

104th SERVICES FLIGHT

MISSION

LINEAGE

104th Services Flight

STATIONS

Westfield, MA

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Massachusetts Air National Guard Squadron Earns Culinary Excellence Air Force Master Sgt. James Tierney cuts the corned beef as Staff Sgt. Quincy Cope looks on during the 2009 Disney Award evaluation on March 3, 2009 This year's award marks the second time in five years that the team from Barnes has been selected as the top services flight in the Air National Guard. Under the leadership of Capt. Ramon Diaz Jr., Chief Master Sgt. Richard Bates, Senior Master

Sgt. Richard Baker, Senior Master Sgt. Bill Butman and Master Sgt. James Tierney, the team was able to demonstrate for the judges what the "BarneStormer" family has come to expect from the 104th Services Flight – pure excellence.

The association's evaluation team recognized two individuals with an opportunity to attend a one-week culinary arts course in California, sponsored by the Culinary Institute of America. Along with top chefs from throughout the country, Tech. Sgt. Tanya Sweeney and Staff Sgt. Quincy Cope will learn various aspects of advanced food preparation. "The teamwork and pride demonstrated by this flight was incredible," said Jim Krueger, Hennessy Travelers Association Secretary/Treasurer. "We typically do not recognize two members for the culinary art scholarship, but these two shined so brightly," said Krueger.

2009 WESTFIELD, Mass. – A national food services Association honored a Massachusetts Air National Guard Squadron for culinary excellence at the Hotel-Motel Show in Chicago on May 18, 2009. The Hennessy Travelers Association selected the 104th Fighter Wing Services Flight Squadron, Massachusetts National Guard, as the top Air National Guard Food Services Squadron in the nation and the 2009 winner of the Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth W. Disney Trophy Food Services Award. This annual award recognizes the Air National Guard unit that provides the highest quality guest service and food quality while inspiring teamwork and dedication. T

he Disney Award is named for former food service manager Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Disney, who was killed outside McGhee Tyson Air Base, Tenn., in 1977. Disney was known for his innovative approach to advancing military food service into a fine dining experience. The association is made up of restaurant and tourism professionals throughout the United States who are committed to developing, sponsoring and promoting educational opportunities for members of the U. S. Armed Forces serving in hospitality assignments.

They also provide encouragement, educational opportunities, support and assistance for members who have an interest in pursuing a career in the hospitality industry upon their departure from military service. Col. Robert T. Brooks Jr., 104th Fighter Wing commander, Massachusetts Air National Guard, said, "We are very proud of our services members, they worked extremely hard preparing for this competition. This award is a testament to their dedication and commitment to serve the members of this base."

2009 It was 10 years ago last month when the new 104th Dining Facility opened its doors. The ribbon cutting took place at the front entrance with U.S. Rep. John Oliver, D-Amherst, Lt. Col. Dan Swift, Wing Commander, Maj. Gen. Raymond Vezina, State TAG, Maj. Gen. Richard Platt and Sam Carpetta, the general contractor. The \$2.2 million building with 11,300 square feet enabled feeding 300 base personnel at one sitting. Congressman John Oliver, who was instrumental in supporting the state funds to build the new Dining Facility, received the first plate of food from Tech. Sgt. Jay Salus at its grand opening.

Oliver reiterated what he said during the ground-breaking , The strongest, most diversified facilities are really going to be in the best shape for future use|| referring to the multipurpose use of the facility. And what's good for the base is good for the city, said Mayor Richard K. Sullivan, Jr. The city is well aware that without this unit there probably wouldn't be any Barnes

Airport, The base, home to the 104th Fighter Wing, is the city's largest employer, with over 1,100 employees. Maj. Gen. Raymond A. Vezina, Adjutant General of the Massachusetts National Guard, praised the close ties between the base and the city. The old dining facility (Building 008 now referred to as the Club) didn't have the seating capacity nor the equipment to serve the wing during UTA weekends. You get a bit bottlenecked in the line said Tech. Sgt Dean Lambert, the former Dining Hall Supervisor. The new 11,300 square-foot facility, nearly doubles the capacity of the existing dining hall. We have a world-class organization here, and this will give us a world class facility to take care of them her said Lt. Col. Daniel P. Swift, Commander of the 104th Fighter Wing. Master Sgt. James Tierney, the current Dining Facility Superintendent, is a 38+ year veteran at the 104th Fighter Wing.

He recalls when the old dining facility was originally the Base Fire Station. The garage doors would open up at each end, the fire trucks would pull out of the station bays while the wooden picnic tables that CE built would be moved from against the walls and positioned in the bays as the dining area. The problem we had was once the garage doors were opened, it would cool off the food. Then the heavy wooden picnic tables would have to be stored to the side as we swept the concrete bay for the Fire Trucks to pull back in.

Pat Connors, Real Property Manager, verified building 008 was built in 1950 with building 001 to follow in 1951. For the past 10 years the dining facility hosted a vast variety of functions other than drill weekend meals. The annual Chamber of Commerce Breakfast, Family Pasta Night and the Children's Halloween, Christmas and Easter events have always joined the local community and the 104th Families together. Most of all, the 104th Services Flight is proud to be a two time winner of the SMSgt Kenneth W. Disney Award winner in 2003 and 2009. JUNE 2009

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.