line at militaryonesource.com or by phone 1 (800) 342-9647. Have a safe and happy holiday season!



Officials release revised ABU wear policy

by Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFPN) -- Now that the Airman battle uniform is on the shelves of some military clothing sales stores, Air Force uniform officials here released a revised ABU wear policy message recently to ensure Airmen are aware of the standards for the new uniform.

The message is a follow up to the wear policy message released in February.

"The first wear message was very much theater-oriented because only deployers, general officers and command chiefs had the ABU," said Lt. Col. Shawna Morrill, the chief of the Air Force uniforms and recognition branch at the Pentagon. "Now that the uniform is becoming more available to Airmen, it's time to readdress the wear policy as well as talk about the winter items."

Some items addressed in the new policy letter include:

-- The mandatory wear date for the ABU is November 2011. The ABU or battle dress uniform can neither be mandated nor prohibited during this transition period.

-- Desert tan, crew-neck T-shirts are the only T-shirts authorized for the wear with the ABU. Desert sand-colored turtlenecks are authorized for wear in cold weather.

-- ABU sage green boots are authorized for wear with all utility uniforms. Desert tan boots are also authorized for wear with the ABU until the mandatory wear date.

-- Only the ABU patrol cap is authorized for wear with the ABU outside of the area of responsibility, or AOR. Organizational caps are no longer authorized.

-- Occupational badges are optional.
-- No patches are authorized on the ABU.

"The several-year transition to the ABU



will not be without its challenges, but we're confident that on-going communications and flexibility will ensure continued focus on mission and safety throughout this period," Colonel Morrill said.

Outstanding airmen of the third quarter of 2008

By Major Brian R. Green
115 MSF

Senior NCO of the Quarter

Master Sergeant Dale L. Payne was selected as the Senior NCO of the Quarter for the 3rd Quarter fiscal year 2008. Sergeant Payne is a Weather Craftsman for the 115th Operations Support Flight.

During this period, Sergeant Payne was selected to augment JFHQ staff during State Emergency Management Operations due to the severe weather in June that affected the State of Wisconsin. He developed and presented command staff weather briefings twice a day. Sergeant Payne custom formatted slide presentations to include river flood stage and forecasted flood stage heights. This information was critical for decisions that affected the safety of personnel and the protection of resources and infrastructure.

Sergeant Payne is the acting Weather Element Officer in Charge. He maintained continuity between operational weather support and 176th Fighter Squadron missions during UTAs. Sergeant Payne implemented a training and qualification program that ensured that the weather element is qualified for world-wide duty.

Sergeant Payne is very active in his local community and church. He recently organized a tee ball league and coordinated an annual lakeside service.

NCO of the Quarter

Technical Sergeant Jayson C. Colvin was chosen as the NCO of the Quarter for the 3rd Quarter of fiscal year 2008. Sergeant

Colvin is the Training and Readiness Manager for the 115th Logistics Readiness Squadron. He was instrumental in training a full-time member to the Stock Control Section which ensured that the position continued to meet the mission's requirements. Sergeant Colvin has developed numerous tools for members of the LRS. These tools allowed for flawless out-processing of personnel and effective management of the AFSC merger.

Sergeant Colvin is a member of the Kettle Moraine Cycling Club and is training for the WISPORT Cycling series. He is planning to complete a Bachelors Degree in Business Management at Concordia University.

Airman of the Quarter

Airman First Class Stephen D. Hamilton was selected as the Airman of the Quarter for the 3rd Quarter of fiscal year 2008. He serves as a Fire Fighter for the 115th Civil Engineering Squadron. Airman Hamilton recently deployed to the 36th CES, Anderson AFB, Guam. While deployed, he responded to two in-flight emergencies that resulted in zero loss of life and property.

Airman Hamilton also received his P-24 pumper license twenty days ahead of his peers and his P-19 license in record time. Airman Hamilton also performed firefighting duties while temporarily assigned to Volk Field. He supported the Tennessee Air National Guard's operational readiness inspection and the "Jung Shield" Exercise.

Airman Hamilton is an avid photographer, ATV rider and snowmobiler. He is currently pursuing a business degree from Milwaukee Area Technical College.

Virtual training for real world missions

By Tech Sgt. Don Nelson
115 FW Public Affairs

Four Airmen strap in to a well equipped humvee as it rumbles along a road in some remote area of Iraq. Today's mission requires the airmen to identify and neutralize hostile forces while escorting a convoy. Once the mission is complete, following a debriefing, the Airmen get into their non-armored vehicles and head back to Madison.

Much like an IMAX, a 280 degree screen brings to life real world scenarios designed to put a four-person fire team made up of a driver, gunner, rifleman and troop commander, through the paces of an actual convoy mission.

The \$1.5 million virtual training environment housed in a hangar at Volk Field Combat Readiness Training Center offers security forces personnel and others realistic fire team convoy training. The scenarios that the trainees are put through are designed by 115th members who have real-world experience.

Tech Sgt. Jody Sammons, fire team leader with the 115th Security Forces Squadron, is one of three unit members who were honored with the combat action medal for the convoy missions they participated in while deployed to Iraq. Along with SFS member Tech. Sgt. Fred Ciebell, Sergeant Sammons develops real-world inspired scenarios using a modified humvee, air-powered weapons and a computer generated



Much like an IMAX, a 280 degree screen brings to life real world scenarios designed to put a four-person fire team made up of a driver, gunner, rifleman and troop commander through the paces of an actual convoy mission. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Dan Richardson.)

environment complete with hostile forces and various hazards.

“The basics that we want the trainees to learn include identification of hostile forces, basic use of the weapon, which builds up muscle memory,” said Sergeant Sammons. “One of the most important elements of the training is getting the airmen to learn their gear and feel comfortable using it.”

Even though the scenario plays out on a huge screen, an integral part of the training

is the modified Humvee that is designed to be driven similar to one Airmen might use in an actual convoy mission. The vehicle is also set up to respond to changes in the terrain that the driver's sees on the screen.

Familiarization with

the vehicle, compass and GPS, while learning to take a breath and relax are the skills Sergeant Sammons says he hopes his students take away from this training.

Learning to work as a team is also reinforced by the trainers. The Airmen who participate not only get valuable training time doing the scenarios, but, get they first hand knowledge from those who have been on convoy missions in Iraq.

“This training is good because in the scenarios, you actually have people shooting back at you and you can see if they go down or if you need to keep shooting,” said Sen. Amn. Kim Shortner, fire team member with the 115 SFS. “It is more real life like than just shooting at a target.”

While the mix of computer generated scenarios and the use of life like equipment gives the training almost super video game like experience, Sergeant Sammons hopes that even though some trainees use their gaming skills, that they treat it like a real world experience.

“Anytime we can have this real-world, low cost type of training is outstanding,” said Lt. Col. Brian Buhler, 115 SFS commander. “Having this training opportunity so close to the unit allows us to maximize our training resources, allowing more people to get this valuable training experience.”



Tech Sgts. Jody Sammons and Jay Ellis manage the computer generated scenarios based on their real-world convoy experiences in Iraq. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Dan Richardson.)

115th Fighter Wing F-16 Fighting Falcon



Photos by Master Sgt. Paul Gorr
115 FW Public Affairs and Joe O
(right, center). All of these pictures
are available for members to
download and print at
<http://www.115fw.af.mil/photos>
Under categories on the right navigation
click Aircraft

Fighter Wing Fighting Falcon



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Program helps Guard, Reserve members fill active-duty tours

by Master Sgt. Greg Rudl
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) -- When his building inspection business slowed, Tech. Sgt. David Marcelli of the District of Columbia Air National Guard needed to find work.

He found it by using the Personnel Force Innovation program that matches up organizations that need Guard and Reserve members looking for active duty tours.

"For me, it was easy. I simply called, uploaded my resume, and got orders cut," Sergeant Marcelli said. "From the day I inquired to the day I started working, it was about three weeks."

He contacted PFI in 2006 and got a job in law enforcement at the Letterkenny Army Depot near Chambersburg, Pa. It was a good fit since he's a security forces member and NCO in charge of combat arms for the 113th Security Forces Squadron at Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

Like any Guard or Reserve member doing a PFI tour, Sergeant Marcelli needed a release form from his state adjutant general. He also made arrangements with his unit to attend training assemblies and inspections while away.

Matching reservists up with agencies that need them PFI operates under a charter from the Defense Department comptroller to use Reserve component personnel to support DOD Working Capital Activities when regular active-duty personnel are not available and PFI reservists are more cost effective than civilian employees or contractor support.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Craig Pickett, PFI's senior enlisted adviser, said his main clients or customer agencies are the Army Corps of Engineers and Army depots like Letterkenny.

The corps has "a ton of building projects going on around the world," he said, and Army depots need Soldiers to handle the surge of equipment coming from the theater that needs refurbishing.

PFI is strictly "fee for service." Customer agencies fund the active-duty costs of tours by reimbursing the Guard or Reserve member's military service.

"We are the only avenue for agencies and Soldiers to come together in that way," Sergeant Pickett said. Agencies also fund all TDY costs, including moving expenses.

How to find a tour with PFI? Interested Guard and Reserve members can go to the PFI Web site at <http://pfi.dod.mil> and scroll through the list of tours, making sure that their skills and rank match what is required. If they like what they see, they apply online. If the agency likes what they see, they will call the servicemember directly for an interview.

Sergeant Pickett said that from the time an agency accepts a Guard or Reserve member for a tour, it can take anywhere from 30 to 45 days to get orders and start work.

PFI lists more than 100 tours in places like Kabul, San Francisco and Pennsylvania and in career fields from food service to database programming. They can be stateside or overseas, as short as a few weeks or as long as three years.

An example of the types of about 140 tours available on PFI as of mid-November include:

-- The Business Transformation Agency in Arlington, Va., wants a data analyst in the grade of E-4 to E-7 for a yearlong tour.

-- The Air Force Materiel Command in Tucson, Ariz., needs an aircraft ordnance system mechanic for a 12-month gig.

Like other online job search services, PFI requires a user account and password, a completed online application, a resume and a biography.

"We like to see a civilian resume and a military bio, because the agency can hire on either skill-set," Sergeant Pickett said.

This highlights one of the benefits of PFI: Guard and Reserve members can use civilian or military skills when selecting tours.

Sergeant Marcelli spent his first year at Letterkenny doing law enforcement, but now works in the munitions section. He wears his Air Force uniform, which he said stands out in a sea of civilians.

Many of the civilians he works with are former traditional Guard and Reserve members, he said. He doesn't mind the 50-mile, one-way commute from his home in Westminster, Md., to Letterkenny, which takes him through historic Gettysburg.

He's still able to run his home-based business on the side, which uses specially trained dogs to sniff out mold in homes and commercial structures.

Traditional guardmembers like Sergeant Marcelli also appreciate active-duty tours because they help boost his retirement check.

"Another nice thing about PFI is that these tours are often a stepping stone to full-time civilian employment," said the 25-year Guard veteran. "A half-dozen guys have been picked up (as permanent workers)."

Sergeant Marcelli has done what few Airmen have -- his interservice work has also earned him an Army Achievement Medal.

Maj. Jonathan Balmer was tired of fighting the traffic to get to his job at the Army Guard Readiness Center. He also found a tour at Letterkenny, which just 15 minutes from his home.

He supervises the maintenance on scoop loaders, mobile kitchen trailers, cranes and the M-997 Humvee ambulance. This former ordnance officer with the Indiana National Guard is also involved with rebuilding and maintaining rockets, and Patriot and Hawk missiles.

Major Balmer advised anyone using PFI to "stay on top of the paperwork, especially because you're moved into a new pay system."

Some other things to keep in mind are:

-- Reservists cannot curtail their assignments without the consent of the customer and PFI director.

-- The Guard or reserve member's military service can prematurely curtail tours because of military priorities, such as contingency operations.

-- Retirees and servicemembers with 17 years active federal service are ineligible.

Sergeant Pickett said Guard and Reserve members using PFI range from those desperately looking for work to officers with established careers wanting a change of pace.

About 300 reservists on tour right now, including about 100 guardmembers. Most positions require mid- to advanced-level skills, experience and rank, but he said an armory looking for security workers will accept junior ranks.

Sergeant Pickett said he finds Guard and Reserve members like active duty work because the benefits are better than what they find in the private sector.

PFI is based in Indianapolis and has a staff of eight. According to Sergeant Pickett, it plans to expand into a "truly joint agency" by adding more Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy facilities and agencies as clients. The program has already grown 200 percent since last year.

What's cooking in Madison?

A new feature in the BAM will highlight a Madison area restaurant. Col. Michael Hinman, 115 FW Vice Commander, and his wife, Georgia, will feature a local eatery quarterly. This recommendation is not an official endorsement of the restaurant, but, merely an review of an interesting place to eat for those who may be searching for a place to dine while in Madison during the UTA weekend.

Taqueria Guadalajara, 1033 Park Street

Ever since my wife and I moved to Madison 18 years ago, we have been searching for a good restaurant that offered "traditional" Mexican food. We have visited every Mexican restaurant in Dane County over the past 18 years and have never been completely satisfied. That is until now. Based on the recommendation of one of my wife Georgia's close friends, we decided to give "Taqueria Guadalajara" a try last Saturday night. Our search is over...we have finally found the perfect compliment of ambiance, friendly and fast service, and outstanding Mexican cuisine. Located at 1033 Park Street, just south of the intersection of Park Street and Fish Hatchery Road, Taqueria Guadalajara is a small diner with seating for a bakers dozen. Personal favorites for me include the Enchiladas Verdes and the Nachos Mexicanos. Georgia, the self-proclaimed expert on Mexican deserts, suggests topping off your dinner with the Homemade Spanish Custard (Flan). Everything on the menu is made fresh at the restaurant. Adult beverages are available along with a variety of non-alcoholic drinks. Using the traditional scale of pricing (\$\$\$\$ being the highest), I would rate Taqueria Guadalajara as \$ (very affordable).

News in Brief

USB devices banned on military computers

The Department of Defense has banned the use of all removable flash media on its computer networks. This includes USB "thumb" drives, digital cameras, and all personal electronic devices (IPODs, MP3 players, cellular phones, etc). Do not under any circumstances connect any of these devices to your DoD computer. Contact your CSA for help in retrieving any mission critical data that may be stored on such a device.

Basketball tournament on tap

A three-on-three basketball tournament is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 10, 2009 at 5 p.m. The double elimination tournament, hosted by MWR, is open to all unit members. For more information contact Tech. Sgt. Andrew Shoemaker or Staff Sgt. Amanda Kapugi at 245-4306.

Tricare Reserve rates go down

Traditional members who have Tricare Reserve will see their select premiums going down in Jan. 2009. Monthly costs for single plan will go from \$81 to \$47.17 and family plans will go from \$253 to \$180.10. All traditional guard members are eligible for the TRS. AGRs and Technicians are not eligible. For more information please contact Tech. Sgt. Lee M. Rettmann, at 245-4589.

Christmas caroling

The Chaplain's office will be Christmas Caroling at UW Children's Hospital on Sunday December 7. The group will be leaving building 500 at 1200 and returning at 1530, and everyone is welcome to join.

Among the Ranks

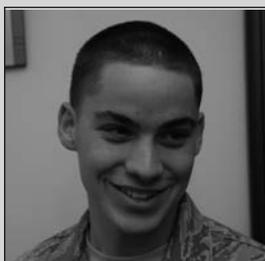
Interviews by Tech. Sgt. Don Nelson
Photos by Master Sgt. Dan Richardson

What do you want and don't want for Christmas (but you know you are going to get)?



Tech. Sgt. Tom Guilford,
115 CES

I want beer making supplies and can always use more. I don't want more toe socks!



Sen. Airman David Ruff,
115 AMS

I want a healthy daughter and another gun, a 12-gauge shot gun, my old one is shot. I don't want a lot of clothes.



AB Tanna Crull,
115 MXS

I would like an iPod Touch because I am a wrestling manager and the bus trips are long. My family is a bunch of farmers and I know I am gonna get farm clothes I will never wear.



Capt. Dan Statz,
115 AMS

I want a little pilot doll. I don't want a magazine subscription, like Pilot Daily.

Staff Sgt. Alden Alexander
115 MXS

I want to visit my kids and get a Wii because of the cool games. I don't want another ugly plaid shirt.



Welcome, Congratulations & Farewell

Newcomers

Airman Basic

Glen Stauff, 115 AMS
Elizabeth Stein, 176 FTS
Katherine Stein, 176 FTS

Airman 1st Class

Weston Gill, 115 AMS
Alec Smith, 115 MXS
Matthias Chenault, 115 AMS
Derrick Laufenberg, 115 AMS
Thou Moua, 115 SFS
Colin Noel, 115 SVF

Sen. Airman

David Branchfield, 115 MXS

Staff Sgt.

Aaron Jensen, 115 OSF

Master Sgt.

Thomas Payonk, 115 AMS

Second Lt.

Jonathan Smies, 115 FW

Retirements

Lt. Col. Eugene E. Ehlers, Jr.
Chief Master Sgt. Lori Holen
Senior Master Sgt. Richard J. Butler
Senior Master Sgt. Dale A. McKee
Master Sgt. John G. Crase
Master Sgt. Hoyt S. Halverson
Master Sgt. Kelly J. King
Master Sgt. Robert J. Klein
Master Sgt. Derek D. Pasquan
Tech. Sgt. Rene Arriazola
Tech. Sgt. Gordon J. Brooke
Staff Sgt. Edward B. Dolney
Staff Sgt. Benjamin J. Zastrow

Promotions



David Kensick



Larry Mara



Randal Haines
James Nelson
Curtis Johnson
William Stekelberg



Kimberly Gobel
Scott Homner
Ryan Johnson
Jason Lindquist
Andrew Lustgraaf
Hannah McGhee
Stacie Ringelstetter



Timothy Blommel
Michael Sturgell



Scott Pattison
Eric Rueth



Saturday	Sunday
Monte Cristo Sand.	Baked Chicken
Pot Roast	Swedish Meatballs
Potato Wedges	Steamed Rice
Buttered Carrots	Asparagus
Boston Cream Pie	Asst desserts
Black Forest Cake	

Holiday Safety Tips

- When decorating Christmas trees, always use safe tree lights. (Some lights are designed only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.) Larger tree lights should also have some type of reflector rather than a bare bulb and all lights should be listed by a testing laboratory.
- Never use electric lights on a metal tree.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions on how to use tree lights. Any string of lights with worn, frayed or broken cords or loose bulb connections should not be used.
- Check your strands of lights to determine the number of strands that may be connected. Connect no more than three strands of push-in bulbs and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.
- Always unplug Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.
- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and extend their life.
- Never use lit candles to decorate a tree, and place them well away from tree branches.
- Try to keep live trees as moist as possible by giving them plenty of water daily. Do not purchase a tree that is dry or dropping needles.
- When purchasing a live or cut tree, check for fresh, green needles.
- Choose a sturdy tree stand designed not to tip over.
- When purchasing an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled as fire-retardant.
- Children are fascinated with Christmas trees. Keep a watchful eye on them when around the tree and do not let them play with the wiring or lights.
- Store matches and lighters up high, out of the reach of children, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet (one meter) away from any heat source, such as fireplaces and radiators. Try to position the tree near an outlet so that cords are not running long distances. Do not place the tree where it may block exits.
- Safely dispose of the tree when it begins dropping needles. Dried-out trees are highly flammable and should not be left in a house or garage, or placed against the house.

December UTA Pay Date



Dec. 15 , 2008

2009 UTA Schedule

Jan. 10-11	Feb. 7-8
Mar. 7-8	Apr. 4-5
May 2-3	Jun. 6-7
July 18-19 (RUTA)	Aug. 22-23
Sept. 19-20	Oct. 3-4
Nov. 7-8	Dec 5-6



Legacy of Excellence

Right: Fifty Years Ago- The Air Force announced that it would base the new Boeing Bomarc missile in Sun Prairie, as part of the Air Defense Command facility at Truax. The long-range surface-to-air missile was intended to destroy incoming Soviet bombers at very long range using a small nuclear warhead. The Air Force began construction, but after Congressional budget battles, the Sun Prairie site was cancelled. (December 1958 Scorpion) Photo courtesy of Boeing.



Below: Twenty Five Years Ago - Sen. Amn. Bonnie Burghaus attempts to type while peering through her gas mask and pecking at the keyboard with glove-swollen fingers. The U.S. military had recently embarked on a massive training program aimed at mitigating the threat of Soviet chemical warfare. Part of the program was to train all members in the use of personal protective gear. Airman Burghaus was demonstrating that even members who have to use fine motor skills could be effective in the gear. (December 1983 RAM)



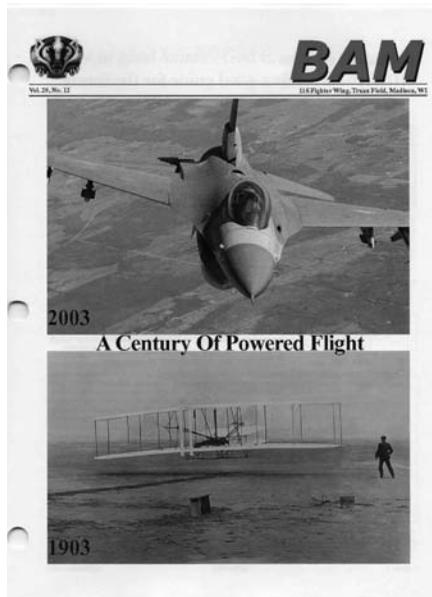
BOMARCS FOR SUN PRAIRIE

Sun Prairie has been chosen for an Air Force base for Bomarc missiles. The Armed Forces Press Service has this to say about Bomarc:

The Air Force's Bomarc missile is a long-range, surface-to-air weapon designed to engage and destroy an enemy aircraft far from its intended target. Bomarc is approximately 47 feet long and has a wing span of 18 feet. It weighs about 15,000 pounds.

Below: Ten Years Ago - The 115th Fighter Wing hosted Mr. Art Shegonee as guest speaker and performer during Native American History Month. Mr. Shegonee is a member of the Menominee and Potawatomi tribes and shared some traditional dances and also shared his concern about negative stereotyping of Native Americans. (December 1998 BAM)

Right: Five years Ago - The cover of the BAM showed a hundred years of airplane flight. From the Wright brothers to the F-16C+, the rapid development of the airplane has been nothing short of incredible. (December 2003 BAM)



Shegonee guest during Native American Heritage Month

TSGt Larry Rush
115 FW Public Affairs Office

Art Shegonee served as guest speaker on 15 Nov 98, during the 115 Fighter Wing's program honoring Native American Heritage Month. Mr. Shegonee thrilled the audience in the Aerospace Dining Facility with his comments on artifacts and dances; portraying Native American culture and how it related to other cultures in the world.

A significant part of his talk involved his knowledge of the "Medicine Wheel" and how "it is inclusive



Mr. Art Shegonee, a member of the Call for Peace Drum and Dance Company and member of the Menominee and Potawatomi tribes of Wisconsin, spoke to unit members during the Nov UTA. Mr. Shegonee, pictured above and left, is shown demonstrating traditional Native American dances and clothing.

of all the peoples of Mother Earth". Art demonstrated a dance commonly performed at pow wows and involved his audience in a traditional two-step.

Mr. Shegonee shared with his audience the concern of many Native Americans who live with cruel and unjust stereotyping that perpetuates misconceptions about his people.

The program was sponsored



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Paul Gorman

The 115th Fighter Wing recently marked its 60th Anniversary. The celebration dinner was held in the newly refurbished Hangar 400. The event brought current and past members of the Wing together in celebration of the history of the Air National Guard in Madison, Wisc. The dinner also featured a video history of the unit highlighting many of the major milestones the wing members have been part of over 60 years.

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