

# The DANG TRUTH

Remember: Mission First, Safety Always -- The Safe Way is the Delaware Way

Volume 52, No. 1 — February 2012

166th Airlift Wing, Delaware Air National Guard  
New Castle Airport, New Castle, Delaware

## Brigadier Gen. Merritt retires as assistant adjutant general for air after 43 years' service, replaced by Brig. Gen. Timmons



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Matwey

Incoming Delaware National Guard Assistant Adjutant General for Air Brig. Gen. Carol A. Timmons speaks during the change of command ceremony on Jan. 8, 2012 as DNG Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Frank Vavala observes.

By Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Matwey  
Wing Public Affairs

After two years in the position, and 43 years' dedicated service to the Del. National Guard, Brig. Gen. John Wayne Merritt, Assistant Adjutant General for Air, the top commander of the Del. ANG, relinquished command at the Jan. 8 change of command ceremony. He received his last official salute from a formation led by 166th Airlift Wing Commander Col. Jonathan Groff, gave his own final salute to Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Frank Vavala, and saw his wife Sheren receive flowers to recognize her four decades of support.

Brigadier Gen. Carol A. Timmons, previously the Director, Joint Staff, Delaware Joint Force Headquarters, and who enlisted in the Del. ANG as a teenager, assumed command as the new ATAG-Air.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Matwey

Maj. Gen. John W. Merritt, wearing his new second star, receives the U.S. flag from Del. ANG Honor Guard member Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Lee during the assistant adjutant general for air change of command ceremony Jan. 8, 2012.

## Del. Air National Guard FY 2011 Outstanding Airmen of the Year

### Airman of the Year:

Senior Airman **Desmond Overton**,  
166th Security Forces Sq.

### NCO of the Year:

Staff Sgt. **Jomarr Hatten**,  
166th Logistics Readiness Sq.

### Senior NCO of the Year:

Master Sgt. **Samuel Lewis**,  
166th Logistics Readiness Sq.

### First Sergeant of the Year:

Master Sgt. **Francis (John) Young**,  
166th Logistics Readiness Sq.

### Honor Guard Member of the Year:

Staff Sgt. **Jeffrey Lee**,  
166th Maintenance Sq.

## Wing earns Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for Nov. 2009 - Oct. 2011

The 166th Airlift Wing, Delaware ANG has been selected as a recipient of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the two year period of 01 Nov 2009 to 31 Oct 2011, making the 166th AW just one of 36 ANG wings and one of four ANG C-130 wings to receive the award.

Fellow Airmen,

On behalf of both our Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Frank Vavala and me, congratulations for your continued outstanding performance for the past 24 months, resulting in your selection for the prestigious Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (AFOUA) to the 166th Airlift Wing. I am proud of each of the nearly 1,100 men and women in the Delaware ANG who all contributed to

earning this highly competitive distinction. It is because of your hard work, dedication to duty, and passion to serve that continues to keep the 166th AW at the top of the pyramid as one of America's premier flying wings. Enjoy this well deserved accolade. You have earned it. You have been fighting two wars, supporting the State of Delaware during numerous snow storms and performing with distinction through a myriad of exercises and inspections. Most importantly, you have done it safely, with nearly 50 years of accident free flying. I am proud to serve side-by-side with you.

Sincerely,

**Carol A. Timmons, Brig. Gen.**  
HQ DE ANG, ATAG-Air

# The DANG Truth

## 166th Airlift Wing Editorial Staff:

Col. Jonathan Groff.....Commander  
Col. Dennis Hunsicker.....Vice Commander  
Chief Master Sgt. Hank Rome.....  
.....Wing Command Chief  
Master Sgt. Sandra Niedzwiecki.....  
.....NCOIC Public Affairs  
Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Matwey, Editor/Public Affairs  
Story idea? Contact Public Affairs: (302) 323-3369

The DANG Truth, a funded Air Force Newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the US military services and is published for all members of the DE ANG, New Castle Airport, 2600 Spruance Drive, New Castle, DE 19720-1615. Contents of The DANG Truth are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the US Government, DoD, or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs office of the 166th Airlift Wing. The DANG Truth uses both Armed Forces Press Service and Air Force News Service material. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

## Coming events

**Feb. 3, Fri:** Retirement dinner in honor of Brig. Gen. John W. Merritt, Assistant Adjutant General - Air, JFHQ, Del. National Guard. Time: 5:30 p.m. Location: Hilton Christiana, 100 Continental Dr., Newark, Del. **RSVP by COB Feb. 1 (Wed.)**. Business Attire. Reservations Required. \$35.00/person. POCs: Ms. Patsy Santowski, SMSgt Mike Davis, 302-323-3360. Cocktails: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

**Mar. 3, Sat.:** Del. ANG Enlisted Recognition Banquet, Deerfield Golf and Tennis Club, Newark, Del.

**Apr. 28:** DNG All-Ranks Military Ball, Dover Downs

## Feb. UTA events

### Feb. 3, Friday:

- **JSIVA out-brief:** 0900-1100, Bldg. 2600 Loeffel Rm.

- **Pre-UTA Wing stand-up:** 1300-1400, Bldg. 2600, Loeffel Rm.

### Feb. 4, Saturday:

- **PT Testing:** 0730-0930, Wm. Penn H.S.

- **SAPR Training (males):** 1000-1130, Bldg. 2815, Small Air Terminal Hangar

- **Retirement ceremony:** Tech. Sgt. Lugano, 1430-1530, Bldg. 2600, Loeffel Rm.

- **Promotion ceremony:** Lt. Col. Haltom, 1500-1600, Bldg. 2600, Palmer Rm.

### Feb. 5, Sunday:

- **PT Testing:** 0730-0930, Wm. Penn H.S.

- **Protestant Services:** 0745-0830, Bldg. 2815, SAT Hangar

- **Catholic Mass:** 0830-0930, Bldg. 2819, SAT Hangar

- **Top 3 Enlisted Council Mtg.:** 1300-1400, Bldg. 2600, Loeffel Rm.

- **Promotion ceremony:** Senior Master Sgt. Davis, 1500-1600, Bldg. 2805, Ops Theater

## UTA schedule 2012:

04-05 Feb 2012	02-03 Jun 2012
03-04 Mar 2012	14-15 Jul 2012
14-15 Apr 2012	04-05 Aug 2012
05-06 May 2012	15-16 Sep 2012

## Finding current job openings

Various web sites link to the primary source of current job postings for enlisted and officer career opportunities in the Del. ANG, maintained on [www.DelawareNationalGuard.com](http://www.DelawareNationalGuard.com). For example, on the home page of the 166th Airlift Wing Air Force Public Web site, [www.166aw.ang.af.mil](http://www.166aw.ang.af.mil), you'll find links to our job postings. We hope many of you share this information via e-mail and social media with friends and local organizations, because we are hiring.

## Personnel actions for Jan. 2012

### Enlistments:

Airman 1st Class Alvin Maxwell, 166 MXS  
Staff Sgt. Devonne West, 166 MSG  
Master Sgt. David Sanders, 166 NWS

### Promotions:

#### To Staff Sergeant:

Ryan Atkinson, 166 LRS  
Falen Doyle, 142 MDG  
Joanmarie Kurcan, 142 AS

#### To Senior Master Sergeant:

Glenn Davis, 166 AW

#### To Major:

John O'Brien, 166 MDG

#### To Lieutenant Colonel:

Trevor Fulmer, 166 NWS  
Steven Willey, 166 NWS

### Retirements:

Tech. Sgt. Alfonse Lugano, 166 AW  
Senior Master Sgt. Gordon Riggs, 166 LRS  
Senior Master Sgt. Mark Armour, 166 AW  
Lt. Col. Phyllis Gigliotti, 142 AES  
Brig. Gen. John W. Merritt, JFHQ, Del. NG

## DE ANG Recruiting:

1-800-742-6713, 1-866-NOW-DANG,  
or Local (302 ) 323-3444

## DE ANG Retention:

(302) 323-3413

## Web Resources:

**166AW Air Force Public Web site:**

[www.166aw.ang.af.mil](http://www.166aw.ang.af.mil)

**166AW Facebook page:**

[www.facebook.com/166thAirliftWing](http://www.facebook.com/166thAirliftWing)

**Public web site, DE National Guard:**

[www.DelawareNationalGuard.com](http://www.DelawareNationalGuard.com)

**DNG Facebook page:**

[www.facebook.com/DelawareNationalGuard](http://www.facebook.com/DelawareNationalGuard)

## Editor's note: Online evolution to tell our story

The last multiple-page hard-copy issue of the DANG Truth was published Sept. 2007 (Vol. 51, No. 1). Since then, the wing has chiefly communicated with our members via our official Air Force Public Website, launched in July 2008, via e-mail to full- and part-time members, and starting in August 2011 via our wing Facebook page. Unit information is also posted on the **DNG** dot-com page, and on the **DNG** Facebook page.

This issue is available online via a link on our Air Force Public Web site, and publicized via a link posted on our Facebook page. It is not mailed to current members or retirees, part of a five-year Air Force-wide trend to reduce costs by posting digital news on public web sites.

## Retirees: Do you have a change of address?

**Retirees:** Mail a letter indicating any address change to "Retiree List Manager," HQ DE ANG, 2600 Spruance Drive, New Castle, DE 19720. For email address changes, send an email to [patsy.santowski@ang.af.mil](mailto:patsy.santowski@ang.af.mil). Note: Retirees must access the **MyPay** web site for financial data, <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.