



February 15, 2020



The 161st Air Refueling Wing (161 ARW) is a unit of the Arizona Air National Guard, stationed at Goldwater Air National Guard Base, Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, Arizona. Mission: The 161st Air Refueling Wing principal mission is air refueling. The wing enhances the Air Force's capability to accomplish its primary missions of Global Reach and Global Power. It also provides aerial refueling support to Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps aircraft as well as aircraft of allied nations.



Colonel Patrick W. Donaldson is the commander of the 161st Air Refueling Wing, Arizona Air National Guard, in Phoenix. He is responsible for more than 800 Airmen and eight KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft based at Goldwater Air National Guard Base.

Colonel Donaldson was raised in Phoenix before attending college at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN, on a ROTC scholarship. After nine years on active duty, Colonel Donaldson returned home to Phoenix and joined the 161st Air Refueling Wing in 2003. While serving as a Drill Status Guardsman from 2003 to 2010, Colonel Donaldson engaged in a variety of roles in the Business Aviation industry.

In early 2011, Colonel Donaldson joined the 161st Operations Group as a full time member and assumed Command of the 161st Operations Support Flight in September of that year. In October of 2013, he assumed Command of the 161st Maintenance Group where he served until April of 2015. He then commanded the 161st Operations Group until January 2018. Colonel Donaldson has flown missions in support of Operations Northern Watch, Southern Watch, Deny Flight, Allied Force, Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom.

REGISTRATION must be received by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 13th

\$25 per person includes lunch. Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA

Send to: Charlie Bitner, 134 E. Northview Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85020, Or contact Charlie at 602-943-0028 or Charles@bitner36.com