



The Truax Ticker

November 2016



Commander's Corner



115 FW TEAM,

This year the 115 FW was recognized as the top combat wing in the Air National Guard, one of two top wings in flight safety, and honored with a 9th Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, all while executing major back to back aviation deployments. In August, the 115 FW supported domestic operations in northern Wisconsin in response to major flood and storm damage. Simultaneously, Volk CRTC hosted Northern Lightning, a full spectrum joint exercise that included the first full squadron deployment of F-35As. Northern Lightning garnered a high degree national attention and its success is a direct result of your support in planning and executing this incredible exercise. In September more than 50 115th Fighter Wing Airmen traveled to Pleasanton, California for an Innovative Readiness Training exercise that met critical training requirements while providing medical, dental and optometry care to the medically underserved, homeless veteran community of the East Bay Region.

Looking forward, this fall/winter the 115 FW is deploying 70 airmen around the world. We will deploy 12 aircraft to Red Flag in January, followed by a theatre support package deployment to Pacific Command next summer. At the same time we are working closely with our community, state and federal leadership to posture and secure 115 FW aircraft and facilities for the long term as the air force makes decisions on the next round of basing for 2 F-35A Lightning squadrons in the Air National Guard.

The changes in leadership throughout the 115 FW make this a perfect time to refresh yourselves on your squadron's mission, vision, and priorities (MVPs) and how they relate to the overall wing's MVPs. Have there been any changes to your core missions, or do priorities need to be changed based on changing resources or conditions? Are your metrics for assessing successful accomplishment of your goals providing you meaningful data that your unit can act on to improve?

Our wing's first priority is to develop and support our Airmen and families by providing a superior trained, reliable, relevant, resilient and respected force. Secretary James and General Goldfein recognize that additional duties assigned at the unit-level affect our ability to focus on core missions, which in turn impacts our readiness. Per your Secretary and Chief, "Commanders are empowered at all levels to consolidate CSS-assigned duties as appropriate, and/or discontinue non-critical duties beyond their ability to resource." Every commander will work with their Airmen to prioritize the core mission of your units and every unit commander is empowered to make decisions on the accomplishment of additional duties that they deem non-critical.

Our 115 MDG is a leader in working to save Airmen's time through the mass PHA that is being conducted over the November drill. Almost 1,000 Airmen will complete their health assessments, ensuring minimal impact to unit training due to airmen missing from your teams for health physicals for the next year. Thank you for your outstanding service!

Col. Erik "Norm" Peterson
Commander

Airmen Action Items

- There is now a link on the homepage under the “Important Information” section called “2016 PHA Quick Info.” Use this link to view the schedule, mandatory items and UHM contact info for the PHA Quick.
- Per a memorandum from the Surgeon General’s office at NGB, those members with Veteran’s Affairs (VA) disability ratings must submit VA disability evaluations to the medical group. Documentation must include the diagnosis, the international classification of disease code and the percent of disability awarded. Lastly, the member must provide all medical documentation (office notes, test results and referrals from both VA and civilian providers) for each diagnosis. Members are encouraged to bring this information with them during their scheduled PHA Quick appointment. If member’s do not provide the documentation as listed above, follow up appointments with the medical group will be scheduled accordingly.
- Members are reminded to backup any electronic documents using their “Home Drive” rather than a computer’s local storage to avoid data loss. Guidance can be found on the Command Focal Point’s FAQ page.

Monthly Updates

Chapel services:

Sunday

0700-0730 Reconciliation/Confession

0730-0800 Roman Catholic Mass

Bldg 500, Rm 129

SEDP Courses:

Sunday Bldg 505 CR

0730 Intro to Personal Leadership

w/MSgt. M. Fisher

0800 ANG Enlisted History

w/MSgt. J. Kasten

MAJOR EVENTS:

Saturday:

0800: MSG Assumption of Command & FSS COC in the DFAC

1500: Col. Dunai’s Retirement in Hangar 406

1600: Bonfire honoring Col. Dunai/celebrating changes of command at the Landing Strip (bring lawn chairs - dinner/drinks served - families are invited)

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Hyvee is offering free breakfast for all veterans 0600-1100 on Nov. 11 in honor of Veterans Day

The Badger Militia Hockey team is looking for members. The team goes to Las Vegas for the Armed Services Hockey Tournament Nov. 10-13. Contact MSgt Hessler or SrA Strassman if interested. More info can be found on Facebook or the website at [this link](#).

Unit Training Requirements: CCTV will be broadcasting the following - please notify your UTM when you’ve completed the training:

Wingman Day Broadcast - CH 8

[Click here](#) for the October Cyber Threat Bulletin

EM Winter Weather Awareness documents can be found [here](#) or [here](#).

Santa is coming to Truax Field on Dec. 4 from 1030-1400. Bring family to Hangar 406 to say ‘Hi’ and give wish lists in-person. Contact Tanya Genz for more info.

DFAC Menu:

Saturday: 1000-1200

Smothered Italian Chicken

Mustard Breaded Chicken

Sloppy Joes

Cheese Ravioli

Scalloped Potatoes/Rice Pilaf

Steamed Peas and Carrots

Assorted Veggies

Sunday: 0900-1100

Buttermilk Pancakes

Sausage Patties

Scrambled Eggs

Onion and Bell Pepper Scramble

Sweet Potato Hash

Breakfast Sandwich

Brown Sugar Oatmeal

Assorted Muffins

Omelet Bar

Eggs to Order

Dessert: Brownies, white cake with chocolate frosting, soft serve ice cream

***Saturday Lunch Cost for AGRs, Officers & those on orders* \$5.55**

***Sunday Brunch Cost* #3.45**

To-Go Meals on FSS SharePoint

News Briefs

Chief's Column

Hello 115th Fighter Wing Airmen! Welcome to the November RSD.

On behalf of the Recruiting and Retention Strength Management Team I would like to thank the entire wing for all of the support in fiscal year 2016. Last May Colonel Wiegand requested everyone's assistance to meet end strength goals by 1 October. We exceeded the goal that was set and surpassed the 100% mark. I would like to thank the following individuals whose efforts resulted in numerous meetings and several enlistments during the period - SSgt Julia Varga from the force support squadron, SrA Shawn Hamm from munitions, and SSgt (Cadet) Samuel Soderberg all had referrals that resulted in successful enlistments. SMSgt Rich Sanders from avionics, SMSgt Matt Wentzel from the crew chiefs, and A1C Adam Fischer from security forces all had numerous referrals after the two Airmen Experience programs. The incentives for the top "assistants" included being placed on the incentive flight list and BX gift cards. Those incentives will continue for fiscal year 2017 so keep bringing in those leads!

This month marked the start of departures for our Reserve Component Period (RCP) 5 deployers. By the time you read this 20 personnel will have left for six month deployments with another 50 or so leaving in January. I would like to wish all of them good luck and safe travels.

As you are all aware there have been several leadership changes in the wing over the past six months. Coincidentally this is also the year for our two enlisted councils (the Rising Six and the Top Three) to elect new officers. The Top Three council elections were held in September and the new officers are MSgt Melanie Kasten (President), MSgt J Michael Weiss (Vice-President), MSgt Michael Schmidt (Secretary), and SMSgt Zach Brewer (Treasurer). Congratulations and thank you for accepting these positions! It is also time for the Rising Six to elect new officers. Please look for additional information through e-mail this weekend or contact TSgt Matt Hemenway if you are interested in being placed on the ballot. The Rising Six officer election will be held during the December RSD.

I would like to encourage participation in the Top Three and Rising Six council meetings. I realize time is precious. I like to consider the councils as another

Chief's Column continued...

er conduit to bring important enlisted concerns to myself and Col Peterson and conversely to help the enlisted understand various issues and topics from our perspective. Please participate if you can.

Lastly for this month I would like to mention an opportunity for those members actively participating in, or considering participation in the SEDP. The SEDP staff will offer a one day bootcamp on the Friday prior to the January UTA. The six mandatory courses will all be taught in one day so if you are having time conflicts and cannot attend one or more of these courses during the regularly scheduled time this might be an opportunity for you to consider. If you have specific questions regarding the bootcamp you can contact MSgt Linda Koenen.

Thank you for all you continue to do and have a great weekend!

Chief McKay

Status of discipline Blotter

If you're viewing the Truax Ticker from your home computer, you won't be able to reach this information. But please, take time to look through this when you're on a network computer.

Simply place this link into your browser to view this quarter's Status of Discipline Blotter.

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News Briefs continued...

Key Points About Securing a Non-Availability Confirmation Number

Recently, the Finance Office has received several questions about securing non-availability confirmation numbers (also referred to as a certificate of non-availability or CNA) for DoD Lodging. Here are some key points to remember:

1. Travelers performing temporary duty (TDY) at a government installation must show that installation in their itinerary in DTS. Travelers may need to try different naming conventions for the system to recognize the location as a military installation. The On-Base DoD Lodging listing (http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/Docs/DoDLodging_List.pdf) provides a list of official and alternate military installation names. Travel authorizing officials (AOs) are responsible for ensuring that travel authorizations, including the valid TDY locations, are correct.
2. For installations with government quarters that can be reserved through DTS, DTS automatically issues non-availability confirmation numbers (also referred to as a certificate of non-availability or CNA) when quarters are not available. There is no need to contact the DoD Lodging property to secure one unless DTS encounters a connection error, in which case you will be prompted to contact the facility directly.
3. Once a traveler checks DoD Lodging in the system and DTS issues a non-availability confirmation number, there is no requirement to recheck availability at a later time.
4. DoD Lodging properties will not issue a non-availability confirmation number if there is availability during your trip dates.
5. Privatized lodging properties do not issue non-availability confirmation numbers. Authorizing Officials should review the pre-audit advisories for documented evidence that the traveler attempted to book and at the time of booking there was no availability.
6. It is imperative for travelers to exercise judicious prudence when traveling on taxpayer dollars. If they believe DTS to be in error or that a room on-base is really available, it is encouraged (not required) to call and confirm. If performing TDY duty at a base not listed as having lodging, but it is known that on-base lodging exists, travelers should contact that lodging office directly to make a reservation.

Santa 2016



Come visit Santa
in Hangar 406
on Sunday, December 4th
from 1030-1400

*families are welcome
* contact Tanya Genz
for add't information
@ 608-245-4654

