

THE JET GAZETTE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE 141ST AIR REFUELING WING

JUNE 2019

ESGR FLIGHT

STORY BY TECH SGT. MICHAEL BROWN AND PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. MICHAEL STEWART



Employers pose in front of a KC-135 Stratotanker prior to their familiarization flight to watch a refueling mission off the coast of California

A group of employers had an opportunity to board a KC-135 Stratotanker to witness the refueling mission fueled by their civilian employees this month. Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve partnered with the 141st to recognize the sacrifice civilian employers embrace when they hire a guardsman from the 141st Air Refueling Wing.

32 employers from across the Pacific Northwest participated. The employers got to see first hand how their employees contribute to the overall mission of refueling aircraft to meet any global need.

Two crews from the 116th Air Refueling Squadron flew a mission over northern California to refuel C-17

Globemaster IIIs assigned to Travis Air Force base's 60th Air Mobility Wing.

Our Guardsmen rely on the flexibility of their bosses to allow them the time to serve and this is one way our wing can give back to the employers. Upon offloading fuel to multiple C-17's the employers all returned to base to be greeted by Col. Larry Gardner commander of the 141st Air Refueling Wing. Gardner then presented each employer with a certificate and a "Thank you," for the ability to assist their Airman in serving.

NOTES FROM THE TOP



Fellow 141st Air Refueling Wing Airmen,

I am honored and humbled with this tremendous opportunity to join your historic and accomplished team as we continue to serve our state and nation unwaveringly. The organization that Col. Johan Deutscher has handed off is nothing short of incredible and I'm thankful to him for his leadership, guidance, and steadfast devotion over the past twenty-two months of his command.

On April 7th, 2019 I was honored to have been a small part of an impressive, professional, and well-orchestrated change of command ceremony. After only a few short weeks of command it is without accident that these characteristics displayed during the change of command are indicative of the Airmen, culture, and organizational teamwork on display throughout the wing.

These characteristics coincide directly with my primary leadership tenets—trust and accountability. Without either we will fail ourselves, our fellow Airmen, and, most certainly, our mission. We must never compromise our core values as an Air Force and must ensure the fundamental culture of the 141st Air Refueling Wing provides an environment of safety, respect, and value for all. We are a family. We serve, deploy, support our communities, and defend our freedoms as a family and our fellow Airmen deserve nothing less than our very best.

The wars of today and tomorrow will

CHIEF'S CORNER

COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SGT.
BRANDON IVES



“WELCOME FROM THE CHIEF”

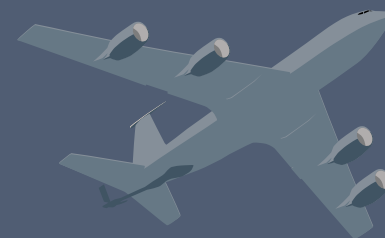
Greetings to all! I am still getting over the shock that I, a life-long aircraft mechanic (maybe a bit rough around the edges, occasionally lacking the polite conversation “filter”, most of the time having scuffed boots and worn out/grease stained uniform and routinely smelling of jet fuel and hydraulic fluid) have been fortunate enough to be selected as your new command chief! I am the first to say that I am the luckiest crew chief on earth!

I expect that these next three years are going to fly past. I expect that this position will keep me busy like nothing I have ever experienced. I expect that the Airmen of the 141st will continue to impress me as much as they have during my first month here. I expect that every member of the 141st will continue to show initiative, enthusiasm, dedication, etc. I expect that each and every one of you reading this will continue your exemplary service to neighbor and nation! I bet you are thinking, “the new guy has lots of expectations!” You are right. I do! And I’m not shy about ensuring you’re all aware of them.

Here is something else I want all of you to know about me. I firmly believe that expectations are a two-way street. Every good leader, from the shop level to the wing, will ensure that they are meeting the expectations of their subordinates. How do we know what these expectations are? We get to know our Airmen! Each and every one of them. Yes, even the ones that are younger than most of your own kids. We listen to what they have to say. We don’t

just hear them and nod our heads every so often as though we care. So here is where I prove that I’m not just talk- this is my cell 509-309-6568. Here is your connection straight to your command chief. This is not provided as an invitation for you to skip your chain of command, as I would never endorse that. What I’d request is that you pick up your phone (or, as my father calls it, “that evil machine”) and text me about your expectations of me. What are some items you think I should focus on? I value your thoughts!

Have a great UTA and a safe summer. Take good care of each other!



LEGAL OFFICE



YOUR RIGHTS UNDER USERRA THE UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT

USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.

REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- ☆ you ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- ☆ you have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- ☆ you return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and
- ☆ you have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION

If you:

- ☆ are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- ☆ have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- ☆ are obligated to serve in the uniformed service;

then an employer may not deny you:

- ☆ initial employment;
- ☆ reemployment;
- ☆ retention in employment;
- ☆ promotion; or
- ☆ any benefit of employment

because of this status.

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION

- ☆ If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military.
- ☆ Even if you don’t elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer’s health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

ENFORCEMENT

- ☆ The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations.
- ☆ For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at **1-866-4-USA-DOL** or visit its website at <http://www.dol.gov/vets>. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at <http://www.dol.gov/elaws/userra.htm>.
- ☆ If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, as applicable, for representation.
- ☆ You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA.

continue to evolve and challenge our military forces in ways that we have yet experienced. Operating in contested domains, degraded environments, and maintaining a full spectrum readiness mindset is paramount to successful mission execution. We must continue to train, operate, and challenge our Airmen in these contested environments ensuring our lethality, security, and military superiority are never compromised.

I ask that each of you actively practice a well-balanced life to the best of your abilities. You are all servant leaders sacrificing much in your lives in service to others and I hope you aggressively seek a balance that supports the demands of your valuable time. Our state and federal missions will necessitate a continued demand of our individual skillsets and we need to Be Ready, without compromise and without hesitation.

We are all ambassadors of the 141st Air Refueling Wing, Team Fairchild, and the United States Air Force. Each of us represent our storied history dating back to the legendary days of the 116th Observation Squadron and the "Ace of Spades" ancestry. Share our story with your neighbor, let them know about the incredible team and family you are a valued member of, and enjoy your opportunity to serve.

I'm thankful for each of you, your selflessness, and your commitment to a purpose larger than yourselves. Have a great drill, train well to enhance your readiness and Be Ready – at all times.

Have a great, relaxing, and safe summer.
Colonel G.



Clear Lake Half Price Days

299-5129

1/2 OFF

ALL boats & water equipment rentals

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS
June 3 - September 2

Clear Lake

HALF PRICE DAYS
Starting June 3
Mondays & Thursdays
Take half off on all sports equipment
*holidays excluded

NO REFUNDS
for early departures

FIREWOOD
\$7 per 10 piece bundle
delivered to camp site

CAMPSITES & PICNIC AREAS		DAY	WEEK
Cabins (bring own linen & cookware) (check in 12:30 p.m.) (check out 11:30 a.m.)			
16 ft. Yurt (mountain tent)	\$15	\$75	
Tent Site (H ₂ O only)	\$12	\$60	
RV Site with Hookups	\$20	-	
RV Site (electricity only, shared H ₂ O)	\$15	-	
Dry Camp (no H ₂ O, sewer & electric)	\$10	-	
Group Picnic Area (w/ or w/o tent)	\$65	-	
Shade Cover 10x10	\$20	-	
Gas Grill (propane included)	\$60	-	

EQUIPMENT RENTALS	HOURLY	ALL DAY
Deck Boat 20 ft (8 capacity)	\$65 + gas	\$260 + gas
Fish/Ski 18 ft (6 capacity)	\$60 + gas	\$240 + gas
Pontoon Boat 18/20 ft (10/13 capacity)	\$65 + gas	\$260 + gas
Watersport Package (choice of one; tube, skis, wakeboard OR kneeboard; items may be swapped) (rope & vest included)	\$5	\$25
Bass Boat 17 ft	\$25 + gas	\$110 + gas
Fishing Boat 15 ft	\$20	\$60
Paddle Boat	\$10	\$30
Lake Kayak	\$10	\$30
Paddle Board	\$10	\$30
Canoe	\$10	\$30
Life Jacket	-	\$2
Ski Vest	-	\$4
Rod & Reel	\$5	\$10
Fish Net	-	\$5
Blongo / Bean Bag Toss /Giant Jenga	-	\$15
Sports Package (Volleyball, Football, Basketball, Horseshoes & Frisbee, Ladder Ball or Bean Bag Toss or Giant Jenga)	-	\$15
Horseshoes	-	\$4
Volleyball, Football or Basketball	-	\$2 (each)

FREE OUTDOOR MOVIES
Free Movies & snacks while they last
Starting around 9 a.m.
* Subject to change

History

Two KC-135E air refueling tankers of the 116th Air Refueling Squadron and 31 members of the unit participated in the Rim of the Pacific Exercise or RIMPAC. Altogether over the course of the international maritime exercise 20 sorties were flown and 750,000 lbs. of fuel are off-loaded. Pictured below the unit's Stratotanker flying over the USS Abraham Lincoln.



“LEARN TO SEE HAZARDS”

Learning to see hazards is one of the first and most important steps to creating a strong safety culture in your workplace and in your everyday life. Hazards are everywhere. Though you might not view your workplace as particularly ‘hazardous’, dangers are often there. You may have just become accustomed to them and aren’t seeing them.

Once you train yourself to spot hazards, you’ll notice them all around you. They may not always be obvious or immediate concerns, but they can still pose a risk to you and your coworkers. Spotting hazards is all about anticipation. Start to ask yourself, ‘If I take this action, what might happen?’

This applies to everything from working with dangerous chemicals and manufacturing machines to simply walking through your worksite.

See hazards at home

Ask yourself, what are the items in my home that I think are harmless but could pose a hazard in the wrong hands? Prescription opioids, cleaning supplies and other potentially harmful substances should be stored up and away and out of sight from children and pets. Rugs should be secured and your walkways should be free of clutter. If you

see an issue, clean it up or fix it right away to keep your loved ones safe.

‘Seeing’ safety in a new way

Visual literacy can help identify hidden work hazards, experts say: “We live in a very ‘noisy’ environment,” said Adam Levine, Center of Visual Expertise’s advisory board chairman. “There’s so much visual stimulus and sensory stimulus that we have to tune out. We all know that we use our attention selectively. That applies to vision as well. You’re leveraging your selective attention on the basis of the image you’ve already seen to focus on the part of the image where you know there to be a hazard.”

A better understanding

Learning visual literacy, according to the Campbell Institute, gives employees the ability to better understand their work environments. It also helps in enhancing hazard identification and comprehension of potential risks.

“It’s usually the most obvious things that you miss,” Levine said. “The things you walk past a thousand times and never realized they’re an issue – that’s what this is. That’s what we’re training people not to do.

In a 2018 white paper, the Campbell Institute points out that about 90 percent of the information individuals take in is visual. With so much visual data being processed, people filter it to see only what’s important to them. This leads to what is called inattention blindness, or perceptual blindness, which is becoming blind to the countless details.

CAUTION

FIRST SERGEANT’S CORNER

BY SENIOR MASTER SGT. SHANE TUCK
141st MSG First Sergeant



“PEER TO PEER”

Have you ever wondered where a term or phrase started? “I’ve got your six” a term most everybody knows is used to highlight loyalty and cooperation. A simple term to let someone know you have their back, you won’t let them fail and you will there when they need you.

Last month tragedy almost struck my family. As the event was unfolding the first person outside my family I came into contact with, out of dumb luck, was a member of our wing. I won’t go into details of the event or who was there in a time of need for my family. That isn’t what is important. What I will say is, it put me at ease knowing it was a member of our wing who was there and had my six. The Guard is a family and we look after one another.

If you haven’t heard about it, there is a program within the WANG called Peer-to-Peer (P2P).

WANG leadership is committed to reversing the trend of suicidal behavior and preventing future occurrences by sponsoring the Joint Professional Development course known as Peer-to-Peer. P2P is a rank immaterial training course with a curriculum designed to equip Washington National Guard service members with education, leadership training and real world situational skills in dealing with suicidal ideologies. In other words, giving Airmen and Soldiers more skills to watch each other’s backs. I challenge all, each and every one of you to step forward and throw your name in next time the training comes around. You never know when you will be put in a situation where a wingman needs you to have their six.

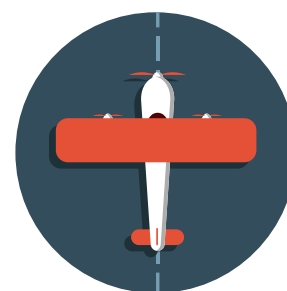
If you are interested you can contact me directly or talk to your first sergeant.



DTS DEFENSE TRAVEL SYSTEM

PLEASE update your **DTS** profile with any new information to include address (physical address, not a P.O. Box), EFT account, routing number, GTC number and expiration date. You can also update your profile with your known traveler number (DODID) in order to be eligible for **TSA Precheck** when your airfare is booked through the CTO. These items are not automatically updated by any other system and are completely dependent upon manual updates by the member.

For questions or assistance with **DTS**, please contact the Finance Office at **247-7013**



Spotlight on the GUARD

SSGT MARY BETH OCHOA

HOMETOWN: Klamath Falls, Oregon

HIGH SCHOOL: Klamath Union High School, Oregon

UNIT: 141st LRS

JOB: Materials Management- Clothing Issue

WHAT LED YOU TO JOINING THE GUARD?

I needed a change in life that would lead to a career and retirement.

HOW HAS THE GUARD IMPACTED YOUR LIFE / FAMILY?

The Guard has allowed me to have a career that includes a successful independent life and allows me to do the things I enjoy on my own.

HOBBIES / INTERESTS:

ALL THE OUTDOOR THINGS

FUTURE GOALS:

Continue to travel and be happy and stress free



PROMOTIONS



Cheyenne Aiken
Nelson Andersen
Anthony Black
Adrianne Christian
Rhett Peters
Christopher Puzycki
Shaun Williams



Joseph Fletcher
Kenny Gainey



Heath Knickerbocker
Samuel Mclane
Clifford Simpson Jr.



Kelly Bush
Edward Pohl



A Washington Air National Guard KC-135 refuels a Thunderbird F-16 back in 2007

2019 Wing Photo

