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SILVER WINGS

"Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight"

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Vol. 39, Issue 50

December 18, 2015

*Happy Holidays & Happy
New Year, Team BLAZE!*

From, your
14 FTW Public Affairs Team

The next issue of Silver Wings
will be January 8, 2016

Weather

Thursday  Partly Cloudy High 58°F Low 33°F	Friday  Partly Cloudy High 51°F Low 27°F
Saturday  Partly Cloudy High 56°F Low 29°F	Sunday  Partly Cloudy High 61°F Low 42°F
Forecast provided by the 14 th O55 Weather Flight	

News Briefs

Christmas Holiday

Most base organizations are closed Dec. 24 – 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday and an Air Education and Training Command family day.

New Year's Holiday

Most base organizations are closed Dec. 31 – Jan. 1 in observance of the New Year's holiday and an Air Education and Training Command family day.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Jan. 12 in the Kaye Auditorium for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 16-03 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 16 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Silver Wings

How to reach us

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs
555 Seventh Street, Suite 210,
Columbus AFB, MS, 39710
Commercial: (662) 434-7068
DSN: 742-7068
Fax: (662) 434-7009
E-mail: silverwings@us.af.mil

Editorial Staff

Col. John Nichols
14th Flying Training Wing
Commander

Mr. Sonic Johnson
Chief of Public Affairs

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
Editor

Airman 1st Class John Day
Staff Writer

Mrs. Tina Perry
Layout Designer

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	Long Range Events
21	22	23 SUPT holiday stand-down	24 AETC Family Day	25 Christmas Holiday	26/27	Jan. 4: Safety Day Jan. 14: Martin Luther King Jr. Luncheon Jan. 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday Jan. 22: SUPT Class 16-04 Graduation Jan. 29: Fourth Quarterly Awards Ceremony Jan. 29: Enlisted Promotions
28 SUPT holiday stand-down	29 CT fly day	30	31 AETC Family Day	1 New Year's Holiday	2/3	Feb. 2: Groundhog Day Feb. 5: Annual Awards Ceremony Feb. 12: POW Smitty Harris Repatriation (1973) Feb. 12-13: Bishop Neal Buckon visit Feb. 19: SUPT Class 16-05 Graduation Feb. 22: Presidents Day Holiday

2,500th C-130 lands at Moody

Senior Airman Ceaira Tinsley
23rd Wing Public Affairs

MOODY AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Fifty-nine years after the first C-130 Hercules was delivered to the Air Force, the 2,500th Lockheed Martin Corp. manufactured C-130 joined the 71st Rescue Squadron's fleet and legacy here Dec. 11.

The Air Force is the world's largest Hercules operator and Moody Air Force Base is home to its newest HC-130J Combat King II.

"This milestone delivery is a source of pride for our team and the global C-130 community," said George Shultz, the C-130 programs vice president and general manager at Lockheed Martin. "The Hercules is a global asset and versatile workhorse that is truly without equal. This delivery represents the C-130's strength in numbers and its ongoing relevancy to operators around the world."

Moody's Airmen and the rescue community echoed the feelings of having such an integral piece of Hercules history.

"This is such a historic flight because it's the 2,500th Hercules aircraft and Moody gets to be a part of making Air Force history," said Capt. An-

drew Kim, a 71st RQS pilot who flew the aircraft from Marietta, Georgia, to Moody AFB. "The C-130 is a part of a long legacy of really great aircraft that have contributed to some huge feats for the Air Force as a whole and the entire rescue community. It feels really good to be a part of it and to be able to bring the plane and some history back to its new home at Moody's 71st."

Globally, the Hercules fleet performs various missions, but while assigned under the 347th Rescue Group's umbrella, it is the aircraft used to perform the rescue aspect of Moody's infamous motto to: attack, rescue and prevail.

"The C-130 is such a tried and true platform," Kim said. "With them we can do anything from low-levels to airdrops straight out of the schoolhouse and operate in austere environments that some of the other planes might not be able to handle.

"Bringing a J model back, especially a new one, increases our reliability rates," Kim added. "We can go out and execute the mission without having to worry about maintenance problems or breaking down so we can be much more dependable when we're out at our deployed locations."



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Ceaira Tinsley

Airman 1st Class Jonathan Marquez, a 71st Rescue Squadron crew chief, marshals in an HC-130J Combat King II Dec. 11, 2015, at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. The aircraft is the 2,500th C-130 manufactured by Lockheed Martin Corp. in Marietta, Georgia.

Also on board for the aircraft's arrival was Col. Thomas Kunkel, the 23rd Wing commander, who is quite proud to welcome the new aircraft to Moody.

"We're a low-density, high-demand fleet down here, so every single aircraft adds a tremendous improvement to combat capability to the Air Force and to our warfighters all across the globe," he said.

LEADERS

(Continued from page 13)

fessional, core value-centered environment. The group was also encouraged to share their own ideas and plans. Discussion included best practices, new strategies and stretched outside the borders of the active-duty force.

"One aspect of the summit that I found extremely refreshing was the significant discussion on enhancing our civilian professional development opportunities," Norling said. "Our Air Force has a vast population of seasoned civilian professionals who truly are Airmen."

The PACE organization plans to keep hosting the professionalism summit, with another event planned next year. For more information on PACE and its current initiatives, visit www.airman.af.mil.

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight



Christmas and New Year's holiday hours

Airman & Family Readiness Center Closed Dec. 24 – 25, 31 and Jan. 1
Arts & Crafts, Wood Shop Closed Dec. 21 – Jan. 2
Back Gate Closed Dec. 24 – 25, 31 and Jan. 1
Bowling Center Open Dec. 23, 9 a.m. – 10 p.m.; Closed Dec. 24 – 25;
Open Dec. 31, noon – midnight; Closed Jan. 1
Child Development Center Closed Dec. 24 – 25, 31 and Jan. 1
Columbus Club Closed for renovations
Commissary Open Dec. 21, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. and
Dec. 24 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Closed Dec. 25
Exchange Open Dec. 24 and 31, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. and
Jan. 1, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Closed Dec. 25
Fitness Center Open 24/7 (register at front desk)
Golf Course Closed Dec. 24 – 26, 31 and Jan. 1
Medical Group Closed Dec. 24 – 25, 31 and Jan. 1
Military Personnel and Finance Closed Dec. 24 – 25, 31 and Jan. 1
Multimedia Closed Dec. 24 – 25, 31 and Jan. 1
Outdoor Recreation Open Dec. 23, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.;
Closed Dec. 24 – 25, 31 and Jan. 1
Shoppette Open Dec. 24 and 31, 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. and
Jan. 1, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Closed Dec. 25
Visitor's Center Closed Dec. 24 – 25, 31 and Jan. 1
Youth Center Closed Dec. 24 – 25, 31 and Jan. 1

Bird Deprivation Shoot Dec. 19

Columbus Air Force Base will be having another bird deprivation shoot Dec. 19. Personnel and residents on base may experience an increase of shooting activity that morning.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class John Day

The defense attorney, played by Senior Airman Kathleen Greene, questions First Sergeant Hammer, played by Master Sgt. Noe Torres, as part of a skit titled "You don't know Jack like I know Jack," Dec. 10 in the Kaye Auditorium at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The skit detailed the criminal case of the fictional Senior Airman Jack Daniels, an Airman who stood accused of killing one and injuring another while driving under the influence of alcohol.

Team BLAZE gets to know Jack

Airman 1st Class John Day
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Team BLAZE members perform a skit titled "You don't know Jack like I know Jack," Dec. 10 in the Kaye Auditorium at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

The skit detailed the criminal case of the fictional Senior Airman Jack Daniels, an Airman who stood accused of killing one and injuring another while driving under the influence of alcohol.

While the play was meant to be humorous and to entertain, each witness called to the stand had an important role to play in educating the crowd on an aspect of resiliency. The play featured a slideshow one would see

on a wingman day presentation, detailing various prevention services, such as 434-RIDE, ADAPT and other facts the base offers about drinking and driving.

In the end, Daniels turned to the crowd and confessed to the "jury." He admitted to drinking and driving and apologized for making bad decisions that led to the death and injury of two individuals. He closed by saying if he had just followed the advice in the mentioned slides, all of this trouble could have been avoided.

The skit was made possible by Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, the Mississippi University for Women Theatre Department, and Team BLAZE volunteers.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Dec. 18 – Jan. 18

Ice Skating is scheduled throughout December and January located at Bancorpsouth Arena in Tupelo, Mississippi. Birthday parties and private parties are welcome with special price ranges. Tables and chairs are provided in a location by the ice rink, and you are able to bring your own food and drink. Individual ticket prices are \$10 and include skate rental. For more information, go online at bcsarena.com.

Dec. 18-19
The Columbus community Youth Theatre presents Jamz' Christmas Carol, a modern twist on Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Performances will be held nightly at 7 p.m., with an additional show Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. at the Rosenzweig Arts Center. Tickets are priced at \$5. For more information, call 662-328-2787.

Dec. 19
David Phelps is scheduled to perform starting 7 p.m. featured in Columbus, Mississippi, at the Rent Auditorium on the campus of the Mississippi University for Women.

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COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

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Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (16-13)	2.97 days	1.17 days	Feb. 16	48th (16-04)	4.62 days	3.39 days	Jan. 20	49th (16-CBC)	0.54 days	-0.31 days	Dec. 21	T-6	1,379	1,471	6,379
41st (16-12)	3.68 days	5.17 days	Jan. 20	50th (16-03)	0.00 days	3.33 days	Dec. 18					T-1	468	516	2,151
The graduation speaker is Col. James Fisher, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander.												T-38	431	518	2,165
												IFF	216	185	917

President's order authorizes half workday Dec. 24

Laura Rodela
14th Force Support Squadron
Civilian Personnel Section Chief

The President has issued an Executive Order excusing executive branch employees from duty for the last half of the scheduled workday on Dec. 24, the day before Christmas Day.

The exception will be those employees who, in the judgment of the agency, cannot be excused for reasons of national security, defense, or other essential public need. For pay and leave purposes, the last half of the scheduled workday on Dec. 24, will be treated as falling within the scope of statutes and Executive Orders governing holidays for Federal employees, and should be coded as "LH."

Most employees who are excused from duty for the last half of the scheduled workday on Dec. 24 will receive the basic pay they would have received if no Executive order had been issued. An employee who was previously scheduled to take annual leave on Dec. 24 will not be charged

annual leave or any other form of paid leave, compensatory time off, or credit hours for the last half of the scheduled workday. This policy does not apply to employees who receive annual premium pay for standby duty (5 U.S.C. 5545(c)(1)) or firefighters who are covered by special pay provisions (5 U.S.C. 5545b). An employee who is required to work non-overtime hours during the last half of his or her scheduled workday on Dec. 24 is entitled to holiday premium pay (5 U.S.C. 5546(b)).

If an employee has scheduled "use or lose" annual leave for the last half of the scheduled workday on Dec. 24, and is unable to reschedule that leave for use before the end of the leave year (i.e., January 9, 2016), the leave will be forfeited. When "use or lose" leave is forfeited under these conditions, the law (5 U.S.C.6304(d)) does not permit restoration of the leave. Please refer to the attached Q&A for additional information.

Instructions for those on alternate work schedules:

When a holiday falls on a non-workday outside a full-time employee's basic workweek, he or she is entitled to an

"in lieu of" holiday. Except when the holiday falls on Sunday, the day to be treated as the "in lieu of" holiday is the workday immediately preceding the non-workday. (See 5 U.S.C. 6103(b) and section 3(a) of Executive Order 11582, Feb. 11, 1971.)

1. If Thursday, Dec. 24, is a non-workday that falls outside a full-time employee's basic workweek, the half-day holiday will be observed on the last workday immediately preceding Dec. 24.

2. If Friday, Dec. 25, is a non-workday that falls outside a full-time employee's basic workweek, the Dec. 25 holiday will be observed on the last workday immediately preceding Dec. 25. If that day happens to be Thursday, Dec. 24, the half-day holiday will be observed on the last workday immediately preceding Dec. 24.

3. If Thursday, Dec. 24 and Friday, Dec. 25, are both non-workdays that fall outside a full-time employee's basic workweek, the Dec. 24 half-day holiday will be observed on Tuesday, Dec. 22, and the Dec. 25 holiday will be observed on Wednesday, Dec. 23.

Track Select

Capt. Shaun Carney
Capt. John Hatfield
2nd Lt. Nicholas Cafaro
2nd Lt. Michael Crampton
2nd Lt. Micah Doebler
2nd Lt. Stuart Eichenberger
2nd Lt. Shunsuke Fujita
2nd Lt. Juan Gainsback
2nd Lt. Richard Guttman
2nd Lt. David Heaphy
2nd Lt. Jason Hodges
2nd Lt. Jonathan Hubbard
2nd Lt. Dylan Kay
2nd Lt. Brandon Maxson
2nd Lt. Billy McCann
2nd Lt. Jonathan Murtaugh
2nd Lt. Stephen Reardon
2nd Lt. Tyler Samp
2nd Lt. Kristopher Sandifer
2nd Lt. Jacob Shuping
2nd Lt. Adam Stahl
2nd Lt. Blake Terry
2nd Lt. Tomoya Togasaki
2nd Lt. Kyle Tufts
2nd Lt. Adam Valle

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STRAIGHT
OUTTA
COLUMBUS

THE STORY OF U.P.T 16-11

Leverette Award

Contact: Capt. Shaun Carney
Instrument: 2nd Lt. Blake Terry
Formation: 2nd Lt. Kristopher Sandifer

16-11

E-3 Sentry AWACS visits Team BLAZE



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens

An E-3 Sentry (AWACS) sits on the flightline Dec. 16 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. A capabilities briefing was provided to members on base during the visit by Maj. Ryan Green, AWACS Instructor Pilot. The AWACS is an airborne warning and control system aircraft with an integrated command and control battle management, surveillance, target detection and tracking platform.

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.

AF leaders gather to talk professionalism

Tech. Sgt. Beth Anschutz
Air Education and Training Command
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANOTNIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Air Force leaders discussed the future of professionalism in the total force and how to forge better Airmen during a summit here Dec. 2-3.

Nearly 80 leaders from all major commands joined stakeholders from Headquarters Air force, Air University, U.S. Air Force Academy, and the Air Force Guard and Reserve to

pool resources and learn what the Profession of Arms Center of Excellence has to offer. This is the second professionalism summit hosted by PACE, the Air Force's newly minted office dedicated to developing Airmen with a sense of what it means to be a true professional.

"Foremost, the purpose of PACE's professionalism summit is to ensure all MAJCOMs have a common understanding of what the Air Force is doing to further Airmen's professional development. We aim to let all stakeholders, across the Air Force, know it's time for a new day in how we're building our Airmen," said Daniel Woolever, PACE's program man-

agement division chief. "Additionally, the summit is a springboard to build a network of professional development partners across the Air Force."

According to Thomas Norling, a PACE program analyst who coordinated this year's event, "Colleagues from across the Air Force collaborated for two days talking about our culture, building a better Airman, and infusing our core values into the profession of arms in new and exciting ways."

Participants were offered talks on current PACE enterprises and the office's proactive approach to building a more professional Air Force. See **LEADERS**, Page 14

Gone but not forgotten: Wreaths honor those who gave all

Sean Kimmons
Air Force News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. — Once Susan Zerbe learned that a CH-47 Chinook helicopter had been shot down in Afghanistan, killing all 30 U.S. troops on board, she knew her son was one of them.

"I heard it on the news that morning and I just knew he was on there," she said of her son, Tech. Sgt. Daniel Lee Zerbe.

Hours later, her premonition came true when military officers knocked on the door to inform her that Daniel was on that helicopter, as he and others traveled to help Army Rangers in a fierce battle against insurgents.

"It was a horrible feeling," she recalled of the Aug. 6, 2011, incident. "Your heart just sinks."

Zerbe and her family laid a wreath on Daniel's headstone Dec. 12 during Wreaths Across America Day at Arlington National Cemetery.

The event drew roughly 50,000 family members of fallen troops and volunteers who placed more than 240,000 wreaths on the white marble headstones that line the cemetery to symbolize their respect for those who gave all.

"All of these people don't get to come home for Christmas," Zerbe said. "It's our way to honor and remember what they did for all of us."

But the wreaths, which were also placed at more than 1,000 locations across the country, were not just for decoration.

"We're not here to decorate graves," Karen Worcester, co-founder of the nonprofit Wreaths Across America, told a crowd at Arlington. "We're here so you can ... remember not their deaths but their lives."

Memories

Emily Johnson traveled from Wisconsin



U.S. Air Force photo/Sean Kimmons

A volunteer carries a wreath to a headstone in Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia, on Dec. 12, 2015, for Wreaths Across America Day, an event to honor veterans during the holidays.

to rekindle memories of her older brother, Army 1st Lt. David Andrew Johnson, who was killed by an improvised explosive device while on a dismounted patrol in Afghanistan in 2012.

"I wanted to spend the holidays with my brother," she said. "It was always a really special time for him."

Emily, 20, sat on a blanket in front of David's headstone as she reminisced about her 24-year-old brother and his "goofy smile."

"I don't get to see him that often so I'll probably be here all day," she said. "I wish he was at home but at the same time it's a big honor for him to be here."

Nearby, Bob and Pat O'Kane-Trombley recalled memories of their son, Capt. Thomas Gramith, an F-15E Strike Eagle weapons systems officer who died along with the pilot when their aircraft crashed in Afghanistan.

They said he was "everybody's big brother" who had a selfless, humble attitude that even earned him a humanitarian of the year award at Seymour Air Force Base, North Carolina. "He really did a lot of community service that others noted, but he never talked about it," Bob said.

The loss of Thomas in 2009 hit the family hard, they said, especially since the 27-year-old Airman had 9-month-old twin daughters

at the time.

"We got the knock on the front door and the minute I looked out of a small window on the door, I could see the gleaming silver cross," Pat said of the insignia of the chaplain who would tell them the tragic news.

"That was the day when everything came crashing down," Bob added.

Thomas and his pilot, Capt. Mark R. McDowell, 26, were only two young men of countless others who died defending the country. None of them should ever be forgotten, Bob said.

"If we fail to remember them," he said, "we will lose everything we have."

Fundraising

To honor the fallen, fundraising efforts amassed about 910,000 wreaths that were placed on headstones across the country on Dec. 12. One of the largest fundraising groups was the Civil Air Patrol, which helped bring in about one-third of the wreaths.

"They solicited wreath donations for over 1,000 sites," CAP Col. Dan Leclair, a retired Air Force master sergeant, said of the thousands of volunteers from the Air Force civilian auxiliary. "We're very privileged to do this."

The annual event started in 1992 with 5,000 wreaths. For the first time last year, volunteers had enough wreaths for every headstone at Arlington.

"We did this and then the American people with their American spirit got under us and lifted us up," Worcester said.

But placing wreaths was just one mission that volunteers were asked to do when recognizing those buried in Arlington.

"Please read the name out loud," Worcester said of the headstones. "Because we do die twice: when we stop breathing and the last time when a human being mentions our name out loud."



Courtesy photo
Mike Jago, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Element Chief, takes a water sample from one of the outfalls on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. By using a pitcher attached to the end of a long pole, samples can be collected from the outfalls without exposure to potentially hazardous waters.

Testing the Waters

2nd Lt. Robert Shine
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

If you saw some people standing out in the rain with a cup on the end of a long pole, don't worry, they aren't crazy. It was just the Environmental Section of the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron making sure the water quality on base is safe. The Environmental Section of the 14th CES conducts both monthly and annual testing of the storm water that leaves the base during a rainfall event. This water must be tested to fulfill a requirement given to the base by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. The requirement states that a sample must be taken and visually inspected for contaminants such as trash, oil and soil from construction and erosion. As the water runs on base, it can pick up these contaminants and bring them off base and deposit them in the Tombigbee River. If these contaminants were in the water running off base, the Airmen of Columbus Air Force Base would not be acting like good neighbors. The reduced water quality could affect the health and safety of both the environment and the people living downstream. The base could also be fined by the MDEQ. Both outcomes are undesirable for obvious reasons. To ensure the base is meeting the requirements, the environmental section is required to take samples from the four outfalls of the base. These four outfalls are places where the water flows off base to a local stream. This time of year, the drainages are very low and one draining the airfield is dry. During a winter storm and in the spring, they look like



Courtesy photo
Kim Davis, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Water Quality Program Manager, and Jamal Lewis, 14th CES Air Quality Program Manager, test and label water samples taken from the outfalls around Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The inspectors look at the water and grade its color, smell, identifies any floating organics, checks for surface oil and shakes it to check for foam.

small creeks. The MDEQ requires one sample to be taken at each outfall and visually inspected. The inspector looks at the glass jar of water and grades its color, smell, identifies any floating organics, checks for surface oil and shakes it to check for foam. The results for each of the outfalls were great. They took eight additional samples from each outfall and sent them to be laboratory tested for contaminants such as dangerous chemicals, metals and bacteria. They also tested the pH levels, conductivity of the water, and the amount of dissolved oxygen present in the water. The process of taking these samples is very straightforward. A pitcher attached to a pole is dipped into the outfall and is used to transfer the water into the sampling containers. By using this tool, the testers do not have to climb all of the way down into the outfall and get wet. From beginning to end, the whole process takes about a day. The Civil Engineer Squadron's Environmental Section is looking out for Columbus Air Force Base and the surrounding area. This is just one of the many ways they watch over the environment and you.

What is AFSA?

Senior Airman Jesup Helget
14th Operations Support Squadron
Aircrew Flight Equipment

The Air Force Sergeants Association is one powerful voice for the young Airmen in today's Air Force. Over the past five decades, AFSA has built a reputation as an advocate for Air Force enlisted members, past and present, and their families. The mission is to advocate improved quality of life and economic fairness that will support the well-being of the total Air Force enlisted personnel and their families. It is an ideal organization dedicated completely to enlisted personnel. To many young Airmen, AFSA is just another organization. From time to time, a young Airman will join AFSA in dedication to the mission, but why are there so few? Do they not care about their future in the military and beyond? It could be a number of things causing this problem, but the bottom line is they are the future of tomorrow's Air Force. A stronger, better Air Force tomorrow means building Airmen of today. Helping them to understand this great cause for the quality of life and economic fairness in our great Air Force. Helping them realize how much their opinions matter on Capitol Hill. How much their word means when it comes to an increase in TRICARE payments, benefit cuts, education benefits cut, and more. The future is in your hands; make your voice be heard in a smart and effective way by becoming a registered voter, stay abreast with what is going on in the world and in the military, write to representatives and senators about political issues, and join as a member of AFSA. You can be part of this cause and it all starts with the first meeting. Come to the next AFSA meeting to advocate improved quality of life and economic fairness supporting the well-being of the total Air Force enlisted personnel and their families. Let's build this great force to unimaginable heights. It's your future; from one Airman to another, let's go make a difference.

Commander's Action Line

434-1414

The Commander's Action Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB a better place. Although the Commander's Action Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain-of-command. The Commander's Action Line phone number is 434-1414. Callers should leave their name and phone number to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential. Message may be answered in the Silver Wings without names. Written questions may also be brought to the PA office in the Wing Headquarters building, BLDG. 724, suite 210. Questions and answers may be edited for brevity and style.



Air Force Readiness Programs

(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.)

Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This workshop is held 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Jan. 4-8. The Transition Assistance Program Workshop has Seminars on Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, MS Dept of Employment Security, Dept of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, Dept of Labor TAP portion. Preseparation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance 8 - 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register call 434-2839.

Career Technical Training

This transition event is held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Jan. 11-12. The Workshop explores technical careers for post military personnel using VA Educational benefits. It is conducted by CALIBRE, a private company contracted by DVA. Prior registration is required, company requires 10 days notification and must have minimum of 8 participants to make, to register and more information call 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is held at 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Jan. 12 in the Kaye Auditorium. It is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 434-2839.

Smooth Move

This class is held 10-11:30 a.m. Jan. 12. It is a class that provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. You learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tri-Care, Medical Records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop is held 1-2 p.m. Jan. 12. This workshop allows the VA contractors to explain to service members, whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. To register and more information please call 434-2790.

Troops To Teachers

This workshop is 10:30 a.m. - noon Jan. 13. It is an informational workshop for members pursuing or interested in a teaching career after the military. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Federal USAJobs Workshop

This workshop is held 9-10:30 a.m. Jan. 13.

Volunteers provide children with Happy Shop and Wrap gifts



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
Several Team BLAZE members volunteer boxing and wrapping gifts during the Happy Shop and Wrap Dec. 17 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Volunteers spent the morning shopping for gifts then wrapped them before delivering them to children in the local area.

This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications, and job search, using USAJobs. Call 434-2790 to register.

Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. The counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

These briefings are mandatory briefings for active-duty personnel who are either deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. The briefings are held daily at the A&FRC. Pre-deployment is at 9:30 a.m., and post-deployment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Survivor-Benefit Plan

Are you nearing military retirement? The one decision you will need to make before you retire involves participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan. As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision, and be wary of anyone telling you they can offer you a better deal. Always get the true facts about the SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling (662) 434-2720.

Military and Family Life Consultant Program

The MFLC counselors provide 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. Counselors 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 662-364-0504.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the Airman & Family Readiness Center. We have volunteer opportunities located throughout the base for a one-time event, special events, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Golf Course, Medical Clinic, the Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift Store, the Retiree Activities office and many others. For more information please call A&FRC at 434-2790.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

The Recovery Coordination Program streamlines and improves the way care and support are delivered to wounded, ill, and injured Airmen and their families. The RCP provides the support of a Recovery Care Coordinator who guides the Airman and family along their road to recovery. Those eligible include wounded, ill and injured Airmen who: (1) have a serious illness or injury (2) are unlikely to return to duty within a specified amount of time (3) may be medically separated from the military. Additional details are available by contacting the Columbus AFB

RCC at DSN: 493-3399, Office: 334-953-3399 or tim.griggs.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

Base News

Learn How to Read Your LES

Having a hard time understanding your Leave and Earning Statement? Need a refresher so that you can mentor your subordinates on their entitlements? Finance has you covered. If you would like for Finance to come to your next CC call or Professional Organization event, you can contact Master Sgt. Sabrina Spriggs at DSN 742-3068 or Senior Airman Julianna White at DSN 742-2715.

DRMO

Recycle first by using the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office as your facility's source of supply. Authorized personnel may retrieve property free of charge if the property is still physically located here in Base Supply and marked at DRMO facilities. Other DRMO processing is available via the web at www.drmo.dla.mil. Cost of shipping will apply. Please call Inspection at 434-7231 to review DRMO property or Stock Control at 434-7197 with questions or concerns you may have. Parking and assistance is available in the back of building 158.

Chapel Schedule

Whether you are new to Columbus Air Force Base or have been around for a while, our parish communities welcome you to join us as we worship, fellowship, and encourage one another. For more information, please call 434-2500.

Starting Sept. 23, the Chapel is offering the following weekly programs:
6 p.m. - AWANA, a religious education program for children ages three years old to 6th grade
6 p.m. - Adult Bible study on the Gospel of John
6 p.m. - Youth Group

Catholic Community

Sunday:
3:15 p.m. - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (Chapel Annex)
3:45 p.m. - Religious Education, grades K-9 (Chapel Annex)
4 p.m. - Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)
4 p.m. - Confession (or by appointment)
5 p.m. - Mass w/Children's Church
Tuesday:
11:30 a.m. - Daily Mass
Wednesday:
11:30-12:30 p.m. - Holy Hour

Protestant Community

Sunday:
9 a.m. - Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)
10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship Service
Tuesday:
5 p.m. - Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)
Wednesday:
4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

Two Team BLAZE Airmen promoted BTZ



U.S. Air Force photos/Sharon Ybarra

Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, left, and Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, right, present a Below the Zone certificate to Airman 1st Class Jean Amani, 14th Comptroller Squadron Financial service technician, center, Dec. 14 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Amani was promoted to the rank of senior airman six months ahead of schedule.



Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, left, and Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, right, present a Below the Zone certificate to Airman 1st Class Donald Porter, 14th Communications Squadron, center, Dec. 14 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Porter was promoted to the rank of senior airman six months ahead of schedule.

VIEWPOINT

It really is a ‘Wonderful Life’

Lt. Col. Brian McCormack

14th Flying Training Wing Chaplain

The movie “It’s a Wonderful Life” is one of my all-time favorites. It is a classic and has everything a great film needs.

There is romance, adventure, “amazing” pre-Star Wars special effects, and even angels. More importantly, it provides a critical reminder that every life is precious and every life touches the lives of many, many others.

The main character, George Bailey, teaches us sometimes people lose sight of their value. Under certain conditions, just about anyone can get to a point where they feel they have failed and everything seems hopeless, or, as George Bailey puts it, “Maybe it would have been better if



Let me encourage you to reflect upon this lesson as we journey through the holiday season. You are valuable! What you are doing is important. You are making a difference. You are part of something bigger than yourself, and your life has a positive effect on more people than you imagine.

I had never been born!”

Fortunately, George Bailey, with the help of a bungling angel, a Christmas miracle, and a few friends, discovers his life really is wonderful. George begins to understand his simple, daily life has tremendous impact on the people around him.

He realizes how horrible the world would be without him and how much he is deeply loved.

Let me encourage you to reflect upon this lesson as we journey through the holiday season. You are valuable! What you are doing is important. You are making a difference. You are part of something bigger than yourself, and your life has a positive effect on more people than you imagine.

This is good news. Be a good Wingman, and share it with others, because there are members of our Air Force family who wrestle with despair, lack of purpose, and uncertainty. Remind those who are going through hard times there is meaning to life, there is still much good in our world, and simple acts of charity and goodwill can make a tremendous impact on the people around us. Show them they are loved and appreciated, and if necessary enlist the help of additional resources, such as friends, chaplains, first sergeants, and mental health practitioners.

Thank you for serving our country, for leading, and for caring. It is people like you who make me believe it really is a wonderful life. Merry Christmas!

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kaleb Sny

The 14th Flying Training Wing conducts a mass launch of 12 T-1A Jayhawk Aug. 24, 2015, practicing the combat capability of safely and swiftly launching a large number of aircraft. The 48th Flying Training Squadron launched six two-ship formations to conduct off-station training.



U.S. Air Force photo/Terry Wasson

A T-1A Jayhawk flies during a training mission near Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma. The swept wing T-1A is a version of the Beech 400A. It has cockpit seating for an instructor and two students and is powered by twin turbofan engines capable of an operating speed of Mach .78.

BLAZE Hangar Tails: T-1A Jayhawk

Mission

The T-1A Jayhawk is a medium-range, twin-engine jet trainer used in the advanced phase of specialized undergraduate pilot training for students selected to fly airlift or tanker aircraft. It is also used to support navigator training for the U.S. Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and international services.

Features

The swept-wing T-1A is a military version of the Beech 400A. It has cockpit seating for an instructor and two students and is powered by twin turbofan engines capable of an operating speed of 538 mph. The T-1A differs from its commercial counterpart with structural enhancements that provide for increased bird strike resistance and an additional fuselage fuel tank.

Background

The first T-1A was delivered to Reese Air Force Base,

Texas, in January 1992, and student training began in 1993.

Starting in 1993, undergraduate pilots who have graduated from their primary aircraft have proceeded to specialized training tailored for their follow-on assignments. The T-1A is used in advanced training for students identified to go into airlift or tanker aircraft. Those selected for bombers and fighters receive their advanced in the T-38.

The T-1A is used at Columbus AFB, Mississippi, Laughlin AFB, Texas, and Vance AFB, Oklahoma. It is also used at Randolph AFB, Texas, to train instructor pilots and at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida, for combat systems officer training.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Advanced trainer for airlift and tanker pilots

Builder: Raytheon Corp. (Beech)

Power Plant: Two Pratt and Whitney JT15D-5B turbofan engines

Thrust: 2,900 pounds each engine

Length: 48 feet, 5 inches (14.75 meters)

Height: 13 feet, 11 inches (4.24 meters)

Wingspan: 43 feet, 6 inches (13.25 meters)

Maximum Speed: 538 miles per hour (Mach .70)

Ceiling: 41,000 feet (12,500 meters)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 16,100 pounds (7,303 kilograms)

Range: 2,222 nautical miles (2,900 nm flying long-range cruise)

Armament: None

Crew: Three (pilot, co-pilot, instructor pilot)

Date Deployed: February 1992

Unit Cost: \$4.1 million

Inventory: Active force, 178; ANG, 0; Reserve, 0



To advertise in Silver Wings, call The Commercial Dispatch advertising dept. at 328-2424



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon

SUPT Class 16-03 earns silver wings



Capt. Zaid Ahmed G Almaroof
Babil, Iraq
F-16



Capt. David Castillo
Phil Campbell, Ala.
C-130, Maxwell AFB, Ala.



1st Lt. Daisuke Nishikubo
Yamato City, Japan
C-130H, Komaki AB, Japan

Twenty-three officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to become Air Force pilots.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-03 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Col. James Fisher, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, is the graduation guest speaker.

Students will receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

2nd Lt. David Kavanay, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Thomas Madigan, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lt. Nathan Bradfield, T-38, and 2nd Lt. John Neilan, T-1. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association; promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

2nd Lt. David Kavanay, T-38, 2nd Lt. Thomas Madigan, T-1, and 2nd Lt. Aimee St. Cyr, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 16-03.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight. The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the single-engine, turboprop T-6A Texan II at Columbus AFB, Miss. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and

cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes approximately 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 hours in the T-6A aircraft.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the T-38C aircraft.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions.

Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 53.6 hours in the flight simulator and 76.4 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus AFB. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partners. SUPT Class 16-03 pilot partners are Galloway, Chandler & McKinney and Neel-Schafer, Inc.



1st Lt. Moses Kayumile Sichilima
Livingstone, Zambia
K-8P Fishbird



2nd Lt. Derek Boschma
Tumwater, Wash.
KC-135, Eielson ANG, Alaska



2nd Lt. Nathan Bradfield
Meeker, Colo.
F-15E, Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C.



2nd Lt. Kyle Byrne
Massapequa, N.Y.
C-5, Kelly AFB, Texas



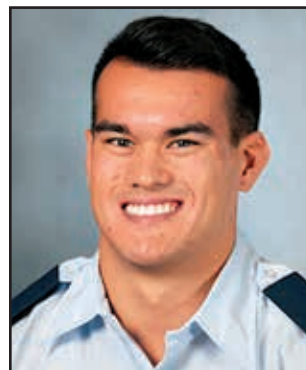
2nd Lt. Kyle Frayling
Kansas City, Mo.
MQ-9 Reaper, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Samuel Gramling
Cape Girardeau, Mo.
B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Thomas Madigan
Nanuet, N.Y.
HC-130P/N, Francis Gabreski ANG, N.Y.



2nd Lt. Ryan Mavity
Annandale, Va.
HC-130J, Moody AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Kevin Mook
College Point, N.Y.
KC-135, MacDill AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. John Neilan
Holden, Mass.
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Jaewoo Park
Phoenix, Ariz.
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Maria Peredera
Morgantown, W.Va.
MQ-9 Reaper, Creech AFB, Nev.



2nd Lt. Henry Ernest Perkins
Mobile, Ala.
C-17, Thompson Field, Miss.



2nd Lt. Richard Ross Quarre
Seattle, Wash.
C-5, Kelly AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Matthew Schneider
West Des Moines, Iowa
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Aimee St. Cyr
Baton Rouge, La.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.