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and password and control your preferences as to how much information you receive and how often you receive it. This is a great way to stay connected throughout the month. (select link above, right column of site)



Update
COMBAT DINING IN.
COMPANY GRADE OFFICERS COUNCIL

WHO: All members of the 110th Airlift Wing.

WHEN: April 2013 (UTA)

WHERE: On Base

Tickets on sale Now, See a Chief!

ASK THE COMMANDER ELECTRONIC SUGGESTION BOX

One person cannot do it alone, so I have established an Electronic Suggestion Box to get ideas directly from you that will help our wing grow. *How do I use the Electronic Suggestion Box?* Simply go to the Wings Share-Point site: <https://cis.ang.af.mil/org/110AW>. On the 110 AW page go to "Ask the Commander" under the Discussions section. Click [Add a discussion](#). Add a subject. Add your suggestion in the Body. *Is this Anonymous?* Yes, no name is tied to the suggestions unless you put your name in the body. The only people that can see the suggestions are the person submitting the suggestion and the Wing Commander. *(For an electronic copy pdf to walk you through go online under UTA updates.)*

COMMANDER

110TH AIRLIFT WING COMMANDER
By Colonel Ronald W. Wilson

Members of the 110th Airlift Wing, welcome to the February Drill.

I think it's safe to say that if you have been paying even the slightest bit of attention to the news these days, you are probably well aware of the far-reaching financial challenges we currently face as a nation. Even if you have been lucky enough to have evaded a direct impact with your own proverbial fiscal cliff, or have a job that is viable enough to withstand the high rate of unemployment, it is likely that you know someone who has not been as fortunate. And with massive cuts in defense spending, NDAA requirements, sequestration, and debt limit talks on the horizon, the reality is that we will continue to face many financial hardships in the coming years. This is why I thought it important to start this drill with a reminder about what it is going to take to flourish in a world of doing a whole lot more with a whole lot less.

One thing I can tell you for sure is that victory does not occur in a vacuum. Cooperative relationships are key to the success of any organizational endeavor, no matter how big or small. And the fact is we would not have come this far in the game without the brilliant efforts of many individuals and groups within and beyond the gates

who have stepped up to champion our cause. Whether it is through the support of Governor Snyder, MG Vadnais, local community development groups like Battle Creek Unlimited, or letters of support written by friends and family, there are a great numbers of folks out there tirelessly working to promote the 110th to decision-makers who are preparing to move toward a more economically efficient, next-generation fighting force. But relationships are a two-way street, which is why I feel that it is important to mention two organizations that have given us a tremendous amount of support, and strongly suggest that you show them how much you appreciate their work. As you know, both NGAUS and NGAM have had our backs for many years, giving the National Guard a powerful voice on Capitol Hill—in effect turning your concerns into legislative action. NGAUS and NGAM are markedly influential in the political process and vital to our success. So, if you haven't paid your annual dues, please make sure you do that by the end of this drill. It is probably one of the best investments we as a Wing can make in our future and further solidify this very important relationship.

I also want to share some insights I've gained while navigating this post-BRAC road of mission uncertainty, frequent shifts in plans, and extended periods of unknowns that we have experienced over the last few years. As difficult as it has been to overcome each hurdle, I have learned that sitting back and complaining about what we don't have or might not get turns out to be very easy to do. In fact, in my opinion it takes no effort at all. But as Vince Lombardi once said, "The measure of who we are is what we do with what we have." It is an idea that I see as applicable to the Wing now more than ever before in our history. No matter how things flush out, the measure of our standing as a Wing—and in turn our future sustainability—will not be defined by what we didn't get. It will be defined

by how efficiently we use the resources we have right now to exceed the expectations of those entities looking for a talented workforce ready to run with whatever new mission comes down. It will be based on our ability to rise to the occasion, tapping into skills and abilities that might have otherwise gone unrecognized had it not been for the kind of situation that forces us to step up our game or change our strategy. Success will be measured by how, when Plan A falls through, we adjust by moving down the alphabet instead of rolling over, complaining and giving up. For the individual airman, this means exploring all of your options, educating yourself about academic or employment endeavors necessary to meet your goals, and then maximizing the experience by exercising your talents, skills and abilities to ensure you are fully prepared to take on all challengers. With everyone being asked to do more with less it is imperative that we move away from the negativity of what we don't have and embrace an attitude of doing the best we can with what we do. Change is the world we live in—let's make sure we are fully prepared by rising above the confines of have-nots.

Be safe and have productive drill weekend.

FUTURE

Is Battle Creek Ready For The Reaper?

110TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS
By Airman Justin Andras

Many of the over 1,000 Guardsmen from the 110th Airlift Wing would agree that Battle Creek has been a great place to serve and has a very storied history over the years. This diverse history has come with some excitement and, like many other air bases around the world, has gone through difficult time. This month is a combination of the two and represents a very critical time in determining the future of Battle Creek's Air National Guard mission.

In 2005, the base, then named the 110th Fighter Wing, faced the Base Closure and Realignment Commission in regards to the future of their A-10 Thunderbolt aircrafts. Unfortunately, it was decided to eliminate that aircraft from Battle Creek. However, the proud men and women of the 110FW fought continuously to keep Battle Creek alive and were successful in getting a mission that to this day has flourished into the 110AW's proud Air Operations Group, an elite group of its kind across the entire spectrum of the Air Force. The



An MQ-9 Reaper, armed with GBU-12 Paveway II laser guided munitions and AGM-114 Hellfire missiles, piloted by Col. Lex Turner, flies a combat mission over southern Afghanistan. (Lt. Col. Leslie Pratt | U.S. Air Force Photo)

AOG has been widely successful at its top-secret mission over the years and is known as a pinnacle of success for the Air Force.

The 110AW has established a solid mission through the AOG and they were on their way to establishing a second mission, but that new mission spelled out much uncertainty.

In 2009, the base was promised a new tactical intra-theater airlift mission with the C-27, a military transport aircraft. However, the aircraft was still being built and the Air Force gave Battle Creek the C-21 Learjet, a smaller military transport aircraft, to be used on a temporary basis until the C-27s were available. The fight to get these aircraft has been long and grueling.

Col. Ronald W. Wilson, commander of the 110AW, has been one of the key supporters and fighters to get to the C-27 on Battle Creek pavement. Wilson has worked directly with Maj. Gen. Gregory J. Vadnais, Adjutant General and Director of Military and Veterans Affairs for Michigan who has in turn worked with Michigan Sen. Carl Levin and the state's congressional leaders. From there, it was also elevated to Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III, Director of the Air National Guard to the Pentagon. Wilson and Vadnais were committed to keeping Battle Creek's Air National Guard footprint here.

Many groups, including Battle Creek Unlimited, also assisted in efforts to keep the C-27, said Wilson.

The group was comprised of the Michigan governor, Vadnais and several congressmen and senators.

In Feb 2012, the Air Force released the President's Budget PB13. This report stated that the Air



Civil Engineering Squadrons Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Jerome: Robin Rogers called CE with an emergency at a deployed members home, her septic system was backing up and she had already paid a private contractor who came out and attempted to fix the problem. CE asked Senior Master Sgt. Jerome to volunteer to take a look which he immediately did. He went to the home and quickly found that there was a blockage in the sewage pipe leaving the house. He personally worked to clear the blocked pipe and upon the successful accomplishment of that task he was rewarded by being sprayed with raw sewage! After a course of regurgitation, Senior Master Sgt. Jerome cleaned up and left the deployed member's sewage system in fine working order. Jeff could have sent someone else of lesser rank but he stepped up and personally took care of a deployed members family and paid the price. This exemplifies this Wing's family attitude and the fact that we will do anything for our 110th AW family.

FEATURE JANUARY 2013

Guardman of the Month

Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Jerome

For more Honorable Nominees for *Guardman of the Month* go online www.110aw.ang.af.mil

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ELECTRONIC RECORDS MANAGEMENT (ERM) Version 2: What you need to know

Over the past six months, each unit has received training in regards to the ERMv2 conversion. With the conversion, Records Custodians and Functional Area Records Managers have been working on moving their file plans from the Z drive to the M drive. Your unit records professionals and commanders have been informed of this change and have hopefully communicated this to all users. As a reminder, the 110 Communications Flight would like to inform you that official records should now be saved on the M drive. The only files and folders that will remain on the Z drive, are files that are working documents, reference materials, project folders, non-records, etc. In order to ensure the Z drive, (what we now will refer to as the share drive), does not become a dumping ground, any file that has not been modified within six months, as of March 1st, will be automatically deleted. Please ensure you take the time necessary to prevent any files that are needed or official records from getting deleted. If you have any questions pertaining to the conversion, please contact your unit Functional Area Records Manager and/or office Records Custodian.

Knights in Blue VOLUNTEER! The Knights in Blue is a volunteer choral group here at Battle Creek ANGB that supports major wing functions, patriotic and community events.

If you are interested in taking part in such an organization and are an experienced choir singer (in a church, college, university choir or a community-based para-professional chorale), we need you. We are looking for experienced singers who can sing parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Baritone, Bass) and read sheet music.

Let me repeat: We need people who can sing parts and read sheet music.

We are also in need of one or two pianists/keyboardists to assist with learning sometimes difficult parts.

We will be having rehearsals Saturday of every UTA at 1600 hours in Bldg 6909 in the Chaplains Offices /Star Base Classroom.

If you have any questions, please contact TSgt Glenn Whitt at ext 7944 or send an email to glenn.whitt@ang.af.mil.

ONLINE LINKS

PROMOTIONS
RETENTION OFFICE UPDATES
DINING FACILITY MENU
UTA TRAINING SCHEDULE
FAMILY PROGRAMS

... continued (FUTURE)

Force would divest the C-27 aircraft completely. This, for obvious reasons, was not good news for the 110AW.

“We said, “This can’t be the end all,” said Wilson in response to the news.

The removal of the C-27 not only affects the future mission of the 110AW, but the status of several Battle Creek airmen’s jobs are hanging in the balance.

When PB13 came out in writing it stated that the 110AW was slated to receive the MQ-9 Reaper unmanned aerial vehicle, said Wilson.

The MQ-9 represents the Air Force’s commitment to future technology.

This would eventually replace the C-21.

Unfortunately, many of Battle Creek’s airmen had already been trained for the C-21 and C-27 aircrafts, and bringing the future technology would require a major overhaul to Battle Creek’s operations and maintenance.

“The MQ-9 is going to be a total culture change for this base because it is 24/7 ops,” said Col. Wilson. “We’ll be part of the kill chain. It will be a different environment because people are flying UAVs. It’s a huge thing for people to undertake,” said Wilson.

Most of the time in the Air Force the officers do the flying because the aircraft belongs to the Veterans Affairs but now we’ll have enlisted folks in there and that’s a big cultural change, said Wilson.

Fortunately, there is good news among all the seemingly shocking news. This month, President Barack H. Obama signed the National Defense Authorization Act. In the NDAA, which is considered a subset of the PB13, it states there will be 32 C-130 Hercules military transport aircrafts available for use.

We should get the C-130s because we are the second most in terms of losses for the Air National Guard, said Wilson. If they want to minimize losses, that’s one way to do it.

As a state we took a 191 person hit to include four active duty units, said Wilson.

“I think we are as favorable, if not more than, anyone else in the state to get those planes,” said Wilson.

“So what does this mean for Battle Creek,” said Wilson.

“Because the NDAA is signed by the President that states that Battle Creek will convert to MQ-9s so we will go to MQ-9s,” said Wilson.

This establishes the MQ-9 as a second mission for the 110AW.

The preparations for the MQ-9 will take 2-3 years to setup, said Wilson.

However, Gen. Vadnais and I made it clear with the Air National Guard Bureau that they didn’t want the MQ-9 as the only missioned aircraft at the base, said Wilson.

So in response to that a working group was formed at the Air National Guard Bureau composed of Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members to decide if the 110AW will receive the C-130s or not. A decision is expected in the coming weeks. The hope is still alive that the C-130 can become the 110AW’s third mission pave the way for a promising future. No matter what the decision, the airmen of the 110AW will continue the mission as decided by the Air Force and will continue to makes strides to succeed at that mission to the best of their ability.

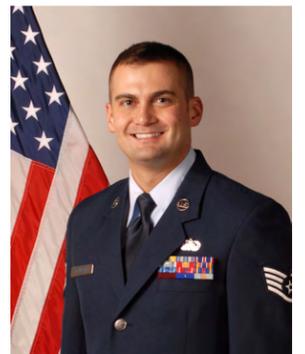
“We’re trying for C-130s because we think it’s the right place to put them and if they come here we’ll fly them and we’ll be the best C-130 base there is,” said Wilson.

2012 AIRMEN OF THE YEAR



AIRMAN FIRST CLASS BRONSON G. REED has been selected as the 110th Airlift Wing Airman of the Year. He is assigned to the 110th Civil Engineering Squadron as an Emergency Management Apprentice. He has been instrumental in the establishment of the Airlift Wing’s Rapid Air National Guard Emergency Response (RANGER) team, which provides National Guard Civil Support when called upon by the governor. Airman Reed also completed radiological/nuclear training at the Nevada National Security Site.

STAFF SGT. KEVIN C. PAULSON has been selected as the 110th Airlift Wing NCO of the Year. He assigned to the 110th Communications Flight as a Cyber Systems Operator who performs daily unclassified and classified network operations. Staff Sgt. Paulson became the first member of the Comm Flight to become a Certified Ethical Hacker, and he has been rapidly recognized as a subject matter expert across the Air National Guard. **STAFF SGT. PAULSON HAS ALSO BEEN SELECTED AS THE STATE OF MICHIGAN NCO OF THE YEAR!**



MASTER SGT. BRANDON BERGERON has been selected as the 110th Airlift Wing Senior NCO of the Year. He is an Aeromedical Evacuation Technician assigned to the 217th Air Mobility Operations Squadron as an Aeromedical Evacuation Controller. Sergeant Bergeron recently completed a deployment to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar as an Aeromedical Evacuation Controller, where he planned, coordinated, and executed the successful Aeromedical Evacuation of over 4,000 patients, both in the CENTCOM AOR, and EUCOM. **SMSGT BERGERON HAS ALSO BEEN SELECTED AS THE STATE OF MICHIGAN SNCO OF THE YEAR!**

MASTER SGT. STEPHEN J. CONWAY has been selected as the 110th Airlift Wing First Sergeant of the Year. He is assigned as the First Sergeant to the 217th Air Operations Group, where he recently returned from a deployment to AL Udeid AB, Qatar where he was directly responsible for over 2500 U.S. military members assigned. He also volunteered to forward deploy to Afghanistan where he provided counseling & support to those in harm’s way. **MSGT CONWAY HAS ALSO BEEN SELECTED AS THE STATE OF MICHIGAN FIRST SERGEANT OF THE YEAR!**



STAFF SGT. BRIAN E. BURDETT has been selected as the Base Honor Guard Member of the Year. He is assigned to the 217th Air Mobility Operations Squadron. Sergeant Burdett has supported more than 30 community events and Military Funeral Honors in the last 12 months. His volunteerism and superior detail performance contributed immeasurably to the Base Honor Guard team’s efforts.

CAPT. DAVID HUNTER has been selected as the 110th Airlift Wing’s Company Grade Officer of the Year. Capt. David Lee Hunter has served for the 110th Airlift Wing, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base since June 2005. He advises the Commander on all matters influencing good order and discipline, administrative discharge, Michigan Military Code of Justice, line of duty, private organizations, safety, security force issues, claims, health, and many other issues. Additionally, he provides legal assistance to military families dealing with bankruptcy, family law, landlord tent law, wills, power of attorney, labor law, civil members civil relief act, ESGR, and many others area of the law.

