



THE DANG TRUTH

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2024 UPCOMING EVENTS

6 Jan	Senior Leader Conf.
15-20 Aug	UEI Capstone Re-look

DEVELOPMENTAL EVENTS:

7 Jan	Unconscious Bias POC: SMSgt Fleischman
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AEROSPACE GROUND EQUIPMENT

“There is no Air Power Without Ground Power”

By TSgt Mario M. DiAlessandro, 166th MXG/MXMG, SSgt Augustine Acquaviva, Jr. MXS/MXMCE, and MSgt William Doughten, 166th MXG/MXMG

TSgt DiAlessandro:

A career as an Aerospace Ground Equipment (AGE) Specialist in the Delaware Air National Guard can be a great choice for those who are interested in aviation and enjoy working with their hands. We perform a variety of tasks to help keep our C130s in flight.

Maintenance on a piece of equipment can be anything as in-depth as replacing a generator to replacing a nut.




A popular saying in the AGE career field is “There is no air power without ground power.” This is true considering that aircraft maintainers won’t be able to fix our planes with out us doing our jobs.

This job has been rewarding to me by given me the knowledge to fix my furnace last winter. With the knowledge gained from the job I was able to troubleshoot and replace the fuel pump. I was able to accomplish this task in a day and save \$600.



Aerospace Ground Equipment specialists are responsible for maintaining and repairing equipment that supply electricity, hydraulic pressure, and air pressure to our aircraft to ensure we are ready for take-off.

Social Media Links:

 Facebook:166th Airlift Wing  Instagram:@166thAirliftWing  Flickr: delawareairnationalguard

See “AGE” continued on page 2

...And *that's* the DANG Truth!

"AGE" continued from page 1



An Aerospace Ground Equipment specialist completes a service inspection to a generator. Generators provide ground power for ground system operations and are vital part of daily flying operations. Aerospace Ground Equipment specialists are responsible for maintaining and repairing equipment that supply electricity, hydraulic pressure, and air pressure to our C-130's to ensure we are ready for take-off.

SSgt Acquaviva:

Aerospace Ground Equipment, aka AGE, is an exceptional career field if you are wanting to learn different systems that could really help you with the civilian sector. AGE teaches the fundamentals of hydraulic, fuel, pneumatic, electrical and HVAC/R systems. I was AGE for 8 years active duty and learned a lot about these systems. This career field equates to better knowledge on how to save funds by fixing your own vehicles, furnaces, and other mechanical things

around your home. It is a great opportunity to start your career, especially coming right out of high school, with wonderful benefits, and pay.

MSgt Doughen:

The thing I love about AGE is the diversity of the career field. We work on so many different weapon systems like heating / air condition units, diesel / turbine engines, hydraulic / pneumatic systems, and more. This also comes with the challenge of learning, understanding, and knowing so many weapon system to be proficient. I always liked to dig into something to see how it works and AGE doesn't disappoint to challenge me daily. AGE is a critical part of Air Power through Ground Power!

AGE is a career field that covers the globe. Anywhere aircraft generation support is needed AGE will be there, and because of this AGE has numerous chances to travel. I have deployed all over the globe, developed relationships with multiple personnel and experience different cultures. These relationships have helped me develop my military and personal drive to make me a more well-rounded Airman. My Dad put it the best one day, "You have been places, seen things, and had experiences most people couldn't even imagine." I am thankful for all my experiences and the people that have helped along the way.



142 AES Thanksgiving Mission

by Major Timothy Stoeckle, Director of Operations, 142 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron



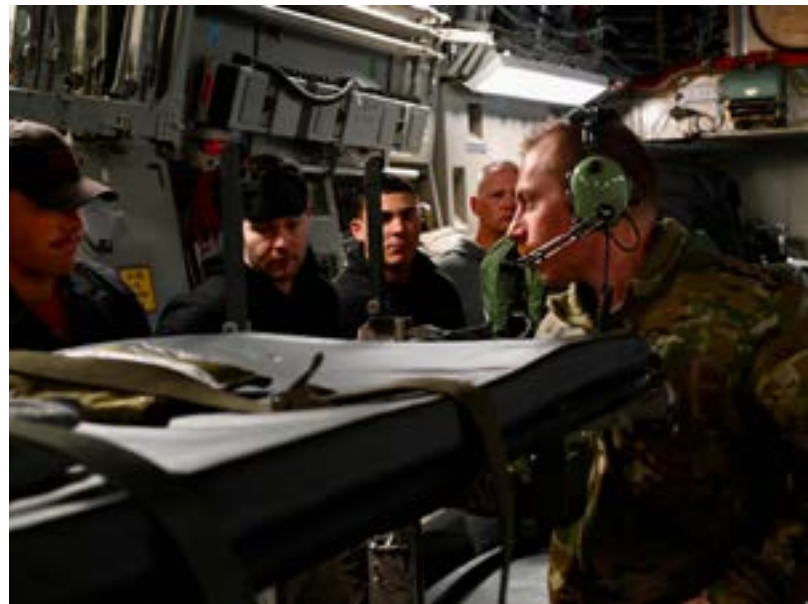
Major Vince Giorgio prepares Thanksgiving meals for upcoming aeromedical evacuation mission departing from Ramstein Air Base, Germany. (courtesy photo)

As members of the military, we know that we can be separated from our family and friends at any time. Sometimes we are separated from our loved ones during the Holidays which can make a deployment much more difficult. Currently, the 142d Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron has 35 members deployed to eight separate CONUS and OCONUS locations providing global aeromedical evacuation capabilities that comprise air and ground support operations. One of the locations where some of its members are deployed to is Ramstein Air Base, Germany where they are a part of the 10 Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Flight (EAEF). The 10th EAEF is comprised of current DE ANG members as well as other ANG members from other states, Active Duty, and AFRC members.

The 10 EAEF is responsible for carrying out missions to safely transport wounded and ill U.S. military, civilian, and coalition partners from areas in CENTCOM, AFRICOM, as well as moving them from EUCOM to CONUS higher echelons of care. The 10 EAEF just happened to be tasked with a mission moving patients from Lanstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany to the Great D.C. area on Thanksgiving Day.

Members of the 10 EAEF wanted the patients and aircrew to have a proper Thanksgiving meal despite being transported for over 10 hours in flight on a military aircraft. Major Vince Giorgio, a 142 AES flight nurse, said that “members of the 10 EAEF partnered with the Red

Cross and USO wanted ensure that the service members being transported as well as the aircrew did not miss out on their Thanksgiving meal. The three organizations teamed up to prepare a delicious spread for the patients and crew. The menu consisted of turkey, ham, sweet tea, fresh baked rolls, cranberry sauce, dressing/stuffing, broccoli casserole, sweet potato casserole, mashed potatoes and gravy, macaroni and cheese, sweet potato pie, pumpkin pie, cherry pie, peach pie, and brownies.” This feast would provide meals to 28 patients, 19 attendants, and 14 aircrew members during this mission. 142 AES member that helped prepare this meal were Major Vince Giorgio, Captain Kevin Sweeney, Captain Sean Smithson, and Master Sergeant Jeffery Dickerson.



Major Vince Giorgio, flight nurse, distributes meals during a mission to Joint Base Andrews, Maryland. (courtesy photo)

On the morning of 23 November, a C-17A departed Ramstein Air Base, Germany setting course for Joint Base Andrews, Maryland. Major Giorgio, Captain Sweeney, and MSgt Dickerson were part of the aeromedical evacuation aircrew that would safely transport the U.S. military members. During the flight and at 28,000 feet, the three 142 AES members as well as their aeromedical evacuation counterparts served the meals that were prepared in Germany. The aircraft arrived late in the evening where it was met by medical staff that would transport them via ambus to Walter Reed Medical Center where the patients would receive further care.

AIRMAN SPOTLIGHT

SENIOR AIRMAN SRA ERISSA NEGRON 166 OSS AIRCREW FLIGHT EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN

My Career in the Delaware Air National Guard in Aircrew Flight Equipment (AFE) has been nothing short of fulfilling. I joined the Air National Guard at 17 years old, ready to graduate High School and see what I could offer my community. I would finally graduate in May of 2020, during peak COVID quarantine precautions. I decided to continue to serve my community the best I could with my CNA certification helping patients in Nursing homes and Private Care Facilities, while still serving in the Guard. Now, as a SrA in AFE, I am able to help our Operations Mission as much as possible by inspecting, repairing, and conditioning important survival equipment for the Air Crew, as well as participating in as much training as I can to stay current and knowledgeable along with the Flyers.

I decided to join the Air National Guard in 2019 as a Junior in High School after going over various educational and career options. I opted to pursue my Masters Degree in the Health and Fitness Field as a Registered Dietician, and to join the Air National Guard for its Tuition Assistance Programs and other educational perks.

The start of my Military Career was in the summer of 2020 during a very hard time for many. Quarantine had been effective for 3 months at the time and I was leaving my family with underlying health conditions in the heat of a pandemic to fly to Texas for Basic Training, the farthest I've ever been from family alone. Leaving my family was a very hard decision to make as most of my family has underlying respiratory issues, and the fear of coming back and being unable to see someone as I remembered them was a huge obstacle to overcome. I decided to do what was in the best interest for them as well as myself, and to leave them so that I would be able to help them when I came back as an Airman. Unfortunately, at the time of my graduation from both Basic Training and Tech School was during quarantine so I was still unable to see family until my flight back to Delaware. Finally, after months of barred communication and sheltering from news statistics, I was able to see my family happy and healthy.

Any traditional Guardsman can say that staying current and knowledgeable about upcoming training is a major accomplishment. However, those in my unit as well as in the entire OPS Squadron strive to be as communicative and efficient as possible by relaying information about training



that I otherwise wouldn't have access to as a Weekend Warrior. Training in Aircrew Flight Equipment involves extensive review of Technical Orders as well as physical demonstrations and walkthroughs. My unit finds it most effective to hold scheduled training times when new equipment arrives, and to have all personnel in attendance to learn together for the first time. I also have attended multiple First Line Supervisor courses, as both an Airman and Senior Airman, so that I may stay current and learn new ways to lead my peers, and potentially new recruits. These training periods and optional classes are essential to all Guardsmen to not only acquire important leading skills and occupational instruction, but are also a great way to socialize and network with other military members outside of your unit, or even outside of your base. These opportunities allow me to bring back ideas and suggestions to help my unit change and grow and become more efficient in our efforts to accomplish the mission as effectively as possible.

Outside of the DANG, I am a Police Dispatcher for the Wilmington Police Department, as well as a student at Delaware State University, pursuing my Bachelors degree (and eventually my Masters) in Nutritional Science focused in Dietetics. I hope to use my Registered Dietician's license as well as my background in the Military to be used as a professional Dietician for a major sports team, and create my own gym with a focus in science behind fitness and wellness.

I have always strived for one thing: to have a long and fulfilling life in the service of others. So far, I have continued to pursue career choices that have presented as ways that I find not only useful to me as a passion, but also contributes to my community and allows me to serve the people around me. I find that the Delaware Air National Guard and the Wilmington Police Department allow me to do just that- to serve the community as much as I physically can, while still pursuing my passions and education.

Never find an excuse to sit still. Strive to be useful in any way possible, whether that be leading a large group of people or contributing as a smaller entity. Every position matters to a final and greater cause, and any position you are able to hold is a step towards a better outcome for the community.



Promotions & Retirements

January 2024

Promotions

Alicia Calderon to TSgt
Kaitlyn Rodriguez to TSgt
Eric Steinbeiser to TSgt
Henok Degu to SSgt
Ryan Hubschmidt to SSgt
Robert Peterson to SSgt
Esaud Alma Cruz to SRA

Retirements

TSgt Kenneth Parsons 166 SFS
TSgt Ronald H. Trower, Jr. 166 LRS



Enlisted and Officer Scorecards

By Senior Master Sergeant Faith C. Fleischman
166 AW Human Resource Advisor



In addition to Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) courses, the Human Resource Advisor Program also offers Professional Development assistance and support. Preparing for your next big promotion or next career move? The Human Resource Advisor can help!

Professional Development is important for all Airmen and helps us continue to not only be competent in our professions, but also excel in it. Professional Development refers to continuing education and career training in order to help Airmen develop new skills, stay up to-date on current trends and advance your career. The Enlisted / Officer Scorecards are an important tool in professional development and can be used as a roadmap to success in the ANG.

The Scorecard can be used as a roadmap to track your career path and competencies. The Enlisted and Officer Scorecards are broken out into 3 different sections: Enlisted/Commissioned Service (Years), Leadership Competencies, and a free text section to describe your non-military experience. Use this Scorecard to plan your path to a successful career!

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Office – Located in the LRS Command Staff area

PDF version located here for Enlisted Scorecard: https://www.ang.af.mil/Portals/77/documents/force_dev/AFD-111028-008.pdf?ver=2016-09-21-092847-337

PDF version located here for Officer Scorecard: https://www.ang.af.mil/Portals/77/documents/force_dev/AFD-111028-009.pdf?ver=2016-09-21-092847-617

If you'd like to learn more about how the HRA can assist with your Professional Development, or would like to schedule training for your Section, Squadron, or Group please stop by my office or send me an email. Also, don't forget the HRA Diversity & Inclusion series courses are offered to the Wing either Saturday or Sunday of RSD. Check the RSD Plan and monthly base-wide email for locations and times. See you there!

Human Resource Advisor: Diversity & Inclusion Wing-wide Courses		
	Times TBD	Times TBD
FY24	Saturday	Sunday
November	MENTORSHIP PROGRAM - SPEED MENTORING EVENT	Coaching/Mentoring Methods
December	Conflict Management	HOLIDAY PARTIES
January	SENIOR LEADERS CONFERENCE	Unconscious Bias
February	Microaggressions	
March	NO CLASSES SCHEDULED	
April	Navigating Leadership Challenges	Understanding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
May	MENTORSHIP PROGRAM - PANEL MENTORING EVENT	Coaching/Mentoring Methods
June	Managing Stress & Resiliency	Emotional Intelligence
July	NO RSD	
August	Leadership & Effective Communication	Four Lenses - Understanding Others Personalities
September	Unconscious Bias	
POC:	Human Resource Advisor (HRA)	SMSgt Faith C. Fleischman
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Feathers of the Wing

A historical perspective by BG (Ret.) Kennard Wiggins, Curator of the Delaware Military Museum

SMALL TIGERS MAKE LARGE ONE



A Delaware Air National Guard flight crew arrives at the New Castle Air National Guard Base after an overseas mission to DaNang during the Vietnam War. (Photo courtesy of BG Kennard Wiggins, Delaware Military Museum).

Delaware Air National Guard crews recently flying to Vietnam have been returning with small tigers as well as their regular cargo. Because of the tremendous amount of air traffic at DaNang Air Base the 617th Military Airlift Support Squadron initiated an award to be given to aircrews which cut their allotted ground time in half.

As of the April UTA, Del ANG crews had received four such awards, the most recent garnered by Major Arthur W. Gorman. Three other crews have earned the "Tiger Award"

Major Anthony F. Terranova, 2nd Lt Dennis R. Dodd, MSgt Alfred V. DiSabatino, and MSgt John A. Kunkle have all been on two award winning crews. The loadmasters on the flight were MSgt John A. Kunkle, TSGts Robert W. Gerzema, and Charles L. Hale, SSgts James C. Jackson and James A. Boyce and A1C Clarence F. Edwards.

One more award and the 166th Military Airlift Group will receive a two by three-foot Tiger tapestry of black velvet, presented when members from a single unit earn five small tiger awards.



For more resources on your mental health
contact your DPH:

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JANUARY IS MENTAL WELLNESS MONTH

A lot of us will feel the blues in the days/ weeks following the holidays. It is normal to feel down, sad or even depressed after the excitement of the holidays begins to wear off and, reality sets in; loneliness, occupational stress, worries about relationships, health and finances. All of these thoughts and feelings can be depressing and even scary at times when you think about it. The good news is that you are not alone if you feel this way. While these feelings and thoughts may be normal when adjusting to change, it is meant to be a temporary phase. Whereas some of us may easily bounce back on our own, some of us may also need a little boost here and there and that is also okay. There are several resources available to you and your family in and outside of the military community. January is recognized as the month for Mental Wellness. For this reason, I want to encourage all of us to be proactive by focusing on self-care. We have given so much to our families, friends, colleagues, and country during this holiday season and now it is time to give back to ourselves. What can you give to YOU. Can you give yourself 30 minutes a day to walk or jog. Can you give yourself eight hours of good sleep. Can you yourself time to talk about your mental health. Setting goals for behavioral change is never easy however, it is doable. Whatever your goal is you can start by making sure it is SMART. Research have found that people who set smart goals are 42% more likely to be successful. A SMART goal is a one that is specific, measurable, action oriented, realistic, and timely.

S.M.A.R.T.

1. **SPECIFIC:** clear and detailed plan including what, where and how.
2. **MEASURABLE:** identify a scale to measure goal.
3. **ACTION ORIENTED:** having tools and resources needed to accomplish goal.
4. **REALISTIC:** goal lines up with your values and it is doable for you.
5. **TIMELY:** Set a start and end date.

*Let's kick off year by taking control of our mental wellness...
Together we can do it.*



A RANGE OF SUPPORT

To Help You **Live** Your Best **MilLife**



Get free and confidential expert help, 24/7.
 Call Military OneSource at 800-342-9647 or visit www.militaryonesource.mil.



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- **FREE** support from MilLife consultants, specially trained in complex tax situations
- Prep and file anytime, anywhere and save your progress as you go.
- Software calculations are 100% accurate, guaranteed by the software provider.

TAKE COMMAND OF YOUR TAXES.

To get started, visit MilitaryOneSource.mil
or call 800-342-9647 to schedule a consultation.





UPDATE

D.E.E.P.

-- Joint Enlistment Enhancement Program --

HELP US FIND THE NEXT DNG SOLDIER OR AIRMAN!

**EARN CASH INCENTIVES FOR EACH REFERRAL
THAT JOINS THE DELAWARE NATIONAL GUARD:**

NOW \$1,000!

**\$500 @ ENLISTMENT PLUS
\$500 @ DEPARTURE FOR TRAINING
OR \$1,000 @ ENLISTMENT IF FULLY QUALIFIED**



Air
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Guard



5 EASY STEPS!

1. FIND AN APPLICANT & SCAN THE QR CODE
2. THEY ENTER THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION
3. YOU ENTER YOUR UNIQUE ID CODE
4. RECRUITERS CONTACT AND PROCESS THE LEAD
5. YOU EARN IF THEY JOIN!

CONTACT A RECRUITER FOR MORE INFORMATION



Army
National
Guard

