

AEDC Fire and Emergency Services reminds residents: Hear the beep where you sleep



Reproduced from NFPA's Fire Prevention Week website, www.firepreventionweek.org. © 2015 NFPA

By Jim Evans

AEDC Fire and Emergency Services

Location matters when it comes to your smoke alarm. That's the message behind this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!"

Along with firefighters and safety advocates nationwide, AEDC Fire and Emergency Services is joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association during Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, to remind local residents about the importance of having working smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement.

"In a fire, seconds count," said AEDC Assistant Fire Chief Jim Evans. "Half of home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are asleep. Home smoke

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Complex testing beneficial to Global Hawk operations



The Global Hawk Unmanned Vehicle went through developmental testing at the AEDC Propulsion Wind Tunnel in the late 1990s and into the 2000s. The high-altitude remotely piloted aircraft has been employed in overseas contingency operations since November 2001. It delivers round-the-clock intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and communication support to ground forces and aerial platforms conducting missions in Operation Inherent Resolve. The Global Hawk is shown here in the 16-foot Transonic wind tunnel in 2006. *Information compiled from story written by Tech. Sgt. Christopher Boitz. See page 6 for the complete story about the maintainers of the aircraft. (Photo by David Housch)*



Bill Burkart III, far left, and Jo Anne Smith, second from left, prepare to speak at the AEDC POW/MIA Remembrance Day ceremony Sept. 16. Burkart spoke about his MIA father U.S. Air Force Col. Charles W. Burkart Jr. and Smith spoke about her MIA brother U.S. Air Force Maj. Bobby Marvin Jones, M.D. (Photo by Jacqueline Cowan)

Team AEDC holds event to remember POW and MIA military members

By Raquel March
ATA Public Affairs

Team AEDC remembered military Prisoners of War and Missing in Action at the AEDC POW/MIA Remembrance Walk/Run and Burger Burn event held at AEDC Sept. 16.

The event, sponsored by the American Society of Military Comptrollers, was held as part of the national POW/MIA Recognition Day acknowledged on the third Friday of September.

During the Burger Burn, burgers and other food items were sold to raise funds. Donations are still being submitted and total funds will be donated to the National League

of POW/MIA Families.

Jo Anne Shirley, sister to MIA U.S. Air Force Maj. Bobby Marvin Jones, M.D. and Charles W. (Bill) Burkart III, son of MIA U.S. Air Force Col. Charles W. Burkart Jr., were present to speak about their MIA family members during a ceremony before the walk/run.

Maj. Jones was a U.S. Air Force flight surgeon flying to DaNang, South Vietnam, Nov. 28, 1972. The aircraft disappeared from radar during flight and Jones was declared missing in action.

He is the only physician still missing from the Vietnam War.

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HIGH MACH

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An Air Force Test Center
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The *High Mach* office is located at 100 Kindel Drive, Suite B212, Arnold AFB, Tenn. 37389-2212. Editorial content is edited and prepared by AEDC support contractor ATA. Deadline for copy is Wednesday at close of business the week before publication.

This commercial enterprise newspaper is an allowable ATA contractor publication for personnel at AEDC.

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- Excellence in all we do



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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

AEDC Legal advises on fundraising

By Kimberly Pfender
AEDC Staff Judge
Advocate Office



Kimberly Pfender

While there are many worthy causes we all can support by using our time or funds, such as finding a cure for cancer, feeding the hungry, or rescuing homeless and abused animals, or even to help cover cost for the boys and girls club or holiday party; there are rules that must be followed regarding raising funds while on duty and on a government installation.

If you would like to conduct a fundraiser, you can get the request forms from AEDC Test Support Division Services Office (TSD-SV). However, you must be registered as a private organization or unofficial activity through TSD-SV in order to fundraise on Arnold Air Force Base.

Here are 10 guidelines to hopefully make things a little clearer, but these do not cover official fundraising for the Combined Federal Campaign or the Air Force Assistance Fund (see AFI 36-3101 for guidance).

10. Government time

Air Force employees may not use official time to support an unofficial fundraising event or effort (in-

cluding using official time to serve on a planning committee, advisory board or oversight board).

9. Government resources

Air Force employees may not use government resources (like funds, equipment, vehicles, supplies, postage, mass emails, etc.) to support an unofficial fundraising event or effort.

8. Participating in unofficial fundraising activities in a personal capacity

Air Force employees may participate in unofficial fundraising activities in their personal, off-duty capacities, if they act exclusively outside the scope of their official position.

7. Participating in unofficial fundraising activities on base in a personal capacity

Air Force employees may conduct on-base fundraising efforts in their personal capacity (i.e., on personal time), if the event has been approved by base officials and the event will take place away from the workplace.

6. Endorsement

Air Force employees generally may not officially endorse non-Federal organizations, or their events, products, services or enterprises (including fundraising events).

5. Government title and government organization

Air Force employees may not use (or allow others to use) their official title or the name of their government organization, in con-

nection with an unofficial fundraising event or effort.

4. Subordinates

Air Force employees may not ask or allow subordinates to use their official time to support an unofficial fundraising event or effort. Additionally, Air Force employees may not solicit funds or other support (like personal time) from subordinates in connection with an unofficial fundraising event or effort.

3. Junior personnel

Air Force employees may not solicit personnel junior in rank or grade to purchase items in connection with an unofficial fundraising event or effort.

2. Contractors and contractor employees

Information about a fundraising event may be sent to a contractor's POC, who may then dispense that information within the company as he or she

chooses. To attend a fundraiser event, contractors must receive supervisor permission and be in leave status.

1. Collection boxes

Putting out boxes to collect toys, clothing, canned goods, etc., in public areas (e.g., building entrances or lobbies) is not considered to be fundraising and can be approved by the Commander or designate.

AEDC Commander addresses Air Force Ball attendees



AEDC Commander Col. Rodney Todaro addresses attendees at the Arnold Air Force Ball Sept. 18. During the ball the oldest and youngest member of the Air Force participated in a cake cutting ceremony to celebrate the Air Force 68th Birthday. (Photo by Holly Fowler)



Pictured is the Air Force 68th Birthday cake for the cake cutting ceremony at the Arnold Air Force Ball Sept. 18. (Photo by Holly Fowler)

Arnold AFB 2015 VA Picnic

Arnold AFB cordially invites our local veterans to the annual VA picnic to honor the Veterans from the Murfreesboro VA hospital.

9 October 2015
11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Arnold Lakeside Center (ALC)
RSVP at aedc.se.afsa@us.af.mil
Required Information:
Name/Rank • Branch of Service • Service Dates
Last day to sign up is 30 Sep 2015

EVENT PARKING will be at the Gossick Leadership Center (GLC).
Buses will be used to transport from the GLC to the ALC every ten minutes starting at 9:00am.
Security will be assisting to ensure successful traffic flow and limited delays of party attendees.

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, smoking is not permitted 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. 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 Team AEDC SharePoint site. 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.

Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes and smokeless tobacco, is prohibited in any area, at times when official business is being conducted with government clients, test customers, outside visitors and dignitaries, and where official business is being conducted including conference rooms, auditorium settings, business meetings, or in any other area where Air Force regulations specifically prohibit use. 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. Due to the nature, appearance, and safety concerns of electronic cigarettes (also known as "e-cigs"), the use of said products will abide by the same rules for tobacco products stated above and governed by AFI 40-102, *Tobacco Use in the Air Force*.

2. Supervisors at every level will ensure this policy is followed. Disciplinary action is appropriate for repeated violations.

3. Updates to this policy will be made in the future to further align with Air Force guidelines.

4. This policy remains effective until rescinded. (This policy is dated December 20, 2013)

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 two ways: via the AEDC intranet home page, 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. Rodney Todaro
AEDC Commander



ATA presents donations to local Elementary School Fire Prevention Program

Ribbon cutting commemorates facility renovations, AEDC and AFRL partnership

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held recently at the von Kármán Gas Dynamics Facility to recognize the renovations taking place at the facility to accommodate the new High Speed Experimentation Branch at AEDC. The branch, headed by Air Force Research Laboratory staff with Glenn Liston as branch chief, can now conduct foundational and systems research in propulsion, aeronautics and structural applications providing technology maturation related to hypersonic flight. The VKF building renovations will also be beneficial to AEDC team members who support the three VKF wind tunnels, as well as those who support APTU. Pictured taking part in the ribbon cutting ceremony are Dr. Edward Kraft, AEDC chief technologist; Col. James Krajewski, chief of AEDC Test Support Division; Glenn Liston, chief of AEDC High Speed Experimentation Branch; and Dr. Mark Mehalic, AEDC executive director. (Photo by Jacqueline Cowan)



ATA, the operating contractor for Arnold Engineering Development Complex, recently presented separate \$100 charitable donations to the Tullahoma and Manchester Fire Departments to support their Elementary School Fire Prevention Program. Pictured from left are Tullahoma Fire Department Capt. Jeff Smith, ATA Paramedic/Firefighter Scott McPherson, ATA Administrative Assistant Carol Smith and Manchester Fire Department Chief George Chambers. (Photo provided)

Students 'Reach for the Stars'



Twenty-seven local students construct rockets in preparation for the Reach for the Stars rocket launch competition at the University of Tennessee Space Institute Sept. 19. Reach for the Stars, a national competition, was created by the Christa McAuliffe Challenger Learning Center in Sarasota, Fla. The AEDC Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Center, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and UTSI hosted the competition using solid-fuel powered rockets which were launched by each participating student. Samuel Mansfield from Robert E. Lee Elementary School, Tullahoma, won the competition. (Photos provided)

Arnold Fire and Emergency Service provides tips for outdoor burning

Arnold Fire and Emergency Services

Each year Tennessee wildfires ravage thousands of acres, often destroying homes and other property in their wake. Although lightning, equipment fires, careless smoking, camp fires, and even arson is

the cause of some of these fires, escaped debris from open burning is the source for more than half.

During official fire season – Oct. 15 through May 15 – the State Division of Forestry requires a burning permit before conducting any outdoor open burning of debris.

Grass fires can rapidly spread to wooded areas, jump to near-by bushes and trees, or spread to foundation plantings around the house then ignite the house or other structures.

Before starting an open fire, ask:

- Do I really need this

- fire?
- Can I extinguish what I start?
- What if the wind “kicks up”?
- Is there a chance it could spread to my home or a neighbor’s home?
- Do I need to move vehicles or equipment parked close by?

Contact Numbers to request an outdoor burning permit:

County	Number
Bedford	877-350-2876 931-424-4010 931-937-8726
Coffee	931-728-3709
Franklin	931-598-5535
Giles	877-350-2876
Grundy	931-692-3732
Lincoln	877-350-2876
Marion	423 942-3665
Moore	931-759-7714
Rutherford	877-350-2876
Warren	931-635-2754

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Col. Burkart Jr. was a B-57 pilot. While flying over Laos June 13, 1966, on a night-strike mission with three other aircraft in a diamond formation, the pilots encountered severe storms. When the mission was aborted due to weather and they moved

to clearer skies, Burkart’s plane at the third ship position, right wing of the formation was no longer with the group. Burkart was declared missing on the mission date.

After numerous searches, Jones and Burkart have not been found.

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has a mission “to provide the fullest possible accounting for our missing personnel to their families and the nations.”

When American personnel remain captive, missing, or otherwise

unaccounted-for at the conclusion of hostilities, the DOD accounting community becomes the responsible agent for determining the fate of the missing, and where possible, recovering them alive or recovering and identifying the remains of

the dead. For those killed-in-action, the accounting community is charged with locating, recovering and identifying their remains. More than 83,000 Americans remain missing from World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War and the

Vietnam War. Of the 1,973 missing personnel in the Vietnam War, 704 were repatriated and identified and 1,269 remain missing. For more information on POW/MIA personnel visit the DPAA website at www.dpaa.mil.

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alarms can alert people to a fire before it spreads, giving everyone enough time to get out.”

According to the latest NFPA research, working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire in half. Meanwhile, three out of five fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

This year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign includes the following smoke alarm messages:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the

home. This way, when one sounds, they all do.

- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don’t respond properly.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the

sound of the smoke alarm and understands what to do when they hear it.

- If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Go to your outside meeting place.
- Call the fire department from outside the home.

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week, contact the AEDC Fire and Emergency Services at 454-7846 or 454-5569. To learn more about smoke alarms and “Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!” visit NFPA’s website at www.firepreventionweek.org and www.sparky.org/fpw.

Fitness program tests AEDC military personnel physically, mentally



AEDC military personnel participated in the Air Force Team Cohesion Challenge program designed to teach leadership, promote unit cohesion and inspire teams to perform their best. Throughout the event participants wore a backpack filled with 30 to 40 pounds of equipment while completing military-inspired challenges and missions, such as basic training calisthenics, swimming, lifting and marching. (Photos by Jacqueline Cowan)



By Deidre Ortiz
ATA Public Affairs

AEDC military personnel recently participated in the Air Force Team Cohesion Challenge at Arnold Air Force Base and received a glimpse of what goes into special operations training.

According to a release by Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs, the Team Cohesion Challenge is designed to teach leadership, promote unit cohesion and inspire teams to perform their best.

“This program was developed to provide Airmen

the opportunity to participate in a team-based event which incorporates the five Cs of comprehensive Airmen fitness - caring, committing, connecting, communicating and celebrating,” said Benjamin Evers, Air Force Personnel Center outdoor recreation specialist.

The challenge at Arnold Air Force Base was organized through the AEDC Fitness Center, with Fitness Center staff Joe Waters and Ron Stephenson serving as coordinators of the event.

As part of the program, the group took part in a

rucksack challenge, during which they completed military-inspired challenges and missions, such as basic training calisthenics, swimming, lifting and marching all while wearing a backpack filled with 30 to 40 pounds of equipment.

The Team Cohesion Challenge builds upon the current popularity of adventure and mud races. The AFPC Directorate of Services partnered with GoRuck in providing this physical fitness program to Air Force installations throughout the United States.



Arnold Community Council donates to Franklin County AF JROTC

A donation was recently presented by the Arnold Community Council to assist the Franklin County Air Force Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps in providing cadets with materials for the new school year. Pictured is Julie Campbell, AF JROTC parent volunteer, accepting a check from ACC President Jim Jolliffe. (Photo by Jacqueline Cowan)

This day in espionage history

By AEDC Industrial Security

Oct. 5, 1983 – Hans Palmer Wold pled guilty to intent on selling secrets, sentenced to four years hard labor

Oct. 7, 1985 – Francis X. Pizzo pled guilty to stealing TS cryptographic key cards, sentenced to 10 years in prison

Oct. 9, 1990 – Richard W. Miller convicted of espionage, sentenced to 20 years in Federal prison

Oct. 10, 1998 – David Sheldon Boone arrested and charged

- ❖ Charged with selling Top Secret documents to agents of the Soviet Union from 1988-1991

- ❖ Motivation was severe financial and personal

difficulties

- ❖ Dec. 18, 1998 pled guilty to conspiracy

- ❖ Feb. 26, 1999 sentenced to 24 years and four months in prison

Oct. 14, 1989 – Frank Arnold Nesbitt arrested and charged with delivering unauthorized information to the Soviets

Oct. 15, 1983 – James Durward Harper arrested for selling classified documents to Polish intelligence

- ❖ Freelance electrical engineer

- ❖ Did not hold a clearance

- ❖ Acquired classified material through his wife Ruby Schuler (employed as secretary

to the president of Systems Control, Inc.)

- ❖ Harper motivated by money, Schuler simply wanted to please Harper

- ❖ September 1981, feeling regretful, Harper attempted to bargain for immunity from prosecution

- ❖ May 14, 1984, Harper received life sentence for espionage

Oct. 16, 1981 – Joseph George Helmich sentenced to life imprisonment

Oct. 16, 2002 – Ana Belen Montes sentenced

- ❖ Senior intelligence analyst at the Defense Intelligence Agency

- ❖ Transmitted sensitive

and classified military intelligence information to Cuba for at least 16 years

- ❖ Gave Cubans the names of four U.S. military intelligence agents, details on at least one special access program, defense contingency planning for Cuba, and aerial surveillance photos

- ❖ Was angry with U.S. policy toward Cuba. Received no money for her espionage other than travel expenses

- ❖ Oct. 16, 2001, sentenced to 265 years in prison



Global Hawk maintainers deliver ISR capability to warfighters



Senior Airman Jose pulls a set of chocks while escorting an RQ-4 Global Hawk back to a hangar during ground operations at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia Sept. 18. Jose is an assistant crew chief assigned to the 380th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Christopher Boitz)

By Tech. Sgt.
Christopher Boitz
380th Air Expeditionary
Wing

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFNS) – The hard work of crew chiefs, avionics and ground communication specialists, who quietly work on a modern-day weapon system, enables a capability important to every deployed service member, and the way they go about it is nothing

short of special.

The maintainers, assigned to the 380th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, are responsible for maintaining and ensuring the RQ-4 Global Hawk is able to deliver round-the-clock intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and communication support to ground forces and aerial platforms conducting missions in Operation Inherent Resolve.

“The Global Hawk provides imagery intelligence and signals intelligence and delivers it to warfighters and decision makers,” said Master Sgt. Matthew, the lead production superintendent. “It’s constantly taking imagery and feeding it back for analysis. It can be used to identify friendly forces or enemies, or do long-term target development and even track where enemies are moving equipment.”

Being able to provide near real-time coverage has enabled combatant commanders to act on better information and make key decisions, which impact coalition forces combating the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

But it also provides a crucial element to the frontlines that is critical to campaign success, according to maintainers.

“One of the many things the Global Hawk uses is the Battlefield Airborne Communications Node, which is a system that essentially provides Wi-Fi to the battlefield,” Matthew said. “It allows ground troops to contact aircraft when they’re in need of assistance, such as close air support. Getting the Global Hawk in the air is one of the highest priorities out here.”

The RQ-4 Global Hawk, a high-altitude remotely piloted aircraft, has been employed in overseas contingency operations since November 2001. Keeping the asset in the sky is no easy task.

Maintainers constantly repair and quick-turn Global Hawks for the next sortie. Most maintainers are still learning the aircraft and how it functions, which provides them opportunities to think outside of the box to create solutions.

“We do a lot of maintenance and troubleshooting issues on a very high-tech aircraft where the answers are not always available in

the technical data. We have to work hard to get it ready in time for the next mission,” said Senior Airman Marty, a Global Hawk avionics technician. “It’s a unique plane and it presents challenges to us. I’m always learning something new about the aircraft and figuring out new ways to solve problems.”

The Global Hawk is operated by two different cells, the Launch and Recovery Element and the Mission Control Element.

The Launch and Recovery Element performs maintenance and prepares the aircraft for flight with a small group of pilots launching and landing the Global Hawk through line-of-sight capabilities in the area of responsibility. Once the aircraft is airborne and a link is established with the Mission Control Element, the controls are passed over.

“We have two pieces to the puzzle; the ground control station and the aircraft. We’re running two aircraft systems that we have to bring together for a launch,” Matthew said. “It’s a unique aircraft launch because the cockpit is geographically separated from the aircraft. It has to be extremely precise so the cockpit can link with the aircraft. Every launch is truly an event.”

While most aircraft missions last eight to 10 hours, the Global Hawk offers extraordinary range and flexibility to meet mission requirements. The unmanned

aircraft can perform missions which last up to 30 hours.

“When the aircraft sorties last that long, scheduled maintenance comes sooner,” Marty said. “However, the aircraft flies at high altitudes and comes back less worn than other aircraft. It’s different compared to maintaining other jets.”

Recently, a Global Hawk set a record for completing a 32.5-hour combat sortie.

Sustaining the Global Hawk’s presence in the battlespace takes maintainers like Marty to keep the ISR asset flying incredibly long sorties.

“The Airmen bring it every day. Around the Global Hawk, there is no mediocre day; every day is a new challenge,” Matthew said. “We really require our people to think critically to get this aircraft up in the air. These guys are on a high-ops tempo and they perform at a high level.”

The tempo and upkeep of one of the most demanded assets in the area of responsibility not only keep the maintainers busy, it also illustrates how their mission is vital.

“Working on the Global Hawk is a lot of fun. I love to turn wrenches and enjoy the opportunities it provides me,” Marty said. “ISR is very important. It might not be as exciting as some other things going on out here, but it gives me a sense of pride.”

(Editor’s note: Due to safety and security reasons, last names were removed.)



Senior Airman Alvaro inspects the right engine bay of an RQ-4 Global Hawk during a preflight at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia Sept. 14, 2015. Alvaro is a crew chief assigned to the 380th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Christopher Boitz)

RPA maintainers accomplish mission despite low retention

By Airman 1st Class
Christian Clausen
432nd Air Expeditionary
Wing Public Affairs

CREECH AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. (AFNS) – The constant and insatiable demand for remotely piloted aircraft airpower places stressors on nearly every career field within the RPA enterprise. For some Airmen of the 432nd Maintenance Group, the fast-paced deployment rotation, constant shift work, time away from family, limited assignment options and struggle of daily process changes, are more than enough to make some choose not to re-enlist.

“We’re definitely seeing some issues with retention here in RPA maintenance as well as the rest of the Air Force,” said Chief Master Sgt. John Burks, the 432nd MXG chief enlisted manager. “There are a lot of job opportunities where the Airmen can continue to do great work in the RPA enterprise but through DOD contractors. At the end of the day, these Airmen are going to choose what’s best for them and their families.”

The 432nd MXG is comprised of nearly 20 different Air Force specialty codes and is responsible for maintaining the MQ-1B Predator and MQ-9 Reaper.

In a recent study, Air Combat Command discovered the MQ-1 and MQ-9 maintenance retention rates were lower than any fighter aircraft with approximately 32 percent of first-time enlistees and 14 percent of second-term enlistees re-enlisting. These rates are roughly 15 per-



The constant and insatiable demand for remotely piloted aircraft airpower has placed stressors on nearly every career field within the enterprise. For the RPA maintenance career fields, these stressors are causing the retention rates to plummet causing rates lower than that of any other aircraft in Air Combat Command. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Christian Clausen)

cent lower for first-term and 36 percent lower for second-term enlistees versus the rates of the next aircraft platform with the lowest retention rates.

“Most of the Airmen leaving the military are senior airmen and staff sergeants at the end of their first enlistments and they can take their military training and apply it relatively quickly in a contracting job,” said Chief Master Sgt. Stacy Dent, the 432nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron chief enlisted manager.

Some Airmen within the 432nd MXG said it’s hard to want to stay in the military when they could take their degree to a civilian company and have a more stable schedule and workload, as well as more pay. Others say it’s because they

have only three assignment locations available within the RPA career field. Each location is in a desert environment, with low manning, calling for 12-hour duty days with two-hour transit to and from work, little time at home between deployments, and lack of incentives to stay in despite the need for their career field.

The loss of the young Airmen and NCOs takes a toll on the rest of the force and creates an environment where it’s challenging to keep a high level experience within the career field.

“A lot of skills and techniques take time to acquire,” Hill said. “It takes doing the job over and over, and if we don’t have the people doing that and you lose that expertise, mistakes will happen even-

tually, and we don’t ever want to get to that point.”

The struggles aren’t going unnoticed. Leadership from the Air Force, wing, group, squadron and units are taking action.

“There is a lot that the Air Force, wing and squadron leadership is doing,” Burks said. “First the commander of Air Combat Command implemented the Cultural Process Improvement Program which is an initiative to assemble subject matter experts across the Air Force for base visits and interviews so we can take actionable ways to improve the RPA enterprise.”

Burks went on to say the wing leadership is also

continuing to argue for selective re-enlistment bonuses for RPA maintenance to help with retention.

The leadership also tries to make sure the Airmen know how they are making an impact in the world, no matter how monotonous or mundane a task may seem.

“These Airmen are saving lives every single day and enabling others to save lives,” Hill said. “The maintainer who thinks they’re just fixing a maintenance stand is actually fixing the stand so that a crew chief can get the plane to fly, so the aircrew can train and gain experience flying, so they can keep someone on the ground safe down-

range and be able to return home to their families.”

Not only are the 432nd MXG maintainers saving lives daily, they’re laying the foundation of remotely piloted airpower for the future.

Despite the challenges of the 432 MXG they continue to complete the mission and pass inspections with over 90 percent mission capability rates.

“I have never been with a more skilled, disciplined, professional group of warriors than here at the 432nd Maintenance Group,” Burks said. “Every day they are phenomenal and I could not be more proud to serve with the men and women of the 432nd.”

AFRL providing cost-effective inspection solutions for turbine engine aircraft

By Holly Jordan
Air Force Research Lab
Materials and Manufacturing
Directorate

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) – Aircraft engine inspections are an essential part of maintaining a healthy and reliable fleet. However, the inspection process is often labor-intensive and challenging, and parts are often replaced before their serviceable life is over.

The Air Force Research Laboratory Materials and Manufacturing Directorate is working to change this.

In an effort to improve the turbine engine inspection process, AFRL researchers have recently transitioned the Sonic Infrared (SIR) nondestructive evaluation inspection method for turbine engine airfoils. This system, de-

veloped for AFRL by Florida Turbine Technologies, Inc., can replace traditional inspection methods for crack detection, such as Fluorescent Penetrant Inspection (FPI), which can be costly and time-consuming. Through SIR, ultrasonic waves are used to vibrate the part, creating friction between crack faces. This friction creates a tiny amount of heat, which can then be detected using highly-sensitive infrared cameras, thereby pinpointing the defect.

Researchers embarked upon this effort to answer a need from aircraft maintainers for a reliable, cost-effective, and efficient alternative to FPI for whole-field, engine airfoil inspection.

According to AFRL project engineer Siamack Mazdiyasn, the advantages to SIR inspections are many. Most notably, the

increased level of reliability of SIR inspections over FPI means aircraft maintainers can often return engine airfoils to service, rather than replacing them.

The initial target application for this technology is turbine engine compressor blades. Mazdiyasn and AFRL project engineers estimate that keeping these engine components in service can result in at least \$5 million in annual savings. Additionally, the reduction in the amount of chemicals purchased, used, and disposed annually adds additional cost saving on top of that figure. SIR inspection also takes less time to complete and has the potential to detect smaller cracks than FPI. SIR saves labor hours and is more environmentally-friendly because it does not require that maintainers clean engine parts with chemicals before inspection.

AFRL recently transitioned this inspection method to the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Complex at Tinker Air Force Base, where the technology will be further refined, qualified, and readied for implementation. The Air Force Life Cycle Management Center has expressed plans to merge the technology into their automated airfoil inspection and repair initiative.

Studying SIR inspection for engine airfoils is only the first step. Mazdiyasn says future plans include investigating the technology for other engine components including coated parts and fracture critical parts.

Milestones

30 YEARS

Walter Bishop III, ATA
 Mary Flippo, Premiere
 Martha Otwell, Premiere
 John Page, ATA
 Valerie Pew, ATA
 Ronnie Rogers, ATA
 Charity Vandergriff, ATA

20 YEARS

Belinda Alexander, ATA
 James Cantrell, ATA
 Janet Reese, ATA
 Dylana Seay, ATA
 Richard Stacey, AF
 David Statum, ATA

15 YEARS

David Lynn, ATA
 Carol Paschall, ATA

10 YEARS

Carrie Barham, ATA
 William Garner, ATA
 Christopher Gernaat, ATA
 Marilyn Graves, ATA
 James Horine, ATA
 Brian Jackson, ATA
 Joshua Johns, AF
 Gerald Jones, ATA
 Diane Ladd, ATA
 Steven Lowe, ATA
 Matthew Morin, ATA
 Alan Moultrie, ATA
 Anthony Overman, ATA
 Andrew Riis, ATA
 Kimberly Russell, ATA
 Kimberly Vanzant, ATA
 Johnny Watson, ATA
 Justin Weibert, ATA

5 YEARS

William Baker, AF
 Tommy Cross, ATA
 Nathan Dotson, ATA
 Reggie Floyd, AF
 Justin Garrard, ATA
 Keith Gipson, ATA
 Josh Osborne, AF
 Raymond Isom, Premiere
 Nissa Schuman, AF
 William Schuman, AF
 Robert Tischart, AF

RETIREMENTS

Master Sgt. Jeremy
 Dinsmore, AF
 George Garrett, ATA
 Jeff Ross, AF
 Robert Stanze, AF
 Master Sgt. Kent Willette,
 AF

PROMOTIONS

Sarah Caskey to GS-9

INBOUND MILITARY

Capt. Adam Hopkins
 Senior Master Sgt. Charles
 Hoyt

OUTBOUND MILITARY

Capt. Sam Stephens
 Maj. Christopher Nunez

NEW HIRES

Jacob Belli, AF
 Yancee Burchett, AF
 David Cox, AF
 Henry Horne, AF
 Morgan Underwood, AF
 Cynthia Young, AF

GRADUATE/ DEGREES/ CERTIFICATES

Jeffrey Ross, Exemplary
 Civilian Service Award
 Joshua Johns, Exemplary
 Civilian Service Award
 Robert Nelson, Civilian
 Achievement Award
 Daniel Lee, Civilian
 Achievement Award

Hear the BEEP where you SLEEP

Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!

Fire Prevention Week Oct. 4-10, 2015

Half of home fire deaths happen between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when most people are asleep.



Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms.

For the best protection, install interconnected smoke alarms in your home. When one sounds, they all sound.



Test alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.



Some people, especially children and older adults, may need help to wake up. Make sure someone will wake them if the smoke alarm sounds.



Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or if they do not sound when tested.



When the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Go to your outside meeting place.



Call the fire department from a cellphone or a neighbor's phone. Stay outside until the fire department says it's safe to go back inside.

For more information about smoke alarms, visit www.usfa.fema.gov and www.firepreventionweek.org.



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What's up with the WSEP?



An F-15 Eagle from Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., sits on the flightline before an early morning training sortie at Tyndall AFB, Fla., Sept. 17. (Air Force photo by Senior Master Sgt. Beth Holliker)

By Airman 1st Class
Cody R. Miller

325th Fighter Wing Public
 Affairs

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla.

The 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group has just completed one of the largest Weapons System Evaluation Programs to date.

The purpose of the WSEP is to evaluate operational Department of Defense and foreign ally personnel, fighters, missiles and gunnery in realistic air combat scenarios.

With this particular evaluation, the 83rd Fighter Weapons Squadron hosted approximately 35 aircraft from five squadrons from around the U.S. Air Force and Navy. The WSEP is hosted 12 times each year and is mandated by Air Combat Command leadership; the results of each evaluation is compiled into a briefing and presented to commanders across the Air Force.

According to Lt. Col. Matthew J. Bradley, commander of the 83rd FWS, a normal WSEP usually consists of 2-3 squadrons with no more than 24 aircraft on the ramp for two weeks; however this WSEP featured twice that number. Squadrons hosted ranged from the 336th Fighter Squadron from Seymour-Johnson AFB, the 112nd Fighter Squadron from the To-

ledo Air National Guard, the 85th Test and Evaluation Squadron from Eglin AFB, the 422nd TES from Nellis AFB, and the 433rd Weapons Squadron from Nellis AFB.

Bradley said he believes running the evaluation multiple times a year improves the readiness and teamwork of not only the pilots, but also of the weapons maintainers and crew chiefs that assist in the air combat mission.

"These exercises improve the knowledge of the pilots," said Bradley. "Our turn patterns and maneuvers are well above what is expected."

"Originally the load-time for our missile maintainers is around 75 minutes, but we cut it down to 40 minutes," said Staff Sgt. Cory J. Hinton, 83rd FWS aircraft armament systems craftsman. "We are not only beating the standard, but exceeding it regularly."

"It's a unique situation here," said Senior Master Sgt. Dean G. Childs, 83rd FWS aircraft armament systems craftsman, "because this is one of the only places where we can cross into our sister services and impact naval WSEP operations, as well as units in the Marine Corp. It gives us the opportunity to not only learn from them, but also allow

See WSEP, page 11

19th Air Force Marathon kicks off



Runners take off at the start of the 2015 U.S. Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Sept 19. (Courtesy photo/Wes Farnsworth)

By Brian Brackens
88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) – Thousands of runners and spectators from across the country and around the world met on the grounds of the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, for the 19th annual U.S. Air Force Marathon, Sept. 19.

Gen. Ellen Pawlikowski, the Air Force Materiel Command commander, welcomed race participants to the event. “Yesterday marked the 68th birthday of the United States Air Force,” Pawlikowski said. “So it is appropriate that the Air Force Marathon, which has become a proud tradition, is celebrated right here at the birthplace of aviation. I can’t think of a more perfect venue than the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force to commemorate these two events and more than 100 years of aviation history. Thank you to everyone who made this 19th annual Air Force Marathon possible.”

The three-day event started Sept. 17 with a Sports and Fitness Expo held at the Ervin J. Nutter Center on the campus of Wright State University. The expo highlighted exhibits on the latest in sports, fitness, health and nutrition. Pre-race activities included a Breakfast of Champions and the annual Gourmet Pasta Dinner, held at the museum Sept. 18.

Col. John Devillier, the 88th Air Base Wing and installation commander, thanked the people responsible for putting on the marathon. “This is my second year here and my first opportunity to see first-hand, all the hard work and planning that goes into creating a world class event” Devillier said. “I’m especially thankful to the thousands of volunteers who gave their time and energy to helping us, our sponsors who make this all possible and the incredible support we get from the local communities with their police, fire and emergency medical team support.”

During the event, runners had the option

of competing in the full marathon, a half-marathon, and 10K, as well as a wheeled division.

This year’s men’s full marathon winner was Jason Brosseau, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, with a time of 2:46:01.

Brosseau said that his determination and energy of the crowd helped him finish the race.

“My advice is don’t let anything stop you,” Brosseau said. “Just keep on pushing.”

This year’s women’s full marathon winner was Elissa Ballas, of Chicago, Illinois, with a time of 2:57:21.

Ballas thanked race volunteers for their support during the race.

“All of the volunteers were outstanding,” Ballas said. “It can be kind of lonely out on the course and having volunteers out there helps. Today is my last day in the Air Force and it has been so meaningful to be here.”

The Air Force Marathon is sanctioned by the USA Track & Field Association and is a qualifier for the Boston Marathon.

Winners are listed below. All times are unofficial at the time of this release:

- Men’s Full Marathon: Jason Brosseau, Colorado Springs, Colorado; 2:46:01
- Women’s Full Marathon: Elissa Ballas, Chicago, Illinois; 2:57:21
- Men’s Full Marathon, handcranked wheelchair division: David Berling, Avondale, Arizona; 1:18:50
- Women’s Full Marathon, handcranked wheelchair division: Thea Rosa, Sacramento, California; 1:41:47
- Men’s Half Marathon: Isaiah Bragg, Dublin, Ohio; 1:11:28
- Women’s Half Marathon: Anne Portlock, Bloomington, Indiana; 1:23:59
- Men’s 10K: Steve Chu, Colorado Springs; 32:25
- Women’s 10K: Caitlin Oviatt, Dayton, Ohio; 39:35
- Men’s 5K: Tyler Sullivan, Iowa City, Iowa; 17:01
- Women’s 5K: Angela Kasten, Davison, Michigan; 21:15

WSEP from page 10

them to see how the Air Force operates.”

Though the WSEP may yield benefits such as improved unit cohesion and better pilot performance, the program can be incredibly challenging to host for the 83rd FWS. They deal with aging equipment and software and 50 percent manning for an evolving readiness mission. Moreover, they primarily only have access to the “limited” QF-16s which do not provide realistic representations of 5th generation threats. The current generation fighter jet and pilot require a higher performance aerial target to test their abilities.

According to 83rd FWS records, when all 12 evaluation periods are combined, the WSEP successfully hosts approximately 30 squadrons between the U.S. Air Force and Navy. This includes over 200 aircraft and over

300 missiles.

Bradley said the WSEP has provided unparalleled opportunity for the U.S. military to train and project

air power against any threat that may go against the U.S. and has been instrumental in the preparation for pilots for live

combat.

“It takes a million minor miracles to shoot one missile, and we shot 47 this WSEP,” said Bradley.



Staff Sgt. Cody M. Messinger, 336th Aircraft Maintenance Unit dedicated crew chief from Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., works on a U.S. Air Force F-15E Eagle fighter jet. F-15Es from the 336th Fighter Squadron at Seymour-Johnson AFB were sent to Tyndall for the Weapons System Evaluation Program hosted by the 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group. Squadrons that participate in the evaluation are put through simulations to test the weapons systems of their fighters. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Cody R. Miller/Released)

Summit on Veterans Health

Holistic Health for Veterans: Physical, Mental, and Spiritual

Friday, November 13, 2015

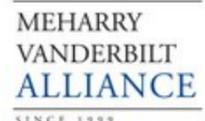
Holistic Health for Veterans – Physical, Mental, and Spiritual will discuss ways to improve the health and well-being of Veterans.

The Tennessee Department of Veterans Services Commissioner, **Many-Bears Grinder** will give a keynote address.

Active duty armed forces members and Veterans are encouraged to attend.

Free and open to the public. Military families, community members, and organizations that serve Veterans are also encouraged to attend.

This event is brought to you by:



What: Holistic Health for Veterans – Physical, Mental, and Spiritual

When: November 13, 2015

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Where: The Avon Williams Campus of Tennessee State University, 330 10th Ave N, Nashville, TN 37203

Contact
cjone132@my.tnstate.edu
to register



