

# JET LETTER

North Dakota Air National Guard

January 2008



Retirees helping with  
rich Hooligan history

# JET LETTER

January 2008

Volume 54, Number 1

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119th Wing

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## Commander's comments

### Tips for thriving during unit transition

119th Wing vice commander

Happy New Year to all of our members and families of the 119th Wing! 2008 will be a year of continued challenges, opportunities, and change. Looking back on 2007, this was probably the year of change that will never be surpassed in the history of the NDANG. For the first time in our history, we are no longer a FIGHTER Wing. We no longer have FIGHTER aircraft, and after January 16, 2007 we no longer heard the engines of the F-16s in Fargo. But we have evolved into missions that are viable, challenging, exciting and ensure that the legacy of the 119th Wing will continue.

We have many challenges ahead of us for the year 2008. We will be successful because we know that the real strength of the NDANG lies in its heart. The characteristics of our culture motivate all of us to excel beyond expectations in our normal way of work. We have learned the hard way that the secret of success is not predicting the future, but rather it is creating an organization that will thrive in a future that cannot be predicted. This is what we are living in today - a future that we cannot predict. And we are surviving. That doesn't mean that we are surviving without some anxiety, pain, and fear of the unknown future. We have all experienced the empty feeling of not having control over our destiny, but we fall back on the parachute of our culture - and we survive.

In the past year, many of you have transitioned into new career fields with all of the associated hurdles of cross training, being separated from families and loved ones, learning to work with new co-workers and new duty titles outside of our seasoned and well-worn comfort zones.

We have tried our best to assist full-time and traditional members with finding new careers. We have tried to "take care" of everyone, but "taking care of airmen" implies a degree of control over our environment and that we have the ability to shelter people from the impact of external forces. This promise may have been realistic at one time, but not anymore. Instead of protection, we have found that we owe airmen opportunity: the chance to do well and to grow in one's career. We are trying to provide that, but it is a slow process.

WE are the North Dakota Air National Guard - its character, culture, and personality. WE are the long-term prospects for success because of our character: work habits, resilience, tenacity, ambition, and willingness to learn. WE will determine the future of the 119th Wing. If WE are all part of a sustainable environment, one that is the very fabric of excellence, then WE will be successful and will endure.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## Bulletin briefs

### The joint publication is coming!

Watch for it in your mailbox! The North Dakota Air and Army National Guard joint publication is expected to begin in January! The new publication will combine the best of the Staright Arrow and the Jet Letter to better inform all North Dakota National Guard members of the issues and events pertaining to them. If you receive the Jet Letter, you will now receive the joint publication.

Want to receive notices of the on-line version of the Jet Letter? Please contact Capt. Penny Ripperger, Penny.Ripperger@ndfarg.ang.af.mil to be added to the email distribution list. Or check out <http://www.ndguard.com/jointforces> to view on-line copies. More information to come on the future of the Jet Letter.

### Get your tickets for the OAY banquet!

The Outstanding Airman of the Year Banquet is January 12 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Moorhead. Contact your first sergeant to buy tickets. Cost is only \$20, a small price to pay to show appreciation to our outstanding airman!



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

**The 119th Wing vice commander, helps feed Ghanaian children at an orphanage in Accra, Ghana, during a 2006 deployment.**

# Airmen, families critical to OPSEC success

**By Cynthia Bauer,**

US Air Force Press Release

With our nation at war, operations security becomes a vital part of success in battle and force protection at home.

Although most point to classified information, there is another category of information called critical information that's also important to protect. It is that information about intentions, capabilities, operations or activities that could possibly give our adversaries an advantage. Such information may seem insignificant, but when pieced as a puzzle with other bits of information, can reveal important details of ongoing or planned operations.

Capt. Allen Reeves, chief of defensive counter information with the 67th Information Warfare Flight said the vigilance of family members as well as airmen is necessary to prevent critical information from getting into enemy hands.

"The success of our military mission depends on secrecy and surprise," he said. "Secrecy and surprise helps us do our mission both more quickly and with less risk. Enemies of freedom want information, and they're not just targeting our airmen, they'll target our families, too."

Every Air Force family has bits and pieces of information about the military mission. Members of the Air Force family must take care not to discuss information outside of their

immediate family, Reeves said.

"Some bits of critical information could include detailed unit mission information, times and locations of deployments, and large numbers of personnel transactions including pay information, powers of attorneys and wills," he said.

"References about unit morale or personnel problems or details about security also fall into the critical information category."

Reeves said where and how information is discussed is important, too.

"We all need to remember an adversary's agents tasked with collecting information frequently visit some of the same stores, clubs, recreational areas or even churches as we do," he said.

Reeves said agents can also easily collect data from cordless and cellular phones and even baby monitors using inexpensive receivers available from local electronics stores.

His advice for families? "Be alert, be careful! Spies are a reality. Our adversaries gain useful information through their agents. A foreign agent may use a variety of approaches to befriend someone and get sensitive information that can compromise operations and leave the door open for terrorism. If the person you are talking to shows excessive interest in the military affairs of your family member, notify your sponsor, the unit OPSEC program manager of the local Air Force Office of Special Investigations."

## 119th Detachment 2 going strong at Minot Air Force Base



**A tech. sgt. and master sgt., both of the 119th Security Forces Squadron, demonstrate physical apprehension and restraint techniques for North Dakota Air National Guard members during the Dec. 1 unit training assembly at the 119th Wing Detachment 2 at Minot Air Force Base, Minot, N.D. Full-time and traditional Guard member positions are still available with the 119th Security Forces Squadron at the 119th detachment in Minot, but filling fast.**

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

# 119th Medical group is keeping Hooligans ready

**By Master Sgt. Belinda L. Reep**

119th Medical Group

In December 2006, the 119<sup>th</sup> Medical Group implemented an annual, medical readiness, mass processing program called PHA-Quick. PHA-Quick is a frequent deployer program adopted from the 132<sup>nd</sup> Medical Group (Des Moines, Iowa, Air National Guard), and was tailored to the 119<sup>th</sup> Wing's mission to assist members in easily fulfilling their individual medical readiness (IMR) requirements.

We wanted PHA-Quick to be a "one-stop shop" for all annual requirements. PHA-Quick captures all of the non-fly Reserve Component Periodic Health Assessment (RCPHA) requirements—to include annual influenza vaccinations and gas mask fit testing—in one visit during the December drill weekend.

Customer satisfaction has been tremendous, as indicated in patient survey results. For December 2007, 584 non-flyers fulfilled all of their annual requirements, and were processed in a day and a half. In addition, 76 flyers and students received their influenza vaccinations making a grand total of 661 patients seen during December UTA.

Comparatively in December 2006, we saw nearly 800

patients. However, the 119<sup>th</sup> Wing's adjusted population is down by a little more than a 100 members from last year, and a substantial amount of individuals who were TDY during December UTA due to mission changes (school).

Individual processing time was as little as seven minutes to just over 2 hours; time was dependent on individual's medical needs for the year. Those members who required gas mask fit testing and who required a "long RCPHA" exam—indicated by "blue" folders—were closer to the two-hour time frame.

This fairly new process has greatly contributed to the 119<sup>th</sup> Wing's ability to consistently maintain an overall "green" IMR status with 80 percent or more of our patient population ready to deploy—making the 119<sup>th</sup> Wing a leader in the Air National Guard medical community. Furthermore, we were able to share the process with the New Orleans ANG this year, and they will be considering implementation of PHA-Quick in 2008.

Thank you for your support in making the process a huge success! We extend a special thank you to Ground Communications Flight, Services, and all Unit Health Monitors in assisting in the preparation and set up of PHA-Quick.

We encourage anyone who didn't have the opportunity to share their comments and/or has any recommendations to further strengthen the process to let us know.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

**A 1st Lt. of the 119th Medical Group, right, examines a Master of the 119th Communications Flight, as he prepares to draw blood from him during the periodic health assessment (PHA) -Quick processing Dec. 2, at the North Dakota Air National Guard.**

# Retired Happy Hooligans share their



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

**The 119th Wing Public Affairs officer assists a retired Master Sgt. as he looks over old photos. The Capt. planned and organized the picture party in an effort to tap into the valuable retiree memory banks for historical purposes.**

**By Capt. Penny A. Ripperger**

119th Wing Public Affairs

It was a wind-chilled November morning, but that didn't stop the retirees or the playful banter that often accompanies these devoted Hooligans from years ago.

A job needed to be done and these retirees, the same men who fought in previous wars, worked with aircraft that some of us have only seen on display and lived through eras in our history that were the best and worst of times for military members, came to relive their own personal and historic memories with the NDANG.

Faded photographs spanning over decades of Hooligan history covered the tables. These pictures contained anonymous faces that not only needed to be identified, but more importantly, the stories enclosed in these images needed to be told before they were lost forever to time.

Some of the stories made them laugh out loud and some stories just made them shake their head in amazement, but through all the reminiscing one aspect remained unchanged—these historical images represented people who were proud to call themselves a "Happy Hooligan."

Today, as we go through our current transition we continuously talk about the importance of adapting to change in order to remain vigilant. This is a necessary direction that our unit must take to secure our future. But through these changes, we must also recognize and appreciate the roots of this organization and how even though the structure and faces have changed through the years, the integrity of the personnel who make up the unit has not.

Our uniforms may have changed. Our mission may be completely different, but if we continue to look to the future, all the while remembering the lessons of the past, we will inspire the honorable people who call themselves a "Happy Hooligan" for generations to come.

**A retired chief master sgt. of the 119th Wing writes a name on a sticky note identifying a past Hooligan for historical purposes. He is active in North Dakota Air National Guard retiree activities. He sends out regular E-mail updates to retirees and writes the 'Retirees Corner' section of the Jet Letter on a regular basis.**

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing



# wealth of knowledge with NDANG



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

Above from left to right, retired Happy Hooligans look over photos and point out people they can identify.

Right, an example of the historic photos which the retirees were able to identify past unit members. With the help of the retiree picture party it was determined that this was a lt. col., a former Happy Hooligan, since deceased North Dakota Air National Guard pilot, as he takes a plunge from a helicopter into a Fargo-Moorhead area lake during 1963 air rescue training.

NDANG file photo



# Help in Northwood continues



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bradly A. Schneider, 119th Wing

**Nov. 17 a master sgt. of the 119 Civil Engineer Squadron, works on repairing the roof of one of the homes damaged in the tornado that hit the town of Northwood, N.D., on Aug. 26, 2007.**

**A master sgt. and senior airman, both of the 119 Civil Engineer Squadron, along with a Bismarck State College student, repair the roof of one of the houses damaged in the Aug. 26 tornado that hit Northwood.**

**By Capt. Penny A. Ripperger**

119th Wing Public Affairs

On November 17-18 the National Guard once again answered the call to help local citizens.

N.D. airmen and soldiers were involved in operation "Button-Up Northwood," a recovery effort in response to a tornado that devastated the Northwood community August 26.

Residents of Northwood focused on rebuilding efforts throughout the summer and fall, but the difficulty of finding available contractors to make the repairs created the need for the Guard's assistance.

Approximately 100 airman and soldiers worked on nine severely damaged homes, focusing primarily on repairs to "button up" the homes in time for winter. Maintenance such as roof-work, shingling, and siding replacement were the primary tasks accomplished by the Guardsmen.

"Our first priority is the safety and well being of the residents who are living in homes that may still be exposed to the elements," said N.D. Gov. John Hoeven in a television interview on November 17 during a tour of Northwood.

In addition to Gov. Hoeven, Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. Adjutant General, was in attendance to see the progress and to personally thank the Guard members at each house for their continued efforts to help the Northwood residents.

"We appreciate the efforts of our National Guard in helping the citizens of Northwood," said Hoeven.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bradly A. Schneider, 119th Wing

# Keep an open mind and opportunities will be there

## Meet the chiefs

N.Dak. Command Chief of Air Component Command

I joined the Army in 1970 and served two tours in Vietnam. Joining the NDANG in 1973, I worked in various aircraft maintenance positions. The August 1998 movement of the Alert Detachment from March Air Force Base, Ca. to Langley Air Force Base, Va. was happening and I had the **opportunity** to be the chief enlisted manager.

In 2000, there was another **opportunity** to become the noncommissioned officer in charge of the 12<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Fighter Squadron in Curacao, Netherland Antilles. The mission was for F-16s to intercept and identify drug smugglers coming out of South America.

In 2001, the mission in Curacao was closed and once again, I had the **opportunity** to become the executive assistant to the chief of counterdrugs at the National Guard Bureau in Washington, D.C. I have had many beneficial **opportunities** in this position, such as conducting 'enlisted calls,' that has given me experience in mentoring and developing both soldiers and airmen for their careers.

In 2007 I had the **opportunity** to become the senior enlisted manager of the National Guard Bureau Joint Staff. It's my responsibility to keep the Director NGB Joint Staff informed of all enlisted issues for the airmen and soldiers who work in the Joint Staff.

I am honored to have the **opportunity** to work with another N.D. airman, Maj. Gen. Terry Scherling, who is the director of the Joint Staff at NGB and has been a great motivating force. She is

impressive to watch and rewarding to work for.

I have approximately 90 ANG airmen and 110 ARNG soldiers now and it is a great **opportunity** for me to provide them with information and mentorship. They are a hungry crowd and it is exciting to see how much they appreciate the effort.

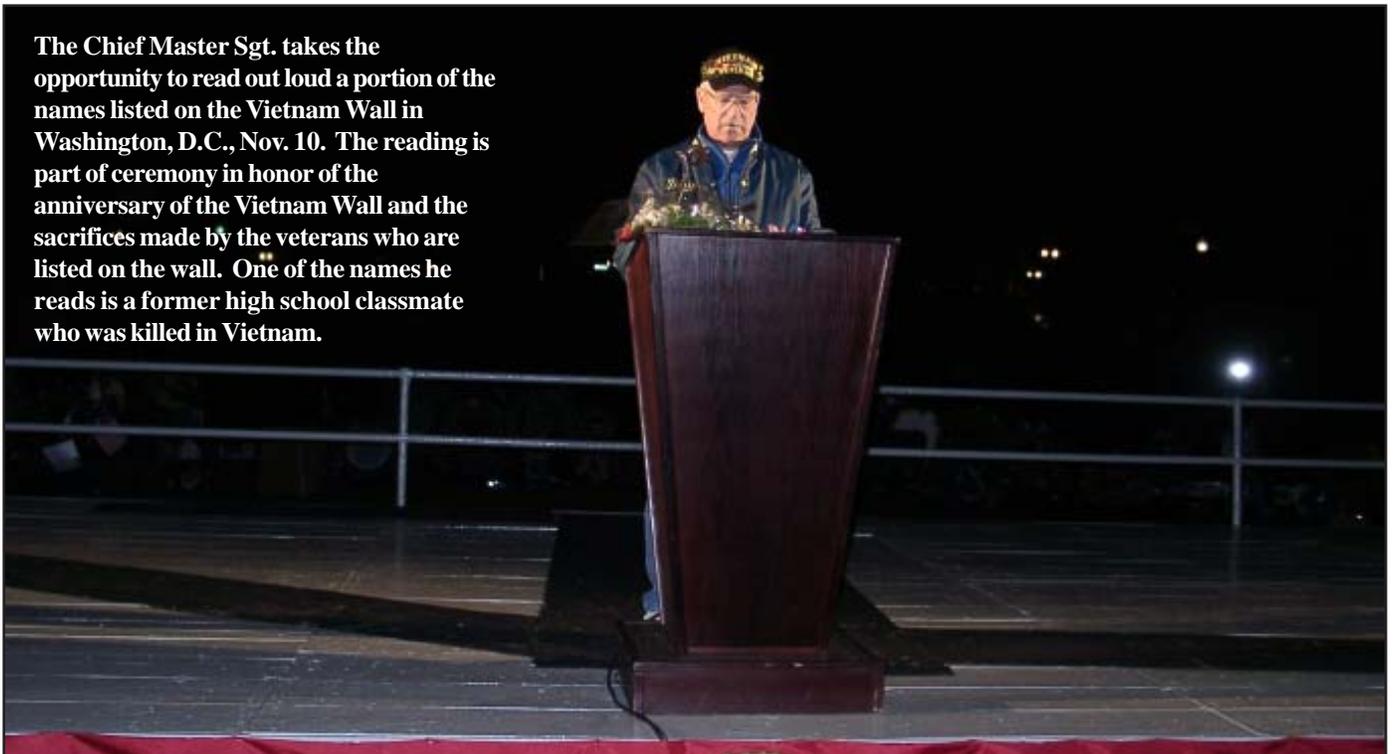
My assignment here in Washington, D.C., has provided my wife and me with many outstanding **opportunities**. I belong to the Foreign Joint Services NCO Association, which consists of Senior NCOs from 22 different foreign embassies in Washington, D.C. We meet monthly at the different embassies where we normally get a lecture from a one-star equivalent who explains their country's military role and how they interact with the U.S. military.

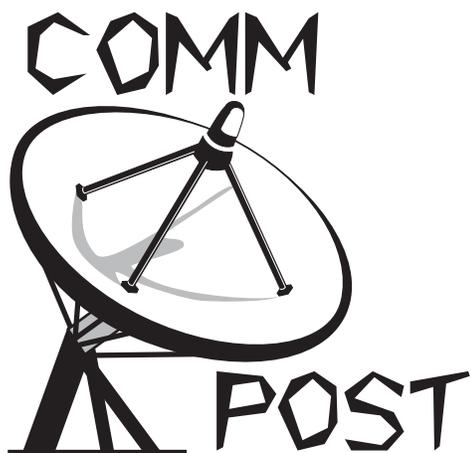
Periodically, I have the honor and **opportunity** to wash the Vietnam and Korean walls with the Air Force Sergeants Association, work with the NGB Chiefs' group to rebuild homes for the elderly and participate in many special events and military balls. My mess dress gets quite a work out here!

My entire career has been full of unforgettable **opportunities**. I have had the **opportunity** to travel the world, compete in great contests with great co-workers, and meet great people. I've also had the **opportunity** to learn that your more painful experiences can turn into the best thing that ever happened to you.

Advice: Always take the **opportunity** to do the right thing, even when you think no one is looking. You never know when that young airman is watching. You may be their example of how they should look or act for their future.

**The Chief Master Sgt. takes the opportunity to read out loud a portion of the names listed on the Vietnam Wall in Washington, D.C., Nov. 10. The reading is part of ceremony in honor of the anniversary of the Vietnam Wall and the sacrifices made by the veterans who are listed on the wall. One of the names he reads is a former high school classmate who was killed in Vietnam.**





800-Free411 offered by Jinglenetworks. The telephone numbers for both of these services are 1-800-GOOG-411 (800-466-411) and 1800-Free-411 (800-373-3411) respectively. Drop what you are doing and put these numbers in your cell phone now. Both of these services use sophisticated voice recognition to successfully translate a callers vocal responses to prompts into database searches to find phone listings, for free!! It's really that simple. You tell the system what city and state for the listing you need, and go from there. The two services are a little different, and here is where the difference starts. GOOG-411 will only find businesses, by name or by category. GOOG-411 will also connect you once you are satisfied it has found the right number for you. 1-800-Free411 will do business as well as residential listings, but it won't connect you. This is all free, really. What's the catch you say? Another difference is that GOOG-411 is currently being supported mainly by Google's war chest of billions of dollars while 1-800-Free411 is ad driven. Yes, if you use 1-800-Free411, you have to listen to short advertisements before you get your number, but that's okay, it gives you time to find something to write with. Many times these ads will have something to do with the service or product of the business you are trying to find. Another difference is that while the GOOG-411 website really doesn't do anything, the 1-800-Free411 website can be used to easily and quickly search for business and residential phone numbers online, also for free. There is an intriguing back story concerning how it came about that both of these services are available at the moment, and the Google 411 service is in beta testing while Google decides how to incorporate advertising into GOOG-411. Sometimes this column is just about some computer related development that is convenient, handy, interesting and affects our everyday lives. This has been one of those times. Enjoy!

## Free lunch!

**By Master Sgt. John W. Noone (ret.)**  
North Dakota Air National Guard

I hate paying for something that I can get for free. This is one reason I use OpenOffice at home and why I will drive miles looking for an ATM branded by my bank, so I don't have to pay ATM fees. I have never been a fan of calling information when I needed to know a phone number. The phone book is free and 411 can be expensive depending on your service. But I have stumbled upon two amazing and free services that solve this problem and to show that I am not promoting one over the other, I will describe details about both of them. They are GOOG-411 offered by Google, and 1-

## Guard members salute veterans departing on honor flight



**North Dakota Air National Guard members show their respect with a salute for retired U.S. military veterans flying from Fargo, N.D., to Washington, D.C., on an Honor Flight to tour the National World War II Memorial Nov. 2. The 119th Wing personnel are standing at the mouth of the runway at Hector International Airport as the Northwest Airlines charter flight departs Fargo, N.D., for the nation's capitol.**

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

## Retirements, Promotions, New Members

### 119 AMS

#### **Promotions**

SSgt Stoelting, Justin B.

#### **New Members**

TSgt Lundby, Mitchell D.  
A1C Johnson, Matthew D.

### 119 CES

#### **Promotions**

SMSgt McCullough, Cameron S.  
MSgt Dohm, John W. III  
TSgt Peterson, Charles D.  
SrA Olson, Theta A.  
SrA Kuhn, Jared L.  
SrA Penberthy, Coltyn J.  
SrA Mattheis, Samantha A.  
SrA Williams, Paul J.  
SrA Johansen, Derek S.  
SrA Giere, Justin B.

#### **New Members**

TSgt Burmeister, James Ernest P.  
A1C Warren, Michael J.

### 119 CF

#### **Promotions**

MSgt Saxton, Charles R.

#### **New Members**

AB Moss, Dane S.

### 178 FS

#### **Promotions**

Maj Farmer, Robert M.  
Maj Peterson, Timothy J.  
Capt Domitrovich, Christopher M.  
Capt Hayden, Christopher D.  
SSgt Cox, Jennifer L.

#### **New Members**

Maj Peterson, Timothy J.  
AB Magnus, Samantha A.

#### **Appointments**

2Lt Davidson, Robert D.

### 119 JFHQ

#### **Promotions**

LtCol Mathern, Gerard D.  
CMS Peterson, Sandra G.

### 119 MXS

#### **Promotions**

SSgt Nelson, Ryan C.

### 119 WG

#### **Promotions**

MSgt Bjur, Daniel D.

#### **New Members**

SrA Ressler, Brandan C.

### 119 LRS

#### **Promotions**

CMSgt Olson, Robert C.  
MSgt Nelson, Scott L.  
TSgt McConnell, Cole R.  
SSgt Majerus, Cody A.

### 119 MDG

#### **Promotions**

TSgt Ehrichs, Benjamin B.  
SrA Gaughan, Roman J.

### 119 OSF

#### **Promotions**

SSgt Sola, Brandon A.  
SrA Lewis, Corbin W.  
**New Members**  
LTC Padden, Geary L.

### 119 SFS

#### **Promotions**

SrA Mark, Daniel S.  
SSgt Gunter, Jeffrey A.  
SSgt Perkerewicz, Benjamin J.  
SSgt Zumbo, Jacob P.  
SrA Shore, Jessica A.  
SrA Oien, Darcy J.  
AB Jordahl, Derek R.

#### **Appointments**

2LT Davidson, Robert D.

### 119 SFS- Det 2

#### **New Members**

SSgt Gonzalez, Francisco  
SSgt Goodwin, Harold C., Jr.  
A1C Rupert, Sarah A.  
AB Keel, Angela M.

## 2008 UTA Schedule

**January** 12-13  
**February** 9-10  
**March** 8-9  
**April** 12-13  
**May** 3-4  
**June** 7-8  
**July** 12-13  
**August** 9-10  
**September** 20-21  
**October** 11-12  
**November** 1-2  
**December** 6-7

## Meal Menu for Jan. UTA

### **Sat., Jan 12:**

#### **Main Line**

Meatballs  
Baked Cod  
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy  
Mixed Vegetables

#### **Short Line**

Chicken Strips  
French Fries

### **Sun., Jan 13:**

#### **Main Line**

Baked Ham  
Baked Potato  
Turkey Ala King  
Egg Noodles  
Pease

#### **Short Line**

Hamburger/Cheeseburger  
French Fries

## Retirees' Corner

### By Chief Master Sgt. Jack C. Tietgens (ret.)

North Dakota Air National Guard

The Fargo-Moorhead area retired Happy Hooligans have a new meeting place and a new meeting time, as the Valley Kitchen closed its doors in mid-December.

Beginning with our January 2008 breakfast, our new home will be the Northtown Grill, located in the Stamart Truck Plaza, I-29 & 12<sup>th</sup> Ave N, Fargo. This new location will give the Hooligans a private and larger room. We'll also receive a 10 percent discount from our tab. The new meeting time, is 8 a.m. Adequate parking is available adjacent to the northwest entrance to the Plaza. Our meeting room is located to the immediate left.

The retired Happy Hooligans in the Mesa, Arizona, and surrounding area, meet at Sossaman's On the Green Restaurant at 9 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month, November through April. Don Foster is the point of contact: (480) 604-6223.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Communications Flight

A master sgt. of 119th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, opens the door of a Happy Hooligan C-21 Lear Jet and welcomes Santa Claus to the North Dakota Air National Guard Dec. 8, for the Children's' Christmas Party. Santa made a short walk from the flight line, through the hangar and into the Aerospace Dining Facility, where he proceeded to distribute gifts to the eager children of Happy Hooligans. Over the years, Santa has received the assistance of the North Dakota Air National Guard in many ways. He has arrived at the annual Christmas party by many means including: F-16 aircraft, fire truck, and HUMVEE, along with his usual mode of travel.

## **JET LETTER**

119th WING  
North Dakota Air National Guard  
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# **TO THE FAMILY OF:**