Beyond Zero® - Culture of Caring ensures ‘Safety First – Mission Always’

By Vicki Peters
AEDC Contributing Writer

Safety used to be an after-thought and now it is a top priority... ingrained into each job. As Aerospace Testing Alliance (ATA) concluded its tenth year providing operations, maintenance, and support services at AEDC, they achieved the best safety performance record since AEDC, they achieved the best safety performance record since

The ATA Safety Office per- received several employ- ees to discuss the changes they have experienced in the safety culture during their time at AEDC. To ensure frank discus- sions were submitted anonymously to writing. Those interviewed had been on the job anywhere from a few weeks to over 30 years and included indus- trial and office personnel. When reviewing the comments, it became evident that all have become aware that safety is in- deed, as stated by the engineer quoted above, “a top priority.”

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By Raquel March
ATA Public Affairs

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Maj. Gen. Arnold W. Bunch, Jr. takes a tour of the AEDC lake during a recent visit. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)

By Kathy Gattis
ATA Public Affairs

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The importance of Team


It’s not a matter of doing the right thing because we “can’t” or “can’t afford it.” It’s a matter of doing the right thing because we “must.” The bottom line is that we need to get the job done.

There is no other way. There are no excuses, no reasons. None of these activities exerted pressure on the Wing to “stop” about projects or ideas because of organizational barriers that existed solely because of organizational reasons. The ability to remove artificial barriers that existed solely because of organizational reasons.

None of these activities ex- eminated the naysayers were 100 percent wrong.

We have had a couple of minor vehicle incidents from talking to “the other side” about projects or ideas that impacted both. When we first outlined the intent to merge the AFs and TWs, we had concerns that the new TW/TC would become so focused on the execution of the test mission that the sup- port side would be ignored and neglected.

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SAFETY FROM PAGE 1

ATA Beyond Zero® Timeline
Establishing a Culture of Caring

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As youth participation in- creases in the FIRST® LEGO® League (FLL) in middle Ten- nessee, regional competition for the league changed this sea- son. That change is to conduct an FLL sanctioned tournament, the Tullahoma FLL Regional Qualifying Tournament, at Tullahoma High School Nov. 23.

Due to the increase in number of teams registering to be a part of FLL, the tournament held at Tennessee Tech University (TTU) in Cookeville couldn’t accommodate all teams.

“In previous years we have hosted a competition that was a ‘dress rehearsal’ for the Tennessee tournament in Cookeville,” said Harry Clark from AEDC and the Judge Advisor for the Tullahoma FLL Regional Qualifying Tournament. “This year a certain percentage of our top teams will qualify to advance to the Tennessee tournament.”

There will be four regional qualifying events, such as the one at Tullahoma High School, to select 64 teams who will compete at TTU in December. According to Clark 32 teams, including up to 10 students per team from sixth through eighth grade, will compete at Tullahoma.

The AEDC Science, Technology, Engineering and Math- ematics (STEM) Center Co-ordinator Jere Matty said FLL items from the lending library were loaned to 15 local teams from Bradyville, Cowan, Fay- etteville, Hillsboro, Manchester, McFadden School of Excellence, McFadden School of Excellence, Liberty Elementary-Middle School (Legos Masters), Liberty Elementary-Middle School (Legos Masters), Shelbyville, South Middle School (Trojans) from Cowan, prepare for competition at a 2011 regional event. (Photo by Andrew Stephenson)

Woodland Elementary
South Middle School (Trojans)
Fayetteville Middle (Robo-Tigers)
Hillsboro Elementary (Tiger Tro)
College Street Elementary (Mass Destruction)
Westwood Elementary (Eagles)
Westwood Middle School (Rocketts)
McFadden School of Excellence
Liberty Elementary-Middle School (Legos Masters)
McFadden School of Excellence
Liberty Elementary-Middle School (Legos Masters)
Shelbyville
East Middle School
JACOBS (Eye of the Storm)
West Middle School (Legos Legends)
Clark Memorial School (Legs Masters)
North Middle School (Robo Gators)
Manchester
McFadden School of Excellence (Lego Legends)
Rock Creek Elementary (Rockets)
South Middle School (Trojans)
Winchester
Hillsboro Elementary
East Middle School
JACOBS (Eye of the Storm)
West Middle School (Legos Legends)
Clark Memorial School (Legs Masters)
North Middle School (Robo Gators)
Manchester

The 2013 FLL challenge is Nature’s Fury. The chal- lenge includes programming an autonomous robot to score points on a themed playing field and developing a solution to a problem they have iden- tified guided by core values. Nature’s Fury presents natural disasters where teams will dis- cover what can be done when intense natural events meet the places people live, work and play.

Nature’s Fury missions in- clude: position an evacuation sign; clear an airplane’s run- way from debris; land a cargo plane safely on a runway; re- locate structures; distribute water to people in need; and deliver supplies. The AEDC STEM Center also lends FIRST® supplies for local Jr. LEGO League and FIRST Tech Challenge teams. “There will also be seven FIRST® LEGO League teams from Tullahoma High School to display their work as well as several of the FIRST Tech Challenge high school teams we sponsor,” Matty said. Jacobs Technology is sponsor of the event as well as AIA, which provided Nature’s Fury challenge tables and

AEDC sponsored FIRST® LEGO® League teams to compete at Tullahoma High School tournament

By Rhonda Ward

The AEDC Federal Women’s Program (FWP) will be selling t-shirts and hood- ies Nov. 12-27 to raise awareness of women POW/MIA who were prisoners of war and/or missing in ac- tion (POW/MIA). Typically when POW- MIA’s are discussed, people envision male soldiers but there have been numerous women who were captured or listed as missing in ac- tion. Even during the Civil War, Army nurs- ers were taken prisoner and it continued during each war/conflict since that time. For exam- ple Mary Chapman and Gladys McNeal during WWII; Maj. Rhonda Comum and Spc. Me- lissa Rainborn-Neely during the Persian Gulf War (Operation Desert Shield/Storm/Victory); Pfc. Jessica Lynch, Spc. Shoshana Johnson, and Pfc. Lori Piestewa during Iraq Freedom, just to name a few.

All net proceeds raised from the sale of the POW/MIA t-shirts and hoodies will be do- nated to the Rolling Thunder, Chapter One in Murfreesboro. Rolling Thunder is a non-profit organization whose mis- sion is to educate the public of the fact that many American prisoner- ers of war were left be- hind after all past wars.” More information about Rolling Thunder is lo- cated at www.rollingthunderv1.com.

The following peo- ple may be contacted to place orders: Lynn Armer, 454-6393; Kan- di Pearson, 454-5161; Holly Jones, 454-3415; Debbie Coffield, 454- 5077; Melissa Warren, 454-3432; Heather Fair- ron, 454-4339; and Rhonda Ward, 454-5905.
confined spaces recently received mandatory training in confined space rescue procedures.

There are many variables that determine how personnel, and emergency services will respond. AEDC has confined spaces that are small that only one person can pass through at-a-time. Those and other dangerous conditions make it critical for emergency responders to regularly train for, and be prepared to follow specific procedures to rescue individuals who are trapped or injured in small spaces. There are times when the atmosphere in the space may not have sufficient oxygen for breathing.

For the fire department, training culminates in an annual confined space rescue drill that tests the department's expertise in this life-saving skill.

Confined space training is important on AEDC because we have hundreds of confined spaces, and we have people working in them almost daily,” said Chris Bidmead, in the AEDC Safety and Health Department. “Special training is required before anyone can enter, work, monitor those working or attempt rescues in confined spaces.

“Confined space is an area that has a constrained method of entering and exiting, is not intended for people to remain inside [for extended] times, and if a location release employee can enter to do work.”

Confined spaces at AEDC may be underground storage tanks, pits, manholes, sewers, bored tunnels. These locations can possess hazards and may be difficult to exit in an emergency. Any employee who enters a confined space, monitors others entering, grants others approvals to enter or is responsible for making a rescue, must be current on their training.

When the AEDC Fire Department responds to a confined space incident, the lack of oxygen may be coupled with other multiple hazards. Bidmead said, “Generally speaking, the greatest hazard in confined spaces is the air inside the space. If the air lacks oxygen or contains toxins it [the situation] can be lethal.

“For many reasons, the AEDC Fire Department’s confined space rescue training is as challenging as it is critical because of the many potential risks involved with confined space emergencies. Response. Fire fighters must be prepared to deal with fire, explosions, hazardous materials and toxins, risks of falling, risks of being struck by something, awkward body positions, carrying heavy equipment, and moving victims while under great physical and emotional stress.

Personnel who work in the confined spaces will have equipment to protect themselves from the environment such as the appropriate atmospheric monitoring equipment, a body harness, a retrieval line and a lifting device to pull the person out of the space as well as personal protective equipment. The retrieval system may be used by personnel outside the space to attempt a rescue before the Fire Department arrives.

“The Fire Department rescue crews also typically wear their turn-out gear with respirators, and have to maneuver rescue requirements for the victim into the space,” Bidmead said. He remarked that the rescue procedures with the equipment makes the task more difficult.

The confined space rescue training for AEDC is also beneficial to the surrounding communities. “The AEDC Fire Department shares its skill and knowledge in confined space rescue with surrounding community departments and periodically trains with them and both teams depend on one another for assistance during significant rescue events,” said AEDC Fire Department Chief Daryle Lopes. “Although we have not recently responded to a request for mutual aid assistance for confined space rescue, we all stand ready to help one another should the need arise.”

Tom Lombard, an assistant fire chief and emergency incident commander with the AEDC Fire Department added, “The training we accomplish ultimately becomes a response useful to our mutual aid partners.

“Several of our members are local volunteer fire fighters in Hillsboro, Manchester, Estill Springs and in Franklin County. Ultimately, the training we receive positively impacts our mutual aid partners as our members are able to share this training with these departments.”
Honor Flight and he said the veterans for this trip came from a variety of places—from Signal Mountain near Chattanooga to southern Kentucky.

Morse praised each of the groups who work together to make this a special day for veterans.

It all begins with the sponsors who make the trips possible through donations. They pay for all the expenses, veterans pay nothing to make the trip. It is a long day and it begins early.

The first bus picks up veterans in Winchester at 2:45 a.m. The sheriff’s departments for Coffee and Franklin counties along with the Manchester and Tullahoma Police departments provide blue-light escorts in their jurisdictions.

American Legion riders provide an early morning motorcycle escort from Winchester to the Coffee County line and the Patriot Guard motorcycle riders greet the group at the Nashville airport the morning of the flight—just before 5 a.m. Morse said personnel at the Nashville airport and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) are always very helpful in getting the elderly heroes through security. Employees of the official airline for the Honor Flight, Southwest Airlines, help as they board the plane.

Once they arrive in Baltimore, they board a bus for the ride to Washington, D.C. and the World War II Memorial.

During a lighter moment when the group’s bus was parked at the Korean War Memorial, a British tourist inquired about using the loo (restroom). “All the public rest-rooms were locked because of the government shutdown, so of course, we let her use the loo on the bus,” Morse said. “We all laughed a little about that.”

In addition to the Korean War Memorial and the World War II Memorial, the group saw the Air Force Memorial and the changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.

The last stop is Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. Ft. Meade personnel provide a special evening meal at the post’s dining facility. The Ft. Meade Provost Martial, a lieutenant colonel from Murfreesboro, Tenn., welcomed the group. Military working dogs also gave a brief demonstration. Morse said the vets loved getting to pet a friendly bomb sniffing dog who had spent three tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan.

When the American heroes return to Nashville that night, they are greeted by the same Patriot Guard motorcycle riders who greeted them at 5 a.m. that morning. The Southern Middle Tennessee Honor Flight already has some veterans booked for a spring flight in late April or early May. During a lighter moment when the group’s bus was parked at the Korean War Memorial, a British tourist inquired about using the loo (restroom). “All the public rest-rooms were locked because of the government shutdown, so of course, we let her use the loo on the bus,” Morse said. “We all laughed a little about that.”

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The last stop is Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. Ft. Meade personnel provide a special evening meal at the post’s dining facility. The Ft. Meade Provost Martial, a lieutenant colonel from Murfreesboro, Tenn., welcomed the group. Military working dogs also gave a brief demonstration. Morse said the vets loved getting to pet a friendly bomb sniffing dog who had spent three tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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In addition to the Korean War Memorial and the World War II Memorial, the group saw the Air Force Memorial and the changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. Fifty World War II and Korean War veterans participated in the trip. (Photo provided)

and airline reservations. Each flight includes a doctor and a nurse and wheelchairs are available upon request. Morse said any veteran interested in going on the spring 2014 Honor Flight can contact the veteran’s coordinator/scheduler, retired Army Sergeant Major Larry Williams at (931) 504-1000 or email him at teennesseans2@blomand.net. If anyone would like to get on the standby list to be a guardian they can contact Vice Chairman and Guardian Coordinator Lana Woodard at (931) 434-5664. Those interested in making a donation can send it to: Southern Middle Tennessee Honor Flight, P.O. Box 1926 in Tullahoma, TN 37388. Make check payable to Southern Middle Tennessee Honor Flight.
ATA donates $1,000 to North Middle Tech Lab

By Kathy Gattis
ATA Public Affairs

ATA recently made a donation to North Middle School (NMS) in Winchester to support a new technology lab. The $1,000 donation was used to buy materials and supplies needed to get the program up and running.

The technology lab will help students learn design and computer programming along with electronics (circuit) in tandem. Later chemistry will be incorporated.

The lab is the first of its kind in area middle schools.

A North Middle School instructor and coach for the Tech Club, Jim Murphy, has a total of 80 students involved in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs.

"ATA’s support and partnership with our school will give NMS students opportunities they wouldn't have otherwise," Murphy said. "I see firsthand that many of our students are gifted and talented in STEM related subjects. It is my educational philosophy that giftedness, talent and interest should be fostered through clubs and extra-curricular activities in a fun and working environment."

Murphy is a middle school math and science teacher and has been using STEM in the classrooms for the majority of his 36 years in education. He requested the donation from ATA after discovering some of his students’ parents work at AEDC.

In addition to the ATA donation, the AEDC STEM Center is partnering with the North Middle School as well. For the first time this year students can participate in a MATHCOUNTS team, Lego League, a technology lab and a STEM aviation class.

"The students we are educating today through AEDC-NMS STEM clubs will be in America’s workforce until 2060-2070," Murphy said. "They will be working in jobs and fields that don’t yet exist, and it is my belief that the majority of jobs will require a STEM background at some level."

"It is my vision that through the support and recognition of ATA and AEDC, North Middle School’s reputation as a school for academic excellence in STEM, will be recognized throughout the state."

Murphy has several volunteers, including two from AEDC’s parent company, Jacobs, but he can always use more. Anyone who is interested in helping students with STEM activities can contact Murphy through ATA Public Affairs at 454-7723 or through North Middle School. Most of the teams and clubs will meet after school.

The AEDC STEM Center is designed to provide interactive learning for teachers and students K-12. The mission is to inspire and develop student interest in STEM careers, especially in communications that surround Arnold Air Force Base Laboratories and other Department of Defense facilities.

The STEM Center includes a lending library. Schools can check out or borrow a variety of items used to enhance learning in the classroom.

There are limited funds available through the AEDC STEM program for sponsoring team activities in a variety of competitions. For additional information on donations or the lending library, go to https://www.army.spacedefense.com and click on "STEM Education Initiatives." The site provides an overview of the program with hands-on activities tied to school curricula. The tours are free and open to any school system.

AEDC and the University of Tennessee Space Institute work together on eighth grade tours. Call ATA Public Affairs at 454-5655 for more information or to schedule a tour.

ATA employees make a check presentation to Jim Murphy, a math and science teacher at North Middle School. Ricky Taylor (left), an ATA outside machinist and father of North Middle School student, Cameron Taylor (center), Jimmy Mitchell (2nd from left), an ATA test engineer, has a son, Mason, in Murphy’s math class. Avery Wiggs (center behind Cameron), social studies helper; Jim Murphy (4th from left) and Kyle Reid (right), another Tech Club coach who will help students learn programming language and computer code. Scan the QR code in the photo with an android device for more photos. (Photo provided)
Ronald Bandy – ATA Mission Support, CE Operations Manager

What is your most memorable AEDC moment during your years of service?

"Too many memories to count – mostly good, years. [I] Came to work for ARO in 1973 as a temporary laborer to clean the bottom of J4 for two weeks and [I] was beaned here ever since."
By Chrissy Cuttita
36th Test Wing Public Affairs

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — To provide Air Combat Command the best assessment of Maritime Strike Operations, the 53rd Wing partnered with other members of the Team Eglin test community to deliver increased combat capability for the warfighter.

The final phase of the two-year evaluation was a month-long test over the Gulf of Mexico that ended Sept. 6.

“Team Eglin successfully conducted the largest scale of DOD weapons test against small boats in recent history,” said Chris Nixon, 96th Range Support Squadron director who oversees Eglin’s Gulf Range of 120,000 square miles of overwater airspace and 724 square miles of overland space. The 53rd Wing, headquartered here, tested the combat capabilities of 42 fighter and bomber sorties expending a total of 53 munitions last month in a maritime environment about 15 nautical miles south of Destin’s coastline. Results from nine aircraft test missions will help the Air Force and its sister services develop joint platforms-specific weapons loadouts, tactics, techniques and procedures.

The wing’s 28th Test and Evaluation Squadron oversaw the unique test they said ranked fourth in priority in a list of more than 300 Air Combat Command test missions. “There are difficulties in finding, tracking and successfully engaging these threats because they provide challenges unique to the maritime environment,” said Lt. Col. Ben Wysack, the 28th TES’s project manager responsible for the test. “High speed, unconstrained maneuvering and sea surface conditions present difficult circumstances for successful target engagement.”

The 53rd Wing is ACC’s operational test and evaluation organization responsible for the management, execution and reporting of operational test and evaluation activities such as Force Development Evaluations, Operational Utility Evaluations and Tactics Development for all fighters and bombers in the Combat Air Force inventory.

Aircraft charged with the maritime challenge included the A-10, B-1, B-52, F-15 and F-16 from the 53rd Wing which manages units in 17 U.S. locations. Depending on their platform, fighters and bombers were armed with Sniper and Litening Advanced Targeting pods and various combinations of munitions such as laser-guided bombs, Joint Direct Attack Munitions, Maverick air-to-ground missiles, cluster bombs and 20mm and 30mm high-explosive incendiary ammunition.

“The 85th Test and Evaluation Squadron’s highly experienced F-16 and F-15 crews successfully led 36 of the 42 sorties, expending more than 80 percent of the available munitions,” said Wysack about the 53rd unit that participated in all nine maritime test missions. “Access to their well-maintained aircraft and vast pilot expertise was...
The AIM-120 AMRAAM was fired from an F-35A (AF-6) on Oct. 30. Range off the California coast on Nov. 11, 2013

Air-to-air combat capability was enhanced by an additional 500-pound Guided Bomb Unit-12 (GBU-12) Paveway II laser-guided bomb over the AMRAAM's center of gravity. This was the first time a B-1 dropped a total of 500-pound Guided Bomb Unit-12 (GBU-12) Paveway II laser-guided bomb over the AMRAAM's center of gravity. This was the first time a B-1 dropped a total of 500-pound Guided Bomb Unit-12 (GBU-12) Paveway II laser-guided bomb over the AMRAAM's center of gravity. This was the first time a B-1 dropped a total of 500-pound Guided Bomb Unit-12 (GBU-12) Paveway II laser-guided bomb over the AMRAAM's center of gravity. This was the first time a B-1 dropped a total of 500-pound Guided Bomb Unit-12 (GBU-12) Paveway II laser-guided bomb over the AMRAAM's center of gravity. This was the first time a B-1 dropped a total of 500-pound Guided Bomb Unit-12 (GBU-12) Paveway II laser-guided bomb over the AMRAAM's center of gravity.
The Arnold Golf Course membership sale will be held the month of December. Do your Christmas shopping with special discounts ranging from 5 to 30 percent off. Pick out your merchandise then come to the counter and roll a die to determine your discount. You must pay for your membership immediately after rolling. Roll a 1 for 5 percent off, 2 for 10 percent off, 3 for 15 percent off, 4 for 20 percent off, 5 for 25 percent off or 6 for 30 percent off. No double discounts and Members First Plus discount does not apply in conjunction with this offer.

Stop by Café 100 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a book fair. Discounted selections include paperbacks, best sellers, educational, reference, cookbooks, children’s items, gift selections and more. Save up to 70 percent off retail prices.

Arnold Lakeside Center will host a New Year’s Eve Casino Night Dec. 31. This event is for ages 18 and older and games will underway at 6 p.m. Gaming will be from 7-10 p.m. and includes roulette, blackjack and wheel of fortune. Participants are given play money to try their hand at these games to increase their dollars which will then be used at a prize auction beginning at 10:15 p.m. An auctioneer will take bids on a variety of items to bid on with your winnings. Then as midnight nears, watch the New York City ball drop countdown on the big screen and raise a champagne toast. The theme of the evening will be the Roaring 20’s so dress accordingly. Admission is $13.95 per person and $6.95 for children 12 and under. Please call 454-3350 to sign up no later than Dec. 12.

Cold Weather Hiking December 7

Outdoor Recreation will host a cold weather hike through the Bontoon Trail (Member Only). The cost is $5 per person. Please bring warm weather clothing and water to the park. We also welcome those who wish to meet us at the park as no charge. We will depart the Outdoor Recreation building in Arnold Village at 9 a.m. and return approximately 1 p.m. Call 454-6084 for more information or to reserve your spot by Dec. 6.

It’s that time of year to decorate the house for winter and Christmas. And Arnold AFB Services will help you deck your halls with a craft class for children, 2 to 5 p.m., and adults, 6 to 8 p.m., Dec. 1. Children’s items will be put together at the class and the kids to make fun, tasty, and cute ornaments to take home. Children and under are invited to attend. Please reserve your spot by Dec. 2. Call 454-3335 for more details.

Books Are Fun Returns to Café 100 December 3

Children’s Craft Class December 7

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December Movie Schedule

Movie nights are Thursdays with movie start time of 6:30 p.m. and dinner available from 5-6 p.m.

Dec. 5 – “The Wolverine,” rated PG-13 (2 hr. 6 min.) starring Hugh Jackman, Van Luit and Tao Okamoto. When Wolverine is summoned to Japan by an old acquaintance, he is embroiled in a conflict with an ancient scroll he discovers. In the course of his quest, he sets a course that will change the world from the eyes of Japan's oldest inhabitants, the samurais. Before he knows it, he's fighting for the生命 of Japan itself.

Dec. 12 – “Better Than You,” rated PG-13 (1 hr. 40 min.) starring Josh Holloway, Luce Alonso and Josh Pack. Bottle of the Year awards all the best teams from around the world, but the Americans haven’t won in fifteen years. Dante online Blake to assemble a team of the best dancers and bring the trophy back to America where it started.

Dec. 19 – “The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones,” rated PG-13 (1 hr. 10 min.) starring Lily Collins, Jamie Campbell Bower and Robert Sheehan. When her mother disappears, Clary Fray learns that she descends from a line of warriors who protect our world from demons. She joins forces with others from around the world, but the Americans haven’t won in fifteen years. Dante online Blake to assemble a team of the best dancers and bring the trophy back to America where it started.

Dec. 26 - NO THURSDAY MOVIE

The movie “Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters” has been delayed again and rescheduled for January.

Movies are shown at the Arnold Lakeside Center

The Services insert to the High Mach is designed to inform our customers of upcoming events and activities in Services activities. All program dates, times and prices are subject to change.