



# The DANG TRUTH



166th Airlift Wing, Delaware Air National Guard - New Castle ANG Base, Delaware

*Airmen recognized - story on page 4*



# UTA events

## October 31, Friday:

- PT testing, 7:30 a.m., Base Fitness Area
- Immunizations, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Clinic

## November 1, Saturday:

- PT testing, 7:30 a.m., Base Fitness Area
- Immunizations, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Clinic
- Photos with Santa on a C-130, main hangar, 1-3:30 p.m. For info: 302-323-3327.
- Retreat, 3 p.m., Bldg. 2600, Flagpole
- Change of command ceremony, 166th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 3:30 p.m., Loeffel Rm., Bldg. 2600

## November 2, Sunday:

- PT testing, 7:30 a.m., Base Fitness Area
- Protestant Services, 7:45 a.m., Bldg 2815, SAT
- Catholic Mass, 8:30 a.m., Bldg. 2815, SAT
- Company Grade Officer Counsel meeting, 1130 a.m. - Noon, CES training room
- Immunizations, 2-3 p.m., Clinic
- Retreat, 3 p.m., Bldg. 2600, Flagpole
- Retirement ceremony, Lt. Col. Joseph Berti, 3 p.m., Loeffel Rm.

# Coming events

**Nov. 1:** Suspense Date, Col. S.B.I. Duncan Leadership Award FY2014, awarded annually to one member each ANG and ARNG. Eligibility: All traditional enlisted members, grades E-1 to E-6, who have been a member of the Delaware ANG the previous FY. Ccontact Chief Master Sgts. Ottinger, (302)-326-7877, or Knotts, 302-326-7855, JFHQ, Del. ANG.

**Nov. 15:** During Deployment Yellow Ribbon event, 166 CES and 142 AES (family members and designated individuals only).

**Dec. 6:** Wing Christmas Party

**Jan. 10:** DNG Senior Leaders Conference

**Feb. 13-15, 2015:** Strong Bonds Couples and Singles Training Event. Where: Poconos, Pa. (venue TBD). Couples seminar: Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage. Singles seminar: How Not to Marry a Jerk(ette). Provided: meals, hotel and education. Who: Members of the Del., Pa., and N.J. ANG, Reserve your reservation for this FREE Valentine's weekend by calling 302-530-3596 or email [kristi.walters.ctr@ang.af.mil](mailto:kristi.walters.ctr@ang.af.mil)

## UTA schedule FY14-15

01-02 Nov 2014	02-03 May 2015
06-07 Dec 2014	06-07 Jun 2015
10-11 Jan 2015	11-12 Jul 2015
07-08 Feb 2015	01-02 Aug 2015
07-08 Mar 2015	12-13 Sep 2015
11-12 Apr 2015	

# Career News Oct. 2014

(Unless otherwise noted, personnel actions are effective October 2014)

## Appointed:

None this period.

## Enlistments:

Andrews, Richard, Airman 1st Class, 166 CES  
Cantey, Jodie, Capt., 166 MDG  
Simcox, Ralph, Tech. Sgt., 166 AW

## Promotions:

**To Major:**  
Bragga, Jay, 166 AW  
**To First Lieutenant:**  
Greene, Kemeshia, 142 AES

**To Technical Sergeant:**  
Burns, Christine, 166 AW  
Hornbeck, Judson, 166 CES  
McBride, Michael, 142 AES  
Wham, Brendan, 166 AMXS

**To Staff Sergeant:**  
Infante, Eliecer, 166 LRS  
Jovellar, Briana, 166 MOF

**To Airman 1st Class:**  
Pizzo, Dominic, 166 CES

**To Senior Airman:**  
Kranz, Robert, 166 CES  
Rieker, Gabrielle, 166 FSS  
Davis, Ronald, 166 CES  
DiGuglielmo, Andrew, 166 MXS  
Brown, Joseph, 166 AMXS  
Charlton, Ricardo, 166 MXS

## Retirements:

Burgess, Kenneth, Chief Master Sgt., 166 AMXS  
Collazo-Garcia, Lissedia, Tech. Sgt., 166 MDG

**DE ANG Recruiting:**  
1-800-742-6713, 1-866-NOW-DANG,  
or Local (302 ) 323-3444

**DE ANG Retention:**  
(302) 323-3413

166AW Air Force Public Web site:  
[www.166aw.af.mil](http://www.166aw.af.mil)

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

166AW YouTube page:  
<http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBthSguwq9CkPF-CbsXENAQ>

DE Air Guard Recruiting Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/DEAirGuardRecruiting](http://www.facebook.com/DEAirGuardRecruiting)

Go ANG Delaware Recruiting page:  
[www.goang.com/de](http://www.goang.com/de)

DE National Guard web site:  
[www.DelawareNationalGuard.com](http://www.DelawareNationalGuard.com)

DE National Guard Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/DelawareNationalGuard](http://www.facebook.com/DelawareNationalGuard)

# Medical openings

Hiring for officers in traditional positions; no closeout dates apply unless indicated:  
[www.delawarenationalguard.com/join/air/air\\_officer/](http://www.delawarenationalguard.com/join/air/air_officer/)

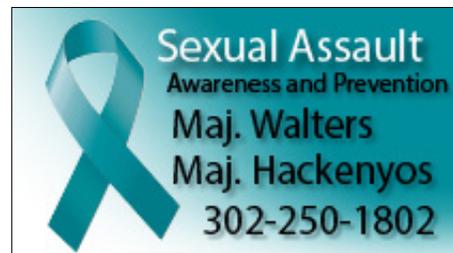
142nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron:  
- Flight Nurse

142nd Airlift Squadron:  
- GMO Flight Surgeon

166th Medical Group:  
- Aerospace Medical Specialist, Bioenvironmental Engineer, Family Physician, Flight Surgeon, Internist.

# Enlisted jobs

[www.delawarenationalguard.com/join/air/air\\_enlisted/](http://www.delawarenationalguard.com/join/air/air_enlisted/)  
For career descriptions: [www.goang.com](http://www.goang.com).



Conte, Peter, Lt. Col., 142 AS  
Davis, Truston, Tech. Sgt., 166 CES  
Ferguson, David, Master Sgt., 166 LRS  
Jenkins, Joe, Senior Master Sgt., 166 MXS  
Turi, Steven, Master Sgt. 166 CES

# Commander's corner

**By Col. Mike Feeley**  
*Wing commander*

I see every day and every UTA the amazing level of competence and dedication of our Airmen. I am so proud that this unit truly exemplifies "Excellence in All We Do."

And as we all should know, most individual recognition of excellence comes not from a single person's actions, but comes to represent the spirit of collaboration and team-work of a great organization. If you read last month's edition of The DANG Truth, you read about Steadfast Javelin II, where the Delaware Air National Guard was the lead unit on a multi-state, multi-ship airdrop exercise in Europe.

That exercise, and show of force and support to our NATO allies, was deemed a great success. It showed the air superiority of the U.S. Air Force and our ability to project power anywhere in the world. Having hundreds of Soldiers parachute out of dozens of C-130's has that effect!

What you didn't read was that one of our own, Col. Rob Culcasi, our 166th Operations Group commander, was the overall aircraft mission commander for the ANG and U.S. Air Forces

in Europe. His contribution was described this way: "In addition to leading 150 ANG deployed members, he masterfully orchestrated the execution of a night drop involving 13 aircraft and 500 paratroopers as part of a large airfield seizure exercise in Latvia."

That quote comes from Maj. Gen. Eric Vollmecke, the ANG advisor to the commander of USAFE and Air Force Africa Command. He named Col. Culcasi the "Star Performer of the Quarter." Recognition from our peers is often the best kind, because they are affirming what we already know.

Rob is obviously a top-performer, no doubt about it. But even he will tell you that he didn't do it alone. His accolades represent everyone's efforts. This mission was a team effort for the folks that deployed, folks that helped them deploy, and folks that stayed here and took on additional responsibilities to keep the wing flying. Those teams include nearly every unit on base, from services to maintenance, from finance to operations.

So to Col. Culcasi, and to all of you, thanks for all that you do and the excellence you bring to America's air power.

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## 166th Airlift Wing

### Mission Statement:

The mission of the 166th Airlift Wing is to provide tactical airlift and airdrop of troops, cargo and passengers using C-130 aircraft, plus aeromedical evacuation, civil engineer and network warfare functions.

### Vision Statement:

To be ready, relevant, and reliable Airmen who are highly trained and motivated to aid the state and nation.

## The DANG Truth

166th Airlift Wing Leadership

**Col. Mike Feeley**

*Commander*

**Col. Don Bevis**

*Vice Commander*

**Chief Master Sgt. Shaune Peters**

*Wing Command Chief*

### DANG Truth Editorial Staff

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*Photojournalist*

**Staff Sgt. John Michaels**

*Broadcast Journalist*



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Email comments to:

[166AW.PA@ANG.AF.MIL](mailto:166AW.PA@ANG.AF.MIL)

# ANG Command Chief Hotaling visits 166th AW

By 2nd Lt. Valerie Harwood  
*Wing Public Affairs*

NEW CASTLE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Del. - The highest ranking enlisted member in the Air National Guard visited the 166th Airlift Wing here Oct. 18 to foster direct communication with Airmen.

As the Air National Guard Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. James W. Hotaling is responsible for matters influencing the health, morale and welfare of ANG personnel and their families.

During his visit Hotaling spoke face-to-face with Airmen about his key focus areas, renewing the commitment to the profession of arms, the health of the force, and recognizing and embracing Airmen's accomplishments. He also wanted to provide Airmen with the opportunity to have their questions answered and learn about any problems they may encounter which keep them from doing their jobs effectively.

Hotaling spoke to junior enlisted members during the Junior Enlisted Call, which encompasses enlisted members from airman basic to technical sergeant.

"Chief Hotaling hit some strong points on rebluing, remembering where you came from and starting from the beginning when you get

down," said Staff Sgt. Carlos Guevara, a new member of the 166th Force Support Squadron. "Chief Hotaling reminded us that as Airmen many of us are trying to figure it out, what it's all for – our purpose that is. We need to look at our job and ourselves and say 'it's all for the bigger cause' and ask 'what's important to the mission?' Another good piece of information was that more Airman Leadership School seats are expected to open up soon for the Air National Guard."

"One item currently being addressed is increasing seat availability for in-residence courses," said Hotaling. "Not every traditional Guardsman can attend in-resident courses due to their civilian commitments, so the Air National Guard is looking at increasing satellite learning starting with Airman Leadership School. The active duty Air Force is moving towards the Guard's model of blended learning because it is a better product."

Hotaling discussed increasing seat availability for satellite and blended learning environments for professional military education.

"The Air Force recognizes that blended learning is the best route for service members to learn," said Hotaling. "Blended Learning is facilitating online and classroom education courses. With distance learning courses, we all learn at

different paces and on your own time. In-resident courses dig deeper in the core subject matter."

Hotaling challenged the 166th AW Airman to progress in their PME.

"We have the resources available to make this happen," said Hotaling.

"The message received from the Junior Enlisted Call was to take pride in being an Airman," said Tech. Sgt. Jacqueline Gimbutas, 166th FSS.

Gimbutas said she enjoyed the story Hotaling told about how when soldiers' horses became obsolete but the men were still good soldiers and that the good soldiers had to adapt to the new technology presented to them.

This is true because technology is always changing, said Gimbutas.

As a finance support member Gimbutas said she appreciated hearing how support staff positions that were once eliminated may be coming back to relieve the overwhelming administration duties that have been pushed onto service members to do themselves due to cost and saving initiatives.

"If support staff positions were brought back into sections it would

**See Hotaling, pg. 5**



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew Horgan)

**Air National Guard Command Chief Master Sgt. James Hotaling with wing Airmen Oct. 18, 2014.**

**Hotaling, cont. from pg. 4**

save service members many man-hours from having to do administrative functions such as DTS [Defense Travel Service],” Gimbutas said.

Master Sgt. Kathleen O’Brien, 166th FSS, attended the Top Three Enlisted Call, which encompasses master sergeant to chief master sergeant ranks.

While meeting with the Top Three Enlisted Call, Hotaling discussed the Airman Comprehensive Assessment, and how it will apply to the ANG.

“These are the same [Air Mobility Command] evaluation standards that the Air Force Reserve and regular Air Force uphold to evaluate their enlisted force,” said Hotaling when discussing the pros and cons of the enlisted performance report system being implemented in the ANG. The ACA Performance Report for enlisted Airmen and officers replaced the EPR on July 1. The ACA feedback forms include a self-assessment broken into four categories: responsibility, accountability, Air Force culture and self. The ACA will give Airmen an opportunity to engage in their career progression. Airmen need to know, ‘Am I doing a good job?’ We owe

it to our Airmen to give them feedback on their performance and steps to promotion.”

Hotaling also focused on supervision and leadership.

“Listen to your people and consider the whole person to include their physical and mental health, ensure all your people have the resources they need to do their job and make sure they receive all required training for their Air Force Specialty Code,” said O’Brien referring to what she took away from the enlisted call. “The new ancillary training

**See Hotaling, pg. 6**

## Hotaling, cont. from pg. 5

will allow more time for members to complete actual on job training.”

Chief Hotaling met with the base Chaplain Corps, Airman and Family Readiness, the Air Wing Integrator, and Director of Psychological Health and discussed the importance of the Community Action Information Board and the Integrated Delivery System.

“Chief Hotaling addressed how important it is for these two groups to work together to ensure leadership has an accurate sense of what is happening on our base and what is affecting our military members and their families, so they can make informed decisions at the command level,” said 1st Lt. Lauren Mease, Airman and Family Readiness Program manager.

The IDS has been described as the action arm of the CAIB. It is made up of individuals who have a primary responsibility of provid-



*(U.S. Air National Guard photos by Staff Sgt. Andrew Horgan)*

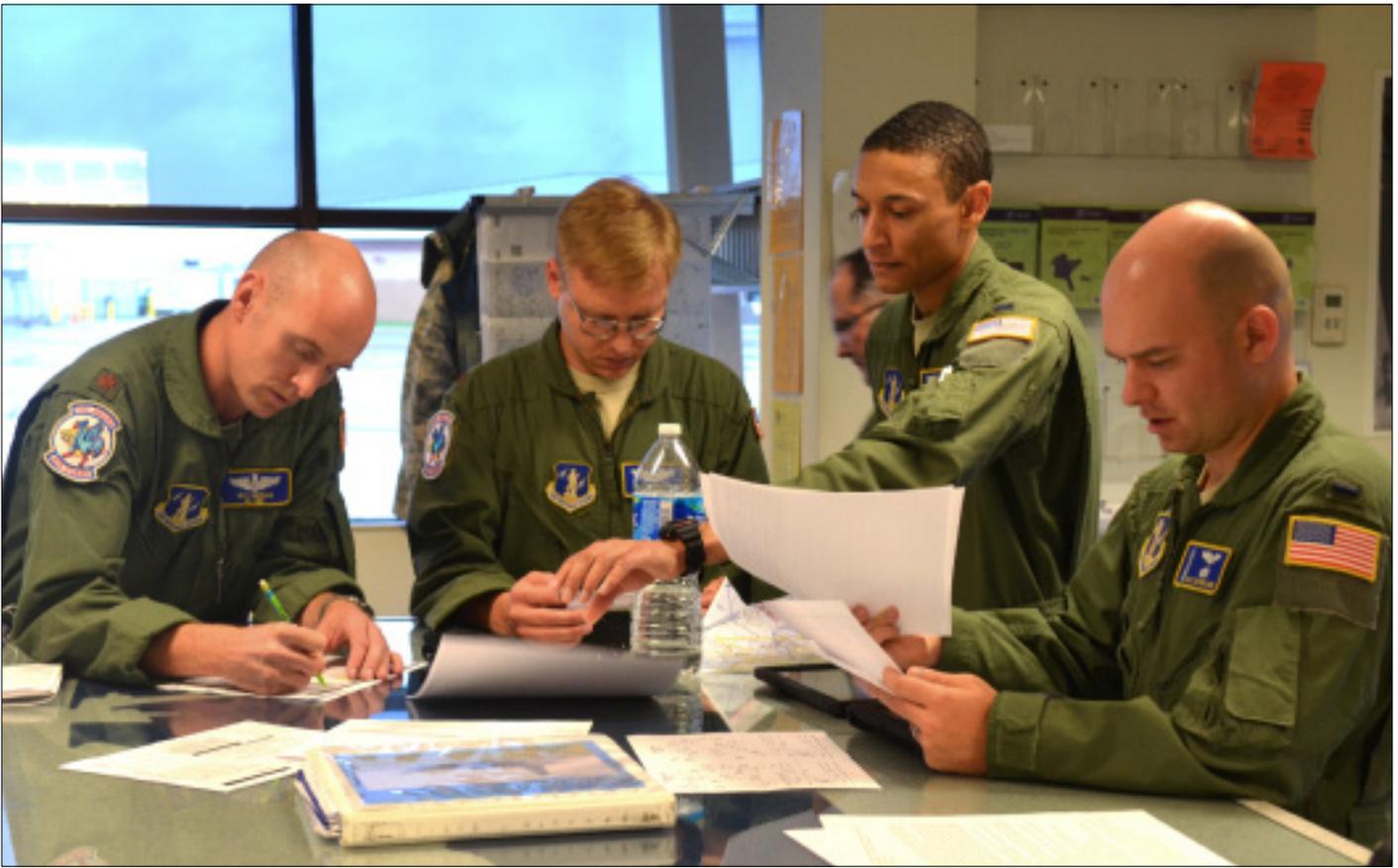
**ANG Command Chief James Hotaling recognized six Airmen nominated by their supervisor for outstanding performance in their sections. Individuals coined Oct. 18, 2014: Master Sgt. Chena Bain, 166th Airlift Wing, Tech. Sgt. Casey Scott, 166th Medical Group, Staff Sgt. Rahim Banks, 166th Security Forces Squadron, Senior Airman Zackary Kline, 142nd Aeromedical Squadron, Senior Airman John Pelle, 166th AW, and Airman 1st Class Luke McFadden (above), 166th Maintenance Squadron.**



**ANG Command Chief James Hotaling holds one of his coins that he presented to six wing Airmen during his visit.**

ing family services and prevention and education activities related to individual, family, and community concerns. The IDS identifies concerns and presents solutions to the CAIB who can review, approve, and implement changes.

“Chief Hotaling’s other message was the need for resilient Airmen,” Mease said. “He emphasized the importance of resiliency during difficult or uncertain times and pushed us to continue to take care of our members.”



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Matwey)

Pilot and mission commander U.S. Air Force Maj. Troy Bockius, combat systems officer (CSO) Maj. Roy Shoppert, pilot Lt. Col. J.D. Davis (background), pilot 1st Lt. Chris Farrell and CSO 1st Lt. Alex Sutherland, all from the 142nd Airlift Squadron, 166th Airlift Wing, Delaware Air National Guard at a mission planning meeting for a two-ship C-130H formation and airdrop mission on Oct. 22, 2014 at the New Castle ANG Base, Del.

# Becoming a C-130H pilot or combat systems officer in the Delaware Air National Guard

By Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Matwey  
*Wing Public Affairs*

Do you want to learn how to become an air crew member aboard the C-130 Hercules cargo transport aircraft, the “workhorse of the Air Force,” to serve your state and nation?

This article will explore the qualifications, selection process and training for the pilot and combat systems officer (CSO; formerly called a navigator),

two of the four air crew positions of the C-130H model flown by the Delaware ANG’s 166th Airlift Wing at the New Castle ANG Base, Del.

When a potential recruit expresses an interest in becoming a pilot or a CSO they will talk with Master Sgt. Tanya Harris, the Delaware ANG Recruiting Office Supervisor and the Designated Officer Recruiter (DOR).

**See *Pilot or CSO*, pg. 8**

*Editor’s note: This is the second article in the series, “How to become an aviator in the Delaware National Guard.” The first article, “Fly with the Delaware National Guard,” covered the units, aircraft and air crew positions available in the Delaware Air and Army National Guard. The series is posted on the 166th Airlift Wing Air Force Public Web site, [www.166aw.ang.af.mil](http://www.166aw.ang.af.mil).*

## **Pilot or CSO, cont. pg. 7**

“My role as DOR is to ensure all selected Undergraduate Flying Training (UFT) candidates are physically, mentally and morally qualified to become a member of the ANG,” said Harris. UFT includes both Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) and Undergraduate Navigator Training (UNT).

Applicants must complete the Air Force Officer Qualification Test (AFOQT) before making their UPT or UNT application.

The AFOQT measures aptitudes used to select candidates for officer commissioning programs and specific commissioned officer training programs. The proctored exam takes approximately four hours and has five sections; pilot, CSO, verbal, quantitative and aptitude. It can be taken at the New Castle ANG Base and scheduled through the base training office, (302) 323-3422. People living outside the local area should call a local Air Force Recruiter to schedule.

The minimum AFOQT scores required to become a pilot or CSO are 15 on the verbal section and 10 on the quantitative section; in addition pilots must score a minimum of 25 on the pilot section, and CSOs must score a minimum of 25 on the CSO section. Scores for most applicants offered an interview average about 75 for pilots on the pilot section, and 60 for CSOs on the CSO section.

An applicant has the opportunity to retake the test once without any restriction in order to try to obtain a higher score, but will need a waiver in order to retake it more than once. Only the last score recorded is accepted, and six months is required between tests.

“I recommend that applicants take the test at least seven months before the board meets in order to have time to retake it once and obtain their scores be-



*(U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Scott Sturkol)*

**“The First State” tails of C-130 Hercules aircraft from the 166th Airlift Wing, Delaware Air National Guard are shown on the flightline at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, on June 6, 2011. The aircraft are deployed with the 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, part of the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing at Bagram Airfield.**

fore their interview,” said Lt. Col. Michael Reneski, chief pilot in the 142nd Airlift Squadron and a traditional ANG member who works as a commercial pilot. Reneski also reviews pilot application packages and schedules candidates for interviews with the unit’s UPT board.

Reneski also strongly recommends that applicants prepare for the AFOQT. Study materials are available for purchase online, or at most bookstores and libraries that carry SAT preparatory material.

If a person is interested in becoming a pilot or CSO and is not already in the ANG, the next step after taking the AFOQT is to be scheduled for the half-day medical commissioning physical at the local Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS), Joint Base Dix-McGuire-Lakehurst, N.J.

“Once a candidate is medically qualified we’ll initiate the process to prepare documentation required for enlistment

and for an officer application packet,” said Harris. “All non-prior service UFT candidates are processed as an Airman 1st Class (E-3) so they are enlisting for commissioning purposes.”

To be hired, a candidate must meet with either the UPT or UNT selection board of officers. Each board meets at least once annually.

To be eligible for a board interview, an applicant must be younger than 28 years old at the time of the interview. This is necessary because the Air Force requires a candidate to be less than 30 years old the day UPT or UNT starts, which can be one to three years after the interview.

For education, a bachelor’s degree from an accredited four-year college or university is required, or the applicant must be within one semester of graduating.

**See Pilot or CSO, pg. 9**

**Pilot or CSO, cont. pg. 8**

If selected, about two years of preparations and training follow before the candidate is fully qualified as a pilot or CSO.

The candidate then must pass a flight physical; the three-day flight physical process for UPT candidates must be done at Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio; UNT candidates can obtain a flight physical locally.

Those who are not commissioned officers at the time of selection must attend the officer commissioning program of the U.S. Air Force. They will be enrolled in either the eight-week Academy of Military Science (AMS) or the nine-week Basic Officer Training (BOT) course, each held at Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, Ala. One day prior to departing for the officer commissioning program, all UFT candidates are promoted to staff sergeant (E-5). Upon successful completion of an Air Force commissioning school, members will be commissioned as a second lieutenant (O-1).

The next step is the four-and-a-half week Initial Flight Screening program at Pueblo Memorial Airport in Pueblo, Colo. IFS standardizes flight screening across the Air Force, provides for military rigor and camaraderie, and is the sole source of flight screening for all Reserve Officer Training Corps and Officer Training School aviation candidates. IFS is not required if an applicant has a private pilot's license.

Following IFS are the UFT schools. UPT is held in Mississippi (Columbus AFB), Texas (Laughlin or Sheppard AFB), or Oklahoma (Vance AFB). UNT (for CSOs) is held at Pensacola Naval Air Station, Fl.

At UPT and UNT students learn navigation, aerobatics, formation flying and how to rely on aircraft instruments by



*(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Maj. David Kurle)*

**U.S. Air Force Capt. Andrew Sides scans for another aircraft while flying a C-130 Hercules on a combat mission over Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom on Monday, June 19, 2006. Sides is a pilot deployed to the 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, from the Delaware Air National Guard.**

operating the T-6A Texan II, a single-engine, two-seat primary trainer for about six months. Students then switch to the T-1A Jayhawk for six more months of training. Pilots and CSOs train on the same aircraft for the same time, but CSO candidates do not perform a solo flight or land.

Future C-130 aviators are then placed on the airlift/tanker track which means five months of specialized UPT or UNT called C-130 Initial Qualification Training (IQT), where candidates learn their

crew position. IQT for C-130H crews is held at the 154th Training Squadron, 189th Airlift Wing, an Arkansas ANG unit at Little Rock AFB, Ark.

After IQT comes the one-week water survival training course at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fl., then three weeks at the U.S. Air Force Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) school at Fairchild AFB, Wash. Sur-

**See Pilot or CSO, pg. 10**

**Pilot or CSO, cont. from pg. 9**

vival schools may be scheduled at other times if circumstances permit.

New pilots and CSOs return home wearing their aviator wings for 90 days of “seasoning training,” under the care of experienced instructor pilots or CSOs who help the new aviator learn the local flying routes as they sharpen their aviator skills.

All pilot and CSO selectees must have and maintain high moral standards. Legal issues do not necessarily disqualify an individual but non-disclosure of any offense is disqualifying. If selected, a federal background check will be initiated as part of the security clearance requirement.

Reneski recommends that interested applicants review details on BaseOps.net, and reference the U.S. Air Force Air National Guard Flying Training Student Handbook (available from base operations).

**Specific C-130 pilot requirements**

The Delaware Air Guard has hired 21 pilots in the last six years, and this process is selective in order to hire the best pilots with the best fit for the individual, our aircraft and our unit, said Reneski.

He stresses that hiring is based on current manning and projected losses.

All pilot applicants must be in excellent physical and psychological health. Minimum vision requirements are 20/70 corrected to 20/20 (using eyeglasses or contact lenses) with no exception. They must have full hearing in both ears and meet height and weight standards.

The recruiting office refers potential candidates to Reneski so he can answer questions about the steps required on the career path, saving the applicant and the unit time and effort.

“I can quickly convey much more information with a potential flyer on the phone than by email,” said Reneski.

The Test of Basic Aviation Skills (TBAS) is required of all UPT applicants. TBAS is a 30-minute eye-hand coordination test using joy sticks and rudder pedals, said Reneski. The unit sends Airmen to Dover AFB, Del. to test because TBAS is only administered at active duty Air Force bases.

Pilot applicants are considered based on a score obtained from the Pilot Candidate Selection Method; that score is comprised of three factors: performance on the TBAS, the pilot section score on the AFOQT, and credit based on any logged flight time up to 200 hours as measured by an interval scale.

A minimum requirement for a pilot applicant in the Delaware ANG is having flown solo in an aircraft with a solo endorsement in their pilot logbook. They will gain PCSM credit for their flying hours even if they have no pilot’s license yet, said Reneski.

“When selecting pilots, the board looks at three broad indicators,” said Reneski. “We review the applicant’s college grade point average and how demanding the college or the major was, their PCSM score, and their AFOQT scores.”

The board also tries to gauge the applicant’s attitude, motivation and sincerity, and their career and community involvement.

“We look at the overall picture, the whole person, and we try to see how well an applicant presents themselves,” said Reneski.

**See Pilot or CSO, pg. 11**



*(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Robin Meredith)*

**U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Vincent Franchino, 166th Airlift Wing, Delaware Air National Guard, runs through his pre-flight checklist during an Operational Readiness Exercise at the New Castle ANG Base, Del. on August 4, 2012. The exercise evaluates a unit’s ability to perform its wartime mission.**

**Pilot or CSO, cont. pg. 10**

**Motivations to become an Air Guard aviator**

Reneski said he sees a variety of motivations such a love of aviation, parental influence, and love of country, or “a moment” that becomes an inflection point when a person makes a career path decision to become an aviator.

For three new pilots and one new CSO, each had slightly different “moments.”

Second Lt. Kieran Thorne wanted to either play soccer or fly. When he was out of college, “I saw a friend get sworn into the Air Guard,” said Thorne, and that gave him insight into becoming a pilot with the Air National Guard.

Second Lt. Josh Redmon, who finished BOT this summer, was influenced by his father, a United 747 pilot. “At age 18, I made the choice to become a pilot in Denver, Colo., when my dad took me into a SIM [simulator]. I really liked the SIM and the feeling of a large aircraft,” said Redmon.

Second Lt. Vince Franchino also had his moment. “It was the yoke and simulator during a technical class in high school,” he said, that peaked his interest and attracted him to the pilot profession.

For CSO Capt. James Malcolm, his original motivation to join the ANG was to pay for college, and he started as a crew chief. He then found a way to advance his career and obtain the best long-term career fit. “After five-six years as enlisted, and liking the military, a navigator [CSO] position arose. To me it was exciting, and a chance to do everything the Air Force mission was known to be,” said Malcolm. “Being prior enlisted eased my transition to becoming an officer and an air crew member, making it more attainable for me.”

For Reneski, his motivation came when he was an active duty Air Force enlisted crew chief on the KC-135 tanker at McConnell AFB, Wichita, Kan., and had his private pilot’s license. He watched a flight of F-4 Phantom fighters perform a missing-man formation flyover of Cessna Stadium where he attended Wichita State University. Learning that the pilot was

both commercial pilot and a military aviator in the ANG, Reneski said, “I thought, wow, you can fly commercially and be a military pilot. That’s for me.”

Summing up the motivations he hears from his fellow Air Guard Airmen, Reneski said, “All of our air crew express the desire to be a weekend aviator and patriot and have another job.”

“Serving as a crew member on the C-130 gives Delaware Air Guard Airmen the opportunity to directly serve one’s state and fellow citizens anywhere in the country to provide assistance due to a natural or made-made disaster,” said Reneski. “And, it also provides the chance to serve abroad while defending our nation at time of war.”

For decades ANG C-130 crews have proven essential in meeting these two missions.

To start your Air Guard aviation journey, call the Delaware ANG Recruiters at (302) 323-3444, visit the ANG Recruiting web site, [www.goang.com/Careers/Explore/DE](http://www.goang.com/Careers/Explore/DE), or visit the 166th AW web site, [www.166aw.ang.af.mil](http://www.166aw.ang.af.mil).

**U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Shannon Baker, 737th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron C-130H navigator, looks out the window of a C-130H Hercules during flight July 20, 2014 at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia. Baker deployed here from the 910th Airlift Wing, Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.**



*(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremy Bowcock)*



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Maj. Mickey Kirschenbaum)

Delaware ANG senior enlisted members and officers at the Bethany Beach Training Site, Del., Oct. 20, 2014.

# Inaugural Senior Enlisted Symposium

**By Maj. Mickey Kirschenbaum**  
*Delaware ANG Headquarters*  
*Public Affairs*

Delaware National Guard Bethany Beach Training Site, Del. – Senior enlisted leaders from the Delaware Air National Guard met for three days following the October Unit Training Assembly for the inaugural Senior Enlisted Symposium.

The symposium provided a unique opportunity for the senior enlisted leaders to hear from the Delaware ANG leadership and provided a valuable setting for training and the exchange of ideas. This will provide the senior enlisted leaders with the tools necessary to better support the Airmen of the Air Guard.

Brigadier Gen. Carol Timmons, assistant adjutant general for air, Delaware National Guard, kicked off the symposium. She told the team about how the idea for the symposium came about and that she hopes the members in attendance would get a better un-

derstanding of the processes and how to utilize those tools to better provide for the Airmen in their care.

Colonel Mike Feeley, commander, 166th Airlift Wing, spoke to the team about where the Delaware ANG is now, where we are going and the importance of not only recruiting new members, but training and mentoring those members throughout their careers.

The first day consisted of briefings from Col. Dennis Hunsicker, director of staff, Joint Force Headquarters, Delaware ANG, regarding the role of the headquarters and joint operations with the Delaware Army National Guard. The team also heard briefings from Delaware ANG State Command Chief Master Sergeant Steven Stinsky, and 166th AW Command Chief Master Sergeant Shaune Peters.

The senior enlisted leaders also heard a passionate speech from the adjutant general of the Delaware National Guard, Maj. Gen Frank Vavala, who said, “Everyone should be proud of be-

ing a member of our National Guard.” He went on to stress the importance of supporting our Airmen and instilling a sense of pride in them.

The remainder of the symposium included workshops where the senior leaders broke out into smaller groups, learning about writing effective Enlisted Performance Reports, Airman Comprehensive Assessments, official biographies, awards and the importance of recruiting and retention.

The symposium was originally scheduled for last October, however due to the government shutdown and fiscal constraints it was rescheduled for this year.

The plan is to conduct a symposium every 18 months to refresh the members’ skills and provide valuable information to the newest members attaining the ranks of senior master sergeant and first sergeant.

Feedback from attendees was extremely positive and the consensus was that this symposium was invaluable.

# Know your Wingman



(U.S. Air National Guard photo and interview by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bright)

Name: **Senior Airman Seth Christie**  
Residence: Sault St. Marie, Ontario, Canada  
Organization: 166th Maintenance Squadron  
Duty Title: Structural airframe journeyman  
Primary responsibilities: Ensure the structural integrity of airframes for safe flight  
Years of Service: 6.5 years  
Civilian career: College student in Canada  
Best part about job: "Anytime I get to make something; working with metal"



(Image courtesy of NHTSA. Used by permission)

You won't need to stand under the mistletoe for affection if you volunteer to be a designated driver. Become personally involved in helping friends and family members act responsibly during the holiday season.



Delaware National Guard  
Children's Annual Holiday Party  
December 13, 2014 Noon to 2pm  
198<sup>th</sup> Readiness Center  
1401 Newport Gap Pike Wilmington, DE

**FREE lunch and gifts from Santa!**  
**Please bring a non-perishable food item for the DNG "War on Hunger"**

<http://www.operationhomefront.net/event/list>

Registration required. Must click Pennsylvania/Delaware region top right corner-please pick Wilmington, DE event. Set up a profile first, then add children's info and then click register. You will receive an email confirmation from Operation Homefront. Registration deadline 12/9/14

**For information and registration assistance:**  
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