



The Truax Ticker

January 2016



Commander's Corner



Happy New Year 115th Fighter Wing!

Once again, thanks again for an awesome 2015! We should all look back at 2015 and be VERY proud of our hard work and accomplishments. There is no doubt that the 115 FW is a great team and perfectly represents several of my favorite Coach Lombardi's quotes:

"The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual."

"People who work together will win, whether it be against complex football defenses, or the problems of modern society."

"Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."

I can't think of a better way to start off the New Year than to recognize and congratulate SrA Mitch Paykel on his selection as the ANG winner of the Lieutenant General Leo Marquez Award. This award recognizes superior performance of maintenance personnel who perform hands-on aircraft maintenance. Evaluation factors to be selected included sustained job performance, job efficiency and results, job knowledge, and many other considerations. SrA Paykel is an Avionics Specialist, assigned to the 115 AMXS, and no doubt a high performing Airman. Thanks SrA Paykel for your outstanding contributions to the 115 FW!

I am also very proud to announce that the 115 MXG was selected to receive the ANG Maintenance Effectiveness Award (MEA). The MEA recognizes maintenance units that have best met the objective of providing safe, serviceable, and available equipment for sustained use in peacetime and wartime. The MEA considered the following factors: mission accomplishment, innovative and effective use of maintenance resources, and personnel quality of life programs. During FY 15, the 115 MXG team continued to lead all ANG F-16 Block 30 wings with the highest aircraft availability and fully mission capable (FMC) rate. The mission capable (MC) rate improved for the 4th year in a row, exceeding the ANG goal by 4%. This was a significant accomplishment, especially with three aviation package deployments, runway closure, ACA mission requirements and a significant depot-level aircraft modernization. Congratulations to the entire 115 MXG team!

It is essential to re-emphasize the 115 FW milestones & challenges for 2016. We will continue to remain extremely busy and engaged during 2016. Our focus is executing our numerous missions, improving mission readiness and posturing the 115 FW for continued success. While we continue to execute our ACA mission, the 115 FW will be deploying to Nellis AFB in April 2016 to support the USAF Weapons Instructor Course and to Tyndall AFB in May for live missile employment and air-to-air flying training. We also have a CAPSTONE event scheduled for June 2016. With the successful transition to AFIS, we'll continue to focus on our 4 Major Graded Areas (MGAs): executing the mission, leading people, managing resources, & improving the unit. We'll close out our 48 month Unit Effectiveness Inspection (UEI) with a CAPSTONE event in June 2016.

I want to take this moment to thank all of you for your hard work, your mission focus, and the many sacrifices you make. I am very proud of your accomplishments in 2015. 2016 will be another challenging year for the 115 FW. I am confident we will perform extremely well at home station and deployed locations and continue to excel in 2016.

JEFFREY J. WIEGAND, Col, WI ANG
Commander

Airmen Action Items

- If you have TRICARE Health Coverage, in January 2016, you will have an additional document under the “taxes” section in mypay called IRS Form 1095 that you must file with your taxes. Finance cannot retrieve this document for you, please be sure that you have access to mypay in order to obtain the IRS Form 1095 as well as your 2015 W-2. All W-2’s will be posted to mypay NLT 31 January 2016. If you need assistance please contact the Finance Customer Service representative at 245-4440.
- All personnel are responsible for backing up their own data on the computers which they use. If you have questions or need assistance on backing up your files, please see the FAQ off of the CFP web page or call/ email the CFP at 245-4522 / usaf.wi.115-msg.mbx.fw-cfp@mail.mil
- Survey participation to help the inspection team determine their focus: <https://www.research.net/r/115FW>

Monthly Updates

Chapel Services:
Protestant Worship Service
Sunday 0800 - 0830
Bldg. 500, Room 129

State Enlisted Development
This drill: Sunday @0730 Bldg 505
classroom - Military Writing
February drill: Sunday @0800
Bldg 505 classroom - Maintaining
Standards through Discipline

Rising 6 Meeting
Sunday 0900 in Bldg 500

Top 3 Meeting
Sunday 1000 in building 500

WINGA and WNGEA Conference
@Chula Vista Resort 22-24Apr16.

8th Annual Military Ride - Jan 17-18, 2016. [Click here](#) for the application due Jan. 9.

34th Annual Wisconsin National Guard State Bowling Tournament is Feb. 27th. [Click here](#) for a registration form - deadline to register is Feb. 18th.

Ski passes are available - Bldg 503 - see 115 FW app - member updates icon - for more info.

Public Affairs studio hours:
Saturday:
Portraits: 0800-1000
Isopreps: 1200-1400
Studio is closed on Sunday

DFAC Menu: Open 1000-1200
Saturday:

Roast Pork/Vegetable Stir Fry
Beef Broccoli Stir Fry
Steamed Rice/Potato Veggie Blend
Glazed Carrots/Fried Cabbage

Sunday:

Chicken Enchiladas
Lemon Herbed Fish
Lasagna Florentine
Buttered Noodles/Spanish Rice
Refried Beans w/Cheese
Mexican Corn/Broccoli

Salad bar/Potato bar
Chili

Dessert:

Assorted Cookies
Assorted Pies
Chocolate Cake w/white icing

***2015 Lunch Cost for AGRs,
Officers & those on orders* \$5.55
To-Go Meals on FSS SharePoint**



News Briefs

Chief's Column

To the Airmen of the 115th Fighter Wing,

This is my last UTA as the Wing Command Chief and I just wanted to let you know what an honor it has been to serve you and be a part of this outstanding organization. I transferred to the 115th Fighter Wing in 2007 and was a stranger to the unit, but your kindness and acceptance gave me a sense of belonging from the very start. I feel very fortunate to have been in a position to make a difference in your lives and I take immense pride in my role in developing you into warrior Airmen and ensuring your careers were prosperous and rewarding. Please continue to take charge of your careers and strive to be the best you can be. Be an expert at your job, be resilient, be fit, be a good wingman and be victorious when facing adversity. Thank you for your dedication, support and friendship. I look forward to continuing to serve you in my new role as the State Command Chief.

Very respectfully,
Chief Safer

Links:

Key Spouse of the Year Award - due February 15th
CCAF Exception to Policy
EPME Student Support
Military Duty Letter to Civilian Employers
Tag Social Media Policy

From the Medics

The Office of the Air Surgeon at NGB has recently made a significant change in the Aerospace Information Management System (ASIMS).

ASIMS is the database the Air Force uses to track the individual medical readiness of its airmen. As of 15 December, ASIMS now communicates with the Veteran's Affairs (VA) Health Care System and will display any disability rating percentage airmen may have. What does this mean for you as a member of the ANG?

1. You will be asked about your rating (if applicable) at your next visit to the Medical Group.
2. If you have not previously provided documentation (from the VA) to the Medical Group regarding the condition(s) for which you are rated, you will be required to do so (according to AFI 48-123 ch 10.17.1) in the form of an award letter and medical notes.
3. Ratings will be tracked for any changes. You will need to provide additional documentation in regards to any changes in your condition.
4. Some medical conditions will require that a waiver request be submitted for approval.

Note: HIPAA regulations will be followed and medical information will not be released outside of the Medical Group and appropriate command authorities in accordance with DoD 6025.18-R and AFI 41-210.

Submitted by MSgt Richard Carter, 115 MDG Associate Health Technician

Wing Survey Details

<https://www.research.net/r/115FW>

- The survey is open and ready for your inputs as of today; it takes approximately 20 minutes to complete.
- Please be open, frank and honest in your answers; it will make the results more meaningful for your wing.
- If you are civilian employee, please indicate you are a "Department of the Air Force civilian" at the appropriate question.
- You cannot select both Spouse and Military Member or Civilian, you have to pick one.
- We value the opinions of your spouses and have developed questions for them. Please feel free to forward home for their use, the survey can be taken from any computer.
- This survey will close on 3 Apr 16.

Your honest and candid answers are important to the ACC/IG and to the success of the new Air Force Inspection System. This is your chance to tell the ACC/IG what you think about any issue so please let us know what is working well and highlight what isn't working within your organization.

Legacy of Excellence

Monument Restoration Project



RETIREMENTS :

Lt. Col. Brian Green
SMSgt. Richard Wizner
MSgt. Gene Ramer

Leading with Honor

Chapter 3: “Stay Positive”

Commanders’ Series

The holiday season is a great time of celebration, when family and friends gather to reflect on the successes and challenges of the past year and look forward to the new year. The holidays are also a time of suffering; the pain of losing a job, a struggling marriage, or maybe a family member who has passed unexpectedly. No matter your circumstances, Col (ret) Ellis’s message is universal, Stay Positive.

By choosing a positive attitude you are taking control of uncertainty and disappointment and channeling those thoughts into the faith and expectation of a better tomorrow. Even during the dire time in a POW camp Col Ellis highlights that “maintaining a positive mental outlook was crucial to survival.”

Each of you is a leader in our organization and there are 3 key lessons in this chapter that apply directly to you.

1. Face adversity with a positive attitude:
 - Do you let bad situations control your response or do you fight to overcome challenges as they happen? Col Ellis states that “When you are at the mercy of an enemy...the psychological impact can be unimaginably depressing and debilitating.”
2. Your response to adversity is contagious:
 - It’s hard work to stay positive, but the consequences of negativity are detrimental to organizational cohesion and will undermine unit goals and morale. Col Ellis states that “...you must constantly fight to maintain your self-respect and optimism”.
3. Have a Plan:
 - The more you invest in having a positive approach when times are good, the better prepared you will be to support the team when times are tough.

This has been one of the most challenging and rewarding years of my career. I had the honor of leading one of the most talented groups of MXG personnel on the Theater Security Package deployment to Kadena AFB. I have the privilege of working side-by-side with 3 members of our unit who were recognized as the best mechanics in the ANG, and most recently the 115 MXG was recognized as the most effective maintenance organization in the ANG for 2015. Unfortunately, during this period, the AMXS lost a member of our family, and personally I have gone through the uncertainty and disappointment of losing 2 friends to the effects of depression and self-doubt.

Sometimes Staying Positive is easier said than done, but part of having a plan is knowing your personal threshold. If you ever feel that you have reached your threshold, there are a wealth of resources in the FW that are here to help you work through these situations. After 19 years, I can attest to the power of Positive Thinking. I’ve seen people do a bang up job day-in and day-out and I’ve seen people seek help, overcome tough situations, and go on to do great things. If you are struggling, I re-commit to you that no matter the situation, there is nothing that we cannot overcome together.

2015 was a year of great success, cherish the memories and expect an even better 2016. Your positive perspective will be contagious!