



# HIGH MACH

Serving the World's Premier Flight Simulation Test Center



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## Second phase of TEDAC project underway at C-Plant

By Shawn Jacobs  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

Officials from on and off base attended the construction kickoff ceremony for the Turbine Engine Dry Air Capability (TEDAC) Phase II Sept. 20 at the C-Plant Airside building at AEDC.

The \$49.7 million contract is managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, with AEDC providing technical oversight and Walbridge Aldinger as the design/build contractor.

TEDAC Phase I provided a new desiccant dryer facility capable of providing 350 pounds mass per second – a unit of measure for mass flow – of dry air for turbine engine altitude testing. The desiccant dryer facility will provide the only altitude test capability when the refrigeration cooler (RC-1) is taken out of service for refurbishment in 2012 and will provide additional dry air as required after the system is returned to service.

The RC-1 cooler is a 150 foot by 42 foot steel vessel that uses multi-staged refrigeration systems to condition the supply air for turbine altitude testing, according to Kris Hughes, Air Force program manager for TEDAC.

TEDAC Phase II replaces two major refrigeration systems (RC-13 and RC-14), their associated piping and pumps, switchgear for the RC-3 cooler, cooling coils in the RC-1 cooler and two glycol concentrators. The project also includes construction of a new 54-inch bypass duct.

“The TEDAC program will significantly improve plant reliability while reducing AEDC’s environmental risks,” Hughes said. “Phase II efforts began in 2009 and upon completion will eliminate 50,000 gallons of trichloroethylene, 48,000 pounds of R12 refrigerant and their potential environmental hazards. AEDC will no longer

See TEDAC, page 3



From left, Kris Hughes, TEDAC program manager; Col. Rick Petito, AEDC Maintenance Division director; Col. Steven Roemhildt, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District commander; Col. Michael Brewer, AEDC commander; Michael Dorsch, Walbridge Aldinger project executive; Michael Schleider, AEDC Test Systems Division director; Cmdr. Brian Allen, AEDC Test Division deputy director; and Louis Vanacore, Aerospace Testing Alliance (ATA) director of Projects and Design Engineering at the TEDAC Phase II kickoff Sept. 20. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)

## AFMC restructures to cut overhead, make command more efficient

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio – Providing greater military capabilities, improving readiness and operating effectively in the current fiscal environment is the purpose of an Air Force Materiel Command-wide restructure announced by Air Force officials today.

AFMC will reduce the number of its centers from 12 to five. This will cut overhead costs and redundant layers of staff and is expected to generate Air Force savings equal to \$109 million annually while improving AFMC’s overall management and lines of communication.

The restructure is one of many efficiency initiatives across the Air Force. With known cuts of at least \$400 billion over the next five years, the Department of Defense has challenged all the Services to increase funding for mission functions through efficiency savings in overhead, support and non-mission areas. In response, the Air Force identified \$33.3 billion in savings over the next five years, to include savings garnered by reducing civilian workforce numbers. The restructure will allow AFMC to eliminate 1,051 civilian positions in a way that preserves

**How does this impact AEDC?**

**Find out on page 3**

mission capability.

As part of the Nov. 2 Air Force announcement on restructuring the Service’s civilian workforce, another 1,088 AFMC positions will be reduced as the Air Force streamlines installation support functions.

By reducing overhead costs and restructuring the way it manages the Air Force’s research and development, test and evaluation, acquisition and sustainment of weapon systems and nuclear support, AFMC will provide better support to the warfighter and use taxpayer dollars more efficiently.

“We owe it to the warfighter and the American taxpayer,” said Gen. Donald Hoffman, AFMC commander. “In these times of tight budgets, our success will depend on a fundamental change in culture across our command. This is an opportuni-

ty to do things better and replace a culture of perceived endless money with one of efficiency, savings and restraint.”

The restructure will be implemented by Oct. 1, 2012.

AFMC will move away from its traditional, management-staff model, with a center and headquarters staff on each AFMC base. By creating a “lead” center for each of its five mission areas, it will streamline the way it accomplishes its work without harming its ability to perform its mission.

In addition, the restructure better integrates the command workforce. “We’ll approach our business in a more integrated fashion rather than thinking separately about research, test, acquisition or sustainment in a center-by-center, base-by-base mindset. The restructure will drive us to more standardized processes,” General Hoffman said.

Under the new structure, the command’s acquisition mission will be led by a single organization, the new Air Force Life Cycle Management Center headquartered

See AFMC, page 3

## Civilian workforce restructuring announced

By Lt. Col. Cynthia Anderson  
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Air Force officials announced several adjustments to the civilian workforce.

In response to direction from the Secretary of Defense for DOD to stop civilian growth above fiscal year 2010 levels and the need to add 5,900 positions against the Air Force’s top priorities, the Air Force eliminated approximately 9,000 positions. These adjustments reflect several initiatives designed to align limited resources based on Air Forces priorities. This process is an ongoing effort to increase efficiencies, reduce overhead and eliminate redundancy.

“We can’t be successful without our talented and experienced civilian workforce,” said Michael B. Donley, Secretary of the Air Force. “We are making difficult choices about how to deliberately restructure and posture the force and will continue to look for new ways of accomplishing the mission,” said Donley. “We

See CIVILIANS, page 5

## AEDC employee coaches LEGO® League teams



Mark Andrews, AEDC maintenance engineer and volunteer LEGO League coach, is shown helping students adjust a robot Oct. 6 at South Middle School in Cowan. (Photo by Andrea Stephens)

By Shawn Jacobs  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

These aren’t your father’s LEGOs®, but your father probably didn’t participate in LEGO League.

FIRST® LEGO League (FLL) is a robotics program for ages 9-14, which is designed to get children excited about science and technology and teach them valuable employment and life skills. FIRST represents the United States Foundation for Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.

Mark Andrews, an AEDC maintenance engineer, has coached LEGO League teams consisting of sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders at South Middle School (SMS) in Cowan for four years. This year, the school has expanded to two teams, which are gearing up for regional and state competition.

Every September, FLL releases a Challenge, which is based on a real-world scientific topic. Each Challenge has two

parts: the Robot Game and the Project. Teams of up to 10 children, with one adult coach, participate in the Challenge by programming an autonomous LEGO robot to score points on a themed playing field (Robot Game) and developing a solution to a problem they have identified (Project).

Andrews coaches both of the teams in the Robot Game – while his wife, Jean Ann Andrews, the school librarian, and Karen Mathews, a teacher – coach students in developing a skit for the Project.

The theme of this year’s Challenge is “The Food Factor” and includes the whole process, from harvesting to processing to delivering to supermarkets to picking up food and keeping it fresh.

Andrews, of Center Grove, has worked at AEDC for 20 years. He said the school was introduced to the LEGO League by

See LEGO, page 5

### In This Issue....

**Paying tribute to veterans ...**  
Page 4

**ATA employee keeps history on display ...**  
Page 7

**Award nominees and winners ...**  
Pages 9-10



## HIGH MACH

**Arnold Engineering Development Center**  
An Air Force Materiel Command Test Center

**Col. Michael Brewer**  
Commander

**Jason Austin**  
Director,  
Public Affairs



**Steve Pearson**  
General Manager,  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

**High Mach Staff:**  
Kathy Gattis, ATA Public Affairs Manager & Executive Editor  
Patrick Ary, Editor  
Information International Associates, Inc., Production

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"ATA will be a trusted partner in delivering best value warfighter support and assert stewardship to AEDC"

### Core Values

- Be accountable for our own actions
- Ensure the safety of individuals and equipment
- Demonstrate the highest integrity and ethical standards
- Communicate clearly and openly
- Deliver professional and technical excellence
- Nurture, enable and treat people fairly
- Align with customer goals and objectives
- Use disciplined and innovative processes
- Continually improve in all that we do



### Core Values

- Integrity first
- Service before self
- Excellence in all we do

# Veterans Day: A time to remember

By Gen. Donald Hoffman  
AFMC Commander



Hoffman

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio** – Duty, honor, country: these words are just as significant today as they were in the past. As Air Force Materiel Command continues to equip warfighters, these words have strengthened our resolve and prepared us for the future.

All the great wars fought at home and abroad transformed this country, making it strong and dedicated to the cause of freedom.

Many of the veterans of these conflicts paid the highest price, and it is on Veterans Day that we pause and say, "I remember."

Today, we continue to have AFMC Airmen serving in harm's way around the world, as we enter our 10th year of operations following the attacks of 9/11.

In this time of war, we should be mindful that today's warfighters deserve their place with past veterans who showed courage and sacrificed greatly in this nation's pursuit of freedom and peace.

During times of war, there are many instances

of bravery as generations of girls and boys leave home and return as women and men.

Stories are told of a father who pushed across Europe into Germany, an uncle killed in the Pusan Perimeter battles in Korea, a brother wounded in Vietnam or a sister who served in Afghanistan. Each held the hope that the next generation would never have to go to war.

This is a day of remembrance – of the pain of separation, from the loss of a close friend in battle to the concern for the safety of a deployed spouse.

But it is also a time to remember the triumphs, victories and freedoms that our veterans have made possible.

So on this Veterans Day, take time to pause, remember and never forget.

# Honoring the men and women who defend our freedom everyday

By Lt. Col. Marty Nutter  
AEDC Chaplain



Nutter

During this month of November we, as a people, recognize the service and sacrifice of our nation's veterans. This year Veteran's Day is 11/11/11.

We could also refer to 11/11/11 in another way. For, it was on the 11th day, in this 11th month, at the 11th hour, that the guns of World War I went silent. World War I officially ended June 28, 1919, with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. Yet, the actual fighting between the Allies and Germany had ended seven months earlier with the armistice, which went into effect on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918.

In 1954, having been through World War II and Korea, the 83rd U.S. Congress – at the urging of the veterans service organizations – amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars. From World War I to the present, from Kuwait

to Kandahar, from Iraq to Afghanistan, our veterans have borne the costs of America's wars. They have stood and watched over America's peace. We're grateful to all veterans who have served the great cause of freedom.

As November 11, 2011 approaches, we pause to give thanks for the millions of Americans who have strengthened our nation with exemplary service and sacrifice. Our veterans are drawn from many generations and many backgrounds. Some have cut across great battlefields. Some have engaged war on the seas. Others have patrolled the open skies. All have contributed to the character and greatness of America.

Furthermore, as November 11, 2011 approaches, we honor a new generation

of men and women who are defending our freedom at this hour.

Ever since "another eleventh", (September 11, 2001), our Armed Forces have engaged the enemy, the terrorists, on many fronts. At this hour, more than 1.5 million Americans are serving the cause of freedom and peace around the world. We "Salute You" as well.

Finally, as November 11, 2011 approaches, we pray for all veterans – for those who have served and those who continue to serve – the cause of freedom.

Let us pray:  
O Lord God,  
We give You thanks for our veterans.

We're grateful You inspired their sense of patriotism and strengthened them in unselfish service. Stretch forth Your almighty arm to strengthen and protect those who are serving in our armed forces at this hour. Support them in times of war and in times of peace. Keep them from all evil. Give them courage and loyalty, granting that in all things they may serve honestly and without reproach. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen.

# Mentors can appear in many different forms

By Chief Master Sgt. Steve McDonald  
Chief of Enlisted Force Development

A new assignment. A new project. An unexpected or planned change in your life. The need for a decision in a situation you haven't faced before. These are all times when it is great to have someone to give you advice and counsel.

Naturally, you want someone who has been through the experience and dealt with it successfully.

When most people think of mentoring, they generally conjure up a picture of the elder statesman or the very successful person who is older and of a higher professional status. How else can they help you unless they have seen it all, experienced it all, and overcome it all?

The Air Force fosters a mentoring culture expecting Airmen to be both mentors and mentees. The Air Force mentoring program recognizes and supports both formal and informal mentoring relationships.

A formal relationship is one established almost through an agreement. Will you be my mentor? Yes, I will be your mentor. Short of signing a contract, it's a relationship both parties enter knowingly and with expectations. The most basic formal mentoring relationship is between a supervisor and subordinate.

An informal relationship, on the other hand, is one often occurring out of the normal course of events, when two people realize they have something in

common and one can help the other because of a shared experience. The interesting thing about the informal mentor is that you never know who that person is going to be. It can easily break the stereotypes of the older, wiser, seen-it-all, and done-it-all model.

The important thing about being a mentor is a willingness to help. It's having a vested interest in someone else's success. This is easy to see from a supervisor-subordinate relationship.

Of course, supervisors have a vested interest in the success of their subordinates. But it should also be easy to see how a person can also have a vested interest in the success of a co-worker or peer.

In both the informal or formal mentoring relationships, it doesn't have to be a co-worker or supervisor. It can be anyone who has experienced the situation and wants to help.

My previous tenure as the Command Chief Master Sergeant for the 86th Airlift Wing, Ramstein Air Base, Germany, is a good illustration of how different types of mentoring relationships exist. This was my first command chief position, so there were a lot of unknowns on my part and any advice I received was very welcome.

My commander was an officer I had known from a previous assignment. He

was (and is still) a remarkable officer and provided very sage advice and insightful guidance. I learned a great deal from him. This was more of a formal mentoring relationship, and is one I look back on with fond memories. To this day, I know I can still call him and receive guidance and advice at any time.

In addition to my commander, the other chiefs in the wing were crucial to the overall success of our mission and our Airmen. I counted on them for guidance and blatant honesty as we worked together. We didn't always agree, but the input I received was invaluable. This was more of an informal mentoring relationship, and I probably never told those chiefs how much I appreciated their advice or how much they helped me grow professionally.

The final mentoring relationship I would like to discuss, from my time at Ramstein, was with my executive assistant. He was a technical sergeant. We would have frequent discussions about the Air Force, the mission, and what was required to be successful.

From the outside, this would appear as a chief master sergeant mentoring a technical sergeant, and I hope there was some of that going on. What others did not see was the volume of sage advice I received as we talked. He had a perspective on the enlisted force I did not have. After all, it had

been more than 10 years since I was at his level. I needed his viewpoint, and I trusted his input. I think I was mentored, in many ways, just as much as he was.

I understand there is a difference between mentoring and just giving advice. I also understand the importance of having formal and informal mentors in your life.

The point I would like to make is that there are people all around you who can provide mentoring, and you shouldn't dismiss the opportunity to learn from them. Effective mentoring

relationships can come from many different sources.

I would not dare try to define an exact formula for a successful mentoring relationship; however, Air Force officials are in the process of publishing a mentoring manual to provide concrete examples of the different mentoring relationships, best practices to be instilled in a mentoring program, expectations of mentors and mentees, and training resources.

When it is released, I challenge each of you to read it and apply the techniques to your personal and professional development.

## Action Line

### Team AEDC

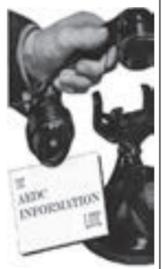
**I believe in free and open communications with our Team AEDC employees, and that's why we have the Action Line available. People can use the Action Line to clear up rumors, ask questions, suggest ideas on improvements, enter complaints or get other issues off their chests. They can access the Action Line in one of three ways: via the AEDC intranet home page, Action Line boxes at the base cafeterias and by calling 454-6000.**

**Although the Action Line is always available, the best and fastest way to get things resolved is by using your chain of command or by contacting the organization directly involved. I encourage everyone to go that route first, then if the situation isn't made right, give us a chance.**

Col. Michael Brewer  
AEDC Commander

# 454-3600

The AEDC Information Line is available for ATA employees to get the latest information on a wide variety of emergency circumstances that could impact base operations or driving conditions.



## Smoking Policy

1. The following revised AEDC smoking policy is effective immediately. Smoking is permitted solely in designated areas identified by a plastic "smoke genie." This receptacle is for the sole purpose of cigarette butt disposal. If there is no receptacle, you cannot smoke in that area. It is the responsibility of all smokers to clean up the area surrounding the receptacles for any cigarette butts on the ground. Smoking in government-owned vehicles is strictly prohibited. Personnel are allowed to smoke in their personal vehicles at any time. In case of inclement or cold weather, employees are encouraged to use their personal vehicles if a sheltered designated smoking area is not available nearby. Smoking areas will be held to the absolute minimum and will be located in low traffic, low visibility areas away from points of building ingress/egress and air intakes. A map of all authorized smoking areas is available on the AEDC web portal at [https://lpapro.arnold.af.mil/PORTALimages/Smoking area map. pdf](https://lpapro.arnold.af.mil/PORTALimages/Smoking%20area%20map.pdf). Smoking near a facility in an area not designated on the map is prohibited and any smoking receptacles located in areas not shown on the map will be removed. All "smoking permitted" and "no smoking" signs will be removed unless specifically required by OSHA.

The fact a person smokes has no bearing on the number of breaks they may take. Breaks should be taken in accordance with the company/agency personnel policies that apply to all employees.

Regarding use of smokeless tobacco, containers of tobacco waste product, including sealed containers, must not be left unattended or disposed of in trash receptacles. Users of smokeless tobacco must flush tobacco waste down the toilet. Smokeless is strictly prohibited in conference room meetings and other areas, e.g. PMEL, where Air Force regulations specifically prohibit.

- Supervisors at every level will ensure this policy is followed. Disciplinary action is appropriate for repeated violations.
- Updates to this policy will be made in the future to further align with Air Force guidelines.
- This letter supersedes previous letter dated 28 October 2006, subject as above.

**AFMC from page 1**

at Wright-Patterson AFB. The AFLCMC will consolidate the missions now performed by the Aeronautical Systems Center at Wright-Patterson, the Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom AFB, Mass., and the Air Armament Center at Eglin AFB, Fla. These three acquisition workforces will report directly to AFLCMC, eliminating layers of management overhead. Also joining AFLCMC will be the new Air Force Security Assistance and Cooperation Directorate, formerly the Air Force Security Assistance Center. It will continue its foreign military sales mission from its Wright-Patterson location.

Program executive officers will remain at their respective bases and continue to report to the Under Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition at the Pentagon. Also, the current Aerospace Sustainment Directorate program offices at Robins AFB, Ga.; Tinker AFB, Okla., and Hill AFB, Utah, will align to a respective PEO while mission work remains at these locations.

The command's maintenance and supply mission will be led by the new Air Force Sustainment Center to be located at Tinker AFB. The AFSC will consolidate oversight of most missions now performed at the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center at Tinker AFB; the Warner Robins ALC at Robins AFB; and the Ogdan ALC at Hill AFB. Like the current acquisition centers, the three ALC headquarters will stand down and their combined workforce will report to the new AFSC. Each location will continue to operate one of the Air Force's three air depots, to be named the Oklahoma City, Warner Robins and Ogdan Air Logistics Complexes, respectively.

Maintenance Wings at each location will stand down and all subordinate groups will directly report to their respective Air Logistics Complex. The current Aerospace Sustainment Directorates will become the Aerospace Sustainment Divisions reporting to their respective Logistics Complex.

The Air Force Global Logistics

Support Center headquarters at Scott AFB, Ill., responsible for Air Force-wide supply chain management, will stand down.

The 635th Supply Chain Operations Wing at Scott AFB will align to the AFSC. The 448th Supply Chain Management Wing will become the 448th Supply Chain Operations Wing at Tinker and also align to the AFSC. The 591st Supply Chain Management Group at Wright-Patterson, which was a direct report to the AFGLSC, will stand down and become a Logistics Operations Division.

The command's test mission will also be consolidated. The center for test management will be the new Air Force Test Center at Edwards AFB, Calif., presently the Air Force Flight Test Center. The 46th Test Wing at Eglin AFB, Fla., and the Arnold Engineering and Development Center at Arnold AFB, Tenn., to be renamed the Arnold Engineering and Development Complex, will report to the AFTC, along with the 412th Test Wing, at Edwards.



The Air Force Research Laboratory, headquartered at Wright-Patterson, will continue in its role as the command's center for science, technology, research and development.

AFMC's nuclear support mission will continue to be led by the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center at Kirtland AFB, N.M.

All centers will be led by general officers. The AFLCMC and AFSC commanders will each be a three-star general. AFRL, the AFTC and the AFNWC will each

be led by a two-star.

The Air Logistics Complexes at Tinker, Robins and Hill will be led by one-star generals, as will the test wings at Eglin and Edwards. The AFSAC commander at Wright-Patterson will become a director and remain a one-star.

AFMC will use all personnel management options available to mitigate impacts on civilian employees, to include using normal attrition and early retirement and incentive opportunities where possible.

## Force structure impacts at Arnold expected to be small

By Jason Austin  
Arnold AFB Public Affairs

Two force structure announcements were made Nov. 2 by the U.S. Air Force and the Air Force Materiel Command. Arnold AFB leadership expects minimal impacts as a result of the announcements.

### Air Force civilian workforce restructure/Global Base Support

The first announcement, made by the Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs office, referenced Air Force-wide civilian workforce restructuring. This initia-

tive will create 5,900 positions against the Air Force's top priorities and will eliminate 9,000 positions across the force. As of this announcement, Arnold AFB will lose only 18 positions, which are being managed by normal attrition rates.

To support this effort, the Air Force is using all personnel management options available to limit impacts on civilian employees, to include attrition, early retirement and incentive opportunities where and when needed.

AEDC has not participated in

the current voluntary reductions because the necessary reductions were able to be made through other personnel management actions. At this time, AEDC leadership does not foresee a need to offer voluntary measures based on the limited impact at our location for this initiative.

### Air Force Materiel Command Five Center Construct

The second announcement is the Five Center construct announced by AFMC. Under this construct, AFMC will reduce the number of centers it operates from 12 to five to realize efficien-

cies by reducing overhead costs.

Within this new construct, Arnold Engineering Development Center is left intact. AEDC will now fall under the Air Force Test Center and be renamed the Arnold Engineering Development Complex, which will give us more flexibility in our local operational decisions.

AEDC will no longer report directly to AFMC as they currently do, but will report to the general officer in charge of the AFTC, who will be equally

See ARNOLD, page 5

## Turkey Trot set for Nov. 17

The 26th Annual Turkey Trot will take place at 2:30 p.m. Nov. 17 in front of the A&E Building.

Registration tables will be set up Nov. 7-10 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Cafe 100 in the A&E Building and in the Building 1103 lobby.

A long sleeve Turkey Trot T-shirt is available for minimum donation of \$15. Also, bring a non-perishable food item for an extra chance to win a door prize. Entry forms and donations are due by Nov. 10.

Door prizes will be given out to three race participants and for the best Turkey Day costume.

All proceeds from this year's event will go to the Good Samaritan of Tullahoma.

For more information, contact one of the following:

- 1st Lt. Alex Henning, x.5252
- 1st Lt. CharMeeka Scroggins, x. 5623
- 1st Lt. Wesley Meredith, x. 3851
- 2nd Lt. Will Edge, x. 4244
- 2nd Lt. Matthew Karczewski, x. 5533

## Junior Shotgun Clay Target Team forming

The Arnold AFB Highland Rim Shooter's Club (HRSC) is seeking interested youth to form a Junior Shotgun Clay Target Team.

HRSC will participate in the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) and the Amateur Trapshooting Association's AIM (Accuracy, Integrity and Marksmanship) program with the sponsorship of a Junior Clay Target Team to compete in Skeet and Trap at the local, state and national levels.

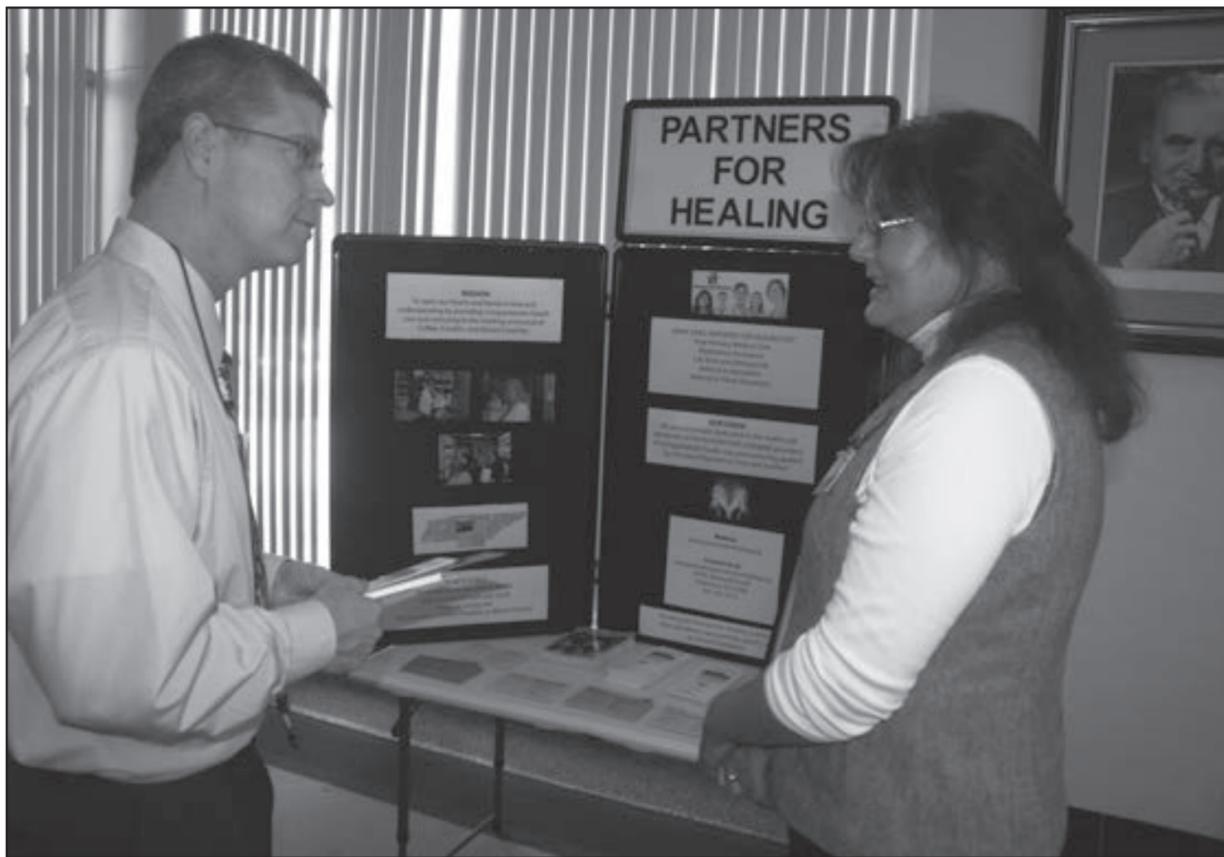
The team will be classed/squaded by both shooting ability and age group, insuring that shooters will be competing with shooters of equal ability. The goals of the team include an introduction to the clay target sports, furthering firearms safety/education and developing shooting skills to the level of consideration for college scholarships in the clay target sports.

Over 100 colleges currently have scholarships for shooting sports, and junior shooters from the local area have attended college on clay target scholarships.

Sign-ups for the Junior Clay Target Teams for middle school and high school students will be held at the Highland Rim Skeet and Trap Ranges at 1325 Harton Boulevard, Tullahoma at 10 a.m. on Nov. 5 and Nov. 12.

For more information contact HRSC Skeet & Trap Chairman Sherman Mays at [stockshop@bellsouth.net](mailto:stockshop@bellsouth.net) or (931) 723-4649.

## CFC Charity Fair



AEDC Executive Director Britt Covington talks with a representative from one of the 25 local charities in attendance at the Combined Federal Campaign's (CFC) Charity Fair, Oct. 20, in the lobby of the A&E Building. The CFC is the annual fundraising drive conducted by federal employees in their workplaces each fall. With a goal of \$50,000, this year's CFC runs through Nov. 16. For more information, call CFC Chair Tony Echols at 454-4291 or Deputy Chair Donna Paredez at 454-6279. Although CFC is for DOD civilians and military, ATA employees have a separate charity campaign via payroll deduction, which runs through the calendar year. 2011 marks the 50th anniversary of the CFC program. (Photo by Philip Lorenz III)

**TEDAC from page 1**

require these hazardous chemicals for plant operations with the completion of TEDAC."

Removing those chemicals will eliminate significant environmental hazards at AEDC, according to David Browning, ATA's TEDAC program manager.

"These chemicals will be replaced with environmentally-friendly refrigerants and brines," Browning said. "The final system, expected to be completed in November 2012, will be able to provide 1,200 pounds per second of dry air at minus 24 degrees Fahrenheit to support turbine engine testing."

AEDC Commander Col. Michael Brewer said the project is about capabilities, environmental stewardship and, especially, mission.

"Because of the work that's done here, we're going to provide capabilities so that a 25-, 26- or 30-year-old who is out flying in combat today and in the future is not going to worry about his motor quitting," Colonel Brewer explained. "He's not going to have that happen."

"He's not going to know what a chiller is. He's not going to know what dry air impact is to a motor. All he's going to know is he can rely on his motor not to quit. That's what our job is to do and that's what the work today will support."

Michael Dorsch, project executive for Walbridge Aldinger, said his company hired the designers and subcontractors who are physically performing the labor. He said he is excited that the project is part of a new

program that focuses on hiring veterans.

"'Helmets to Hardhats' is a program with the building trades [unions] and a lot of contractors," Dorsch said. "It takes former servicemen and brings them into the building trades [and] gets them started in their careers. This is the first ... federal [contract] that's part of the project agreement as a part of that."

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be responsible for overseeing the contract to ensure its integrity is being maintained. That includes making sure the quality of the project and overall safety are adhered to, according to Col. Steven Roemhildt, the Corps' Mobile District commander.

"We'll have people out here

every day that the contractor is working," Colonel Roemhildt said. "We've had a superb relationship with them [Walbridge Aldinger] in the past and we continue to look forward to having a super partnership on this particular project and look forward to a successful conclusion here in the next few months."

TEDAC was planned, designed, constructed and validated using the DOD System Engineering (SE) process. This process began with identification of the system requirements and followed a rigorous engineering approach as the project was planned, designed and executed. Engineering reviews throughout the process continually mapped the solution back to the user requirements to assure TEDAC would satisfy AEDC's needs.

# AEDC pays tribute to veterans at annual VA Picnic

By Shawn Jacobs  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

Sunny skies and warm weather provided the perfect setting for the annual VA Picnic hosted Oct. 6 by AEDC at the Arnold Lakeside Center (ALC).

Approximately 95 veterans, along with their caregivers, were treated to hot dogs and hamburgers with all the trimmings and had an opportunity to sing along or dance to karaoke, take a boat ride on Woods Reservoir or a ride in a horse-drawn carriage. The veterans, ranging in age from 52 to 88, came from the Alvin C. York Veterans Administration Medical Center and the Tennessee State Veterans home, both in Murfreesboro.

Tech. Sgt. John Bankston helped Tech. Sgt. Michael Hurley organize the event with assistance from Master Sgt. Patrick Lazarus. Sergeant Bankston said 42 volunteers from AEDC and a number from the surrounding community helped activities run smoothly. He thanked the people and organizations who donated the food and gifts for the veterans.

"It's unreal the amount

of gifts they brought, and all those gifts [were] divided up into individual bags and donated to each visiting vet," Sergeant Bankston said. "Whatever there was no room for we boxed it up and put it in the back of the buses when they were leaving. I was impressed and shocked at the same time with the amount of gifts. It was a lot.

"The AFSA [Air Force Sergeants Association] provided a lot of the financial backing as far as paying the club. Every professional organization on base, whether directly or indirectly, had something to do with that event. That includes the Arnold Top IV, the Junior Force Council and the CGOC [Company Grade Officers Council]."

The Arnold Community Council, area chambers of commerce, business and individuals also donated to the event.

Sharon Stephens, a recreation therapist at the York VA Medical Center, said the veterans look forward to the picnic every year.

"It is one of their favorite outings," Stephens said. "Being on the water and having boat rides and horse and buggy rides is not some-

thing they get to participate in on a regular basis.

"Just being told 'thank you' means a lot to them. When we arrived the people welcomed them by clapping as they entered the building."

Karla Mages, another recreation therapist at the VA, said the picnic was therapeutic for many of the veterans.

"It brings many reminiscing opportunities for our vets, especially with the men and women in uniform giving recognition and personal attention to each vet," Mages said. "It makes them feel special and appreciated ... and brightens their day. I have several vets who are still talking about that day."

Sergeant Bankston said connecting with the older veterans seemed to come naturally to the local Air Force personnel.

"Personally, it was sobering," Sergeant Bankston said. "There were folks from the Korean and Vietnam wars and just to be able to kind of connect with them, even in a two-minute conversation, was pretty surreal. Sometimes you do think alike. They're not really that much different than us; they're just older."



Above AEDC Commander Col. Michael Brewer shares a laugh with a veteran on the steps of the ALC. Inside the ALC, AEDC firefighters served up lunch for the visiting veterans. (Photos by Rick Goodfriend)



Left, Veterans prepare for a cruise on Woods Reservoir, one of many activities at the annual VA Picnic. Right, Veterans and Air Force personnel enjoy a "friendly" game of cards at the ALC. (Photos by Rick Goodfriend)



**CIVILIANS** from page 1

can't afford business as usual."

Upon receiving the Secretary of Defense's 2010 memo directing that civilian manpower costs stay within fiscal year 2010 levels, the Air Force began a comprehensive strategic review of the entire AF civilian workforce to determine whether or not civilian authorizations were in the right places to meet mission priorities.

The strategic review revealed several imbalances. Some high priority areas needed to grow, while some management and overhead functions needed stream-

lining. These imbalances led to a variety of initiatives focused on realigning scarce manpower resources with the most critical missions.

In particular, the Air Force will grow by approximately 5,900 positions in acquisition, the nuclear enterprise, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and other key areas while reducing approximately 9,000 positions in management, staff, and support areas.

"We clearly understand the turbulence these and future reductions will cause in the workforce," Gen.

Norton Schwartz, Chief of Staff of the Air Force said. "We are making every effort to use voluntary measures to achieve reductions whenever possible."

Beginning in May 2011, the Air Force implemented a series of hiring controls and voluntary separation programs designed to reduce overall manpower costs, but these hiring controls did not provide the results required to operate within our fiscal constraints.

"The initiatives announced Nov. 2 represent the next step toward that goal, but there is more work

to be done," said Brig. Gen. Gina Grosso, Director of Manpower, Organization, and Resources. "The Air Force remains over fiscal year 2010 manpower levels and will continue to develop enterprise-wide solutions to achieve our goals with minimal impact to mission. The Air Force must still define an additional 4,500 civilian positions for reduction."

As details become final, Air Force officials will release information on the next set of initiatives.

Air Force-wide, local leaders will be sharing the results of the civilian man-

power adjustments with their workforces over the next several days.

"Civilian manpower adjustments will occur at all levels of the Air Force," Grosso said. "We are focused on shaping the force within our fiscal constraints and are committed to maintaining our long history of excellence as we build the Air Force of the future."

"At this time, we are not sure whether a reduction in force will be necessary," she said. "We are pursuing all available voluntary force management measures to include civilian hiring controls with the

goal of avoiding non-voluntary measures. Every vacancy we don't fill brings us one position closer to fiscal year 2010 levels, and reduces the possibility for a RIF."

Given the constrained fiscal environment, Air Force members should expect continued workforce shaping measures affecting military, civilian, and contractors, Grosso said.

"We understand the stress caused by uncertainty and will do our best to share information across the workforce as soon as it becomes available," said Grosso.

**ARNOLD** from page 3

vested in our success and our resourcing as the other two test wings. Additionally, gaining greater efficiencies by reducing overhead costs will equate to better support to the warfighter and better use of taxpayer dollars.

The AFMC restructure will take place during the coming year with implementation timelines still being developed and no completion date currently set. According to the AFMC news release, "this will cut overhead costs and redundant layers of staff and is expected to generate Air Force savings equal to \$109 million annually while improving AFMC's overall management and lines of communication."

**Local activities**

Consistent with these actions at higher headquarters, the leadership team at Arnold AFB has been conducting a series of bottoms-up reviews of every aspect of our operating model to find greater efficiencies. We are actively seeking innovative ideas to reduce costs while enhancing the Air Force's delivery of research, development, test and evaluation for our nation and our partners.

We appreciate the local communities support to our workforce, who are members of your community, as we continue to make adjustments and do our part to meet mandated budget goals.

**Validating F-35 engine processes for future**

**Petty Officer 1st Class Jake Bauer, a Strike Fighter Squadron 101 maintainer, makes adjustments to an F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter engine at Eglin AFB, Fla., Oct. 27. Airmen, Marines and Sailors are executing step-by-step processes to validate engine maintenance procedures for the F-135 to ensure they are sound before being taught to future F-35 maintainers. (U.S. Air Force photo/Samuel King Jr.)**

**LEGO** from page 1

the Tullahoma Chapter of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE).

"For the first two years, the teams were relatively small and they [TSPE] supplied us with a robot," Andrews said. "ATA donated money this past year and we were able to buy a second robot, which is allowing us to have two teams this year. It [having two teams] is a lot more challenging than I thought it would be originally."

The Food Factor Robot Game includes tables with LEGO pieces to represent bacteria, which must be knocked off the table. It also has fish that must be brought back to "base" and a truck with produce that must be brought to base.

Other tasks include moving a corn harvester and knocking corn out of the hopper in the back and other challenges. Teams may choose the tasks they want to accomplish, but they must be completed in an allotted time.

"First off, they have to determine what task they want to do, how the task is going to be done and

design and implement the tool that's going to attach to the robot to accomplish the task," Andrews said. "Then you have to program the robot and you can't program it from beginning to end; one step at a time is the way that I've taught them."

"Sometimes it's hard to restrain kids because they want to get the whole thing done at one time, but [with] this type of programming you're best off if you just do one step at a time. It's the engineering process."

Andrews said the Project portion of the Challenge involves research by the students.

"They have to present a skit to judges," he said. "They talk about how [the food process] happens, how food can get contaminated and how to take precautions to prevent it from being contaminated. They get evaluated by how well they work together as a team."

Last year, SMS took fifth place in the state competition out of approximately 65 teams at their level, which Andrews said surprised him.

"We didn't think we did nearly that well," he said.

"We were happy with how we did."

SMS Principal Sandra Stewart said LEGO League can benefit students in a number of ways.

"Students in LEGO League learn leadership and teamwork skills as they research and apply solutions related to math, science, engineering and technology," she said. "The LEGO League provides an excellent opportunity for students to develop their interests and knowledge in these areas."

Stewart said the school is fortunate that Andrews volunteers to coach the robot teams.

"His expertise in the sciences and engineering has provided invaluable experiences for our students," she said. "We consider him an important member of our team at South Middle School."

Stewart also thanked ATA for the recent donation, which allowed the purchase of a new robot.

"With the purchase of the new robot, we will be able to have two teams representing South Middle School in regional and state competi-

tions," she explained. "The robot will also be used by students in science classes."

Andrews said Deda Cunningham, wife of ATA Human Resources Branch Manager Mike Cunningham, was instrumental in getting the LEGO League team established at the school.

"Deda, in all honesty, was probably responsible for getting it out at South Middle School the first year it was there," he said. "She wanted a little help, so I went out there and helped and basically it has been going on from that time frame."

"Every year I learn more and the more that I learn, the better you can coach the team and pass ideas on to them. You learn from watching other teams. One reason that our team has had the success that we have is that we don't start with a new coach every two years. We're building on experience and it's good for the overall program."

Regional competition among schools in five area counties begins Nov. 19 at East Middle School in Tullahoma. State competition is Dec. 10 in Cookeville.

**LEGO robotics donation**

Kathy Gattis, ATA Public Affairs manager, presents a \$500 donation to Sandra Stewart (right), South Middle School (SMS) principal, and Karen Mathews, teacher, to purchase a LEGO robotics kit to use in promoting STEM education at the school. The robot will be used by the SMS LEGO League team and by science classes at the school. (Photo provided)



# Pieces of history proudly placed on display

## Memorabilia illustrates Bowden's military heritage

By Shawn Jacobs  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

A couple of old bugles, a worn Army jacket and a gold pan may not mean much to the average observer.

But to Jeannie Bowden, facility security officer (FSO) for ATA, they represent her family's rich military service that goes back generations. Bowden proudly displays the items – gifts from her father – in her office at Arnold AFB.

The bugles and hat date back to World War I, when Bowden's grandfather, Guy Carpenter, was a part of the Bugle Corps for the U.S. Army. Guy was born in 1897 and began working in the Eastern Kentucky coal mines at the age of 11. In 1916, he joined the Army. The bugles were used to play taps and to indicate other daily routines of camp. After boot camp, Guy's division was sent to defend the U.S. border from Mexicans crossing illegally into the United States.

Guy was stationed at Eagle Pass, Texas, which was the first U.S. settlement on the Rio Grande River. He was discharged upon the signing of the armistice in 1918 that ended the war and he spent the remainder of his life working in coal mines and representing the miners as financial secretary of the Local United Mineworkers Union.

"The hat is so well preserved," Bowden observed. "I'm not even sure how he was able to do that, but I love the fact that I have the photograph of him with his Bugle Corps wearing the very hat that I have in the office."

The Army jacket belonged to Bowden's uncle, Herman Carpenter, who made a career in the military after enlisting in the Army in 1942 during World War II. He served with the 38th Infantry Division in the South Pacific. Discharged after the Japanese surrendered in 1945, Herman returned home to Lynch, Ky., married, re-enlisted and served the remainder of his career as a master sergeant.

Herman was the platoon leader and supply sergeant for Baker Company, 185th Engineer Combat Battalion

on the central Korean front, enduring a brutal 17-day fight against the Chinese in freezing weather at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. Herman was also stationed in England and at several bases in the United States. After serving in the Vietnam War, he retired from military service. He was awarded a Purple Heart and a Silver Star.

Bowden said she is proud to possess his jacket, as well as a few other pieces of memorabilia.

"My dad gave me that because it had the Carpenter name on it and he thought that with the other memorabilia it made our story more complete," she said.

The prized gold pan belonged to Bowden's aunt, Geneva Carpenter. In 1944, Geneva applied to work for the FBI in Washington, D.C., received her security clearance and became an FBI messenger. Each messenger was assigned a particular route for delivery of confidential correspondence.

After a couple of years, Geneva returned to Lynch, Ky., to complete her education. She committed her life to teaching in independent schools for U.S. military children around the world, including Korea, Turkey, Taiwan, Okinawa and her last assignment, Adak, in the Aleutian Islands of Alaska.

"Geneva had a great heart and – probably because of the family's military history – she had a great heart for the military," Bowden said. "As a matter of fact ... I have native dolls from Okinawa and all the various places that my aunt went to teach U.S. military school-children."

"When she retired from teaching school in Alaska, as you can imagine, they gave her a beautiful commemorative gold pan. She loved Alaska and retired in



Jeannie Bowden's grandfather is pictured above with his U.S. Army Bugle Corps during World War I wearing the hat she has on display in her office. Her grandfather's World War I bugles and hat, her uncle's Army jacket and a commemorative gold pan that belonged to her aunt adorn Bowden's office at AEDC. (Top photo provided; bottom photo by Rick Goodfriend)



Anchorage."

Bowden's father, who lives in the small community of Smith's Grove, Ky., near Bowling Green, wanted Bowden to have the memorabilia due to his daughter's connection to the military at AEDC.

"My dad was so proud that I worked at a military installation and that I'm involved with national security responsibilities," Bowden said. "Even though they have two sons and a grandson, Dad wanted me to have these while I'm working here to display in my office. When my career is over, he'd like me to pass them on to my brother, who can pass them on to his son."

Bowden, who has worked at AEDC for 32 years, lives in Tullahoma with her husband, John, who worked at AEDC for 30 years as a pipefitter/welder and later as Turbines craft supervisor. They have five children and 11 grandchildren.

With ancestors whose military involvement dates back until at least the Civil War, Bowden believes it is no accident that her career



involves national security. "It has been such a privilege to support the U.S. military national security mission at AEDC all these

years," she said. "It has given me the opportunity to carry on part of the military heritage of my family."

"Sometimes you figure

out what you're supposed to do in life and sometimes you're just not sure. I'm confident that I'm right where I'm supposed to be."

## Air Force vice chief testifies on force readiness

By Senior Master Sgt. David Byron  
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

**WASHINGTON (AFNS)** – The Air Force vice chief of staff provided the Air Force perspective on readiness in an age of austerity to the House Armed Services Committee's Subcommittee on Readiness here Oct. 27.

Gen. Phil Breedlove joined his Army, Navy and Marine Corps counterparts in discussing the challenges expected as the services look to find big budget savings over the next 10 years.

"These are challenging times," General Breedlove said. "The Air Force has

been at war for more than two decades."

Before joint operations began in Afghanistan shortly after 9/11, the general said the Air Force was already continuously rotating forces to the region to enforce no-fly zones over Iraq following the end of the first Gulf War.

Today, the Air Force operates with 34 percent fewer aircraft and roughly 26 percent fewer people than it had when the first Gulf War started, General Breedlove said. Meanwhile, the operations tempo has

only increased, with no expectation of lessening in the future.

The increased tempo has stressed the service, leading to a slow but steady decline in unit readiness since 2003, he said.

The Air Force has also had to expand or add additional mission capabilities during the current conflicts, General Breedlove said.

"We have been asked to support this joint team in intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance," he said. "We've also been asked to build an increased capacity in special operations, and we will continue to meet both of

those requirements."

However, doing so is made all the more difficult by the pressing need to recapitalize the aging fighter, tanker and bomber fleets, the general said.

"We are flying the oldest fleet that the Air Force has ever flown," the general explained.

While recognizing that the Air Force will play its part in the nation's economic recovery, General Breedlove said the service also "desperately" needs to recapitalize its aging force.

He said his service is reviewing all areas to find ways to operate with fewer

dollars while also modernizing systems. This includes operating in a more energy efficient manner in order to lower fuel costs.

However, the general said the Air Force will have a difficult time meeting all of the nation's defense needs if the special committee established by the Budget Control Act fails to reach consensus and triggers additional automatic budget cuts.

"We believe we'll have to then begin to look at what are the capabilities that we'll have to shed and no longer offer to this joint team," General Breedlove said.

Such a budget cut would

affect the number of bases the Air Force could support, lessen the number of Airmen who could be retained, and affect the industrial base that provides and maintains Air Force equipment and resources, the general explained.

Despite the uncertain budget environment, General Breedlove said senior Air Force leaders remain committed to ensuring the readiness of their service.

"Our goal is to do two things: first of all, maintain a credible military force," General Breedlove emphasized. "And second, avoid becoming a hollow force."



Recycle.

# 2011 Chili Cook-Off Winners

Seven teams took part in this year's chili cook-off at the Arnold Lakeside Center Oct. 14. Teams competed for bragging rights and cash prizes provided by Ascend Federal Credit Union.



**Best Overall:**  
ALC Kitchen Divas  
Captain: Whitney Etheridge



**Best Overall Runner-Up:**  
Team Save the Ta-Ta's  
Captain: Jenny Conry



**Most Unusual Ingredient:**  
Team Can-Your-Chili-  
Scintillate-The-Atmosphere  
Captain: Taylor Swanson  
(Ingredient: Cactus)



**People's Choice:**  
Kindermann's Mushroom Chili  
Captain: Tara Kindermann



# Milestones



**Ted Boswell**  
35 years

**30 YEARS**

Michael Sneed, ATA  
Richard Franks, ATA  
David Harrison, ATA  
Melvin Turner, ATA

**25 YEARS**

Omra Schultz, ATA  
William Shappley, ATA  
Greg Holcomb, ATA  
Peter Allingham, ATA

**20 YEARS**

John Kelley, ATA  
Tracy McDonald, ATA

Beverly Wooten, ATA

**15 YEARS**

John Lamb, ATA

**10 YEARS**

Jackie Hensley II, ATA

**5 YEARS**

Jennifer Reynolds, NAF  
Mark Lewis, ATA  
Richard Hopkins Jr., ATA  
Michael Magistro, ATA

**INBOUND MILITARY**

Capt. Allyson Benko, AF

**OUTBOUND MILITARY**

1st Lt. Marc Honrath, AF  
Capt. Rodney Fried, AF  
1st Lt. Jamie Gurganus, AF

**NEW HIRES**

Robert Merrill, AF

**PROMOTIONS**

Stanley Burgett, ATA  
Jennifer Johnson, ATA  
Stephen Mayes, ATA  
Sarah Cothran, ATA

# AEDC quarterly award winners announced



**1st Lt. Wesley Meredith**  
Company Grade Officer

Lieutenant Meredith, flight systems test manager, was recognized for directing several tests that have a direct and positive impact on aircraft survivability.



**Master Sgt. Patrick Lazarus**  
Senior Non-Commissioned Officer

Sergeant Lazarus, quality assurance superintendent, was recognized for assessing 22 facilities and conducting audits on toolboxes, housekeeping and safety.



**Tech Sgt. James Key**  
Non-Commissioned Officer

Sergeant Key, weapons safety manager, was recognized for assuring safety of AEDC personnel and providing positive accountability for critical test assets.



**Senior Airman Tara Kindermann**  
Honor Guard

Airman Kindermann was recognized for performing flawlessly in more than 75 percent of all honor guard details during the quarter and her role in coordinating a flag retirement ceremony.



**Peter Macaluso**  
Civilian of the Quarter  
Scientist/Engineer

Macaluso, aerospace engineer, was recognized for his work in delivering the B-52H model and executing store separation tests for Global Strike Command.



**Dee Wolfe**  
Civilian of the Quarter  
Clerical/Technical Support

Wolfe, education and training, was recognized for taking on workforce development chief duties and ensuring consistency in education and training requirements across AEDC.



**Heather Fair**  
Civilian of the Quarter  
Administrative

Fair, financial management specialist, was recognized for controlling an ever-fluctuating Operations and Maintenance budget despite seven months of budget uncertainty.



**Joan Burlew**  
Services Employee of the  
Quarter, Category I

Burlew, custodial worker, was recognized for having a conscientious approach to custodial duties, diligence in inventory maintenance and a strong stance on safety.



**Preston Martin**  
Services Employee of the  
Quarter, Category II

Martin, commercial sponsorship coordinator, was recognized for handling additional duties and succeeding in donations for events and advertising.

*Congratulations  
Winners!*



## Mead receives William M. Dunne People's Choice Award

Ricky Mead, a Jacobs Technology Group program manager, has received the William M. Dunne People's Choice Award.

Mead is the program manager for modernization programs in the von Kármán Gas Dynamics Facility (VKF) Tunnels A/B/C and 4T.

The programs, which consist of nine individual projects he began planning in 2006, are valued at \$50 million.

Mead has pioneered the way a program management office plans and schedules work for a large outage, developing a database that accounts for each man-

hour for each project demolition and installation activity.

He has fostered a spirit of cooperation and teamwork within a large group of stakeholders, including ATA, Jacobs Technology Group and government representatives from AEDC's Test Support Group and Test and Maintenance groups. Mead conducts regular team meetings and numerous program briefings for AEDC senior staff and regularly counsels peers and subordinates to find solutions that are best for both AEDC and the individuals involved in his programs.

Combined with continual

emphasis on safety, the first four months of the A/B/C installation outage this year have been executed with no recordable injuries.

Even in the midst of continuing technical, resource and programmatic challenges, Mead continues to find ways to solve very complex issues within his programs.

"I am honored to have been selected to receive this award for the work that has been accomplished to-date on the A/B/C and 4T Modernization efforts," Mead said. "It has been a great experience to work with such an exceptional group of people over the past five years on these two programs, and

we are all looking forward to their successful completion over the next three years."

Mead, a Shelbyville native, started his career with Sverdrup Technology at AEDC in 1989 and was transferred to the Technology Group in 1990. He worked in the Tullahoma office until 2004, when he returned to AEDC as part of a corporate reach-back initiative on ATA's contract. His noteworthy accomplishments are indicative of his personal initiative, cooperation and customer focus that characterize his outstanding career working with AEDC.



Mead

## ATA Team Member of the Quarter

The ATA Team Member of the Quarter is John Payne.

Payne is a technical specialist with the Project and Design Engineering Department.

He was recognized for his commitment to AEDC energy programs. He recently took the initiative to introduce a TVA rebate program to AEDC that could result in hundreds of thousands of dollars in energy savings.

Payne is also responsible for the lighting program at AEDC and frequently researches energy-efficient lighting solutions for the base.

Payne has worked at AEDC for 28 years.



Payne

## ATA Craft Team Member of the Quarter

The ATA Craft Team Member of the Quarter is Brian P. Barnes.

Barnes was recognized for spearheading the revamping of the AEDC Fire Department's Respiratory Program, including face fit test of 33 personnel, training on system operation and maintenance and developing and conducting air samples for the department's newly-assigned tactical mobile air compressor.

Barnes also was recognized for his training and organizing skills. He led personalized training for a junior firefighter on two career development courses, resulting in the trainee attaining an International Fire Service certification ahead of schedule.

Barnes has worked at AEDC two years.



Barnes

# ATA quarterly award winners



**Dana Alexander**  
Team Member  
Facilities Operations and Maintenance

Alexander, engineer/scientist, was recognized for her excellent work with the ATA Hazard Abatement Log to record and track workplace hazards.



**Mike Phillips**  
Team Member  
Facilities Operations and Maintenance

Phillips, ETF issuing official, was recognized for his thorough knowledge and understanding of the functions, limitations and hazards of the ETF A/B plants.



**Pam Farris**  
Team Member  
Information Technology and Systems

Farris, postal assistant/base telephone operator, was recognized for accomplishing two roles with a cheerful and positive attitude.



**Andrew Jackson**  
Team Member  
Integrated Test and Evaluation

Jackson, project engineer, was recognized for compiling test data that prevented a test article's removal, rebuild and reinstallation that would have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.



**Dusty Vaughn**  
Team Member  
Integrated Test and Evaluation

Vaughn, project manager, was recognized for high performance in executing tasks to ensure the success of APTU upgrade jobs and preparation for test programs.



**Bradley Walker**  
Team Member  
Support Services

Walker, emergency management technician, was recognized for continually displaying leadership and professionalism while executing specialized emergency management duties.



**Jeff Harvey**  
Team Member  
Resource Provisioning

Harvey, planner/scheduler, was recognized for producing a plan to complete the B-52H model during a period where the inside machinist workload was near maximum capacity.



**Fred Blevins**  
Craft Team Member  
Integrated Test and Evaluation

Blevins, iron worker, was recognized for his experience, which enabled insertion of a large test article in J-6 without any incidents.



**Michael Summers**  
Craft Team Member  
Facilities Operations and Maintenance

Summers, operating engineer lead, was recognized for playing a key role in the cleanup effort after strong storms blew through the AEDC area in the spring.



**Bill Hane**  
Craft Team Member  
Facilities Operation and Maintenance

Hane, lead machinist, was recognized for providing excellent support for the Condition-Based Maintenance oil analysis function and the expanding mechanical ultrasound and infrared programs.



**John Grissom**  
Craft Team Member  
Resource Provisioning

Grissom, lead vehicle dispatcher, was recognized for developing a plan to accommodate transporting the base population for the 60th anniversary picnic.



**Michael Williams**  
Craft Team Member  
Information Technology and Systems

Williams, instrument technician specialist, was recognized for devising a quicker and safer method for calibrations in the J-1 Test Cell.



**John Leonard**  
Customer Service – Internal  
Resource Provisioning

Leonard, subcontract administrator, was recognized for guiding IT engineers through every step of the \$1.8 million IT&S Virtual Infrastructure Upgrade Project and facilitating communication between the vendor and ATA.



**Pam Limbaugh**  
Customer Service – Internal  
Support Services

Limbaugh, project control officer, was recognized for her work in assembling fiscal year 2012 budgets and workload proposal products while successfully closing out 2011 financials and award fee.



**J.T. Thompson**  
Customer Service – External  
Integrated Test and Evaluation

Thompson's keen attention to detail and thorough test planning, preparation and conduct practices on the B-52H Store Separation test resulted in a program which met 100 percent of data objectives on-budget.

# GREAT JOB NOMINEES!



# New wind turbines help Air Force go green

By Senior Master Sgt. David Byron  
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

**WASHINGTON (AFNS)**—Under Secretary of the Air Force Erin C. Conaton visited the Massachusetts Military Reservation in Cape Cod, Mass., Oct. 28 for a ribbon-cutting ceremony for two new wind turbines.

The 1.5 megawatt wind turbines, in addition to an existing turbine, were built to offset electrical costs for powering numerous groundwater cleanup systems at the reservation.

The turbines will pay for all the Air Force's electric needs for groundwater remediation at the military reservation, saving more than \$1.5 million per year, officials said. The turbines will also offset emissions generated by fossil-fueled

power plants, reducing the Air Force's carbon footprint.

"The future is bright for environmental cleanup, renewable energy and energy conservation at the Massachusetts Military Reservation," Conaton said. "As Air Force missions expand and change over time, we will be integrating the full spectrum of energy considerations into our facility design and construction projects and into our mission operations."

As the Air Force under secretary, Conaton is responsible for ensuring the Air Force has what it needs to perform its missions in support of national security. Dependence on fossil fuels can be a li-

ability in both supply and cost, generating the need to decrease demand and diversify supply sources. The wind turbine project is an example of an Air Force initiative to meet this need.

"The Air Force currently operates 85 on-base renewable energy projects at 43 installations, playing a significant role in the national strategy to establish greater energy security via conservation and alternative energy use," Conaton said.

According to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reports, the Air Force is the third largest purchaser of green power in the federal government.

"The Air Force values and respects the natural resources placed in our trust; this is the environ-



The Air Force's two new wind turbines at the Massachusetts Military Reservation in Cape Cod, Mass., seen from a distance, pose an interesting contrast to an ornamental traditional windmill atop a local Cape Cod shop. The 1.5 megawatt wind turbines, in addition to an existing turbine, were built to offset electrical costs for powering numerous groundwater cleanup systems at the reservation. The turbines will pay for all the Air Force's electric needs for groundwater remediation at MMR, saving more than \$1.5 million per year. (U.S. Air Force photo/Scott Dehainaut)

ment where we live, train and operate," Conaton said. "Every Airman must

protect and conserve these resources for the benefit of present and future mis-

sion requirements and for the benefit of present and future generations."

## Tops in Blue looking for variety of talent in 2012

**SAN ANTONIO (AFNS)** — Tops in Blue officials are currently seeking additional applicants with specialty talent for the 2012 Air Force Worldwide Talent Search.

"Tops in Blue is not just for singers," said Jeri White, the Tops in Blue production director. "We're also looking for comedians, magicians, jugglers and more. If you're a total force Airman with a specialty talent, you're encouraged to apply."

After an in-depth review of applications, the top 80-100 Airmen will be invited to participate in the talent competition Jan. 9-16, 2012, at Lackland AFB, Texas, officials said.

Selected participants compete in six categories, including male and female vocalist, instrumentalist, dance, musical variety and non-musical variety. The first place winner in each category receives the "Roger" trophy and the second place winner receives the "Wilco" trophy.

Interested applicants may apply online at [www.topsinblue.com](http://www.topsinblue.com) or mail an application and video to the Air Force Entertainment office by Nov. 15.

Applicants may also speak with Staff Sgt. Tommie Crutcher or Staff Sgt. Quentin Thomas, who are both Tops in Blue vocalists, during any Tops in Blue performance location for assistance with videotaping an audition.

Besides performers, Tops in Blue is looking for audio, lighting, staging and videography technicians, officials said. Big rig truck and bus drivers are also encouraged to submit their non-performer application for consideration to attend the Worldwide Talent Search and a place on the upcoming 2012 Tops in Blue tour.

For more information and a schedule of upcoming performances, visit [www.topsinblue.com](http://www.topsinblue.com). Follow the group on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/afopsinblue](http://www.twitter.com/afopsinblue), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/topsinblue](http://www.facebook.com/topsinblue) or visit the blog at <http://tib.dodlive.mil>.

(Courtesy of the Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs)

## Arnold Golf Course 454-7076

**Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Golf Course**

**Mulligan's Coffee Bar & Grill new hours:** The grill will be open 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Call ahead orders for dine or carry out, 454-FOOD (3663).

**Winter hours:** Pro Shop & Driving Range 8 a.m.-dusk. Driving Range open 24 hours with pre-purchased key card.

## Arnold Lakeside Center 454-3350

**Check us out on Facebook! Arnold Lakeside Center and Arnold AFB Service Information Tickets and Tours**

**First Friday Jam** will be Nov. 4 starting at 6 p.m. Come to play, listen, dance and enjoy. Join in with the band to play an instrument or sing, or take over and do your own performance.

Arnold Lakeside Center presents **Café 100 now open 6:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** in the A&E Building. Café 100 is proud to serve Starbucks beverages as well as juice, vitamin water, iced tea and sodas. There are some food items such as pig in a blanket, bagel, croissant, muffin and fruit.

Arnold Lakeside Center will have a **datenight movie night** Nov. 12 featuring the movie "Crazy Stupid Love" starring Steve Carell, Ryan Gosling and Julianne Moore showing at 7 p.m. A special date night two for \$24 (\$25 nonmembers) menu will be served in the ballroom at 6 p.m. The menu includes choice of one appetizer – spinach and artichoke dip with corn chips, cheese sticks with marinara dipping sauce, fried mushrooms with sour cream dipping sauce, onion rings with sabi sauce or two house salads; choice of two entrees – grilled house sirloin, prosciutto-stuffed chicken breast or fried pangasius filet; choice of two sides for each entrée – rice pilaf, mashed potatoes, baked potato with butter and sour cream, steamed broccoli or green beans almondine; and choice of one dessert to share with two spoons – carrot cake, bacon ice cream sundae, five-layer chocolate cake or pecan pie. The Four Seasons dining room will open at 5 p.m. and offer the special of the night, bacon-wrapped prosciutto-stuffed chicken breast, \$12.95 for members and \$13.95 for nonmembers, or you may order from the pizza menu. Reservations are requested at 454-3350 but are not required.

Arnold Lakeside Center has planned a **Day Trip to Chattanooga** to visit Lookout Mountain, Ruby Falls and the Incline Railway on Nov. 19. Meet at the ALC at 9 a.m. and return approximately 6 p.m. Cost is \$55 for adults and \$35 for ages 3-11. Deadline to sign up is Nov. 9. Cost if signed up Nov. 9-16 will be \$60 for adults and \$40 for children. There must be

at least five to take the trip and maximum participation is 15. Remember to bring money for lunch and souvenirs. Call 454-3303 for more information or to sign up.

The Arnold Lakeside Center is hosting a **Thanksgiving Day Lunch Buffet** 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Nov. 24. Cost is \$19.95 for members, \$21.95 for nonmembers, \$9.95 for children age 4-10 and free for ages 3 and under. The menu will include turkey breast, ham, carved prime rib, bread stuffing, green beans, mashed potatoes with brown gravy, grilled corn on the cob, fried okra, macaroni and cheese, pasta salad, green salad, rolls, assorted cakes and pies. Reservations are required for this event by Nov. 18 and may be made by calling 454-3350.

**Movie nights** are Thursdays with movie start time of 6:30 p.m. and dinner available from the Express or Pizza menus from 5-8 p.m. The schedule for November is: **Nov. 10** – "Cowboys and Aliens," rated PG-13 starring Daniel Craig and Harrison Ford. A spaceship arrives in Arizona, 1873, to take over the Earth, starting with the Wild West region. A posse of cowboys and natives are all that stand in their way. **Nov. 17** – "Spy Kids: All the Time in the World," rated PG starring Jessica Alba, Jeremy Piven and Joel McHale. A retired spy is called back into action, and to bond with her new step-children, she invites them along for the adventure to stop the evil Timekeeper from taking over the world. **Nov. 24** – No movie due to Thanksgiving holiday.

**Wednesday Lunch** is available 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for dine in or carry out. Call ahead to 454-5555 to place orders. No delivery available. For better service, you may call on any day and preorder. Regular menu items available during lunch include specialty burgers, chicken tenders and salads. Call to see what other specials are available each week or check Sharepoint.

**Friday night dining room specials available from 4-9 p.m. Nov. 4:** Meatball sub with fries, \$7.95 member, \$8.95 nonmember. **First Friday Jam 6 p.m. Nov. 11:** Prime rib for two, \$29.95 member, \$31.95 nonmember. **Nov. 18:** Black Angus ribeye with bacon-wrapped scallops, \$18.95 member, \$19.95 nonmember. **Nov. 25:** Closed. All specials and times are subject to change without notice. Please call ahead to ensure availability and openings.

**Saturday availability and specials: Nov. 5:** Fried chicken, \$10.95 member, \$11.95 nonmember. **Nov. 12:** bacon-wrapped prosciutto-stuffed Chicken Breast, \$12.95 member, \$13.95 nonmember. **Nov. 19:** Pork chop with baked sweet potato, \$13.95 member, \$14.95 nonmember. **Nov. 26:** Closed. The dining room is open 5-9 p.m. Saturdays unless otherwise specified. All specials and times are subject to change without notice. Please call ahead to ensure availability and openings.

Sign up now for three months of free **club membership** and win

instant cash (gift card). Everyone who joins any Air Force club between now and Dec. 31 will automatically receive three months free dues, be enrolled in the free cash back rewards program and will win \$5-\$100 instantly upon application.

"We want all personnel to consider club membership and understand the benefits of club membership, and our 'It Pays to Club' membership campaign gives them the opportunity to try their club free for the first three months," said Fred McKenney, Chief of the Air Force Food and Beverage Division.

During the period, everyone interested in AF Club membership should look for the membership promotional materials in their local club and other Services activities, said McKenney. "Pick up an application, fill it out, and experience the benefits of membership!"

The membership card provides numerous benefits. The Military Free Cash rewards program is an outstanding benefit to members. When you use your club membership card in any on-base Force Support activity, you earn 2 percent cash back on every eligible purchase, including AAFES (to include gas) and Commissary. Additionally, you earn 1 percent cash back on eligible purchases everywhere else including all off-base purchases. In addition to being able to redeem points for cash back and gift cards, you now can also redeem for travel, to include airline tickets, hotel and car rental – super flexibility – and it is all free, as a benefit of club membership!

Air Force Clubs offer members numerous free and inexpensive activities, including discounts on every meal to include special functions, an annual \$25,000 scholarship program, Football Frenzy, Air Force Hoops, and other member's only programs. Your Club is a great place for entertainment and meeting new friends in a fun and safe environment. Join now – the first three months are free on us!

## Family Member/Youth Programs (FamY) 454-3227

**Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Youth Programs**

Youth Programs and Security Forces have joined together to help spread the importance of being alert and being safe. Youth Programs will provide a **Child Identification Program** booth Nov. 11-12 in front of the Commissary from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Child Identification Program provides an easy-to-use fingerprint identification system and, most importantly, provides valuable and timely safety information for families. The identification kit contains one fingerprint card and ink for fingerprinting plus an easy-to-use format to include a description of the child and their photograph. Research has shown that when children are missing, it is helpful for parents and police to have fingerprints, vital statistics and a current photo on hand. It is recommended by law enforcement agencies that parents update information on their children at least annually. This program

is available free to all base employees as well as National Guard, Reserves and retired military and their dependants. The most important objective of this program is to prepare children to play and live safe.

## Instructional Classes (Music, Spanish & Fencing) coming in 2012!

If you or your children would be interested in any of the following classes please contact Youth Programs now. If there is enough interest, classes would begin the first of the year (Jan. or Feb.). Plans are underway to offer a variety of music lessons to include piano, acoustic guitar, electric guitar, electric bass, drums/percussion and even voice. Also available are Spanish lessons teaching basic knowledge, grammar and vocabulary in a classroom-style setting. Group lessons for beginner fencing, often called "physical chess" will also be available. Modern fencing allows participants of all ages and attributes to meet on a more equal footing than almost any other sport. With its origins in armed combat, honor and intrigue, this isn't what you see in the movies, but a contact sport and true martial art. As a martial art, fencing teaches respect for one's opponents and mental, physical and emotional control. Students begin with the fundamentals of Olympic-style foil fencing: attack, defense and proper "etiquette" – progressing to concepts of distance, timing and strategy. Emphasis is on developing a usable and solid foundation through body-awareness exercises, group/paired practice, drills, demonstrations and explanations. Music and Spanish lessons are open to all ages and fencing is for ages 9 and older. Call today! The more involved, the better the rates will be for these classes.

## Fitness Center 454-6440

**Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Fitness Center**

The Fitness Center is doing a **Cool 100 Walk/Run Incentive Program** where participants log their miles using the honor system. Participants may use the track located behind the A&E building, the trail behind the Fitness Center, a treadmill in the Fitness Center facilities or at home. These miles are to be turned in during the fall and winter months either daily or weekly. Participants who complete 100 miles before Feb. 1 will receive a T-shirt. Call 454-6440 to sign up and remember to give your shirt size.

**Intramural Volleyball** Women's League will be on Mondays beginning Nov. 7. Open League will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning Nov. 8. Games are played at 5:30, 6:30 and 7:30 p.m.

A **Lunch & Learn** will be held Nov. 10 beginning at 11 a.m. in the Arnold Room, A&E Building A123. Guest speaker Dietitian Christie Holt will talk about healthy eating. This will last about 30 minutes followed by a question and answer

## Children's Christmas Party returns Dec. 4

The annual Children's Christmas Party will be 1-5 p.m. Dec. 4 at the Arnold Lakeside Center (ALC) for ages 12 and under. This event is free and open to all AEDC employees (active duty military, civil service, contractors), National Guard, Reserves, retirees and their immediate families. The annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held in conjunction with this event and will begin when Santa arrives to help flip the switch.

Santa is scheduled to arrive at 2 p.m. along with some of his friends. Santa and Mrs. Claus along with their elves will be in the Winter Wonderland tent to visit with the children at 2:30 p.m. Some of Santa's elves will also be in the Winter Wonderland tent to give out goodies to children age 12 and under. It is important to sign up so the elves bring enough.

There will be other activities as well as hamburgers and hot dogs served throughout the afternoon.

A special Santa Hotline, 454-SNTA (7682), has been set up for children to leave a message for Santa. This number may also be used by parents to register children for the event. Simply press 1 to leave a message or 2 to sign up. Be sure give your name and specify how many children and how many adults will be attending.

session. Drinks and snacks will be provided. Please call to sign up by Nov. 9. Class is limited to 20 people.

**Flag Football** continues with games on Mondays and Wednesdays. Games are played at Arnold Village field at 6, 7 and 8 p.m.

## Outdoor Rec (ODR) 454-6084

**Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Outdoor Recreation**

**Winter Hours:** Main Office, Check In and Auto Shop Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Marina by appointment only.

Outdoor Recreation is having the 1st Annual **Turkey Shoot** Nov. 19 beginning at 10 a.m. for ages 12 and up. Participants will shoot at targets from a distance of 25 yards. Maximum of four shots per round. The closest to the bullseye will win the prize. Participants can bring their own bows, but they must have a max pull weight of 45 pounds. Arrows will be provided. Shots will be \$20 per four shots, and each participant may purchase as many shots as desired. The competition will take place in the open field next to the Outdoor Recreation building. First prize will be a whole turkey and second place will be a whole ham. Sign up by Nov. 16.

It's time to get the Christmas season going. This year Outdoor Recreation is taking a different twist on holiday decorating. Instead of the giant cards in Christmas Card Lane there will be a **Deck the Doors contest**. Squadrons, offices or groups must call to indicate they are participating by Nov. 28. Remember to give your building number and location of the door. Doors used for this event must remain functional if they were prior to decoration. Decorations on the door will be the only part judged. Any additional work on walls, etc. will not be judged with the door. Doors must be decorated by close of business Dec. 8. On Dec. 9 Outdoor Recreation staff will take pictures of every door that has entered. Select judges will be given the pictures to make their selections for first, second and third place. The winners will be announced at the DOD Holiday Party.

The **USAF Arts & Crafts Gallery** program is now underway. Enter your craft, photography and digital art images to Outdoor Recreation by

Dec. 30. Entries will be submitted to HQ AFMC for approval and uploaded to the Air Force Gallery. There are three age divisions (youth 6-12, youth 13-17 and adult) and each category allows three entries per person. There are specified criteria to follow for submission and an entry application to be completed. Call for complete details. All approved submissions will be available for viewing on [airforcegallery.com](http://airforcegallery.com) in March/April 2012.

You wanted it, you got it! Engage in a masterful collection of **paintball** battles and objectives. As of September paintball is now every Saturday 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. We have added a few new forts to the course. Anyone age 10 and older may play but ages 10-17 must have a parent permission form. Interested participants need to call and sign up at least a day ahead of time to ensure equipment availability. Once the day comes everyone will meet at the paintball field. Cost is \$35 per person with equipment provided and includes 500 paintballs and a tank of air. It is \$20 per person for those with their own equipment and that also comes with 500 paintballs. All paintballs used must be purchased from ODR for \$13 per bag of 500 or \$45 for a box of 2,000. So if you're looking for some fun-filled scenario paintball we will see you on Saturday.

**Reservation Policy:** FamCamp and Crockett Cove reservations may be made 45 days in advance for active duty and reserve military, 40 days for retired military, and 30 days for all other qualified personnel. Boat reservations may be made 15 days in advance for active duty and 10 days for other eligible individuals. All reservations are made through the Outdoor Recreation by stopping by or calling 454-6084.

## Wingo Inn 454-3051

**Check us out on Facebook! Wingo Inn**

**Reservations for Wingo Inn** can be made 120 days in advance. Room rates start at \$39 per night. Please call 454-3051 for reservations.

## Gossick Leadership Center 454-3024

**Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Gossick Leadership Center**



# NCO retraining program a success in fiscal 2012

By Eric Grill

*AF Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs*

**RANDOLPH AFB, Texas (AFNS)** – The 2012 Noncommissioned Officer Retraining Program concluded Oct. 26 with 870 Air Force NCOs identified to transition to new career fields.

The NCORP consists of two-phases – voluntary and involuntary –

designed to sustain the enlisted force by retraining second-term and career Airmen from overage Air Force Specialty Codes to shortage AFSCs.

Phase I, which ran from July 13 to Sept. 26, saw 83 percent of the designated NCOs volunteered to retrain into their choice

of career fields with shortages, said Chief Master Sgt. Shannon Parker, the Air Force Personnel Center's chief of enlisted skills management. In phase II, non-volunteers were selected for retraining based on the remaining Air Force needs.

The major program change for fiscal year 2012 NCORP was running phase II concurrently

for restricted AFSCs along with the phase I program for unrestricted AFSCs, officials said.

Restricted AFSCs are those AFSCs that are only permitted to retrain into the same career field with a shred-out. Airmen in restricted AFSCs had 30 days to volunteer for retraining before entering Phase II.

“This better met mission

objectives and allowed for the Air Force to meet program goals within 60 days and reduce the potential for phase II,” Sergeant Parker said. “While we still had an involuntary phase, we are very happy with the results, not only because we met our program objective, but did so with such a large voluntary effort.”

Airmen were also allowed to apply for special

duties such as military training instructors, military training leaders and recruiting, she said.

The fiscal 2012 NCORP concluded meeting 100 percent of the target goal, Sergeant Parker said.

Even though the objectives were met, there are still some retraining AFSCs available and eligible Airmen are encouraged to volunteer.

## Bye bye, BDU

By Tech Sgt. Leisa Grant

*National Guard Public Affairs*

**ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS)** – There are two things you should not see as of Nov. 1: Halloween costumes and the Air Force Battle Dress Uniform (BDU).

In 2006, the Airman Battle Uniform became authorized for wear and a date was set for final phase-out of the woodland camouflage-patterned BDU's.

Previously announced to be effective Oct. 1 of 2011, a more recent Air Force Instruction 36-2903, “Dress and Appearance of Air Force Personnel” pushed the date back to Nov. 1. This applies to all Air Force components.

Other items will simultaneously enter retirement with the BDU's effective Nov. 1 including the desert camouflage uniform, black T-shirt, black combat boots and tan boots with the ABU outside theater of operations.

The almost 30 year-old duty uniform, originally designed for wear throughout Europe and the Cold War, was worn by all branches of the service until 2005. Starting Nov. 1, only the Navy will be authorized to wear the BDU until its set phase-out date.

Aside from its appearances, one of the major differences between the ABU and BDU is the maintenance. The new uniform requires very little care, needing only to be washed and hung for drying.

Furthermore, the boots, now a sage green, full-grain leather boot with rubber heel and toe reinforcements, do not require polishing.

Not all Airmen embraced the changes immediately.

“The (BDU's) featured solid, good-looking creases that looked great with well-shined boots,” said Master Sgt. Sam Macaluso, a member of the Nevada Air National Guard 152nd Airlift Wing.

But, even for those who like the creases and the spit-shined boot look, the appeal of less maintenance grew on them.

“We'd often spend our entire guard duty at night getting the perfect shine on those boots,” Macaluso said. “It's nice to have boots you don't need to shine and a uniform you don't need to press constantly.”

With less time spent on up keeping their uniforms, Airmen are afforded more time to focus on other aspects of their military lives.

“A big benefit is the ABU gives Airmen at schools more time to study,” Macaluso said. “Discipline and standards are important, but I believe Airmen have a lot more than their uniforms to focus on these days.”

*(Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter of the Nevada Air National Guard contributed to this article.)*

