



# HIGH MACH

Serving the World's Premier Flight Simulation Test Center



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## Former chief scientist to speak at 2012 AEDC Fellows Banquet

By Patrick Ary  
*Aerospace Testing Alliance*

Dr. Mark J. Lewis, the director-designate of the Science and Technology Policy Institute of the Institute for Defense Analyses, will deliver the keynote address at this year's AEDC Fellows Banquet.

The banquet takes place June 25 at the Arnold Lakeside Center.

From 2004-2008 Lewis was the Chief Scientist of the U.S. Air Force.

Until spring 2012, he served as the Willis Young Jr. Professor and Chair of the Department of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Maryland.

Lewis is also the immediate

past president of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), the foremost technical society of aerospace engineers.

As the longest-serving chief scientist in Air Force history, Dr Lewis served as a member of the Air Staff and principal scientific adviser to the Chief of Staff and Secretary of the Air Force, and provided assessments on a wide range of scientific and technical issues affecting the Air Force mission.

In this role, his primary areas of focus included energy, sustainment, long-range strike technologies, advanced propulsion systems and workforce development.



Lewis

Lewis is a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

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## AFMC leaders plan toward summer stand-up of new centers

By Ron Fry  
*AFMC Public Affairs*

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – Implementation details of the Air Force Materiel Command's restructure were refined when commanders and senior civilians from across AFMC gathered here for their annual Senior Leader Conference March 27-29.

The focus of the conference was detailed planning on the command initiative to reduce its number of centers from 12 to five. The restructure was announced in November 2011 as a major part of AFMC's response to a Department of Defense challenge to find efficiencies and save tax dollars.

Leaders discussed everything from stand-up of new centers this summer to how various support functions such as contracting, financial management, and personnel services will be aligned to center and non-center locations.

"Last year at this time, we held a historic meeting that resulted in the decision to restructure," said Gen. Donald Hoffman, commander of AFMC. "Following Secretary of the Air Force Donley's approval, intense planning and hard work ensued, but much

more work still lies ahead.

"The restructure will bring us closer to the organization envisioned in 1992 when Air Force leaders merged the former Air Force Logistics Command and Air Force Systems Command to form AFMC," the general said. The intent of the merger was to create a single command to manage the entire life cycle of Air Force aircraft and other systems.

Extensive planning has gone on for several months and command officials are nearing the point where Congressional reporting requirements will be complete and they will transition from planning to the early stages of implementation of the five-center structure in order to achieve initial operational capability Oct. 1.

Plans call for the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center at Wright-Patterson, the Air Force Sustainment Center at Tinker AFB, Okla., and the Air Force Test Center at Edwards AFB, Calif., to be activated this summer. The other two centers that comprise the new structure, Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center at Kirtland AFB, N.M., and Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson, will remain

essentially as they are today.

Soon after the activations, AFMC's current centers at Wright-Patterson, Hanscom, Eglin, Robins, Tinker, Hill, Edwards, Arnold and Scott AFBs will be inactivated or redesignated, and their subordinate units will be attached to the new centers. In some cases, organizational names will change.

However, the standup of the new centers will hinge on three important milestones: Senate confirmation of key leadership positions, the delivery of two Congressionally-mandated reports on the restructure, and Headquarters Air Force approval of AFMC's formal organizational change request. The Senate has already confirmed Lt. Gen. Janet Wolfenbarger as AFMC's next commander and Lt. Gen. C.D. Moore II as the commander of the new Life Cycle Management Center. Two other command positions are pending confirmation. Command officials emphasized stand-ups will only occur after Congressional reporting is complete and the change request is approved.

Command officials said the

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## Senate confirms AF's first female 4-star general as AFMC commander, new AFLCMC leader

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – The Senate confirmed March 26 the nominations of two Air Force Materiel Command senior leaders.

Air Force officials announced the confirmation of Lt. Gen. Janet C. Wolfenbarger to the rank of general with assignment to the position of AFMC commander, making her the Air Force's first female four-star general. Officials also announced the Senate confirmation of AFMC Vice Commander Lt. Gen. C.D. Moore II for appointment as commander

of the new Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, to be located here.

Wolfenbarger is currently Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition at the Pentagon in Washington D.C.

As commander of AFMC, she will oversee 83,000 people with a budget of \$60 billion annually for research, development, test and evaluation. The command provides the acquisition management services and logistics

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## Participants wanted for AEDC car show

By Patrick Ary  
*Aerospace Testing Alliance*

Car lovers at AEDC won't have to spend a weekend going out of town to check out some nice rides this May. They won't even have to leave the workplace.

They'll be able to see them on base during AEDC's Cruise-In, and the vehicles they'll be looking at will belong to their co-workers.

The committee in charge of planning the Cruise-In is looking for interested participants who want to bring their vehicles out and put them on display.

"The suggestion was made

about a month ago that a Cruise-In on base would be an enjoyable event and provide a break for the work force," said Dr. Ralph Jones, the manager of ATA's Technology and Analysis Branch and one of the members of the planning committee.

The event is scheduled to take place in the ETF Annex parking lot between the A&E and Carroll buildings from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. either May 11 or May 18, depending on the weather.

Jones said he expects there

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## AEDC engineers support 'airstart' testing at Edwards AFB



An F-35 Lightning II marked AA-1, lands at an Edwards AFB runway Oct. 23, 2008. The F-35 concluded an air start test validating the aircraft's ability to shutdown and re-start its engine in flight. (Air Force photo by Senior Airman Julius Delos Reyes)

By Philip Lorenz III  
*Aerospace Testing Alliance*

Test pilots at Edwards AFB, Calif., have successfully performed "airstarts" on the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter over the last few weeks, an important milestone in opening up the aircraft's test syllabus, according to a Lockheed Martin test pilot.

During an in-flight "airstart" the pilot secures power to the engine at altitudes between 15,000 and 30,000 feet and then restarts it in a carefully prescribed sequence to ensure the safety of the aircraft and surrounding airspace.

David Kidman, the Air Force Flight Test Center (AFFTC) technical expert for the propulsion integration flight test at Edwards AFB, said data derived from ground testing played a

significant role in the recent flight testing.

Kidman credits the success of the propulsion flight testing program in part to data and technical expertise derived from past F135 engine altitude development testing and the partnership with AEDC.

"AEDC's contribution to our recent in-flight engine airstarts is that the engine has just gone through development at AEDC," Kidman said. "As a result, AEDC engineers had firsthand knowledge of how the system should operate. Additionally, AEDC engineers had firsthand knowledge on how the system should be tested, including where to expect the best performance and

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**HIGH MACH**

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An Air Force Materiel Command Test Center

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**The center's vision:** AEDC as the test center of choice, the workplace of choice for our people and a model of environmental excellence.

**Vision**

"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

# Hold the line on timeless leadership

By Chief Master Sgt. Eric Jaren  
Command Chief, Air Force Materiel Command

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio**—Before I transferred from Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., I had an incentive ride in an F-16. At 15,000 feet, the view of Rogers Dry Lake Bed was surreal.

The moment made me reflect on history, and I considered the many changes since the birth of the Air Force in 1947: the advent of personal computers, the Internet, and advancement in research and development. Now we have micro-, bio-, nanotechnology and more technological changes occurring every day. It seems everything in our service has changed.

But I also realize the leadership principles used since the birth of the Air Force are as relevant today as they were then. Indeed, they are timeless.

**Integrity**

When I describe integrity, I'm speaking about the integrity of the process.

Early in your career, you are trained to bring solutions to your supervisor, not problems. But as you ascend the ranks you become responsible for departments where you are not a technical expert. Contrary to your early development, bringing solutions to your subordinates can be problematic. You need to understand that roles have reversed. As a leader, your role is to assemble the right people to bear down on the problem and bring you solutions.

In 2010, retired Gen. Charles Horner, commander of U.S. Central Command Air Forces during

Operation Desert Storm, gave a presentation called, "Desert Storm 20 Years Later." General Horner discussed how he brought the coalition together. He said he didn't care if the country supported with three aircraft or 300 aircraft — each had a seat at the table and a voice to be heard. As he said, "The truth lies not in rank but in the merit of the argument."

Integrity of the process describes how well you assemble the team that reflects the nature of the problem. You are no longer the expert. Your job is to assemble the technical experts, functional experts and stakeholders. This inspires ownership, creativity and innovation.

Assembling a comprehensive team ensures that all interests are heard. This is critical when difficult decisions must be made.

Sometimes everyone will be satisfied with the outcome. Sometimes no one will be satisfied with the outcome. People will look not only at the decision but at how the decision was made. They will see who was included in the decision and who was not. The omission of key players becomes a reflection of the leader. But, when the process has integrity, those players know their interests were heard and the outcome, therefore, must be the best possible decision.

Like General Horner, give your team a seat at the table and listen to their concerns. Build a strong coalition and they will find solutions.

Integrity is timeless.



Jaren

**Relationships**

Throughout my career, people told me to build my network when attending professional military education, conferences and conventions. I didn't realize the impact until much later. At this point in my career, I realize that networks (relationships) are not "something" to work on. They are everything.

You cannot simply go to a meeting and expect to have relationships. Those are acquaintances. You have to make a deliberate effort to establish trusted relationships with your mission partners.

Strong relationships allow you to overcome obstacles and cut through red tape. What's more, they build camaraderie, boost esprit de corps and form the culture of the organization. But these relationships must be genuine or you may find yourself on an island.

As Theodore Roosevelt once said, "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."

Consider how many people you see at work every day but know nothing about. If you work 40, 50, 60 hours a week with them but don't know their name, their family, or what

is going on in their lives, you may very well be on an island. They might respect your rank, or position, but if they don't know you, they don't trust you.

Fifth Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Robert Gaylor talks about the importance of balancing "High Technology" and "High Touch." Being high-tech allows us to effectively communicate across a wide network. But we also have to be high-touch.

Building trusted relationships takes good face-to-face communication. What delicate negotiations happen via email? Look your people in the eye and leverage your credibility.

Have you heard of a unit with high spirit? The Army would call it "Hua."

You can't get Hua going to meetings. It's not built by e-mail or texting from cubicle to cubicle either.

A unit with spirit has synergy, momentum and resilience. It becomes greater than the sum of its parts. As Chief Gaylor says, face-to-face communication is the glue that binds us. It is the glue that holds groups of people together.

Building relationships is timeless.

**Perspective**

In 1992, I deployed to Cairo West, Egypt. After deplaning, I was sent to lodging to begin the morning shift.

From my window I could see the top of the pyramids. Since my shift didn't start until the next morning and we were without restrictions, a few of us went sightseeing that afternoon.

The next day the mission started. With 12-hour

shifts and a one-hour bus ride, the days were long. We had to maximize seeing the country when we could.

During the deployment I barely spoke to one Airman from homestation, as he worked the other shift, barely leaving time for a high-five. We caught up in the passenger terminal on the way home and I asked what he thought of Egypt. I was shocked to hear he "couldn't stand it!"

I asked if he visited the Cairo Museum to see the ancient artifacts painted in gold that have been around for 5,000 years. There are countless statues of King Tutankhamen, Ramses, Cleopatra and Anubis. I went three times.

He said he didn't make it there.

Then I asked if he visited the Cairo Tower. The tower is crowned by a circular observation deck and a rotating restaurant. I had dinner listening to a big brass band. From the observation deck we could see views of Cairo, the Nile, Giza and the pyramids.

No, he didn't make it there either.

Then I asked about the Khan el-Khalili, the largest bazaar in Africa that dates back to the Middle Ages.

Every day thousands of people flock there. It's just this madhouse of people, and you have to go!

You guessed it, he didn't make it there either.

Finally I thought about that view from my room. I didn't want to ask. And you already know the answer. He didn't make it to the pyramids.

But that Airman gave

See **LEADER**, page 3

## To be continued ... personally and professionally

By Chief Master Sgt. Steve K. McDonald  
Air Force Personnel Enlisted Force Development

**WASHINGTON (AFNS)** — I have to admit I became a big fan of the television series "Lost" when a friend gave me past episodes on DVD that I watched while I was deployed.

After returning home, I watched the show without fail each week. One of the most frustrating things about following the series was being totally engrossed and losing track of time only to be brought to reality when the screen went blank and the words "To Be Continued ..." appeared. You didn't want the story to end; it was a disappointment.

Wouldn't it be nice if the show could go on forever? But, as the adage says, "All good things must come to an end."

But is this adage an absolute truth? Since I began working in force development, I have come to learn that there are two things that should never come to an end: your personal and professional development. The concept of force

development is extremely important in the Air Force. Developing and caring for Airmen has been one of the service's stated priorities for many years.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy has spent the past three years espousing a philosophy of deliberately developing Airmen, as reflected in many of the Air Force's policies and processes.

Within the world of doctrine and policy, force development is centered on the continuum of learning — a career-long process of individual development which connects education and training opportunities to assignment and deployment experiences.

In simpler terms, the continuum of learning consists of education, training and experience. For enlisted Airmen, this starts in basic military training and continues through initial skills training and into the first duty assignment.

Over the next four or 20 or 30 years, those same Airmen will continue their

education and training from the Air Force by way of numerous assignments and deployment experiences. They will encounter people along the way and learn things about the service and themselves. Much of this will be deliberate in order to develop them both personally and professionally for future leadership roles in the Air Force.

But if we only focused on the resources employed by the Air Force, even force development would "come to an end." That is why it is just as important to take a personal role in your own development. As many of you are aware, the Air Force chief of staff releases an annual reading list. Upon release of this year's list, Daniel Sitterly, the director of force development under the deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services, suggested that the continuum of learning should now consist of education, training, experience and reading. His point was valid.

I believe the point is that the Air Force does a good job investing in the

development of individuals but we may not have done a very good job in getting people to invest in themselves.

There are many ways people can further their own development. Where the Air Force provides professional military education, individuals can pursue civilian educational opportunities. Where the Air Force provides upgrade skill training, individuals can read books and use computer-based training to enhance current skills or learn new skills. In addition to Air Force as-

signment and deployment experiences, Airmen can join professional organizations and take on leadership roles.

It goes without saying that the Air Force will continue to invest in the personal and professional development of its people. But with added emphasis and a commitment from individuals to invest in themselves, force development can reach new levels.

That's the good thing about personal and professional development — they truly are designed "to be continued."

## 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

## 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://lpro.arnold.af.mil/PORTALimages/Smoking\\_area\\_map.pdf](https://lpro.arnold.af.mil/PORTALimages/Smoking_area_map.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.

Due to the nature, appearance, and safety concerns of electronic cigarettes (also known as "e-cigs"), they are considered to be in the same category of tobacco products whose use is governed by Air Force Instruction (AFI) 40-102, Tobacco Use in the Air Force. Therefore, all rules stated above for tobacco products apply to electronic cigarettes.

- 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.

## Tech Transition workshop looks to find business opportunities

By Patrick Ary  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

Representatives from 40 companies have been invited to Arnold Air Force Base later this month to talk about business opportunities that could be beneficial to both sides.

Dhruti Upender, AEDC's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program manager, invited businesses from Tennessee and all over the country to come to a Tech Transition workshop April 24-25 and see how they can satisfy capability gaps for AEDC and carry those products over to the commercial sector.

The U.S. government's SBIR program encourages domestic small businesses to engage in federal research and development that has the potential for commercialization. Companies are awarded federal funding for their research—meaning an SBIR project at AEDC doesn't cost the center anything. In an SBIR contract, the business retains all data rights created under the SBIR for five years after the completion of the project. The government also gets all data and intellectual property associated with the effort.

"When we build these things, it's a small business doing most of the work with our guidance," Upender said. "It is just like managing any other project on base, but the dollars are not mission dollars. They are SBIR dollars that pay the small business to perform the work with government oversight.

"I think people would be surprised at the number of technology development projects done at AEDC that were initiated through SBIRs," Upender said.

There have been many success stories throughout the years, such as infrared imaging capability, high-speed flow diagnostics and low-cost pressure sensors. One of the most recognizable examples of an SBIR that expanded into a successful commercial product is Pressure Sensitive Paint (PSP), a method of determining pressure on surfaces.

The workshop will also focus on taking advantage of the Commercialization Readiness Program (CRP), known until late last year as the Commercialization Pilot Program (CPP). The CRP can help bridge technological gaps between development and actually commercializing the product, an area where Upender

said small businesses have difficulty.

In the last year alone, Upender said there have been three efforts at AEDC that have made it to commercialization through CRP, with a total amount of just over \$1.8 million awarded for those efforts. Those efforts also have increased the center's capabilities.

The CRP-funded efforts include a new Test Data Aggregation and Analysis System (TDAAS) resulting in a new capability for data mining and data fusion. There is also a new image processing software package working with a threat signature database known as the Enhanced Missile Signature Model (E-MSIG). Another is a new interface to the Milsatcom Atmospheric Scintillation Simulator (MASS) to assist operational test of the Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) satellite system.

And small businesses have an advantage when working on SBIR projects at AEDC because when the center submits SBIR topics for prospective businesses, those topics look at filling specific capability gaps. Businesses who are awarded those topics know not only where their product will

be applied – they have facilities available to them to test it.

"We have a goal in mind of having them prove out their product, basically," Upender said.

And Upender believes there is a lot of untapped potential in the state. In 2010, Tennessee had 18 SBIR/STTR awards through the Department of Defense (DOD), valued at \$4.7 million. Alabama received 103 DOD SBIR awards totaling \$30.4 million during the same period.

Upender, who has a degree in electrical engineering and a masters in engineering management, was once a small business owner and also has worked for various aerospace companies in different roles. She said growth of Tennessee's innovative businesses goes beyond AEDC acquiring new capabilities – they can benefit both Tennessee and the Air Force.

"SBIR is important not only for the product we receive, but for economic development that product has to offer," Upender said. "It serves one purpose for us as the government and as a facility, but the business sector takes it and turns it into something else entirely. They can commercialize on it and build companies around it and hire people. When

you don't do an SBIR you're not only losing out on that one product, but losing out on a stream of businesses that could be spun up around it."

Upender has been working with the Tennessee Department of Economic Development, and the Tennessee Technology Development Center is sponsoring the networking reception on the first day of the Tech Transition workshop.

Representatives from the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center, NASA, The U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center (AMRDEC) and the Air Force Research Laboratory will also attend this month's workshop. Upender said she plans to line up meetings with companies that would be of interest to those groups.

"In this atmosphere of reducing funds, we are trying every effort to be able to collaborate and leverage dollars via utilizing other agencies that have common goals in different areas," Upender said. "So when we produce a product, they could become a stakeholder and add additional funding toward that product, and we all benefit."

## Giving back to the community



From right, Christy Brunner, education chairman of the ATA's Employee and Community Activities Committee recently presented a check to Chelsea Holden, a teacher at Robert E. Lee Elementary School in Tullahoma. The money will be used for educational aids to increase skills in science and mathematics. ATA is the prime contractor for Arnold Engineering Development Center and employs 2,154 people. (Photo provided)

## Air Force officials announce third round of VERA/VSIP; not all AFMC bases included

WASHINGTON – In its continuing effort to meet the Defense Department requirement to maintain civilian manning at fiscal 2010 levels, the Air Force is offering a third round of Voluntary Early Retirement Authority and Voluntary Separation Incentive Payment beginning May 1.

However, Air Force Materiel Command officials said not all AFMC bases will offer this third round of VERA/VSIP.

John Steenbock, AFMC director of Manpower, Personnel and Services, said there may not be a need for all AFMC bases to offer the third round of VERA/VSIP to reach personnel reduction goals. He said it will be a local decision, based on each installation's manpower levels.

As the Air Force continues the fiscal 2012 civilian workforce restructure, round three of VERA/VSIP will be used to further re-

align and rebalance the civilian force. In addition, the Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service has granted a temporary waiver exception to the Priority Placement Program to expand the use of VSIP across installations. The Air Force Personnel Center will be providing additional details to the Civilian Personnel Sections on the waiver criteria.

"The Air Force recognizes the invaluable contributions of our civilian workforce, but also recognizes the fiscal constraints under which the Department of Defense and the government as a whole are operating," said Maj. Gen. Sharon Dunbar, the Director of Force Management Policy. "Our civilian workforce is near required target levels, and we're focused on fine tuning the force while taking care to minimize

See VERA, page 5

## CAC/military ID service outage

Due to a scheduled replacement of the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) Real-time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS) computer system, the visitor center will not be able to provide CAC or military ID card service April 24-25.

This is during the IG, but the DEERS/RAPIDS personnel

cannot accommodate a schedule change.

If you have a CAC emergency during this time, contact the visitor center at ext. 4010 for instructions.

This outage only affects military ID and CAC production. Other visitor center functions, to include base access for visitors, will not be affected.

### LEADER from page 2

me a laundry list of everything that was wrong with Egypt. His problem: he failed to see anything that was right.

I take that moment and place it before you.

Leaders, you set the tone for your organization and everyone within your span of influence. We have tough times coming. Tough choices have to be made.

You have incredible perspective built on breadth, depth and expertise. You have education, training and experience. You have seen change, managed change and led change. And every time we changed we became leaner, faster, more agile and more professional.

We need your perspective to take our Airmen through these

tough times. They will follow you. But you have to be positive. Because if you talk about what was, or get hung up on what we don't have, they will follow you there, too.

A positive perspective is timeless. These timeless leadership lessons are proven, relevant and the promise for tomorrow.

You need to bring everybody to the table to find the best solutions. You need to establish trusted relationships with mission partners. And you need to share your perspective as our great Air Force continues to transform.

This is your opportunity. I wish you the fondest of luck and the best in the future.



## New talent and old friend part of April AIRMAN

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. (AFNS) – One of the hottest new singers on the reality TV circuit shares the stage with an old friend turning 50 in the April issue of AIRMAN magazine.

Following her appearance on the popular NBC reality talent show, the "Voice," singer Angie Johnson is the subject of a feature by writer Randy Roughton and photographer Tech. Sgt. Bennie Davis who follow Johnson as she balances a budding music career with her part time job as a bandsman in the Air National Guard.

The last B-52 "Stratofortress" ever made turns 50 this year and writer Tech. Sgt. Chris Powell and photographer Davis travel to Minot Air Force Base, N.D., to follow tail number 1040, trac-

ing its history over the past five decades.

The April edition also delves into family issues, as writer Tech. Sgt. Mareshah Haynes and photographer Master Sgt. Jeremy Lock travel to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, to focus on the opening of a new Fisher House that provides service members and their families a place to stay during medical emergencies.

On the mission scene, writer Master Sgt. Larry W. Carpenter Jr. takes us to the Gulf Coast for a glimpse of "Emerald Warrior 2012," a pre-deployment air and ground training exercise for special operations forces.

For those and more stories in the April issue of AIRMAN, go to <http://airman.dodlive.mil/>

## PMI luncheon payments due April 6

The Project Management Institute's (PMI) Chattanooga Chapter meets 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. April 12 at the University of Tennessee Space Institute.

The speaker for the luncheon is Tennessee Army National Guard Lt. Col. Warner Holt, the fire support coordinator for the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment. The topic is applying a project management approach to maintenance challenges in Iraq.

The luncheon takes place in room H-111 at UTSI and is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers in advance.

There will be door prizes at the luncheon.

Advance payment is due by the end of today. Payment can be made to Doug Brown, 454-5407; Peggy Glass, 454-7475; Susan Rymer, 454-7683; or Jon Paul Wallace, 454-4904.

## Enlisted corps honors AFMC commander with Order of the Sword

By Monica D. Morales

Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – Taking part in an evening filled with pageantry and steeped in military tradition, Air Force Materiel Command Commander Gen. Donald Hoffman was inducted into the AFMC Order of the Sword during a March 30 ceremony at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force.

“This honor tonight certainly is humbling for me, and I’m privileged to work with such a professional force,” said Hoffman. “I humbly accept their recognition, and I really appreciate the honor.”

The Order of the Sword is the highest honor Air Force noncommissioned officers can give to an individual who has made significant contributions to the enlisted corps.

Acting as chief master sergeant of the mess, AFMC Command Chief Master Sgt. Eric Jaren cited numerous reasons, contributed by those who had previously worked with the general, as to why

General Hoffman was so deserving of the honor.

“You are a great officer, but that’s not why we’re here,” Jaren said. “We’re here because you are a great commander who has invested in our training, our facilities and our capabilities, in short, in our futures and in our lives.”

He also shared with the mess a congratulatory letter to Hoffman from Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy.

“By your actions, commitment and care for the enlisted force, you have proven yourself a commendable leader worthy of this tribute,” Jaren said as he read Roy’s letter.

The Order of the Sword ceremony includes the presentation of a proclamation signed by key participants of the ceremony and a scroll containing the signatures of AFMC Airmen in attendance. The scroll attests to the firm belief of the general’s patriotic service and leadership. The final presentation made to Hoffman was of a personal sword.

Though Hoffman said the early part of his career did not often yield much interaction with enlisted members, he holds in high regard those few who both mentored and molded his leadership.

“There are a couple that stood out – that I remember to this day – that took me aside and trained [then-] Lt. Hoffman or Capt. or Maj. Hoffman, and gave me a lot of understanding of the enlisted force,” he said. “That helped me tremendously later on when I was a group commander and a wing commander.”

As the general’s career progressed, he said it was evident that the “backbone and success of our military” resides with the enlisted force’s professionalism and the responsibilities assumed so early in their military ranks and careers.

“I would just like to thank all the enlisted members in Air Force Materiel Command for this honor, but I’d also like to congratulate them for being members of the best Air Force in the world,” Hoffman said.

The general’s induction into the Order of the Sword



**Gen. Donald Hoffman, Air Force Materiel Command commander (left), is joined by the Order of the Sword sergeant at arms Master Sgt. Eric Price and AFMC Command Chief Master Sgt. Eric Jaren during the presentation of the general’s personal sword at a March 30 induction ceremony held at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force. The Order of the Sword is the highest honor Air Force noncommissioned officers can give to an individual who has made significant contributions to the enlisted corps. (U.S. Air Force photo/Ben Strasser)**

marks the 243rd Air Force member to have received the honor, according to

ceremony officials. The general is the eighth AFMC member to earn the acco-

lade since the command’s sword program began in 1994.

### AIRSTART from page 1

where to expect problems and what test procedures might work best. AEDC engineers are sharing this system and test knowledge with Edwards’ engineers through regular communication and the AEDC QLR’s (Quick-Look Reports)."

Dr. Charles Vining, AEDC’s Turbine Engine Ground Test Complex technical director, said he is one of Kidman’s counterparts in this collaborative effort.

“My role is providing advice and coordination with Mr. Dave Kidman on developing common analysis approaches,” Dr. Vining said. “The overarching objectives include improving the use of statistical methods in test and evaluation and to develop an understanding of the similarities and differences between ground test simulations of altitude starting characteristics compared

to flight test data.”

Dr. Vining said the program office and both test centers benefit from this collaboration through improved test and evaluation and communications. This is why he and Kidman re-energized the Propulsion Integration Ground/Flight Test Interchange (PIG/FTI) in August of 2010.

Kidman added, “The Air Force benefits from this collaboration by the sharing of system and test expertise learned from AEDC testing. As a result, we have a pretty good idea what to expect from the engine. The new piece is that now the system is fully integrated with the airframe (e.g. inlet and power extraction) which changes engine operation.”

Capt. John Dayton, a Turbine Engine Ground Test Complex project engineer, and Mike Wrenn, an ATA lead analysis engineer, traveled out to Ed-

*“During the flight test the pilot literally turns the engine off and then he can either use ram air effect from the motion of the airframe or he can also do a starter-assisted start and basically use both the air and the starter to get it started. And we’ve done those tests here before they ever did them out there.”*

– John Kelly  
AEDC Turbine Engine Ground Test  
Complex F135 test manager

wards to provide support.

“The reason that we were out there for airstart testing specifically, is because that’s one of the easiest direct links you can make between what we test on the ground here at AEDC and what they test in the air,” Wrenn said. “We’re making a direct comparison and a correlation between the test points that they’re running [and what] we’re looking at here.”

“There are lessons learned and guidance that we can provide to them, including the timelines that we developed on how long

it would take the engine to restart. This corresponds directly to what they’re using out at Edwards to help put the safety mechanism in place to ensure their pilots understand what they’re getting into, that they fully understand the altitude loss during the maneuvers and how to accomplish that flight test safely.”

Captain Dayton added, “We were out there in an observational and a relationship-building role with the flight test engineers in the program. One of our goals coming back is [to determine] where

can we get more involved in the future, to improve our products and analysis. And then also, where do we best inject our experience into the test plan or test procedures.”

John Kelly, AEDC’s Turbine Engine Ground Test Complex F135 test manager, and Melanie Link, Propulsion Integration Lead for the F-35 Integrated Test Force at Edwards, worked with the rest of the team with one goal.

“We were trying to figure out how we, as a test enterprise, can seamlessly go from one test to another, so ultimately our [ground test data] output would be the input to flight test; our reports would be what guides the plans for a flight test,” Kelly said. “During the flight test the pilot literally turns the engine off and then he can either use ram air effect from the motion of the airframe or

he can also do a starter-assisted start and basically use both the air and the starter to get it started. And we’ve done those tests here before they ever did them out there.”

Kelly said the pilot’s feedback during the flight and airstarts literally becomes another “data point” to support the tests.

Link put the recent airstart testing into perspective.

“We’re still in the early stages of air-start testing of the aircraft,” she said. “Airstart testing for the STOVL (Short Take-Off and Vertical Landing) jets is still in planning stages, only ground start testing has been done at Patuxent River Naval Air Station thus far. We’ve been flight testing since 2007; airstart testing for the production engine though has just begun. Air-start testing for STOVL jets will also be done at Edwards AFB.”

### COMMANDER from page 1

support required to develop, procure and sustain Air Force weapon systems.

The Beavercreek, Ohio, native is a 1980 Air Force Academy graduate and member of the first class with female cadets at the Academy. She holds master’s degrees in aeronautics and astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and in national resource strategy from the National Defense University.

Wolfenbarger began her career in acquisitions as an engineer at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. She has held a variety of assignments at

headquarters Electronic Security Command and Air Force Systems Command, one of the predecessor commands to AFMC.

The general has held several positions in the F-22 System Program Office at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; served as the F-22 lead program element monitor at the Pentagon, and was the B-2 system program director for the Aeronautical Systems Center, Wright-Patterson AFB.

She commanded ASC’s C-17 Systems Group, Mobility Systems Wing and was the service’s director of the Air Force Acquisition Center of Excellence at the Pentagon, then served as director of the headquarters AFMC Intelligence and Requirements Directorate, Wright-Patterson AFB.

Wolfenbarger received her third star in December 2009 and became the Air

Force’s highest-ranking woman in January 2010. She served as AFMC vice commander from December 2009 to September 2011.

A change of command is scheduled for June 5.

Prior to Moore’s assignment as AFMC vice commander in October 2011, he was the deputy director of the Joint Strike Fighter Program Office in Arlington, Va.

Moore will lead the AFLCMC, which will provide life-cycle management of Air Force weapon systems and other capabilities. The center is the result of an AFMC-wide restructure that will consolidate the missions now performed by ASC at Wright-Patterson, the Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom AFB, Mass., the Air Armament Center at Eglin AFB, Fla., and some functions at other AFMC bases. AFLCMC will also

include the new Air Force Security Assistance and Cooperation Directorate, formerly the Air Force Security Assistance Center, at Wright-Patterson. The center is expected to reach initial operational capability Oct. 1, 2012.

Moore graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1980 with Bachelor of Science degrees in aeronautical engineering and political science. In 1981, he earned a Master of Science degree in aeronautical engineering from Columbia University in New York. He also earned a Master of Science degree in national resource strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University at Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.

Moore’s previous assignments include deputy director of the Global Pow-

er Directorate in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition at the Pentagon, and deputy director of the Capabilities Integration and Transformation Directorate at Headquarters AFMC. Moore served as the chief of air operations, Multi-National Forces-Iraq in 2004, and he is a command pilot with more than 3,000 flight hours in 30 types of aircraft.

Moore also served at Wright-Patterson AFB during previous tours as director, F-16 System Program Office, June 2002 to August 2003; as vice commander, ASC, September 2003 to August 2004; as director, F-22 System Program Office, November 2005 to May 2007, and as commander, 478th Aeronautical Systems Wing, May 2007 to July 2008.

The nominations of the

following AFMC senior leaders remain pending at this time:

- Maj. Gen. Andrew E. Busch, commander of the Ogden Air Logistics Center at Hill AFB, Utah, for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general with assignment as vice commander of AFMC;

- Lt. Gen. Charles R. Davis, commander of ESC at Hanscom AFB, Mass., with new assignment as Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.; and,

- Maj. Gen. Bruce A. Litchfield, commander of the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center at Tinker AFB, Okla., for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general, with assignment to lead the new Air Force Sustainment Center at Tinker AFB.



**Air Force Materiel Command's Annual Enlisted Award winners for 2011 stand on stage at the ceremony. From left: Master Sgt. Kavina M. Agnew, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.; Shiela Wallace, Air Force Association Wright Memorial Chapter 212 president; Master Sgt. Alan M. Braden, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; Gen. Donald Hoffman, AFMC commander; Staff Sgt. Linn A. Knight, Eglin AFB, Fla.; retired Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James C. Binnicker; Airman First Class Andrea R.P. Ally, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; and Chief Master Sgt. Eric R. Jaren, AFMC command chief. (U.S. Air Force photo/Ben Strasser)**

## Annual enlisted award winners announced

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – Air Force Materiel Command announced its top enlisted Airmen of 2011 during the command's Annual Enlisted Awards Banquet March 29 at the National Museum of the United States Air Force.

More than 350 family members, friends, wingmen and command officials gathered in the modern flight gallery of the museum to honor the nominees.

Forty-five enlisted Airmen from throughout AFMC's headquarters, centers and specialized units were nominated to compete in four separate categories – airman, non-commissioned officer, senior NCO and first sergeant.

The winners are:  
Airman Category - Airman First Class Andrea R.P. Ally, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Ally's exceptional leadership as a Knowledge Operations Journeyman resulted in

the seamless transition of AFMC's server to the Air Force Portal. Additionally, she provided invaluable support to the Freedom of Information Act manager by tracking 200 cases and five time-sensitive congressional requests.

Non-Commissioned Officer Category - Staff Sgt. Linn A. Knight, Air Armament Center, Eglin AFB, Fla. Knight used her skills as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Journeyman to successfully complete 55 munitions development tests and ensure \$820 million of research and development projects were executed on time. She also provided technical support to the United States Secret Service in Washington, D.C., protecting President Obama.

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Category - Master Sgt. Alan M. Braden, Aeronautical Systems Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. As a Career Assistance Advisor, Braden led AFMC's 2011 Profes-

sional Development Program of the Year, coordinating 83 courses for 1,300 members. Braden also developed a Major Command Career Assistance Advisor inspection program and the AFMC Command Chief's "Meet the Board" objective, both adopted as command benchmarks.

First Sergeant Category - Master Sgt. Kavina M. Agnew, Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center and 3rd Combat Communications Group, Tinker AFB, Okla. As First Sergeant, Agnew developed the first ever squadron pre-deployment briefing, providing both support and resiliency resources to 45 Airmen and their spouses. She meticulously maintained 46 family care plans, with her program being recognized by the AFMC Inspection Team as a "Strength."

Gen. Donald Hoffman, AFMC commander, presided over the ceremony. After congratulating all the nominees and winners on a job well done, he thanked

them for their excellence.

"As we stand here in the National Museum of the United States Air Force, we stand in the shadows of the Airmen who came before us," Hoffman said. "It's always an impressive venue to recognize excellence, and indeed this room is filled with excellence tonight."

"It doesn't matter if we make our Air Force half the size it is now, or a quarter of the size – we will still be the best Air Force in the world," he continued. "Not because of the machines we operate, but because our people are the best. Thank you all for the excellence you bring to your United States Air Force."

The four winners will go on to represent AFMC in the United States Air Force Twelve Outstanding Airmen of the Year and First Sergeant of the Year competitions held later this year.

## AFMC commander talks warfighter input, tactical refinements after AOR trip

By **Monica D. Morales**

*Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs*

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – Positive warfighter feedback and a shorter to-do list were among the predominant characteristics of a recent trip made by command senior leaders to the U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility, said Gen. Donald Hoffman during a March 26 interview.

"I can't say that I got any negative feedback about AFMC overall," the commander of Air Force Materiel Command said.

From his office within the AFMC headquarters building, Hoffman recounted the warfighter insights and lessons learned that he and a team of AFMC senior leaders noted during a six-day trip in mid-March that took them to large bases in three different countries. It included stops in Southwest Asia and the Kyrgyz Republic.

This annual trip is designed for the command's leaders to acquire feedback directly from warfighters to determine how the command can better accomplish its supply and sustainment operations.

Hoffman once again emphasized the importance of the command's role in keeping warfighters equipped with the support needed to continue their operations, including the personal dedication to work warfighters' problems first before tackling routine matters. This dedication from the command is critical to warfighters, he said, given the 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week operational tempo in-theater.

"If we have any role to play in getting answers or solutions to the deployed warfighters, we need to have a mechanism that wraps around their schedule, not ours," Hoffman said.

Much like last year's trip, this year's also included a view through the lens of General Hoffman's role as the Air Force's lead integrator for agile combat support. As such, he bears responsibility for an extended portfolio that includes base operations support and training, in addition to the traditional AFMC missions of research, acquisition, test and sustainment.

Excerpts from the interview follow:

**Q:** What kind of feedback did you receive from AFMC's warfighter customers in the AOR?

**A:** I received overwhelmingly positive feedback. There was generalized feedback about, of course, supplies and spares taking days to get there, but [these locations] are days away. Even if the parts are readily available and get on the next plane, it is still going to take days to get there to some of these remote locations.

**Q:** What is AFMC doing well to support the warfighter?

**A:** The warfighters really appreciate the Global Logistics Support Center's 24/7 on-call staffing elements. Whether it's a wide-bodied mobility aircraft, a fighter, or a bomber aircraft, there's always a voice at the other end

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### VERA from page 3

the effect on our current permanent civilian workforce and their families."

At participating bases, civilian employees will receive VERA/VSIP eligibility surveys from their local CPSes May 1, and applications are due the week of May 14 or an earlier date established by local authorities. Applicants approved for this round of VERA/VSIP will need to separate no later than Aug. 31.

"We are committed to maximizing voluntary separation measures to preclude involuntary actions," Dunbar said. "However, as we progress toward the end of the fiscal year, it is apparent some bases will need to rebalance the skills of their workforce into other enduring positions."

The processes available to rebalance or re-skill the workforce include using reduction-in-force procedures to determine em-

ployee placements rights into enduring vacancies as well as providing the flexibility to waive qualifications for more placements. In that regard, the bases will begin their preparations for submitting their requests for approval to use RIF procedures so as to have their employees realigned to the continuing positions by Sept. 30.

*Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs contributed to this story.*

### CENTERS from page 1

stand-ups are the beginning of restructure implementation and should not be confused with initial operational capability in October. Once new center frameworks are stood up, command officials will begin linking subordinate units to their respective centers, attaching more and more functions as they build toward IOC in October and eventual full operational capability in mid-2013.

The restructure plan will cut overhead costs

and redundant layers of staff. It is expected to generate Air Force savings of \$109 million annually while improving AFMC's overall management and lines of communication, and standardizing many processes. Throughout the transition, command planners continue to be led by a very deliberate, focused governance process that includes weekly updates to an executive steering group.

As AFMC moves toward implementation, it

will use all personnel management options available to mitigate impacts on civilian employees.

The command has already offered two rounds of the Voluntary Early Retirement Authority and Voluntary Separation Incentive Payment, or VERA/VSIP, program and will offer a third round where needed across the command. Also, command officials remain engaged with civilian employee unions to keep them updated on the restructure.

### FELLOWS from page 1

cal Engineers, a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and a President's Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

Established in 1989, the AEDC Fellows Program recognizes individuals who have made substantial and exceptionally distinguished technical contributions



to the nation's aerospace ground testing capability at AEDC.

Since the inception

of the program, AEDC has bestowed the center's highest honor to a grand total of 71 individuals as Fellows, Lifetime Achievement Fellows and Honorary Fellows.

Newly selected AEDC Fellows are honored annually on or about June 25, the birthday of General of the Air Force Gen. Henry "Hap" Arnold.



**HOFFMAN** from page 5

of the line 24/7 to take that call and then work the problem.

This operates very similarly to the Verizon network commercial. The people that make calls don't care about the network that's behind it, represented by the guy wearing black-framed glasses with an army of people behind him. That networked army of people represents AFMC's job, to have that back-stopping workforce there that delivers on what they need. The warfighters' job is to identify and quantify the need correctly – and sometimes they don't characterize the need quite right, and that creates confusion downstream. If the warfighters, no-kidding, identify their bona fide need, our job is to grab that and run with it to make that happen. They were very satisfied with that.

In terms of on-site engineering support, we have a couple of lieutenants over there from the air logistics centers that do engineering dispositions on site. So, as they work on an aircraft and they find holes that are too big or a small crack or some other thing not covered by the technical order guidance, you have to get an engineering assessment of that. And so, for the relatively minor ones, you don't want that disappearing in the system and coming back a week later – you want the solution while the airplane is opened up, so it can be on the schedule the next day.

These engineers are empowered to make some decisions on their own. If it exceeds their knowledge and authority, they know exactly who to call back home – even on weekends and evenings – and fax or send pictures to describe the problem. Then they get an improved engineering solution to immediately continue on with repair of that aircraft.

This has been going on for a couple of years. They love it. Those engineers are in centralized locations over in the theater, and there's a hunger for them to be in even more remote sites. But it's working pretty well right now where they are. They do travel if necessary, and they do remotely address problems, even if they are not directly on site.

**Q:** How long is the to-do list you came back with?

**A:** The to-do list for this trip was much shorter, partly because this was a much shorter trip. We made it to three locations and they were relatively large bases. We did come back with some small tactical things to further examine.

Some things are under the purview of AFMC, some things are under the purview

of the agile combat support lead integrator, and some are just items we need to coordinate with others to get to the ground truth of what's happening. This is not only for our understanding, but also sometimes there's just a lack of communication. The folks over there don't know that their chain of command has made a decision about how or where something gets repaired, and they don't understand the logic behind it. Sometimes it's just a communication challenge.

**Q:** What message(s) did you deliver to our customers there?

**A:** During an All Call and meetings over breakfasts and lunches with Airmen, we talk about what's going on in D.C. Deployed Airmen are very focused on what's going on there, so I talk about the big picture -- where we are in the national debt and deficit, that it's an election year, and how the debate in Washington is shaping solutions to that major problem. We already had the first installment of the Budget Control Act – \$487 billion for the Department of Defense – and unless Congress crafts some path forward, there will be additional cuts.

So I put that in perspective to them, but always closing on the note that they don't have to worry about that. That's us on the cell phone in the background providing that network. Their job is just to do their deployed tasks, and ask for help when they need it. To some audiences that were AFMC unique, I talked about the five-center reorganization – where we stand on that, our timing and path forward.

**Q:** How many AFMC people were you able to talk to, and what were their jobs?

**A:** I met with dozens of AFMC people at each location, and they have a variety of jobs. I mentioned the engineers, there were also supply chain specialists and maintainers. There are AFMC Airmen there doing public affairs; they are flying; doing civil engineering and communication – the entire spectrum of work.

**Q:** Is there any specific message you would like to share with the command regarding this trip?

**A:** As we sit here and grind through our daily routines, it's easy to forget about the sacrifices our deployed members and their families are making under difficult conditions. How they respond to that and how they represent America over there is very uplifting, and it really recharges my batteries every time I go there. For those of us back home, our number one priority remains the same ... support the warfighter.

## Committee officers help lead OSHR safety efforts

By Shawn Jacobs  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

Dave Everett, Otis Eady and Mitch Kendrick would be the first to tell you it's a team effort. But Catherine Plunkett, director of the ATA Safety and Health Group (SHG), recently singled out these men for spearheading a number of successful safety initiatives by the Occupational Safety Health Representative Committee (OSHR).

Plunkett recently called Everett, chairman; Eady, co-chairman; and Kendrick, recorder; the "cornerstones to this committee," which was formed in 2010 with the goal of facilitating safety communication in the craft areas at AEDC. The OSHR Committee, which meets once a month, includes 35 craftspeople from across the base.

"This committee played a big role in helping us with the [safety] glove selections and have continued to provide the SHG with suggestions for improvements to PPE (personal protection equipment) and other safety concerns," she said. They are great at bringing safety concerns up and then giving input to the solution."

Plunkett praised the men for publishing the first OSHR newsletter, which came out Jan. 31.

"They took the initiative on their own to develop and publish this and send it out."

Everett, a lieutenant with the Arnold Police Department, where he heads Installation Security Section/Plans and Programs and serves as alternate antiterrorism officer, said he initiated the newsletter to share information – and maybe a little humor – with the OSHR.

"Because we have such a diverse group out here, what might mean something to a police officer might not have significance to



ATA General Manager Steve Pearson speaks to the OSHR committee during a recent meeting. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)

somebody in the trades," he said. "I also want to provide a little information and the safety topic of the month. We wanted to get together and basically just try and get some ideas by putting our names out there. It shows who's involved in it [the OSHR]. It shows the leadership."

Everett said the OSHR draws its strength from its diversity.

"The different organizations here on base have been having safety meetings," he said. "When the [OSHR members] come in, they discuss what's going on in their respective workshops – the meetings they have in the morning before they go to work. Any new safety ideas they might come up with ... we exchange these ideas."

"It's Beyond Zero, it's Roadmap to Recovery, it's safety commitment. It makes it a whole lot better when a group gets together like this [and] you can see results."

Everett said the OSHR draws on information provided by ATA General Manager Steve Pearson and other senior leadership.

"We hand it out to the OSHR and talk about other initiatives and issues," he said. "There is free train-

ing that is offered that if people have the time they can participate and we've had people do that."

One of the committee's initiatives involves producing two safety videos – one of them featuring Otis Eady – demonstrating the right (safe) and wrong way to perform certain tasks.

Eady, the co-chairman and a lead outside machinist in the Von Kármán Gas Dynamics Facility (VKF) Compressor Building, said he'll be demonstrating the danger of high-pressure air in the video.

"I'm going to demonstrate what high-pressure air can do to a paper towel instead of using your hand because it will cut," he said. "That's what we use – a rag or something that will tear fairly easily – to find a [high-pressure air] leak."

Eady said the idea of getting the craft more involved in safety is a good one.

"It's working in a lot of cases," he said. "There are things that have been asked of me, and I bring it up in the committee meeting. It's a collective group to talk it out. Somebody brings up something and if we can't come up with something there, then Safety's (SHG) sitting there and they will

offer their idea on it.

"When it can be discussed, you've got pipefitters, you've got boilermakers, you've got ironworkers, so everybody can see something that you may not see."

An achievement Eady is proud of is a much shorter Job Safety Analysis (JSA) that will be used for smaller jobs – something that could save time and, possibly, money.

"Instead of having a big paper for a JSA, we got them to agree to a smaller one- or two-day job [form] instead of the big paper," he said. "So we can use the smaller one for small jobs instead of having to do all this whole paperwork just to do a small job." It's been named the Job Safety Review and it can be used as the job will be completed in three days or less.

Eady has developed somewhat of a reputation as the "safety guy" in the VKF Compressor Building.

"Here in this building, if somebody doesn't feel safe about something, they'll [often] call me first," he said. "We'll discuss and most of the time get our supervisor, Jason Farris, and we'll come up with a

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## Book commemorates AFMC's 20th anniversary

By Monica D. Morales  
Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – Air Force Materiel Command officials have released the command's limited-edition anniversary book, highlighting AFMC's 20 years of providing expeditionary capabilities to the warfighter.

The release of this commemorative book, titled "Air Force Materiel Command: 20 Years of Warfighter Support," comes during the command's anniversary year and just ahead of the anniversary date of July 1.

"Air Force Materiel Command has matured from a fledgling organiza-

tion created by the integration of Air Force Logistics Command and Systems Command to become a preeminent provider of warfighting capability," said AFMC Commander Gen. Donald Hoffman.

The anniversary book highlights not only the command's four core mission areas of science and technology, acquisition management, test and evaluation and sustainment but also features profiles of the Airmen executing these missions day to day.

"From our laboratories

and test ranges to our acquisition offices and depots, AFMC people have made a difference during the past two decades and will continue to do so in the years ahead," Hoffman said.

The book also features interviews with former AFMC commanders, a historical look at the command's development and little-known facts about AFMC bases. This 144-page commemorative edition is printed in full color on high-quality paper stock.

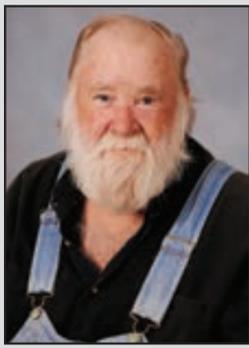
The AFMC 20th anniversary book was published and printed by Faircount LLC of Tampa, Fla., in

conjunction with content provided through the AFMC Headquarters and installation public affairs and history offices. It was printed at no cost to the Air Force since advertising in the book covered production costs.

The book is available in its entirety online at <http://www.defensemianetwork.com/publications/us-air-force-materiel-command-20-years-of-warfighter-support/>

AFMC personnel interested in obtaining a printed copy of the AFMC anniversary book can contact their local public affairs office.

# Milestones



**Jerry Hill**  
35 years

## 30 YEARS

Scott Darlington, ATA  
Alex Lonzo, ATA  
Gerald Glasner, ATA  
Allen Gilmer, ATA  
Richard Zimmerman, ATA  
Richard Bayer, ATA  
R Michael Cunningham, ATA  
Julia Lance, AF

## 25 YEARS

Anthony Medley, ATA  
Heidi Snively, ATA  
Kenneth Bynum, ATA  
Pamela Clayborne, ATA  
Denice Hebert, ATA  
Donald Loman, ATA  
Louis Vanacore, ATA  
Karen Zarecore, ATA  
Chester Stovall Jr., ATA  
Bryan Williams, ATA  
Robert Howard, ATA  
Gary Teal, ATA

## 20 YEARS

Kraig Smith, ATA

## 15 YEARS

D.W. Jones, ATA  
Randall Lewis, ATA  
Charles Horrocks, ATA

## 10 YEARS

Douglas Brown, ATA  
Collie Carney, ATA  
Philip Lorenz III, ATA  
Ronald Olton II, ATA

## 5 YEARS

Fred Blevins, ATA  
Jessica Means, ATA  
Zachary Tucker, ATA  
Angela Banks, ATA  
Muriel Harter, ATA  
Dustin Patterson, ATA  
Josh Dixon, ATA

## INBOUND MILITARY

Staff Sgt. Shara Evans, AF

## RETIREMENTS

Michael Shrum, 6 years, ATA  
Vert Hartman, 27 years, ATA  
David Garner, 39 years, ATA  
Al Simmons, 31 years, AF  
Alan Fudge, 31 years, AF

## F-35A completes first night refueling mission



The first night refueling in the history of the F-35 program was completed March 26 at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. Piloted by Lt. Col. Peter Vitt, 461st Flight Test Squadron director of operations, AF-4, an F-35A conventional takeoff and landing variant, rendezvoused with an Air Force KC-135 tanker and successfully received fuel through the F-35's boom receptacle. Vitt's sortie lasted more than three hours. In addition to qualifying with the KC-135, the F-35 Integrated Test Force at Edwards AFB will conduct night refueling tests with the KC-10. (Photo provided by Lockheed Martin)

## CARS from page 1

will be a good turnout of car enthusiasts for the event.

"There is certainly a large car community in the area, given the number of cruise-ins and car shows that occur during the spring and summer," he said. "Plus, among the planning team we can probably come up with 20-25 folks that we know are car enthusiasts."

Participation in the event is limited to current AEDC employees, including ATA and subcontractors. Any vehicle entered in the Cruise-In must be street legal and meet the requirements to be driven on base, such as proof of valid registration and insurance. They must be driven to work on the day of the event; no vehicles brought in on trailers will be

permitted.

Each vehicle will be provided a dash plaque, and spectators will vote for their favorite vehicle, with a People's Choice award going to the vehicle with the most votes.

Cameras and photos will be allowed, but photographers should follow the center's rules on photography of prohibited facilities, hardware or materials.

The base's Sergeants Association plans to sell hamburgers and hot dogs at the event.

If you would like to enter a vehicle in the Cruise-In, contact Tom Parrish at [Tom.Parrish@arnold.af.mil](mailto:Tom.Parrish@arnold.af.mil) with a brief description of the vehicle. That info will help in developing the event parking plan.

## OSHR from page 7

plan to be safe and not get anybody hurt.

"And that's what it's designed for. People see me in the plant and I'll say, 'You know that's wrong,' and they'll just stop and ask what they need to do [to be safe]."

Mitch Kendrick, a power switchboard operator who works out of the Power Control Building, has served as the OSHR recorder since its inception.

"I basically schedule the meetings and record the minutes and publish the minutes for the committee," he said. "Also, I do bring in other input from our section, from the electrical side of the house."

Kendrick's contributions to the committee have included concerns about

the lockout/tagout safety initiative.

"On the electrical side of the house the biggest safety program we have really is our lockout/tagout, or our holdover system, and we basically run the holdover system out of our section here in Power Control," Kendrick said. "We noticed some discrepancies in some of the procedures in the paperwork trail that we were getting back that made us concerned that [they] might not be followed properly."

"I brought that up to the Safety Office at a committee meeting, and we're in the process of a review of that process to make sure that everyone understands. We use a lot of electricity out here, and if you're not safe with it, it'll get you."

Kendrick said the OSHR is making a positive difference in safety at AEDC.

"It seems like we have – just from the fact of clarifying some of the things that come in our safety standards – there was a question that came up about what locks should be used for lockout/tagout, and we determined what it should be. We've talked lately a lot about hardhats with some clarification on some OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) guidelines."

Eady, too, is gratified that the work of the OSHR may have already prevented some injuries.

"People will come to you now," he said. "They're more open than before. At least we have a voice in it

now. I think it's great; I've enjoyed the time I've spent on it.

"Yes, we've made a difference. The whole committee has made a difference. The only thing that I say is that more people need to come to it. If you're on that committee, you need to try and make every meeting."

Everett, who is quick to share credit for the OSHR accomplishments with Eady, Kendrick and the entire committee membership, is proud of the group's contribution to safety improvement at AEDC.

"I'm excited about it because we've actually put these initiatives into practice," he said. "We don't just preach it; we practice it."

# WHAT LIES BENEATH

## Explosives clearing goes underground at Arnold AFB

By Patrick Ary  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

While the surface may look clear in the woods off Wattendorf Highway, there are still crews out clearing up Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) in the woods at Arnold Air Force Base.

The difference between the work done last year and now is this time they're going underground.

The Military Munitions Response Project on base has moved into the remedial investigation (RI) phase, which means workers are looking for any munitions sub-surface that may have been fired onto these historical ranges and impact areas.

The munitions date back to the 1940s, when Arnold AFB was actually the site of the U.S. Army's Camp Forrest. They have been found in areas that were used as impact areas or practice ranges. There are three main areas remaining that are the focus of the sub-surface RI; the current area where subcontractor Bay West has crews working is a 538-acre area south of Wattendorf Highway, west of UTSI Road and east of South Hap Arnold Drive, designated as Target Area (TG) 028, the Old Impact Area South. There is also TG028a, a former machine-gun range west of that site, and the Northern Impact Area, north of the Arnold Airfield and designated as TG027.

"Bay West has been working at Arnold AFB since 2008 and is very familiar with the historical range and impact areas," said Denny Timmons, AEDC's installation restoration program manager. "They have a lot of very qualified UXO technicians with experience from all over the world. Safety is paramount with them and for ensuring we proceed forward with the particular phase we're in. The Corps of Engineers-Omaha manages the program for us, and they have a Corps safety rep on site at all times to ensure what Bay West

is doing complies with all safety standards. Tech Sgt. James Key from AEDC Weapons Safety additionally provides project oversight for the Air Force."

The UXO cleanup effort, spurred by a request in 2001 from the Defense Environmental Restoration Program, began with range inventory reports followed by historical research. In 2003, the historical range and impact munitions response areas were identified and included the Old Camp Peay Small Arms Range Area, which was used during World War I and is south of the current Arnold Golf Course, and the Camp Forrest Ranges and Impact Areas, which included TG027 and TG028 with its associated ranges. Those ranges included a Combat and Towed Range, Miniature Anti-Aircraft Range, Miniature Anti-Tank Range, Machine-Gun Range, Machine-Gun and Combat Range, 1,000-inch Machine-Gun and Landscape Range, Rifle Range, Pistol Range and a Mounted Pistol Range. Additionally there were two High Explosive Grenade Ranges and two Practice Grenade Ranges located at other locations around Camp Forrest.

Actual on-site work on these ranges and impact areas began in 2006 with sampling and gathering of information for the Phase I and Phase II of a comprehensive site evaluation, followed by clearance of UXO found on the surface in TG028 but, in many instances, covered by leaves or heavy brush. Now workers are searching under the surface.

In the last few weeks it has been common for notices to be sent out on base that workers have found and are planning to detonate UXO found in TG028. People driving on Wattendorf Highway may have heard a warning siren sounded by Bay West workers before they detonate munitions found in the woods, or a loud boom as an item is blown up.

"We started this RI project



A Bay West crew prepares to perforate an inert 3-inch Stokes mortar found on Arnold AFB as part of a demonstration exercise March 6. Bay West routinely uses explosive charges on unexploded ordnance found beneath the surface of the earth south of Wattendorf Highway and east of UTSI road in an area the Army used as a practice area in the 1940s. The ordnance is placed in a hole and covered with sandbags to lessen the impact on the surrounding area, and then the pieces are recovered. (Photo by Patrick Ary)

in January of this year, and the purpose of this mag and dig investigation will be to identify and characterize subsurface munitions and explosives of concern (MEC)," Timmons said. "We detected quite a few subsurface anomalies in selected grids based on where we found UXO during the previous surface clearance phase. We identified additional grids to investigate based on where the impact and target areas were by laying 1943 aerials over current aerial photos. So far the UXO and frag items we've found match up with where the former combat and towed target range impact areas and towlines were located."

Because workers are finding such a large number of sub-surface items, for the purpose of this investigation they have divided the area into one-acre grids, and up to 500 anomalies will be dug from each grid to determine the extent of MEC.

Timmons said most of the items are being found between four and 12 inches under the surface, stopped by a layer of clay. Three-inch Stokes mortars, 81-mm and 60-mm mortars, 37-mm projectiles and rifle grenades are just a few of the items workers have found.

"Part of the Old Impact Area South was used as a mock village during WWII for Army Special Forces troops at that time, and so they used a variety of munitions here," Timmons said. "There were pillboxes, there were climbing walls, there were climbing



An 81-mm mortar was found at Arnold AFB Feb. 27. Workers from subcontractor Bay West use a small charge to detonate unexploded ordnance found during the remedial investigation phase of the Military Munitions Response Project ongoing at the base. (Photo provided)

wells dug into the ground where they would go down into and then climb out of them. It was to mimic conditions overseas in World War II where we were fighting."

The munitions are now nearing 70 years old and were used for practice instead of a real event. Because there is no record of what was fired, workers have no way of knowing whether any UXO is still high explosive until they carefully examine it.

Any UXO that is found that needs to be detonated is placed into a hole, covered with sandbags and detonated with a small charge, and its characteristics are recorded to give an overall picture of what is found in the area. The impact to the surrounding area is minimal, and the UXO frag left can be recovered quickly and easily.

UXO warning signs are posted along the perimeter of all histori-

cal ranges and impact areas. During the TG028 surface clearance, additional signs were posted along Wattendorf Highway and UTSI Road to prevent access to that area.

"Although the chance of running across munitions on the surface is now low at this site, we will continue to have signs posted for people to stay out of the area where the crew is working because of what we're doing now – finding and detonating UXO," Timmons said.

The remedial investigation is expected to last through the summer, Timmons said. After that, information gathered will be used to adequately characterize the site for the purpose of developing and evaluating effective remedial alternatives. The feasibility study will then ensure that appropriate remedial alternatives are developed and evaluated before an appropriate remedy is selected.

## Officials reaffirm Pentagon's commitment to F-35

By Karen Parrish  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON (AFNS)** – Estimated costs for the F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter have increased over the life of the program, but the Defense Department is working to contain cost growth and remains committed to the fifth-generation fighter, defense officials said March 29.

Frank Kendall III said during confirmation testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee that cost overruns for the

stealth fighter are about \$150 billion. Kendall is acting undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics, and if confirmed will assume that position officially.

"We are doing everything we can to drive down the cost of the joint strike fighter," Kendall told committee members.

He noted the program is still in testing, with about 20 percent of that process complete.

"We are finding design issues as we go through the test program that we have to correct,"

he acknowledged. "So there are some cost adjustments associated with that."

Kendall outlined the department's actions to rein in the program's price tag.

"We are attacking the production costs by putting strong incentives on the contractor to control costs, to get the changes that have to be made cut in quickly," he said.

Concurrent engineering design is one issue that has raised costs, he told the panel. In that approach, which is intended to

develop a finished product faster, a new system may simultaneously be in engineering, production and testing processes, he explained.

"Most programs start production before they have completely finished their developmental tests," he said. "The question is how much."

The joint strike fighter was an "extreme example" of concurrency, he said, pointing out that production was started more than a year before the first flight tests.

Lessons learned during the F-35's development are now being applied to other systems, Kendall said.

"What we are doing now is setting up exit criteria so that we don't make that production commitment until we are confident that the design is reasonably stable," he added.

Kendall cautioned, however, that the joint tactical vehicle and ground combat vehicle could experience cost overruns.

See F-35, page 10

## SecAF visits F-35 test program at Edwards AFB

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFNS) – “You continue to make history - literally every day - with the work you do here.” These words of affirmation were given by Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley during his visit to the Edwards F-35 Integrated Test Force March 28 at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

Donley, who was at Edwards March 26-28 to meet with Airmen and base officials, had the opportunity see the ITF in action and learn about the unit's F-35 Joint Strike Fighter testing activities.

The ITF mission is to plan and execute the flight test portion of the Joint Strike Fighter verification and testing effort. The organization is currently comprised of approximately 800 contractors, active-duty military, government civilians and representatives from the F-35's eight partnering countries.

“You're always finding ways to push the limits with new technologies,” Donley told the ITF team. “You make sure our pilots operating these systems not only have the maximum capabilities available, but you also make sure our Airmen are safe in the operation of this advanced equipment.”

During his visit, the secretary asked Lt. Col. George Schwartz, 461st Flight Test Squadron commander, for his views on flying the Joint Strike Fighter. The pilot told Donley that “the handling qualities of the aircraft are simply outstanding...it's very easy to fly.”

While the ITF currently has six F-35 aircraft as-



Lt. Col. George Schwartz, Commander of the 461st Flight Test Squadron at Edwards AFB, gives a tour of AF-2 to the Honorable Secretary of the Air Force Michael B. Donley (brown coat). (Photo by Paul Weatherman, Lockheed Martin)

signed for developmental testing, the first of 29 operational F-35 aircraft to be assigned to the Edwards operational test facility are due to begin arriving this summer. As a result, in support of increased operations on base, the number of ITF personnel is expected to climb to 1,700 by 2015.

While the ITF has a lot to anticipate in the near future, the unit is proud of their flight test accomplishments to date, according to officials there.

“We had a really big year last year, completing 468 sorties, while we had only planned to do 422,” said Schwartz. As a result, the unit intends to increase its sortie goals for 2012 by 20 percent and is currently on track to execute more than seven sorties each month on all of its aircraft.

“What many people don't realize is that we deliver almost 100 percent of mission systems capabilities to the Air Force, Marines, Navy, and all of

our international partners,” said Schwartz. “Almost all the mission systems developmental testing is being done here, as well as the flight sciences work for the (conventional take-off and landing) aircraft, so we have a big responsibility.”

Additionally, the ITF completed maturity flying for the training center at Eglin AFB, Fla., enabling that base to start its F-35 operations recently. Schwartz said this accomplishment was a true testament to the work done at Edwards, which helped to verify the system was safe to operate.

“A critical part of our testing is to identify issues ahead of time so that the aircraft is ready for operations,” added Mike Glass, Lockheed Martin's site director at Edwards. “Challenges are an important part of our process, and the reality is that a lot of what we do can't be learned in a laboratory environment.”

The importance of the

F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter program to U.S. defense strategy was recently reaffirmed by senior Defense Department leaders. During testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee March 20, Secretary Donley told the committee that the Air Force remains fully committed to the F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter, which he said represents the future of the fighter force.

Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta echoed this view at a news conference March 27 following a meeting with Mexican and Canadian defense leaders in Ottawa, Canada.

“As part of the defense strategy that the United States went through and has put in place, we have made very clear that we are 100 percent committed to the development of the F-35,” he said. “It's a fifth-generation fighter, [and] we absolutely need it for the future.”

dum yesterday on the F-35, Pentagon Press Secretary George Little told reporters March 29.

Little said in keeping with the Defense Department's better buying power initiative, which requires tracking affordability targets and costs associated

## DOD implements new changes to sexual assault response

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The Defense Department has refined new methods to aid sexual assault victims whether reporting a crime or seeking assistance as they transition from service, the director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office said here March 30.

“We have several new options for victims of sexual assault,” said Air Force Maj. Gen. Mary Kay Hertog. “First, if you've been a victim of sexual assault in the military, you now have the option of requesting an expedited transfer. We signed that into effect in December.

“If you find it untenable or unbearable in the organization that you're at ... you can request to be transferred,” she added.

Hertog said a service member's local commander has 72 hours to respond to the request for transfer, and, if denied, there is an option to take it to the first flag or general officer in the chain of command who also has 72 hours to respond.

“We also have a new document retention initiative,” she said. “We heard loud and clear from our veterans who present themselves at the (Department of Veterans Affairs)

years later that there was no documentation that they had ever been sexually assaulted (during) their military service.”

The issue arose, Hertog said, because varying

standards of retention had existed among all of the services. It has since been resolved.

“We now have one standard of retention so those individuals who file unrestricted reports will have their documents retained for 50 years,” she said.

“And those who file restricted reports will have their documents retained for five years,” Hertog said. “And of course our victims of sexual assault who file restricted reports have that option to convert over to unrestricted reports at any time and then we will retain their documents for that 50-year period.”

The director also discussed other innovations such as expanding legal assistance to encourage victims to participate in the military justice system “in order to hold that perpetrator accountable.”

And as of January, DOD civilians and contractors deployed abroad as well as military dependents over 18 years old are now eligible to access sexual assault response services, Hertog said.

Hertog noted other changes implemented include new training for investigators of sexual assault crimes within the services.

“Some of our new training initiatives concern our investigators such as our (Naval Criminal Investigative Service) agents, Air

See ASSAULT, page 13

### F-35 from page 9

Given the design complexity and the urgency common to new defense equipment requirements, “I am not confident that any defense program will not experience overruns,” he said.

The department now sets targets early for programs, Kendall said, which should

help to force the supplier and the customer to meet target cost caps by making any necessary tradeoffs between cost and capability.

Kendall said he and his team also are working to contain sustainment costs, “which are larger actually than the production costs.”

Those costs represent the greatest potential cost cuts, he said, and the department will continue to pursue those savings.

“I do think that the strike fighter is getting under control,” he added.

Kendall signed an acquisition decision memoran-

with acquisition programs, the memorandum sets the current outlook for F-35 final per-unit costs in 2019, when the fifth-generation fighter is scheduled to reach full production.

In today's dollars, that cost is estimated at \$81.4 million per aircraft, which when adjusted for inflation is estimated at \$94.9 million in 2019 dollars, Little said.

Overall operating and support costs of the program are estimated at \$1.1 trillion, up from last year's estimate of \$1 trillion, the press secretary added.

Little noted some of that long-term increase comes from the department's decision, reflected in the 2013 defense budget request, to help in meeting requirements for short-term spending cuts by postponing purchase of some of the fighter aircraft.

“We remain fully committed to the F-35 program,” Little said, echoing Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta's remarks March 27

during a visit to Canada's capital of Ottawa. “It's very important to our capabilities (and) to our alliances.”

The United Kingdom, Italy, the Netherlands, Australia, Canada, Denmark, Norway, Turkey, Israel and Singapore are partners or participants in the aircraft's development program, and the Japanese government announced in December it will buy 42 of the fighters.

“We are taking steps to ensure that we maintain fiscal discipline inside the program,” Little said. Panetta has said Kendall and the department's acquisition, technology and logistics team have done an outstanding job working to contain costs for the stealth fighter, he added.

“This is a fifth-generation fighter,” Little noted. “It's important for a variety of reasons: to maintain the U.S. military's technological edge, to increase interoperability with our allies, and ... for a range of other purposes.”





Judith Freer, 76th Maintenance Support Squadron senior materials engineering technician, reviews data fed from the nearby MIRA-X scanning electron microscope. The 125-cubic-foot chamber makes it the largest SEM in the world and allows parts to be scanned whole instead of cutting them up, saving thousands of dollars when a new part is found to be service-able and can meet Tinker's strict requirements. This non-destructive approach saves money on parts and helped pay for the \$2.2 million microscope within three years. (U.S. Air Force photo/Margo Wright)

## Largest-known scanning electron microscope proves big asset to Tinker

By Brandice J. O'Brien  
72nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

**TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla.**—Four-and-a-half years ago, the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center purchased the largest-known scanning electron microscope in the world. It had been estimated the \$2.2 million Ellcie, formerly Visitec, Microtechnik GmbH Mira-X large-chamber scanning electron microscope would save the Air Force approximately \$1 million per year. To date, it has achieved that and then some.

“The return of investment to the Air Force exceeded expectations because we have been able to salvage components that previously would have been condemned,” said Scot Roswurm, 76th Maintenance Support Squadron Metallurgical Analysis Section chief. “Now we’re able to return them for use and the value lies not only in the cost of the part, but saving and salvaging strategic alloys and in sparing the supply chain the disruption of having components that are not always readily available returned to service.”

Designed by a German company, the microscope stands 9 feet by 10 feet by 12 feet with an operating volume of 5 feet by 5 feet by 5 feet. The actual volume inside is 6 feet by 7 feet by 8 feet.

The chamber’s generous size allows technicians to view objects and study them in ways that were previously impossible. Formerly, components were cut to 6 inches or less so they could fit in the chamber.

“What really sets it apart from the three other scanning electron microscopes we have is the size of the chamber and what we can achieve,” said Karl Koch, 76 MXSS Metallurgical Analysis Section materials engineer. “In the standard chamber size you’d be lucky to fit an apple in there. Here, we can put in anything from the plane and we have the capability of looking at a

large case or a spool or a complete disc from the engine, without having to cut it up and destroy it; that is the key factor.”

Technicians using the large scanning-electron microscope can take a whole component, polish it and magnify it up to 100,000 times and rotate its stage 360 degrees. When finished, the component is taken out of the chamber and can be put right back on the aircraft or engine.

“We refer to it as ‘inspect and fly,’” Roswurm said. “...I think it will be the future of the Air Force, to do as much as possible non-destructively.”

Large-chamber scanning electron microscope operators are performing, pioneering and perfecting several non-destructive techniques. Roswurm said in the cases when an engine shows indications that it has experienced temperatures higher than its limits, technical orders have stated the item should be analyzed or scrapped. Instead of scrapping the items, the lab team can create a non-destructive replica and perform the necessary tests. By sparing the real parts, the team can save the customer thousands of dollars and determine the root of the problem. Previously, the method had only been used with certain components and certain alloy metals.

“What we sought to do is improve the turn time to evaluate these components

See **SCOPE**, page 15

**ASSAULT** *from page 10*

Force (Office of Special Investigations) and Army (Criminal Investigation Division)," she said. "We think we have found the gold-standard course ... to send many of the agents to (in order to) build a sexual assault subject expertise cadre of our agents to get them very familiar with

these cases."

Hertog said training frequency will increase, more seats will be offered and the training has expanded to include judge advocate generals "because these are some of the toughest cases to investigate as well as prosecute."

Perhaps the most useful

option has been established for about a year, Hertog noted.

"You have the option of contacting our DOD Safe Helpline," she said. "We stood up a 24/7 crisis hotline. It's operated by RAINN – the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network – who have been

trained by us, so they're very familiar with military terminology.

"If you don't want to go through your chain of command, you can contact them and they will tell you where your nearest rape crisis center is in your community outside your installation gates," Hertog said.

Hertog said the hotline has been "extremely successful," with about 30,000 unique visits to the site and about 2,500 referrals for counseling services.

She emphasized the Defense Department's commitment to "eradicating" sexual assault in the military "from the Secretary (of

Defense) on down.

"We have to eliminate this problem from our ranks," Hertog added. "The American public gives us what's most dear to them and that's their sons and daughters. And they trust us that we're going to take care of them, (which) is a commander's job."

## Arnold Golf Course 454-7076

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Arnold AFB Golf Course

### Spring Into Golf Special every day in April

Arnold Golf Course is offering a Spring Into Golf Special price of \$26 which includes 18 hole green fee, 18 hole cart fee plus hot dog and fountain soda – a \$35 value!

### Arnold Golf Course Customer Loyalty Program

Purchase an annual green fee for the 2012 season and receive:

- 10 percent discount on Pro Shop merchandise
- 10 percent discount on Cart rental
- 10 percent discount on Driving Range tokens
- 10 percent discount on food/beverages at Mulligan's Coffee Bar & Grill

These discounts are good April 2012 through March 2013. Not valid in conjunction with the Members First Plus discounts. Maximum discount allowed is 10 percent. Sale items and alcohol are not authorized for these discounts.

The 2012 **Intramural Golf league** will begin April 16. The league will be limited to 20 four-person teams that sign up. The format is four-person team match play and a maximum individual nine-hole handicap of 13 has been established. Each team will play either Monday or Tuesday for up to 19 weeks. There will be no league play on Memorial Day and Tuesday of that week or the week of July 4. To enter, provide your team name, names of members, phone numbers and identify the team captain. Deadline to sign up is April 6. If you are interested in participating please contact J.T. Northcutt, 454-4771, Kemp Brooks, 454-6870 or Lyle Sissom, 454-5199.

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**Weekend dining room specials (all include two sides and salad bar):**  
All specials and times are subject to change without notice. Please call ahead to ensure availability and openings.

**Friday 4-9 p.m.**  
**April 6:** Meatball Sub with fries, \$5.95 member, \$7.95 nonmember.  
**April 13:** Butterfly Shrimp with fries, \$9.95 member, \$11.95 nonmember.  
**April 20:** Fried Chicken Plate, \$9.95 member, \$11.95 nonmember.  
**April 27:** Prime Rib for Two, \$29.95 member, \$31.95 nonmember.

**Saturday 5-9 p.m.**  
**April 7:** No Dinner Special due to special function.  
**April 14:** No Dinner Special due to special function.  
**April 21:** Monterrey Chicken, \$10.95 member, \$12.95 nonmember.  
**April 28:** No Dinner Special due to special function.

Individual	Family
Juniors:	
\$750	–
E1-E4, GS1-4	
\$1,085	\$1,385
E5-O3, GS5-10	
\$1,395	\$1,780
O4/GS11 & above and Contractors	
\$1,620	\$2,070
Guests and General Public	
\$1,685	\$2,155

The **Commander's Season Opener 4-Person Scramble** is set for April 14 with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$25 and includes lunch. Sign up by April 12.

**Mulligan's Coffee Bar & Grill** is 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 in or carry out, 454-FOOD (3663).

## Arnold Lakeside Center 454-3350

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Arnold Lakeside Center and Arnold AFB Services Information, Tickets and Travel

### April Movie Schedule

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.

**April 12** – “War Horse,” rated PG-13 starring Jeremy Irvine, Emily Watson and David Thewlis.

Young Albert enlists to serve in World War I after his beloved horse is sold into cavalry. Albert's hopeful journey takes him out of England and across Europe as the war rages on.

**April 19** – “The Adventures of Tintin,” rated PG starring voices of Jamie Bell, Daniel Craig and Andy Serkis.

Intrepid and unquenchably curious young reporter Tintin, along with his fiercely loyal dog Snowy, set off on a treasure hunt with Captain Haddock for a sunken ship commanded by Haddock's ancestor.

**April 26** – “Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows,” rated PG-13 starring Robert Downey Jr. and Jude Law.

Sherlock Holmes and his sidekick, Dr. Watson, join forces to outwit and bring down their fiercest adversary, Professor Moriarty.

**First Friday Jam** is April 6 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.

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\$750	–
E1-E4, GS1-4	
\$1,085	\$1,385
E5-O3, GS5-10	
\$1,395	\$1,780
O4/GS11 & above and Contractors	
\$1,620	\$2,070
Guests and General Public	
\$1,685	\$2,155

The **Commander's Season Opener 4-Person Scramble** is set for April 14 with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$25 and includes lunch. Sign up by April 12.

**Mulligan's Coffee Bar & Grill** is 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 in or carry out, 454-FOOD (3663).

## Arnold Lakeside Center 454-3350

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Arnold Lakeside Center and Arnold AFB Services Information, Tickets and Travel

their families. The ALC will be closed on Easter Sunday.

**Administrative Professionals' Day special in Café 100 April 25.** In honor of Administrative Professionals' Day, April 25, Café 100 will be giving a Services 32 oz. thermal mug with all purchases (while supplies last). These mugs may be brought back to Café 100 and used for future soda purchases at the regular 16 oz. price of \$1.25. That's twice the product for the same low price. This special is for all customers, not only administrative, so stop by and try a Starbucks coffee, slice of pizza, salad or other selection and get your free mug.

**Last Friday Trivia Contest** is 6:30 p.m. April 27. Teams can have up to four people. No cell phones are permitted during the event. Anyone using a phone while a question is underway will be disqualified. Questions in random categories will be given. Prizes for top finishers.

**Texas Hold 'Em Members Only Mini Tournament** begins May 4 and will be every Friday through May 25 beginning at 6 p.m. in The Landing bar. There is no cost to enter but all players must be age 18 or older. Prizes will be awarded each week to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers. Tables will be created by random draw of the players present at starting time. Dinner is available from the Express or Pizza menu from 5-8 p.m.

**Café 100 Pizza** is available 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Pizza is available by the slice in pepperoni, sausage or Canadian bacon for \$2 per slice or the works (pepperoni, sausage, ham, green pepper, onion, mushrooms, black olives, bacon and extra cheese) for \$3.50 per slice. Whole pizzas are available if ordered the day prior and will require completing an order form and paying in advance. Selections for whole pizzas come in thin or thick crust and 12- or 16-inch. Choose from cheese, pepperoni, sausage, Canadian bacon, veggie, works, meat lovers or build your own from a variety of toppings. Salads are also available for \$3 with choice of ranch, French or Italian dressing.

## Family Member/Youth Programs (FamY) 454-6440

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Youth Programs

**Miss AEDC Pageant** coming to Arnold Lakeside Center May 5. Youth Programs will host the pageant for ages 5-18. The event will be open to the public and will be held from 12-6 p.m. Cost to enter is \$25 and each division winner will receive a crown, sash and flowers. Second, third and fourth place winners in each division will receive flowers. All entries will receive a participation certificate. There will also be a People's Choice winner who will receive a goody bag and sash. Divisions include Little Miss AEDC for ages 5-8, Preteen Miss AEDC for ages 9-11, Junior Miss AEDC for ages 12-15 and Miss AEDC for ages 16-18. Participants will need to provide a copy of their birth certificate or driver's license upon registration to ensure entry into the appropriate division. Little Miss and Preteen divisions will be

### Hours of operation:

**Arnold Lakeside Center:** Catering/Management offices by appointment. Cashier Monday through Friday 7 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Dinner: Arnold Express Menu or Hap's Pizza only Thursday 5–8 p.m., dinner or Arnold Express Menus and Hap's Pizza Friday 4–9 p.m. and Saturday 5–9 p.m.; Main Bar Thursday 5–8 p.m., Friday 3:30–10 p.m. and Saturday 5–10 p.m.; Social Hour Friday 4–6 p.m., Movie Night Thursday 6:30 p.m.

**Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT):** Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

**Café 100:** Monday through Friday 6:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

**Barber Shop:** by appointment – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

**GLC:** Monday through Friday 7 a.m.–3:30 p.m. May vary depending on bookings.

**Family Member/Youth Programs:** Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Saturday 12–5 p.m.

**Outdoor Rec:** Main Office, Check In and Auto Shop Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Marina by appointment only.

**Fitness Center:** Monday–Friday 5 a.m.–9 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Arnold Golf Course:** Pro Shop & Driving Range 8 a.m.–dusk; 7 a.m.–dusk beginning April 1. Driving Range open 24 hours with prepurchased key card. Mulligan's Coffee Bar & Grill Monday through Friday 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m.–2 p.m..

**Recycling:** Monday through Friday 7 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Wingo Inn:** Monday through Friday 7 a.m.–6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Nonappropriated Funds Human Resources:** Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

judged on poise, beauty and personality. Junior and Miss divisions will be judged on poise, beauty, personality and onstage question. Each participant is allowed one person backstage to assist in getting ready, but they must return to the front before the pageant begins. Participants should arrive no later than 30 minutes prior to start time with hair and makeup complete. There will be a designated area for changing into dresses. Cost to attend the event is \$5 and Arnold Lakeside Center will have a deli buffet for \$8 (\$5 for ages 10 and under). Any attending may vote for the People's Choice winner for only \$1 per vote. Deadline to enter the pageant is April 30. Enter by emailing Holly Jones ([holly.jones@arnold.af.mil](mailto:holly.jones@arnold.af.mil)) or calling 454-3415.

## Fitness Center 454-6440

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Fitness Center

The **Group Class Big 6** challenge may be completed anytime during April. Participate in at least one of all six types of classes offered – Cycle Pump, Yoga, Body Pump Boot Camp, Zumba, Pilates and Piloga – and earn an incentive prize. Be sure to use the sign in sheet for each class or check in with Joe Watters to get credit for taking the class. Group Classes are for eligible users only.

**Group Class Schedule:**  
Boot Camp Monday, Wednesday and Friday 6-7 a.m. on the basketball court  
Yoga Monday 11 a.m.-12 p.m. on the basketball court  
Cycling Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 11 a.m.-12 p.m. upstairs  
Zumba Tuesday and Thursday 4:15-5:15 p.m. upstairs  
Pilates Wednesday 11 a.m.-12 p.m. on the basketball court  
Piloga Friday 11 a.m.-12 p.m. on the basketball court

**Spring Fun Run** set for April 18 beginning at 11 a.m. on the track behind the A&E Building. Participants will need to complete eight laps around the track for a total of two miles. The top five run times will get a free HAWC (Health and Wellness Center) T-shirt. Call to sign up.

**Health and Wellness Expo returns May 23.** The Fitness Center will kick off the event with a run (1 lap around Fitness Center trail) at 11:15 a.m. The Expo will be from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. with exposure and education on different dimensions of wellness. Pick up a door prize card when you arrive

and while visiting the booths get the card initialed. Once the card is complete it may be entered for a chance to win prizes.

## Outdoor Rec (ODR) 454-6084

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Rec now offers monthly **paintball** tournaments on the third Saturday (except July and August) beginning at 10 a.m. Teams of four will play a single elimination tournament to test your skills until the best team arises. There must be at least one team member above age 18 and there must be at least six teams to hold the tournament. ODR has 25 paintball guns available on a first come, first served basis. Indicate at time of registration if you will be using your own equipment or need to reserve equipment. Cost to enter the tournament is \$25 per person and includes a bag of 500 balls and air for the day. Cost is \$20 if you use your own equipment. The winning team will receive a free day of paintball (regular Saturday play) for all four team members valid for one year and includes equipment, field fee, air for the day and bag of 500 balls. Additional prizes will be awarded each month to the winning team. Sign up deadline for the tournament will be the Tuesday prior and late registration/cancellation fees will be applied the Wednesday prior.

Regular Saturday play is 9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. every weekend except the third Saturday, due to monthly tournaments, and the months of July and August due to heat. Those interested need to call and sign up at least a day ahead of time to ensure equipment availability. When the day arrives, simply meet at the paintball field and get play underway with the direction of an Outdoor Rec (ODR) staff member. 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 2000.

All paintball programs are for ages 10 and older. Ages 10-17 must have a parent permission form.

Remember to wear appropriate clothing – long pants, a long-sleeved shirt and closed toe shoes – as paintballs fly at 300 feet per second and can sting and possibly leave a mark other than paint. Call 454-6084 for

more information about the paintball program or to sign up for these events.

Come by Café 100 April 12 and 13 anytime between 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and see the new **Outdoor Rec Team Building equipment**. The team building kit has 289 activities and can serve up to 120 participants. Large group challenges can accommodate up to 60 people. Customize your team building activities to include leadership, communication, trust and/or conflict resolution. Stop by our showcase and see some of these activities in action and maybe even try some for yourself. Information on packages and pricing will be available during the showcase. This team building equipment must be facilitated by an Outdoor Rec staff member and is not available for rent for private use.

### Outdoor Rec trips set to Ocoee for Whitewater Rafting.

Outdoor Rec has scheduled two trips, April 21 and May 12, to go whitewater rafting on the middle section of the Ocoee River. Running through the heart of the Cherokee National Forest, this is one of America's premier sections of whitewater with some of the wettest and wildest action around. The Ocoee River is great for beginners or the experienced rafter with over 20 continuous class III & IV rapids. Both trips will leave at 8 a.m. and return approximately 5 p.m. and are for ages 12 and older. Cost is \$60 each per person and deadline to sign up is April 6 and May 1, respectively. Remember to bring dry clothes to change into after rafting and money for food and beverages. No experience is necessary to enjoy the adventure of Ocoee River rafting on the World Class Ocoee River. The guides have the reputation of being some of the most experienced and best guides on the Ocoee River and take great pride in their ability to provide guests with an action-packed, fun-filled adventure. Ocoee River rafting will provide you with an experience you won't want to miss out on!

Come with Outdoor Rec and go **bird watching** April 28 from 2-4 p.m. Meet at Outdoor Rec at 1:45 p.m. then travel to Crockett Cove, FamCamp and various boat docks to see what birds are with us every day during the warmer months. You may even get a chance to see our resident eagle! Get an education on the species of birds and find out the reason why they like this area. Make sure you bring binoculars so you can see as far as pos-

See **SERVICES**, page 15

# Daddy-Daughter Dance proves to be popular event at AEDC

By Andrea Stephens  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

Dozens of fathers and daughters turned out for the first ever Daddy-Daughter Dance at Arnold Engineering Development Center, March 23. The event was held at the Arnold Lakeside Center and was hosted by Arnold Youth Programs.

Although the event was limited to base employees who sponsored a child, the number of attendees was not limited nor was it limited to just fathers.

The event began with an invocation from Sue Sipe, who is the AEDC contracting secretary.

Regarding those who attended, Dr. Edward Kraft, AEDC's chief technologist and guest speaker for the evening, described the Daddy-Daughter Dance as a "complete evening of joy." He expressed the opportunity of being a part of this evening with both his daughter and granddaughter as being a "true delight."

Kraft said, "Even though the invitation was sent out to 'Cinderellas' ranging in age from 5-17, they were gracious enough to extend the invitation to my daughter who is well past 17 years old, and my granddaughter who is three and a half."

From getting their hair fixed just right to choosing the best shoes to match their dress and practicing their dance moves, for many of the little girls who attended the dance, it was their first time to engage in such a "magical" evening. The atmosphere was created from a child's perspective of a fairy tale.

The event began with a man in a black tuxedo wearing white gloves greeting the princesses-of-the-evening at the door. They were then met by a prince

who adorned them with a tiara and escorted them along with their fathers to a table which was elegantly decorated. They were each served dinner and each couple was also provided with a keepsake photo.

The "Daddy-Daughter Dance" is expected to become an annual event at AEDC and will be geared toward bringing together fathers and daughters for an evening filled with music, laughter and memories which will last a lifetime.

Ralph Elmore, an ATA engineering technician, was the disc jockey for the evening, choosing each song appropriate to this very special occasion. Fathers and daughters danced the night away on the dance floor. It did not take long for the fathers to break out into the dance territory that their daughters were not at all familiar with; the daughters tried to turn the page and teach them a little thing or two about the more popular dancing of today.

"The music was enjoyable and kept the girls out on the floor the whole night," said Amber Wolfe, who portrayed Anastasia. "There were enough slow songs for it to be worth calling it a ball, but there were also enough fast songs that it made for some interesting dancing!"

Characters included Cinderella and Prince Charming, the evil stepmother (Lady Tremaine) and her daughters Anastasia and Drizella, Belle and the Beast from "Beauty and the Beast," the Fairy Godmother and several waiters and butlers.

Holly Jones, a co-op employee with Services who played the part of Cinderella, said she had many different highlights of the evening but one of the most memorable moments



Above, Cinderella, portrayed by Holly Jones, a co-op employee for Services, engages each of the princesses individually on the dance floor to give them her undivided attention. Portraying the role of 'Prince Charming,' George DeShields, AEDC assistant fire chief, adorned one of the many princesses that attended the Daddy-Daughter Dance March 23 with a tiara. (Top photo by Andrea Stephens; bottom photo provided)

for her was when all of the girls went crazy when she came onto the dance floor.

"I told them to find their prince and dance with him, and it was all I could do not to cry tears of joy," she said. "It was truly a touching moment to see the little girls dancing with their daddies."

"The energy the little princesses had was so encouraging. The looks on their faces let me know without asking, they were having the time of their lives. It was really sweet to see them having such a fun time making new friends."

Jones added, "It melted my heart to see the little girls interact with their daddies. I think it allowed the two of them to have a special night to reconnect and bond."

Dr. Kraft said, "The event was exceptionally well planned and essentially a flawless evening. Everything from layout, characters, tiaras, photos, meals, music and format were first class. My hat goes off to the people who put this together."



## SCOPE from page 12

and minimize the requirements for destructive analysis," Roswurm said. "This resource isn't just languishing on an island. It's in the context of a very well-equipped metallurgical lab with a number of instruments and a lot of educated talent that can stretch its applications even more."

Judith Freer, 76 MXSS

Metallurgical Analysis Section senior engineering technician, said the microscope is here for Tinker's benefit and personnel should take advantage of its abilities.

"Tinker needs to think outside of their box and think of what we can do for them with this instrument," she said.

your own equipment if you have it.

**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**

## SERVICES from page 14

sible. You can make a list of the birds you see to learn what is in your area. Cost is \$8 per person and deadline to sign up is April 26. There must be at least five to take the adventure and no more than 14.

An **Archery Basics Class** will be held May 5 at 4 p.m. at Outdoor Rec for ages 10 and older. Cost is \$3 and deadline to sign up is May 2. There must be at least three to take the course and no more than 10. This class will teach the basics of archery, including how to hold a bow properly, how to shoot with correct technique and also learn some history. Bows, arrows and targets will be provided but you may bring

The 76 MXSS Metallurgical Analysis Section has analyzed compressor rotors, damaged fan blades, shafts, spacers and air seals, fan frames, nozzle segments and thermal sprayed parts. While several groups and shops use the microscope's abilities, technicians said the F100 and F101 shops are their biggest customers.

The microscope operates using a vacuum. After a component is cleaned of any excess oils or dirt, it is

put in the chamber where a vacuum will pull out any moisture to minimize the interaction with air molecules. Technicians said it takes approximately 30 to 35 minutes to create the vacuum and 20 minutes to break it.

Koch said the vacuum isn't as strong as the infinite vacuum of space, but close to it. In fact, if a marshmallow were placed in the chamber, it could theoretically expand to fill the entire container.

"Air pressure at Tinker is around 14 pounds per square inch, but the air pressure inside the chamber is only 0.000000065 PSI," Koch said. "I should point out that it really couldn't stretch that far. It's like stretching gum too far; the marshmallow would break before it reached about 2 feet tall."

On average, it takes approximately eight hours to complete a component interrogation, which does not include part cleaning,

part set-up, creating or breaking the vacuum, or other preliminary procedures.

Despite its strength, the microscope is a fragile and delicate piece of equipment and must be properly cleaned. Operators must abide by the strictest of protocol procedures because even loose hair, lint or a string off of someone's coat can contaminate the machine and findings.

"We're very conscious of touching it," Freer said.

