

"Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight"

Vol. 36, Issue 23

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

June 8, 2012

Weather



Today

High: 91, Low: 67
Mostly Sunny



Saturday

High: 88, Low: 67
Isolated T-Storms



Sunday

High: 84, Low: 68
Scattered T-Storms



Monday

High: 86, Low: 69
Scattered T-Storms

News Briefs

Enlisted Calls

Enlisted Calls will be held Tuesday, June 12 in the Kaye Auditorium. Times are as follows: Jr. Enlisted Call: 8:30 a.m. NCO Call: 10 a.m. and SNCO Call: 11:30 a.m.

Father's Day

Sunday, June 17 is Father's Day.

Wing Picnic

On Friday, June 22 from noon to 4 p.m. at Freedom Park there will be a base-wide farewell picnic for Col. Seguin and his family. Food will be served between noon and 1 p.m. with gift presentations from the groups at 1:30 p.m. From 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Freedom Park will be considered an alternate duty location for civilians.

Inside



Feature 8

The 48th Flying Training Squadron: The Possumtown Alleycats are highlighted in this week's feature.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chase Hedrick

Col. Barre Seguin, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander speaks during the officer call on June 1 at Kaye Auditorium. As the last officer call for Seguin, he set expectations for the officers assigned to Columbus Air Force Base, detailed the successes of the last two years, and offered words of thanks to Columbus AFB.

Officer call details expectations, thanks

Senior Airman Chase Hedrick

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The 14th Flying Training Wing Commander laid out Air Education and Training Command lines of operations, officership and some of the accomplishments of Team BLAZE over the last two years during an officer call on June 1 at the Kaye Auditorium.

Col. Barre Seguin who is preparing for

his next assignment as an executive assistant for the Air Force vice chief of staff called the officer call at Columbus Air Force Base his last planned opportunity to speak with the base's officers.

The AETC lines of operations are to have a Culture of Cost Consciousness, Respect Airmen's Time and ... said Seguin, who gave examples of how Columbus AFB has improved in each of those lines before expanding on The Culture of Cost Consciousness also

known as C3.

"We're in a very different environment right now than I've known through my 23 and a half years in our United States Air Force," said Seguin.

The commander offered examples of past spending habits such as end of year spending to avoid resource cuts on money or flying hours. With current budget cuts and possible upcoming challenges Seguin said we are no longer there.

See OFFICER CALL, Page 3

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF			WING SORTIE BOARD				
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (13-04)	1.43 days	1.95 days	Jun 28	48th (12-10)	0.80 days	1.29 days	Jun 15	49th (12-1B)	2.86 days	0.89 days	Jun 27	T-6	587	605	21,929
41st (13-05)	-0.55 days	1.84 days	Jul 20	50th (12-10)	-1.18 days	-7.74 days	Jun 15					T-1	199	200	6,043
												T-38	217	220	7,465
												IFF	18	18	2,268

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. Frank Padilla, SAF/IG.

Track Select

Capt. Gregory Hafley	T-1
2nd Lt. Christopher Adamo	T-1
2nd Lt. Kevin Allum	T-1
2nd Lt. Jason Bireley	T-1
2nd Lt. Andrew Briley	T-38
2nd Lt. Jessica Charney	T-38
2nd Lt. David Cotter	T-1
2nd Lt. Benjamin DeLaCruz	T-1
2nd Lt. Brian Dunlap	T-1
2nd Lt. Erick Estevez	T-1
2nd Lt. Grace Gibbens	Helo
2nd Lt. Benjamin Gunn	T-1
2nd Lt. Michael Hanniford	T-1
2nd Lt. Peter Komar	T-1
2nd Lt. Wesley Ladd	T-1
2nd Lt. Andrew Lee	T-1
2nd Lt. Caitlin Miller	T-1
2nd Lt. Cody Moorhead	T-1
2nd Lt. Michael Morrison	T-38
2nd Lt. Brijen Patel	T-38
2nd Lt. Amanda Robillard	T-1
2nd Lt. Faith Sanders-Walker	Helo
2nd Lt. Phanat Senesourinh	T-1
2nd Lt. Thomas Sinclair	T-38
2nd Lt. James Spidel	T-38
2nd Lt. Andrew Taylor	T-38
2nd Lt. Jared Tew	T-38
2nd Lt. Gray Thompson	T-38
2nd Lt. Steven Turner	T-1
2nd Lt. Charles Wasson	T-1



Dubisher Award
2nd Lt. Steven Turner

Top Guns
Contact: 2nd Lt. Gray Thompson
Instrument: Capt. Gregory Hafley
Formation: 2nd Lt. Gray Thompson

13-03

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 56 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



Security and policy review

Did you know that as a military member you must coordinate all information relating to speeches, presentations, Academic papers, multimedia visual information materials and information proposed for release to a publicly accessible Worldwide Website with exception of Air Force publications through the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office? For more information contact the 14th FTW/PA at 434-7068.

SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
11	12 Enlisted Calls, 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m. @ Kaye Hearts Apart, 11 a.m. @ DeWayne Hayes Recreation Area Wing Flight/CC Course, 7:15 a.m. @ Club	13 Class 12-11 Assignment Night, 5 p.m. @ Club	14 Flag Day	15 Class 12-10 SUPT Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	16/17 Father's Day (17th)
18	19 Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club 41st FTS CoC, 8:41 a.m. @ BLAZE Hangar	20 Wing Staff Meeting, 9 a.m. @ HQ	21 Medical Group Closed, noon to 4:30 p.m. MDSS CoC, 9 a.m. @ Club	22 Base-wide Wing/CC Farewell Picnic, noon to 4 p.m. @ Freedom Park 14th CES AoC, 9 a.m. @ Fire Department	23/24

Long Range Events
June 25: IFF Graduation
June 25: Night Flying Week
June 26: WG/CC Fini Flight
June 26-28: CAP Encampment
June 27: 14th FTW CoC
June 28: 13-04 Track Select
June 28: 49th FTS CoC
June 28: Enlisted Promotions
June 29: Class 12-11 SUPT Graduation
July 4: Independence Day
July 5: AETC Family Day

OFFICER CALL

(Continued from Page 1)

"That's the climate we're in right now, we're no longer in the 'spend it or you'll lose it' climate. The AETC commander called it the cost conscious culture," he said. "If there's a way to not spend money we ought to be thinking about it. And I will tell you that ought has changed to me must and we will."

Some larger ways Columbus AFB is saving money include minimizing the wear on the flags that line Simler Boulevard said Seguin. He challenged attendees to keep track of even the smallest savings by turning off computer monitors or keeping track of pens.

"We need to be on the leading edge on making this the way we do business, this cost conscious culture, because that's going to come back to reward us," he said referencing the base's win of Air Education and Training Command's Energy Incentive Award for the first quarter that garnered the base \$250,000.

"Why am I concerned about this? Why am I talking about this now? I'm talking about this now because we've had at least two instances of unprofessional relationships that occurred here recently without the chain of command having knowledge of that having occurred with other people having knowledge that they occurred and not doing anything about it," he said.

Seguin gave nameless explanations of the unprofessional relationships that had occurred, and reminded attendees of the Air Force's definition of unprofessional relationships.

"My guidance to you all is if you know about these there's nothing wrong with stepping in to correct the individuals involved to stop. That should be the first action but it doesn't end there," said Seguin. "We are not a good old boy Air Force; we're an accountable Air Force. Instances of unprofessional relationships must be directed to the chain of command."

Seguin switched tones to detail the accomplishments of the base during his time here: 632 Pilots produced, IFF mission expansion and the most air traffic movements out of any other base, were just some of the accomplishments listed.

"Let me say a very sincere thank you on the behalf of Nancy and I for what has been a tremendous two years for us. It really is because of you all. The enthusiasm and energy I received from being around so many young and great officers, the finest America has to offer is absolutely exhilarating. I thank you for the tremendous job and the millions of moving parts and pieces you bring together on a daily basis to Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen and Feed the Fight, no one does it better than Team BLAZE."



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens
Seven of Team BLAZE's newly promoted enlisted Airmen were promoted at the enlisted promotions ceremony at the Columbus Club on May 31.

Seven sew on next stripe at promotion ceremony

**14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs**

Seven of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen tacked on their next stripe during the enlisted promotion ceremony on May 31 at the Columbus Club.

Promoted are:
Senior Airman Tameka Nelson, 14th Operations Support Squadron,

Senior Airman Phillip Tomow, 14th Force Support Squadron,
Senior Airman Daniel Waldrop, 14th OSS
Senior Airman Saleem Albany, 14th OSS
Staff Sgt. Justin Williamson, 14th Civil Engineering Squadron,
Senior Airman Braheem Hughes, 14th OSS
Staff Sgt. Markita Smith, 14th Flying Training Wing,

Pilot Partner Welcome



U.S. Air Force photo/Sonic Johnson

Residents of Trinity Place eat with 2nd Lt. Max Mallory, student of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 13-10 during the SUPT Class 13-10 Pilot Partner Welcome on June 5 at Trinity Place.

Trail BLAZE'r

Name: Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
Unit: 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs
Job title: Chief, Internal Information; Silver Wings Editor
Time at Columbus AFB: Two years
Time in Service: Two years, six months
Hometown: Boone, N.C.
Career goals: Reach for more opportunities to see and capture through photography the wide variety of Air Force missions at home and abroad.
Family members: Father: Cam. Mother: Juli. Sisters: Lauren and Melanie.
Favorite musician: The Glitch Mob
Favorite movie: The Social Network



Biggest pet peeve: Doing without knowing the reason why.
Favorite book: "The 48 Laws of Power" by Robert Greene
Inspirations: Scientific predictions, Theodore Roosevelt, Dwight D. Eisenhower,
Personal motto: If you want something out of life, you have to make it yourself.

TRICARE students returning to local area

Elizabeth Paine
14th Medical Support Squadron

With the summer fast approaching, many students will be returning to the area to be with family until the next school term. Did you know if those TRICARE eligible students are not enrolled to a Primary Care Manager (PCM) at the Columbus Air Force Base Military Treatment Facility (MTF), they will be unable to make an appointment at the Columbus AFB MTF?

If the students are enrolled in TRICARE Prime, they must seek all of their routine, urgent, and non-behavioral health care appointments from their assigned PCM; otherwise, their care will be covered under the point-of-service option. This can result in the patient receiving

a bill for their medical care or other out-of-pocket costs. TRICARE Prime referral and authorization rules will be applied to any kind of specialty care they may require. In case of any emergencies, students should call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room, and notify their PCM within 24 hours to ensure proper claims of payment. To learn more about the differences among routine, urgent, specialty, and emergency care, please, visit www.tricare.mil.

Children remain eligible for regular TRICARE coverage up to age 21, or the age of 23 if enrolled in a full course of study at any approved institution of higher learning and are dependent on the sponsor for more than half of their financial support. After "aging out" at age 21 or 23, children (up to the age of 26) who are not married and not

eligible for their own employer-sponsored health insurance may qualify for TRICARE Young Adult coverage (based on sponsor's eligibility for TRICARE). For more information, go to www.tricare.mil.

If students wish to be seen at the the Columbus AFB MTF, we recommend their sponsor and/or the students (if 18 or older) visit the TRICARE Service Center located in the lobby of the MTF to get enrolled to one of our PCMs for the duration of their stay in the Columbus local area. Once they return to school, they are strongly encouraged to enroll with a PCM in their local area to ensure access to medical care throughout the school year. For more information and assistance, please contact Humana Military at 1-800-444-5445.

Think green to keep cars clean

Kimberly Davis
14th Medical Operations Squadron

Believe it or not, our cars say a lot about our personality and how we view ourselves. So, most of us strive to keep our cars clean when we can. But wait, before you make those next suds, ask yourself "Where exactly does my dirty, soapy car wash water go?" The truth be told, this water goes directly into the same location that many of us fish, drink and swim in — our creeks, streams and rivers. Some studies have shown that it only takes 1 gallon of liquid soap to pollute 200,000 gallons of water.

So, your reaction to this might be, "Whoa, I didn't know that!" or "What can I do to prevent this?" Great question! At Columbus Air Force Base, one of our goals is to conduct our mission in an environmentally safe and responsible manner. This includes maintaining compliance with pertinent regulations and being leaders in pollu-

tion prevention. One way you can assist in meeting our goal is to notify 14th Civil Engineer Squadron/CEAN of activities or car wash fundraisers that may cause storm water pollution. For example, your organization is discussing ways to raise donations and then you have a light bulb moment of a car wash fundraiser. Well before scheduling the event, simply call the 14th CES/CEAN at 434-7955 for guidance on locations and ideas for "green" friendly car washing.

Another way to assist is by implementing "green" car wash practices at home if you're residing at Columbus AFB. Some practicable measures include using a commercial facility whenever possible, washing only on gravel or grassy surfaces, purchasing biodegradable/ phosphate-free soaps and adding an automatic turn-off nozzle to your hose. So, before you host that car wash fundraiser or start getting your car ready for fun in the sun remember to think "green" to keep cars clean!

Feed the fight



Courtesy photo

Maj. Greg Wyant is currently deployed from the 50th Flying Training Squadron to the 361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron in Afghanistan to fly MC-12's. His accomplishments during his deployment include rewriting the squadron training syllabus and squadron ops supervisor for nearly 200 personnel, three base rocket attacks and two runway closures. If you have a photo of a currently deployed Team BLAZE Airman you would like featured in Feed the Fight, send it to SilverWings@Columbus.af.mil

CAFB blood drive model for success

Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

A recent blood drive at Columbus Air Force Base may set the pace for future blood drives here and at other Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Bases across Air Education and Training Command.

Columbus AFB marked a successful blood drive May 24, donating 173 units of blood directly to military members in the AoR through The Armed Services Blood Program from Keesler Air Force Base.

A report on the blood drive estimated 250 military members, contractors, civilians and dependents attempted to donate, more than the blood drive was prepared for. Despite just under 10 percent of the base's population looking to donate mission impact was minimal due to scheduled appointments for 212 of the volunteer donors said the report.

"We've demonstrated that even on the busiest base in the Air Force we can still draw a large number of people to give blood without losing mission," said Col. Johann Westphall,

14th Medical Group.

Maj. Keith Yester, 14th Operations Group point of contact for the blood drive attributed the successful drive to the willingness of CAFB members to help out in any way they could. From the assistance of the 14th Medical Group and Capt. Adam Irvin to plan the drive, the spouses and volunteers who helped the ASBP team, to the members who inspired donors with stories of how their donations would save lives such as those told by Capt. Clinton Oja.

The success is all the more important with AETC's cost conscious culture, since the donations saved the Air Force an estimated \$44,634 for blood that would otherwise have had to be bought according to Master Sgt. Brian Fisher, 14th Medical Support Squadron Superintendent.

The low mission impact coupled with high success and savings may make this a model for future drives said Westphall.

"Now that we've shown we can do this we're planning to build this process and send it out to other SUPT bases," said Westphall. "That's an AETC win, and an Air Force win."

The deadline for submitting ads is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run the following week. Ads can be mailed to or dropped off at the public affairs office in the 14th Flying Training Wing Headquarters building, e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver Wings reserves the right to limit ads based on content, space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

Transportation

For sale: 2000 GMC Sierra 1500, 4.8L V8, automatic rear-wheel drive. 117,500 miles, mostly highway. Third door, aftermarket wheels, stereo system including two 10-inch MA Audio subwoofers with enclosure and low-profile tool box. \$7,000 or best offer. Looking for a quick sale, price is negotiable. Call 434-2594 or (203) 482-5870.

Miscellaneous

For sale: IBM Lenovo Thinkpad SL500 laptop, dual core 1.8 ghz processor, 120gb hard drive, 3gb RAM, CD-RW/DVD, 15.4 inch LCD, firewire port, wifi, three USB ports, HDMI and SD reader port, good battery, Windows XP, Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe,

PhotoSuite, new travel bag. Great cosmetic and working condition, asking \$285. Call 386-6981.
For sale: Light oak futon with tan full/queen futon cushion. Extremely good condition. \$75. Call 364-2109 after 5 pm or 364-2270 anytime.
For sale: Girl's bedroom furniture. Twin-sized headboard, footboard, bed rails, dresser, hutch, nightstand, matching desk. \$200. Call 889-1438.
For sale: LS (S3010) tractor bought new, Mitsubishi, 4WD, front-end loader/bucket, used less than 60 hours, shed kept. \$12,000 or best offer. Call 617-5049.
For sale: Four year old Chestnut Gelding, good for a beginner, easy to catch and saddle. Will trade or sell, \$300. Call 617-5049.
For sale: Eight year old 15h Peruvian Pasos Mare, Strawberry Roam. Good disposition and thick build. \$600, will

trade or sell. Call 617-5049.
For sale: Lots of baby items including baby girl clothes and shoes, infant up to size 6. Other items such as toddler bed rail set, Winnie the Pooh bassinet, saucer, bouncer, car seat with dual base, walker, Sit and Stand stroller and etc. Willing to sell toys for all ages. Price is negotiable. Willing to sell by the bag (30 gallon bags or smaller if needed) for girl clothes at a reasonable price. If interested, please call 617-1982.
For sale: Variety of plus-size ladies clothes to include casual, pants suits, dresses, blouses/shirts, etc. Most sizes are larger plus sizes 22-26. If interested, call 617-1982.
For sale: 14.1 cubic foot upright freezer, manual defrost with drain, very good condition, \$175; 46-piece handmade off-white ceramic sunflower dishes, \$125 or best offer; free

ceramic molds. Call 356-4292.

Garage Sales

Garage sale: June 9 from 7 a.m. to noon at 59 Lake Drive, Columbus MS. Crib, Baby supplies, 18 months to 2T boys clothing, micro fridge, toys. 5 miles south of base off Hwy 45. Turn left on Dogwood Blvd, just prior to Hwy 45/Hwy 373 Intersection, Lake Drive is the first road on the right off of Dogwood Blvd. Call 889-1360 for information.
Garage Sale: June 9 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 5315B West Point Avenue on Columbus Air Force Base. Two three-drawer dressers, three piece entertainment wall unit/curio cabinet, dining table with four chairs, adult and children's clothes, kitchen appliances, pet supplies, children's toys, fuel cans, DVDs and VHS movies, electronics, and more.

UPT Super Hero

1st Lt. Saj Elamin

Flowers are blooming, Grizzly bears foraging, Shark Week has been replaced by Chuck Norris infomercials showing you how to transform your body into a greek god... or goddess in "only" 6 weeks! These are the Critical Days of Summer! No? Not Quite? Then my next guess would be the Air Force emphasis on safety during the summer months. "Safety — It's Personal" is the Air Force Critical Days of Summer safety campaign theme this year. Still don't know what CDS is and why it is so critical? Well, it may have something to do with the reason I'm not flying and ironically sitting behind a desk in the Wing Safety office writing this op ed. But I'll get to that later. For whatever reason these days are critical to you, the Air Force Chief of Safety has set this theme to be a reminder that personal safety is a responsibility for us all, at all times!

Safety, Safety, Safety... starting to sound familiar? "OMG... another drawn out message on safety!" (Yes, 'Oh-My Gosh' text abbreviation, that just happened!) Well it's time to wake up! I am a true Columbus AFB, SUPT student testament as to why safety is important in everything we do!

Since the time we can remember, safety has been an emphasis item: Don't touch the stove when it is hot, don't play ball in the house, look both ways before crossing the street, wear a helmet when riding a bike, fasten your seatbelt, check the weather before flying to a destination.

Our barrel of safety tips is forever overflowing, especially in a training environment. Between aircraft notes, warnings, and cautions, instructor's war stories and the old faithful Operations Risk Management sheet filled out every time we prep for a flight; there are a number of ways we are reminded to be safe while flying.

Sometimes, it is the weekly flying that makes us feel invincible; as if we can still fly even when we're not in the jet. This, my friend, is the UPT Super Hero!

In every UPT class, every weekend, there is that student who starts their sentence with, "Hey... watch this!" Usually, this phrase is followed by some mediocre attempt to impress the class or ends up on YouTube under Ultimate Fails. For example, doing a back flip off the ledge of the Jacuzzi into a shallow pool; has this happened? Well, I can't confirm or deny those allegations, but it has UPT Super Hero written all over it.

To the point! Some things are inevitable, and we can't live our lives in a bubble while here at Columbus AFB. But the challenge is

to consider the risk you are taking in any activity you participate. The same amount of thought you put into flipping all the right switches when starting the jet should go into a night out with friends, a drive across state, or a routine workout at the gym.

Had I put just the slightest amount of risk management into the day I was injured, I probably wouldn't be where I am today. Actually, I probably wouldn't even be writing this article! I'd still think I was invincible; assuming a guy in my peak physical condition would not experience a random sports injury that would derail my training. Well, what do you know, on March 15, 2012, all the stars aligned and this 'UPT Superman' met his kryptonite. Rushing out of the flight room to get to the gym because I was late for an intramural playoff game was only the first of the poor decisions I made. I arrived at the start of the second half, the team down by a few points; I was sure I could make a difference and help bring us back to victory. So, instead of taking the 10 minutes to go through my regular routine of stretching and warming up, I figured, "I'm a 'former' Division-1 athlete, this is a base intramurals league, what's the worst that could happen?" Well, with less than a minute left, and the game on the line, the competitive nature kicked in along with Darwinism. While making a play on the ball, I felt a pain I can only describe as a person taking a baseball bat and hitting me just below my calf. Assuming the only guy around me must have clipped me, I attempted to get back up and run down the court. Mentally, I was ready to "walk it off"; however, when the Achilles tendon in your leg is no longer attached to your foot, "walk it off" becomes quite the physical dilemma. Next, the moment when I realized this is going to be a big deal. For some reason it seems as if time stands still when everything you've worked for begins to flash before your eyes: pilot training, graduation, wings, class timeline, family, friends, recovery, rehab, starting over! Later, I began to appreciate the fact that I get a chance to start over, not everyone is as fortunate. The point is, you never know when something life/career threatening is lurking around the corner, you just do your best to mitigate the possibilities of something tragic happening.

"Safety-It's Personal"; whenever you think "it won't happen to me", it will! Would you ever rush into a jet, skip the checklist and go right into starting the engine? No! So with the Critical Days of Summer amongst us, be the one that considers those same risk factors when you're working hard during the week and playing harder on the weekend. That's the real UPT Super Hero! Be safe, have fun, graduate, and earn your wings!

to consider the risk you are taking in any activity you participate. The same amount of thought you put into flipping all the right switches when starting the jet should go into a night out with friends, a drive across state, or a routine workout at the gym.

Relentless Pursuit

Lt. Col. James Hall

48th Flying Training Squadron Commander

Relentless; continuing always at the same intense, demanding, or punishing level.

Pursuit; the act of chasing after something in order to catch, attack or overtake.

The 48th is on a relentless pursuit; A relentless pursuit of excellence in all we do, service before self, and integrity. Our adventure of pursuit started by asking a few simple questions. If you are familiar with the CSAF reading list you'll recognize that many of these questions are based on a book by Simon Sinek called Start with Why. If you don't have time to read the book watch the TED video at by searching "Simon Sinek How Great Leaders Inspire Action".

The first question we asked is "why do I serve?" This question is foundational to why you show up to work in the morning. In order to reach your potential as an Airman you must know what motivates you. Is it family? It is patriotic reasons? Is it because of September 11th? Is it for financial security? Your answer is most likely a combination of the reasons above and some others. It is essential that you know why you serve so when difficulty ensues...a crash, or the loss of a close friend in battle, or you have to tell your family that you will have to deploy for a year...you must know why you serve.

The next question we are answering is "why do we do what we do?" We are at Columbus Air Force Base because America needs us. We are here to ensure the blood of previous generations was not shed in vain and protect and serve those who live under the umbrella of freedom that the Constitution provides today and tomorrow. We are at Columbus AFB because America needs Airmen to defend her. Because conflict has evolved from throwing stones, to the phalanx, to Napoleonic foot soldiers, to today's combined arms battles. Airmen bring something that no other service brings to the joint fight. A way of solving problems that is unique. Airmen see the world differently. We see it from 30,000 feet at a different speed and perspective that others do not. We attack problems and innovate better than anyone using our unique perspective and technical skills. America needs Airmen to learn these skills here at Columbus Air Force Base to develop the intestinal fortitude and perspective required to defend her. America needs the 48th to train the world's best warrior Airmen to defend the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic.

That is our why. The next two questions are our what and how. Our what is we produce

"The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavor." — Vince Lombardi

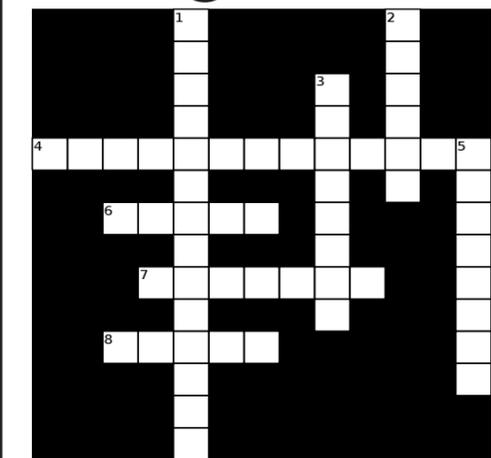
pilots, advance Airman, and feed the fight. Our how is with a relentless pursuit. A Relentless Pursuit of Excellence in all we do. Without a relentless pursuing of excellence the Airman that the nation needs are not produced. Pursuing excellence means never accepting good enough, whether it is training the world's best pilots or planning the squadron Christmas party. Innovation is a habit that we must develop in Airmen. America depends on it. We must be more effective and more efficient because efficiency becomes effectiveness over time.

The next how is a relentless pursuit of service before self. Service before self is not natural. It is a difficult concept and something we have to work at every day. We are here to commit ourselves to the simple definition of service before self...put others first. Others that you may never know. Others that may slander the military. We are serving for them...it is hard to sacrifice for them, but it is what we do. Flying on days you would rather be at the lake. Doing jobs in the squadron that are not high profile, but essential. We are on a relentless pursuit of service before self, including feeding the fight when called.

Finally we are on a relentless pursuit of integrity first. It is essential to everything we do. Our word must be our bond always. We must be trusted and be able to trust others. Integrity is the cornerstone of advancing Airmen. Integrity is a core character trait that is essential to leadership and no Airman will advance without. It is a priority in the 48th to mold the Airmen that America needs and if any Airman leaves the 48th without integrity, we have failed.

The 48th is on an adventure. We have started at our whys. Why we serve and why the 48th exists. We are relentlessly pursuing our what's and how's. We have been entrusted to carry on a heritage of forming Americans into American Airman containing traits and abilities critical to the survival of this nation. America needs Airmen and the 48th is here to mold Airmen whether they are students pilots just learning to fly, FAIPs or seasoned MWS warriors. Because at the end of the day we believe that what wins wars is not machines but Americans who think differently, who create, who innovate, and who do not quit...those who pick themselves up when they fail and then press on in the face of terrible odds...those who don't care that it has never been done that way, they are called United States Air Force Airmen.

Flag Week



- Across**
- 4 The blue field on the flag represents the night sky for a new (made of the stars on the flag) to hang.
 - 6 According to American legend, the first American Flag was created by seamstress Ross.
 - 7 The Stars and
 - 8 Old _____.

- Down**
- 1 The Second Congress adopted a flag with thirteen stars and thirteen stripes, representing each original colony.
 - 2 The state representing the 50th star.
 - 3 Star _____ Banner.
 - 5 In 2011, President Obama proclaimed the week beginning June 12, 2011, as _____ Flag Week.

POW/MIA

Last week's answers



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Facebook: www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB

Twitter: www.twitter.com/Columbus_AFB



Airmen will have more assignment prep time

Debbie Gildea

Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Following a full review of the permanent change of station orders process, Air Force Personnel Center officials have implemented a new policy that will allow members more time to schedule move-related appointments, said Dave Faris, AFPC PCS budget/assignment analysis section deputy

chief.

Defense funding rules require that permanent change of station obligations be charged against the fiscal year in which the orders are published. To ensure the Air Force met that expectation, orders previously were published no later than 60 days before departure from the current station and no earlier than 90 days before the member's reporting date.

"After a review of numerous requests for exception to policy and requests from trans-

portation authorities for more time to process household goods pickups, we analyzed the process and made some changes," Faris said.

In part those changes are possible because of AFPC's role in processing and authenticating orders.

"The Total Force Service Center has assumed orders authentication responsibilities, and the centralized process is faster and more efficient," Faris explained. "Now, orders can be prepared 120 days before the member's sched-

uled departure date."

For members scheduled for lengthy training or leave en route to their new duty station, that change is expected to make all the difference, Faris believes.

This should significantly reduce policy exception requests for early PCS orders. According to Faris, the policy change will help eliminate challenges, but if it does not meet a member's needs, he or she can still request an exception to policy.

U.S., British service members honor French village for D-Day support

Staff Sgt. Stephen J. Collier

302nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

PICAUVILLE, France — Air Force reservists and other U.S. and allied military members paid their respects to the people of this small French village June 1 as part of a number of ceremonies recognizing the 68th anniversary of the Normandy D-Day invasion.

Airmen from the Air Force Reserve Command's 302nd, 910th and 440th Airlift Wings, led by Maj. Gen. Wallace Farris Jr., as well as members of the Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team and British paratroopers, marched through the village where they laid a wreath in remembrance of those Airmen and Soldiers who paid the ultimate price in liberating Europe.

Later, service members joined together with local residents in the village's sports complex to break bread as well as share stories and even crack a few jokes.

"We are dedicated to remembering the sacrifices of the Airmen and U.S. Army Soldiers who liberated us," said Eric Labourdette, the communication manager for Picauville Remembers, a group that volunteers to maintain the heritage and remembrance of the community's D-Day ties, specifically their assistance to allied service members whose aircraft crashed in the area. "We help ensure the Troop Carrier Monument here in Picauville stands as a remembrance to those U.S. military who gave their lives for France."

After music, food and even a little wine, Farris and other Air Force reservists presented Picauville Mayor Philippe Christine with a custom "shadow box" — a collection of Air Force mementos unique to each of the wings represented. Christine said it's important to continue hosting events like this "because the story is important."

"The fact that men died here for our liberty ... it's the most important thing for us to keep the memory (alive) and to say to our children what are the facts with history and what importance the landing of (the) U.S. Army (had) to give us our liberty," the mayor said.

The mayor highlighted the unique relationship the U.S. shares with France, going back to the American Revolution and France's commitment to the new nation. He said the U.S.' liberation of France only cemented the nations unique ties.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Stephen J. Collier
U.S. Soldiers and Airmen, together with British paratroopers, march in formation through Picauville, France, June 1, 2012, as part of ceremonial events commemorating the 68th anniversary of the Normandy D-Day invasion. Later, U.S. and British forces dined with members of the Picauville community where they honored the village for their continued remembrance of the Allied invasion forces.

Earlier in the day, active duty Airmen from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, took part in a remembrance ceremony in Picauville's town square. The gathering brought out more than 200 local residents, World War II re-enactors and children from a nearby school who lit one candle each for those men who gave their lives for freedom after being brought down in the Picauville area.

Maintaining the unique relationship the Air Force Reserve has with this town of 2,008 people, thousands of miles away, helps keep the fighting spirit of D-Day alive year after year officials said. Several organizations in the Air Force Reserve that existed in the early 1940s took part in aerial operations against the Nazi war machine, but it was the 440th AW that maintains a direct link to the first American boots that touched French soil.

Late on June 5, 1944, C-47 Skytrain aircraft assigned to the then-440th Troop Carrier Group took off from Exeter, England. On board those transports were 101st Airborne paratroopers heading directly for the hedge groves of Normandy. The unique heritage of the 440th AW to the D-Day cere-

"We are dedicated to remembering the sacrifices of the Airmen and U.S. Army Soldiers who liberated us," said Eric Labourdette, the communication manager for Picauville Remembers.

monies isn't lost on the Airmen assigned to the wing today, nor on Farris, who commands 22nd Air Force, the organization that oversees wings like the 440th AW.

"It makes you feel good to be an American," said Farris, commenting on the hospitality of Picauville residents. "But it makes me feel good for the men and women who sacrificed their lives to free France. The veterans who were here today, it means a lot to them as well. We're all able to remember those Americans and what they did here 68 years ago."

Farris, who has flown transport aircraft like the C-130 Hercules for more than 11 years, said the thought of flying a C-47 into the conditions pilots did on D-Day is something that hasn't escaped him.

"Think about the C-47 pilots who flew into very arduous conditions: the weather wasn't the best, you have to 'jeek' and 'jive' to get to the target, you had a hard time finding the target, you had to deal with the flak and you're watching your fellow brethren get shot down at the same time," he said. "You think about that and you try to measure yourself up and being able to maintain a track to the drop zone ... I've thought about that a few times."

And for Christine, he said he is confident having events like this will ensure no one in his community, especially those young school children, will forget what transpired on June 6, 1944.

"Even in the ceremony, we have (a) magnificent exhibition, but not spectacular for the cinema, not the story, but for the memory," he said. "And when you are a child, it's also spectacular."

The anniversary events culminated for the Air Force on June 3 when they dropped more than 350 allied paratroopers from several aircraft, bringing alive once again the heritage of the U.S. Air Force.

Base News

The Base Thrift Shop

The Base Thrift Shop is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Consignments until noon. The Thrift Shop is non-profit and all proceeds benefit CAFB Community. It is located in building 530. Phone: 434-2954.

Contraceptive Counseling Class

There are currently many safe and effective options for preventing or delaying pregnancy. The staff of the 14th Medical Group, wants to make sure you have the information you need to make your best choice. The Family Health Clinic is now offering a Birth Control Counseling Class covering topics ranging from natural family planning to tubal ligation. The class is offered once a month and taught by a Women's Health Provider and a Registered Nurse. Classes will be held at the Koritz Clinic, the last Friday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30. Please call the clinic appointment line at 434-2273 to reserve your spot in the next Birth Control Counseling Class.

Sleep Enhancement Class

There is a new Sleep Enhancement Class at the Koritz Clinic held every other Friday. You are a good candidate for the Sleep Enhancement Class if you have trouble falling asleep or staying asleep. Call 434-CARE (2273) to schedule.

FREE Computerized CLEP Exams

Computerized CLEP testing is available at the Mississippi State University Assessment and Testing Center (<http://www.ats.msstate.edu/testing/>). Military members will NOT be charged a fee for the first-time administration of any CLEP exam. However, retakes of CLEP exams must be paid for by the military member. DANTES (DSST) paper-based exams will continue to be administered in the CAFB Ed Office. Please call 434-2562 or 434-2563 for more information.

Motorcycle PPE at Exchange

Air Force compliant personal protection equipment for motorcycle riders is now carried at the base Exchange.

vMPF Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Benefits

Members can now access the vMPF and click DoD TEB website to transfer Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. The vMPF application will verify the Airman's eligibility to transfer benefits, provide timely notice regarding eligibility issues and allow Airmen to complete, sign, and for-

ward the required statement of understanding to the Automated Records Management System. You can link to the vMPF through the AF Portal at <https://www.my.af.mil/afpc2ww3/vmpf/Hub/Pages/Hub.asp>.

LGR Mobility Individual Protective Equipment Element closed for Training

The 14th Logistics Division, Mobility and Individual Protective Equipment Element located in the Walker Center, building 1030 will close for training Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. beginning Thursday, May 10, 2012. All appointments must be scheduled around these days/times to avoid delays and inconveniences. Walk-ins are no longer accepted. All appointments must be scheduled in advance by calling 434-7305, 7306, 3363 or 3364. For more information, please call 434-7212 or 434-7306.

Airman and Family Readiness Center

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790 or email afrc@columbus.af.mil.)

Military and Family Life Consultant Program

MFLC consultants provide a non-medical counseling to help Airmen, (both single and married) their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration, and life challenges, such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental health providers. Consultants can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC call 251-8627.

Self-paced Tutorials

Available on MS Office 2007 Suites; Access, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Word and Windows Vista. Set your own learning pace at your AFRC.

Relocation assistance

Weekly workshop on programs, services and resources available through the Airman and Family Readiness Center held every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Topics of discussion include preparing for a move, environment/cultural issues or needs, adaptation and community awareness.

Employment Workshop

Workshop on local and base employment

opportunities, held every Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Spouse welcome

For new personnel assigned to CAFB held every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Magnolia Inn lobby. Local information is presented.

Sponsorship training

An electronic version of sponsorship training called eSponsorship Application and Training (eSAT) is now available. It can be found on the MilitaryINSTALLATIONS homepage <http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil>, under "Are You a Sponsor?"

Survivor-Benefit Plan

One of the best feelings about retiring from the military Service is to know you are guaranteed a lifetime income as the result of a successful career. What about your spouse or dependent children? If you die, what guarantees do they have? Enrolling in the SBP prior to retiring will ensure they will have guaranteed income after your death. Additional details are available by calling your SBP Counselor Jamey Coleman at 434-2720.

Pre-Separation Counseling (DD Form-2648)

Mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring. Briefing should be completed at least 90 days prior to separation and may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. Counseling held daily at 8:30 a.m. and takes approximately 30 minutes.

Pre and Post Deployment Tour Brief

Mandatory briefings for active duty personnel who are deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. Briefings are held daily at the AFRC; Pre-deployment at 9:30 a.m. and post-deployment at 1:30 p.m.

Chapel Schedule

Catholic Community

Sunday:
4 p.m. – Choir Practice
4 p.m. – Confession
5 p.m. – Mass

Thursday:
4:15 p.m. – Choir Practice

Protestant Community

Sunday:
9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School

Sewing Class

Starts 8 June, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. End 13 July. Save money and express your creative side. Learn to sew or improve your skills. Class 1: Operating sewing machine Class 2: Fabric/pattern selection Class 3: Cut out/start to sew item Class 4: Tips for easier sewing Class 5: Finish project Class 6: Survival Sewing, Call 434-2790 for more information and to sign up, class size is limited.

Hearts Apart Social

June 12 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. DeWayne Hayes Recreation Area, social gathering for families of deployed (over 30 days) or remote personnel, information, refreshments, and activities. Please RSVP when invitations are received. Headcount of attendance prior to event is critical for planning and preparation. Advance registration required, call 434-2790.

EFMP Health and Information Fair/Fun Day at the Park

June 12 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dewayne Hayes Recreational Area. Join us for family fun day with food, Spray Ground and activities such as Horseshoes, Volleyball, Kick Croquet, Watermelon eating contest, Crafts, Hula toss, Face painting, and more! Information provided about services available on-and-off-base. Advance registration required, call 434-2790

Smooth Move

June 14 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., a class that provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. Learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tri-Care, Medical Records, and AFRC.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

June 19, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 a.m. for newly arrived Active Duty and Civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Held at the Columbus Club, for more information call 434-2839.

10:45 a.m. – Traditional Service

Tuesday:
5 p.m. – Lieutenants Bible Study

Wednesday:
4:30 p.m. – Choir Practice

Saturday:
7 a.m. – Men's Monthly Breakfast and Study—*Twelve Ordinary Men* (2nd Sat)

A variety of activities are offered to base families

Comedy Night at the Club June 9

Join us for Comedy Night at the Columbus Club, Sat., June 9. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The show features “The Fryman” as seen and heard on Sirius Satellite Radio, Comic View, and NBC. The opening act is Steve Poggi and music for the after party is provided by DJ Felix. Pick up your advanced tickets from the Club now; \$5 for members and \$7 nonmembers. The price goes up at the door! Contact 434-2471 for more information.

The British are Coming!

British Soccer Camp returns to Columbus AFB June 11-15. This program is open to youth, ages 3-18. Camp times and costs vary based on age groups and sessions. Stop by the Youth Center or call 434-2504 for more information or register online at www.challengersports.com.

Batting Cages Now Open

The new batting cages are now open for business. Get 12 balls for just \$1. Machines accept quarters only. The new machines and elevators have been installed behind the adult ball fields.

2-4-1 Steak Night

Get two fabulous dinners for one great price at the Columbus Club, Tues., June 19, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Reservations are required no later than noon, June 18. Cost for members is \$21, and nonmembers \$23. Each meal includes a 12-ounce New York strip, baked potato with butter and sour cream, green beans in herb butter sauce, salad bar, yeast roll and coffee, tea and water. For reservations or more information, call the Club at 434-2471 or 434-2489.

Don't Get Bored!

The Youth Center has a variety of fun and exciting camps and trips (something for all ages, including adults). For a complete list of programs and for more information contact the Youth Center at 434-2504.

Pool Open!

Independence Pool is now open daily; get your pool passes at Outdoor Recreation. These passes will NOT be sold at the pool or the Columbus Club, but only at ODR. Swim lessons are scheduled in two-week increments throughout the summer for all ages and all skill levels. Stop by or call ODR at 434-2505 for more information.

Youth Golf Camp

Youth Golf Camp will be held June 19-21 at 1 p.m. daily for 6-9 year olds and at 2 p.m. daily for 10-14 year olds. Cost is \$99 per child and includes a youth set of clubs. If they have their own clubs, the cost is just \$25. Contact 434-7932 for more information.

Summer Bowling Specials

Bowling punch cards are back on sale with 10 games for \$10, 25 games for \$20 and 50 games for \$40. Finally, Bingo at the Bowling Center is back for just \$1 per card. Dads, visit the Bowling facility on Wed., June 20, for the Father's Day Special; enjoy two free games of bowling and free shoe rental. Also, check out the Summer Sizzling Specials to win great prizes for your



patronage. Call the Bowling Center at 434-3426 or 3577 for more information.

Summer Reading at the Library with New Books!

Stop by your Base Library today and ask about the Summer Reading Program, choose from a variety of new books including adult bestsellers and children's new favorites! Also, soon to arrive are new teen books and updates to the non-fiction collection.

Affordable Tickets at ITT

The Information, Ticket and Travel office has discounted tickets for Disney World, Universal Studios, Dollywood, Sea World, Busch Gardens, and Six Flags over Georgia, the Memphis Zoo, Alabama Adventure, Dixie Stampede, Geyser Falls and more. Call 434-2505/7861 for more information.

Need a Break from the Kids?

Parents, contact the Child Development Center for information on the Parents Night Out/Give Parents A Break program, 434-2479.

Club Scholarships Up for Grabs!

Application packages for the \$1,000 scholarships are due at the Columbus Club or in the Force Support Squadron front office (Bldg. 730, Rm. 231) by Mon., July 2, 2012. Air Force Club members in good standing and their family members who have

been accepted by or are enrolled in an accredited college or university for entry for the Fall 2012 term as part-time or full-time students in either undergraduate or graduate programs are eligible. Entry forms with rules and full eligibility requirements are available at the Club, Library, Education Center and in the foyer of the MSG Building. Or go to www.afclubs.net for more information.

Massage Therapy is Back!

Massage therapy is available by appointment only at the Fitness Center. Swedish massage is just \$35 for 30 minutes, \$60 for 60 minutes and \$90 for 90 minutes. Therapeutic/deep tissue massage is \$45 for 30 minutes, \$70 for 60 minutes and \$100 for 90 minutes. Reflexology is \$35 for 30 minutes, and a chair massage is \$1 per minute. Call Terrance Bonner at 662-251-9255 for an appointment.

Living Fit for Families

USAF FitFamily has created a tool to help your family get into the best shape of your lives with a simple, easy-to-use weight loss program designed just for you. We know you're busy, and this program is sure to fit your lifestyle and needs. Just create a plan. Follow it. Lose weight. It's that simple. The program includes menu plans and other weight loss tools. Sign up today at www.usaffitfamil.com.

Daily Fitness Classes Available

Columbus AFB Fitness & Sports offers a variety of heart-pumping, sweat-inducing classes throughout the week including weekday spin classes, Mon., 11 a.m., Wed., 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., Tues. and Thurs., 5 p.m. There's a Stroller Fitness Class, Tues., 9 a.m., beginning at Freedom Park. Come check out Zumba every Tues. and Thurs., 11:30 a.m., and circuit training classes on Tues. and Thurs., 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 434-2772 or go online to www.cafbssrocks.com and click on the link to the Fitness page.

Car Maintenance on Base

Don't forget you can get your general automotive maintenance and repairs at the Auto Hobby Shop right here on base and even while you work. If you are a do-it-yourselfer or shade-tree mechanic, Auto Hobby offers a wide array of tools and equipment. For more information and pricing, drop by Auto Hobby or call 434-7842.

Hot and Easy to Use - FSS Gift Cards

These gift cards are available in increments of \$5 to fit any budget. They can be used at most FSS facilities (golf, bowling center snack bars, clubs) at Air Force installations WORLD-WIDE...and they never go out of style. FSS gift cards can be purchased at Whispering Pines Golf Course, Strike Zone Lanes or at the Youth Center.

Instructional Classes at Youth Center

Youth Programs is offering piano lessons, guitar lessons, tumbling classes, dance classes and martial arts instruction. Time and ages vary for all classes. Call 434-2504 or stop by the Youth Center for more information.



U.S. Air Force graphic/Sylvia Saab
U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Amanda Delisle

Air Force ends pilot travel card program

WASHINGTON — The Air Force recently decided to transition existing Controlled Spend Account travel cards to an enhanced Government Travel Card by the end of fiscal 2012.

“The CSA, a pilot travel card program, provided some enhancements for travelers, but also brought about significant challenges for our most frequent travelers and those with unique mission sets,” said Mrs. Joan Causey, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Financial Operations. “We recognized that for any travel card program to work, it has to work for all travelers. In the end, we were not satisfied that any proposed changes to the CSA program would get us to the desired state for our most frequent travelers.”

The actual transition will occur in August and September and current CSA cardholders should continue to use their cards as normal. The transition strategy allows travelers to continue using their “blue cards” without interruption. The card functionality will be converted to a GTC by CitiBank without the need to get a new card. Also, travelers will once again be provided with a permanent credit limit, and

there will be no need to call for “temporary spend limit” increases.

One of the enhancements being pursued for the GTC program will be via the Defense Travel System. Default settings will be changed to automatically align most non-mileage expenses to the card. Additionally, the traveler can split-disburse any residual funds to his/her personal account. Finally, as a carryover from the CSA program, Citi will upgrade their GTC online system to allow travelers to request electronic fund transfers of credit balances directly to their bank accounts.

“The CSA to GTC transition plan is already in motion,” Causey said. “We’re planning a brief test in July to ensure all systems are a go. If all systems perform as expected, roughly 300K cardholders will be converted during the August/September timeframe.”

Citi will not process any early transitions and should not be contacted to do so. Further questions by Airmen regarding the transition should be directed to local Agency Program Coordinators or comptroller squadrons.

Medical ‘C-code’ not a deployment disqualifier

Debbie Gildea

Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - RANDOLPH, TEXAS — Contrary to common belief, a medical assignment limitation code, commonly known as the “C-code,” does not disqualify an Airman from deployment, and it does not identify an Airman for medical discharge.

A “C-code” applied to a member's profile for medical reasons is one of the various tools AFPC officials use to put the right person in the right place at the right time, said Lt. Col. (Dr.) Keryl Green, the Air Force Personnel Center Medical Retention Standards branch chief.

“Our branch belongs to the assignments directorate,” she said. “We don't actually make assignments, but we are integral to the success of assignment processes.

“We're part of the medical evaluation process, so we work closely with the 76 Air Force medical treatment facilities, the physical evaluation board and AFPC enlisted and officer assignment experts.”

Ultimately, the branch's goal is to make sure Airmen are able to support the mission, Green said.

“We do that by first evaluating referred cases and identifying if a member's medical condition is compatible with continued service,” Green said. “If it is, we will assign the most appropriate code, if any, to make sure those who can serve, do so in a location where appropriate medical facilities are available.”

The process begins when a base medical practitioner refers a case for evaluation. Treatment facilities follow Air Force policy to decide whether to send referrals for medical-evaluation- board processing.

There are three critical components of a referral, Green said.

The first is the narrative, a subjective and objective medical summary submitted by the medical professionals responsible for an Airman's care. It provides medical background and treatment information and is foundational in referral decisions, she explained.

The second is the commander's letter, which describes, from a nonmedical perspective, how the illness or injury has affected an Airman's ability to perform his or her duties or deploy, and how the illness or injury may hinder the unit mission.

The third component is the member's AF form 469, which is commonly known as a “profile.” This document gives a clear picture of the official physical restrictions that are related to the medical condition, Green said.

“To improve the referral process, we're implementing a procedure change whereby all medical evaluation board referrals will come through this office. AFPC providers will screen each case and determine whether or not a service member can remain on active duty with his or her medical condition,” the doctor explained.

If a medical retirement or separation is warranted, the full medical evaluation board will be accomplished by the medical treatment facility and forwarded to the physical evaluation board.

“If we determine that a member's condition does not interfere with their continued military service, we will

make an adjudication that the member can be returned to duty, and, when it is warranted, apply the appropriate C-code to the member's personnel file,” Green said.

Airmen identified for an assignment limitation will be coded as a C-1, C-2 or C-3, Green explained, but even the most restrictive code doesn't automatically disqualify you from deployment or permanent change of station.

“For a condition expected to resolve in a short time, there may be no C-code. But a chronic condition, one that won't be resolved quickly, that prevents certain activities or that requires specialized medical care, will be identified with an assignment limitation code,” she said. “A situation that warrants consideration for medical retirement or separation is referred to the physical evaluation board.”

The C-codes give Airmen an idea of their status and eligibility, but options vary depending on individual conditions.

C-1 is the least restrictive code. C-1 coded Airmen can move to any continental United States assignment, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, and Hawaii, without a waiver. A C-1 coded Airman may also move to most overseas bases without a waiver, as long as those bases have a fixed medical treatment facility, Green said. A waiver is required for a move to locations with limited care, such as South Korea; Lajes Field, Azores; Eielson AFB, Alaska; Moron Air Base, Spain, and to deployed locations.

C-2 is more restrictive, but permanent change of station and deployment options remain numerous, Green said.

“C-2s can go anywhere in the continental United States, Hawaii and Elmendorf without a waiver, but assignments to Eielson AFB, Alaska, overseas assignments and deployments require a waiver approved by the gaining major command surgeon general,” Green said. “Waiver approval for C-2 Airmen is relatively common, though.”

C-3 is the most restrictive code, but members with a C-3 can still move to any CONUS base, Hawaii, or Elmendorf without a waiver, she said. To get a waiver to any other location or to deploy, a line general officer, wing commander or civilian equivalent must endorse the request, certifying that the member is essential for mission accomplishment and is the only member qualified and available for the job.

Just more than 3 percent of the active-duty Air Force population has an assignment limitation code, and less than a half of a percent of the 10,000 C-coded Airmen carry a C-3 designation, Green said.

“The application of a C-code is a tool we use to ensure members have access to the medical care they need, thus protecting both the member and the mission,” Green said. “But first, we need to ensure they are able to continue to contribute to the Air Force mission.”

Being C-coded doesn't mean Airmen will remain coded for the rest of their career. Annual follow-up assessments ensure those who can be cleared will be. For more information about assignments and other personnel issues, visit the myPers website.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
Members of Class 12-15 attend a 48th Flying Training Squadron formal briefing. Formal briefings cover daily weather, Notices to Airmen, runways being used and Operational Information to prepare the student pilots for the day.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
2nd Lt. Brian Haun and 2nd Lt. Jonathan Hansen, SUPT Class 12-15 discuss their upcoming mission with 48th Flying Training Squadron Instructor Pilot Capt. Phil Sheridan during their pre-flight brief. A pre-flight brief ensures all crewmembers are clear on the mission profile and what syllabus areas they will be concentrating on.



48th Flying Training Squadron: The Possumtown Alleycats



Unit Description

The 48th Flying Training Squadron's vision is simple: World Class Training. The squadron gears all its activities towards producing the world's best-trained pilots, well-prepared to bring American air power throughout the world. As one of the base's two squadrons conducting Phase III of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, the 48th flies the T-1A Jayhawk, a twin-engine variant of a popular civilian jet heavily modified for military use. Its students enter the program after successful completion of six months flying the T-6A Texan II. At the end of six more months in the T-1, these students graduate with their coveted silver wings, and they go on to fly a wide variety of Air Force aircraft to include airlift, tanker, reconnaissance, special operations and unmanned systems.

The squadron flies over 24,000 hours and 10,000 sorties annually. Its 106 dedicated instructor pilots, including 21 reservists, make the 48th the largest flying training squadron in the wing. It correspondingly trains more students than any other squadron, graduating upwards of 220 per year. In addition, the 48th FTS trains several student pilots from partner nations each year, helping to strengthen ties with America's allies.

Unit Mission

Mission: Producing the world's best pilots, leaders and warriors through superior training, officership and heritage

Squadron Personnel

The 48th FTS is commanded by Lt. Col. James Hall, and Lt. Col. Stephen Odum is the director of operations.

- Instructor pilots: 106
- Enlisted Personnel: Four
- Civilians: Two
- SUPT students: 220
- Aircraft: 49

Squadron Heritage

The original 48th Aero Squadron was first organized at Kelly Field, Texas on Aug. 4, 1917. The unit went on to participate in both world wars, constructing allied aerodromes in France during World War I and flying support for the invasions of North Africa and Italy during World War II. After the Second World War, the squadron filled an air defense role for the Northeast United States for nearly four decades until its deactivation in 1991.

During its history, the 48th FTS has existed under a number of monikers, including the 48th School Squadron, Pursuit Squadron, Fighter Squadron and Fighter Interceptor Squadron, and it has been stationed at numerous locations including California, England, Algeria, Italy, Maine and Virginia. Previous airmen of the 48th have flown a wide

variety of aircraft, notably the P-40, P-38, F-84, F-106 and F-15. The squadron patch, depicting an alley cat chasing a Japanese dragonfly, was designed by Walt Disney himself when the unit was based in California in 1942.

Activation of the 48th Flying Training Squadron on July 1, 1996 completed the reunification of the World War II-era 14th Fighter Group squadrons, which included the 37th, 48th, 49th and 50th squadrons, together under the umbrella of the 14th Flying Training Wing.

Today, the 48th FTS's instructor pilots conduct their vital mission of training America's next generation of aviators and leaders with an appreciation for the heritage of which they are now part. Current instructors maintain close ties with former squadron members from as far back as World War II. For several years, the 48th Flying Training Squadron has participated in the 48th Squadron Association's annual reunion.

This sense of legacy imbues 48th Flying Training Squadron members in everything they do. From the Airman trusted with tracking the execution of over 50 flights per day to the commander overseeing more than \$200 million worth of Air Force assets, members of the 48th FTS each understand the significance of the torch they now bear. This responsibility accounts for the tremendous success the 48th has achieved in the past few years, winning recognition as the wing's top flying squadron for three of the past five years and more recently the selection as AETC's Top Flying Training Squadron for 2011 (#1 of 27 flying training squadrons). All this recognition proves what 48th FTS instructors, graduates and students already know: the squadron accomplishes World Class Training every day.

Training Description

The 48th FTS conducts advanced flight training for students preparing to fly air mobility assets. Students receive the majority of their 150 hours of academic instruction prior to their first flight in the T-1, focusing on complex aircraft systems, cross-country navigation procedures, aerodynamics, physiology and both normal and emergency aircraft operations. Their training is supplemented with 40 hours of simulator time, familiarizing the students on the T-1's cockpit layout as well as normal and emergency procedures. The flying portion of the program features approximately 90 hours of training conducted over the course of 48 aircraft sorties. In addition, students spend a minimum of 35 hours observing their classmates' instruction from an added "jump" seat in the aircraft.

The initial phase of flight training in the T-1, called the transition phase, consists of 12 flights spent practicing basic maneuvers as well as various types of instrument approaches and visual patterns and landings. Typical transition sorties last over 3 hours, with a student and instructor flying for half of the time before a second student "seat swaps" in.

Because of Columbus AFB's busy airspace and the T-1's large fuel capacity, transition sorties depart to locations such as Memphis, Tenn., Jackson, Miss. and Montgomery and Huntsville, Ala., to accomplish their practice. After transition phase, students progress to the navigation phase, consisting of 16 flights learning the nuances of advanced navigation procedures. During the phase, flights are normally flown out and back, with one student flying a 2-hour sortie to completion at one of many military airfields or civilian airports in the Southeastern U.S., while another student flies a 2-hour sortie back home. Navigation sorties include practice on en route navigation within the national airspace system, as well as complex instrument approaches and low level navigation procedures.

Following the navigation phase, students enter the final T-1 phase of training: introduction to mobility fundamentals. During this phase, T-1 students practice maneuvers and procedures that will become commonplace in their follow-on operational airframes. They begin with basic instruction on formation maneuvering in the T-1, followed by more complex missions coordinating rendezvous for simulated air refueling and conducting low-level, simulated air drops in formation. Before students can progress from one phase to the next, a comprehensive check ride tests their adherence to stringent course training standards. Intermixed between all the phases are a series of co-pilot sorties, designed to impart principles of crew resource management by allowing the student to perform the types of pilot-monitoring duties he or she will execute after graduating.

What Makes the 48th Unique

On average the 48th typically enjoys at least four social events per year that range from squadron crawfish boils to tailgate parties in support of our local MSU Bulldogs. Of course, none of these events, including graduation red carpet events in the squadron, would be possible without the tremendous support from the 48th spouse's club and booster club.

Upcoming challenges

March 2013 center runway reconstruction project

2011 Achievements

- Outstanding Rating, 19th Air Force ASEV inspection
- Excellent Rating, AETC Unit Compliance Inspection
- 19th Air Force Instructor Pilot of the Year, Capt. Mike Kluse
- AETC Outstanding Aviation Records Management Airman of the Year, Senior Airman Christina Ortiz
- USAF 2011 Flight Safety Award
- USAF 2011 Ground Safety Award
- AETC Top Flying Training Squadron 2011 (#1/27)



U.S. Air Force photo
The 48th Flying Training Squadron pauses for a squadron photo in front of a T-1A Jayhawk. The Squadron is responsible for training students in the bomber/heavy track during phase III of their training.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
1st Lt. Sam Bexten, 48th Flying Training Squadron observes as SUPT Class 12-15 students 2nd Lt. Stephen Keel and 2nd Lt. Bryan Brenize review the aircraft maintenance record before beginning their aircraft pre-flight. Instructor pilots oversee each action their students make to ensure they have the best training possible.