

# The NORTHWEST AIRLIFTER

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McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

Connecting Team McChord with the Combat Airlift Mission

March 6, 2009

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## Wing welcomes 8th Airlift Squadron home

By  
**Tyler Hemstreet**  
Staff writer

More than 120 Airmen from the 8th Airlift Squadron here returned home Thursday after a 120-day deployment in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The Airmen operated as the 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron at various locations throughout the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility and Europe, though they were primarily based at Incirlik Air Force Base, Turkey.

"It's so good to be back," said Tech. Sgt. David Thomas, 8th AS loadmaster.

Sergeant Thomas said he didn't sleep a wink on the flight home — thanks to the anticipation of seeing his bride of just five months when he got off the plane.

While deployed, the squadron executed more than 2,800 sorties, racked up 4,600 flying hours, and moved more than 130,000 passengers and 40,000 short tons of cargo.

"When we got there, we hit the ground running," Sergeant Thomas said. "You know you're busy

while you're doing it, but to get back and look at those (cargo delivery) numbers, it's like 'wow'."

The squadron also flew multiple aeromedical evacuation missions, delivering wounded warriors from the frontlines to advanced medical treatment facilities.

Additionally, the 8th AS flew 13 combat airdrop missions delivering more than 400 bundles of resupply material to 23 remote forward operating bases in Afghanistan. The combat airdrop missions improved force protection for U.S. forces by eliminating some resupply convoys to forward locations.

"While we're extremely proud of our deployed accomplishments, we would be remiss if we didn't recognize and thank our families for the tremendous job they did on the home front," said Lt. Col. Al Miller, 8th AS commander.

"They managed all the issues back home so we could focus on our deployed mission. From the very time we left Germany, we were all looking forward to a long awaited and greatly anticipated reunion with our families and friends."

And that message could not have rang more true for Sergeant Thomas, whose wife endured



Airmen of the 8th Airlift Squadron are welcomed home by Col. Jeffrey Stephenson, 62nd Airlift Wing commander and Col. Michael Hornitschek, 62nd AW vice commander, Thursday morning.

her first deployment less than a month into her marriage.

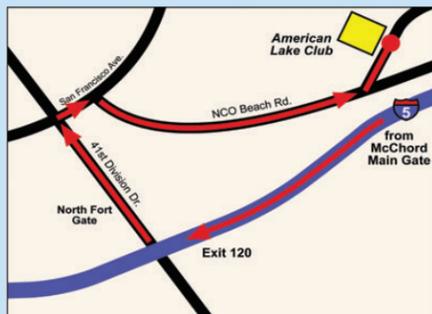
"She did a great job," said the 12-year Air Force veteran. "She

kept everything together."

The 7th AS left here last week for a 120-day deployment, effectively replacing the 8th AS.

### Joint base NAF town halls

Joint basing town hall forums for non-appropriated fund employees are 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday at the Fort Lewis American Lake Club. The event is an alternate duty location and bus transportation will be at the enlisted side of the McChord Clubs and Community Center at 9:15 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. For more information, see Page 6.



#### Directions to the Fort Lewis American Lake Club:

(From Interstate 5 North or South)

- Take exit 120 to North Fort Lewis.
- Drive through North Fort Gate.
- Continue straight on 41st Division Drive.
- Take a right on San Francisco Avenue.
- Take an immediate right onto NCO Beach Road.
- The club is approximately 1 mile down on the left.

## 62nd Aerial Port Squadron Airmen save life at base passenger terminal

By  
**Staff Sgt. Eric Burks**  
62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

62nd Aerial Port Squadron Airmen responded to a medical emergency at the McChord passenger terminal Feb. 22, utilizing cardiopulmonary resuscitation and self aid and buddy care training to save the life of a Reservist with the 36th APS.

Staff Sgt. Jonathan DeVera, Airmen 1st Class Geoffrey Young and Christopher Perez, all 62nd APS passenger terminal representatives, worked together as initial responders when Tech. Sgt. Mike Lienard felt ill and stopped breathing.

"I was working at the counter and heard something was wrong," said Airman Perez. "I got up,

and Airman Young was already helping Sergeant Lienard, who looked very pale and sick."

Sergeant DeVera said that after Sergeant Lienard was brought into a back office, he crumpled into the arms of Airman Young. At this point both Airmen applied immediate SABC.

"I knelt down ... he wasn't breathing and was losing color quickly," said Airman Perez. "We loosened his top clothing and Airman Young began to administer chest pumps. Neither of us could find a pulse."

Sergeant DeVera was already on the phone with a 9-1-1 dispatcher, channeling information and describing what was taking place.

The sergeant said he was extremely proud of

See 62ND APS, Page 5



### Congratulations senior master sergeant selects!

14 McChord NCOs were named for promotion.

See Page 14 for the names.

### Weekend Weather

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Hi: 46 Low: 33	Hi: 44 Low: 28	Hi: 45 Low: 27

Forecast generated at 7 a.m. Thursday  
Courtesy of the 62nd Operations Support Squadron

### Countdown to success

Next MOBEX.....	56 days
Rodeo.....	136 days
Operational Readiness Inspection.....	234 days

Don't miss it ...

**Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday**



# Airman's Roll Call addresses cyber threat training

*Editor's Note: Airman's Roll Call is a leadership tool designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors and provide additional*

*face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.*

This week, units across the Air Force are taking the time to discuss network security and how failure to secure our cyberspace resources impact our Joint and AF missions. Just as we have Safety Days to reinforce taking care of our wingmen, so too must we understand how to take care of the cyber domain.

Undisciplined use of our networks needlessly

exposes critical information to those with malicious intent. Below are a few points to better prepare you to recognize the threat and protect yourself and your mission.

### Cyber Threats

- Social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook can contain malicious content and where personal information is easily gathered.

- Phishing emails are legitimate-looking emails used to gain personal information like financial information (i.e., bank accounts, credit cards) or install malicious software on your computer. This code can steal information and/or give others 'remote control' of your computer and all of its data.

### How to Protect the Mission and Yourself

- Don't open email attachments or embedded links from people you do not know. Recognize "spoofed" e-mail: designed to look like it's from people you know but is actually malicious. When in doubt, do not open or click.

- NEVER post sensitive information or provide it to strangers; safeguard personal, unit, and mission information at all times.

- Don't use flash memory devices (USB thumb drives, MP3 players) on Defense Department computers and follow strict procedures for moving data from one computer to another. USB thumb drives can contain malicious code and install it on other computers without your knowledge.

- Keep your home anti-virus up-to-date.

## Effective communication — the simple way to resolve conflict

By

**Maj. Todd Risk**

62nd Airlift Wing inspector general

In this high-tech world, electronic communications have made it easy to share our thoughts with one another. However, we sometimes rely too much on email, which is, perhaps, not always the best means of transmitting intent or true meaning.

To be effective in today's Air Force, you must be sensitive to and understand both verbal and non-verbal communications. To some extent, face-to-face communication has slowly deteriorated. Regardless of these "high-tech" changes, we must all set aside time to communicate with each other as well as family on a personal level. The pace of the workplace today requires more efficient and effective communications than ever before, yet so little time is spent on it! We do it every day, whether it's at work or talk-

ing to your spouse, significant other and/or kids.

Defined, communication is simply a two-way process involving an exchange of ideas. If you try to make communication one-way, you prevent this exchange and it will eventually frustrate the other person. The ability to communicate effectively does not come easily to many people; it is a skill that requires practice. We begin learning these skills in our adolescent years and refine them throughout our lives. Effective communication and good listening skills are an essential part of our daily lives as well as play a vital role of our military community.

As members of the 62nd AW Inspector General complaint resolution office, effective communication is essential from the start when we process a complainant's concerns through a logical conclusion. The mission of the IG is to ensure the concerns of all complainants and the best interests of the Air Force are addressed through

objective fact-finding. Effective communication is the primary tool used to collect and verify facts, assess credibility and build logical conclusions based on preponderance of evidence. We process a complaint by looking at policy, directives, Air Force Instructions and communication with all involved parties. In essence, we are a conduit of communication between the complainants and the subjects as we work to resolve conflicts that stem from a lack of effective communication. It is amazing to see the number of cases/concerns that may have been resolved by merely using simple communication to abate Inspector General complaints.

Most of us attempt to utilize effective communication skills to more easily defuse emotionally charged situations, reduce conflict at home or work and help us stay calm when we're triggered. Specifically, effective communication skills at your workplace can also help minimize friction and misun-

derstandings. Remember to listen to other people's concerns. People need to be heard just like you do. More importantly, take the initiative to share in other people's feelings — be empathetic. Being a leader in the workplace involves being a constant channel of information between senior leadership and squadron members.

Communicate with each other; everyone has something to contribute to our Air Force family. Personnel at all levels using effective interpersonal communication skills can improve workplace morale, enhance unit efficiency, resolve workplace conflict and more—use it. Effective communication in your workplace is one key to a successful team. Taking time to listen and communicate more effectively can be a pleasant and enriching experience when you try to do it more effectively and often. Give it a try; use it during this spring season while spending quality time with those you care about most.

## The Sharp Airman ...

finds a mentor to help guide them personally and professionally. A mentor is defined as "a trusted counselor or guide." Mentoring, therefore, is a relationship in which a

person with greater experience and wisdom guides another person to develop both personally and professionally. The long-term health of the Air Force depends on the experienced member developing the next in line.

## PROFESSIONALS

of the week

### 10th Airlift Squadron

#### Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Thompson

##### Duty Title:

C-17 Globemaster III evaluator loadmaster

##### Duty section:

Standardization and evaluation

##### Hometown:

Gilmore City, Iowa

##### Why he's tops:

Sergeant Thompson is responsible for conducting annual mission and air-drop evaluations for 54 loadmasters. His superior technical proficiency and steadfast devotion to duty have led to the successful execution of combat missions supporting Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, Presidential support missions, humanitarian relief and training exercises. As a permanent member of the standardization and evaluation section, he oversees accurate maintenance of 23 consolidated trip kits, 54 flight evaluation folders and verifies the accuracy of all paperwork related to loadmaster upgrades. Through his efforts, the 10th AS develops safe and effective crew members.



#### Senior Airman Morgan Trammell

##### Duty Title:

C-17 loadmaster

##### Duty section:

Readiness flight/mobility

##### Hometown:

Big Bear, Calif.

##### Why he's tops:

Airman Trammell is a vital asset to the squadron due to his hard work in preparing for both exercises and upcoming deployments. In addition, he administers the unit's passport program to ensure world-wide employability. As a crewmember he spotted problems early, avoiding degradation of a high-priority special assignment. With his outside-the-box thinking, the crew accomplished delivery of a Predator unmanned aircraft system to the area of responsibility. On the return trip, he took the lead on the upload of personnel to redeploy after a nine month tour in Iraq.



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# Rollover training prepares Airmen for downrange survival

By

Airman First Class Patrick Cabellon  
446th Airlift Wing  
Public Affairs

Diving in a pool in uniform in February isn't on a Reservist's normal list of things to do, but since doing it could help save their lives, 446th Security Forces Squadron Airmen dove right in.

The training, conducted at Fort Lewis on the February UTA, simulated being upside down in a vehicle. This training is so the security forces Reservists, who are scheduled to deploy to Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq, could safely learn how to escape.

"It's Humvee rollover training," said Capt. Ray Schierhoff, 446th SFS commander. "There are a lot of canals and waterways in and around Kirkuk AB. Humvees are very top heavy; improvised explosives could flip Humvees over and into canals, leaving the occupants inside disoriented."

Because of the number of incidents involving flipped Humvees into water, getting practice and experience under controlled conditions is meant to prepare SFS members when it occurs.

The Fort Lewis simulator, the "Dunker," is a square cage with vehicle doors that flips the seat-belted occupant into the water.

As each Airman was dunked in the water, they had to navigate out a door and emerge, while blindfolded. They wore the Kevlar helmets and interceptor vests they would be wearing while in a Humvee, said Tech. Sgt. Conee Schaaf, 446th SFS training manager.

"I was pretty nervous before we got in, I don't have the best swimming skills," said Senior Airman Salome Hansen. "When we got in the water and started doing the training, I felt better."

"You have to stay calm and keep your wits about you, and you'll do fine," said Captain Schierhoff. "If you panic, your mind just becomes a blur and you can't think about what to do next."



Photo by Airman First Class Patrick Cabellon

**Blindfolded and buckled in, Tech. Sgt. Beth Riser, a Reservist with the 446th Security Forces Squadron, is moments away from getting acquainted with the water during Humvee rollover training Feb. 8 at nearby Fort Lewis.**

The mission of the 446th SFS in Kirkuk will be to patrol as well as provide compound security, said Tech. Sgt. Beth Riser, 446th SFS flight sergeant. "We are to staff observation posts for maintaining security outside the wire."

Being prepared for that duty includes being

ready for the unexpected.

"I was fine until they put the blindfold on me and then I really had to work at keeping calm," said Senior Master Sgt. Michelle Helpenstell.

"This training could save our lives," said Airman First Class Tara Toreno.



# 62nd MXS 'buddy readers' share important gift

By

Staff Sgt. Eric Burks  
62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

In classrooms across the country, thousands of children, teachers and parents participated Monday in Read Across America, an annual program sponsored by the National Education Association designed to celebrate reading.

But in one classroom at Carter Lake Elementary school here, "buddy readers" from the 62nd Maintenance Squadron faithfully visit each Monday of the year to read and interact with students.

Carol Hartman, who teaches kindergarten at Carter Lake, said her class was adopted by the squadron more than seven years ago. Every week, Airmen from the squadron read to her students during two 20-minute sessions, once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

"This commitment hasn't been for just a year," she said, "their support has been strong and sustained."

"It was fun," said Airman 1st Class Jacob Stevens, a first-time volunteer. "I let them (the students) pick the

books out, which really got them to interact."

The Airmen may not realize what an impact they have on the children, said Ms. Hartman. "The gift of reading is always 'just the right size'. The whole idea of reading aloud builds their comprehension and imagination."

The students really benefit from having another adult reading to them, she said, especially when many of them have a parent deployed.

"The volunteers are always patient, generous with their time, and so kind to the children," said Ms. Hartman.

Staff Sgt. Arlene Fernandez, a "buddy reader" with a six-year old child of her own attending Carter Lake, has volunteered for about five months.

"What I enjoy is seeing their interest and excitement. It develops their interest in reading early on."

For several years, one McChord Airman had been visiting the classroom to read to the students. When they transferred to another base, Ms. Hartman was given the name of Diana Colombo, 62nd MXS secretary. Ever since, there has never been a shortage of "buddy readers."

"She (Ms. Colombo) always takes care of us," said Ms. Hartman.



Photos by Abner Guzman

Airman 1st Class Jacob Stevens, 62nd Maintenance Squadron "buddy reader", shares a story with the kindergarten class Monday.



Staff Sgt. Arlene Fernandez, 62nd MXS, reads to Carter Lake Elementary kindergarten students Monday.



# Joint base town halls focus on NAF employee questions

By

**Rich Bartell**  
Fort Lewis Public Affairs

Fort Lewis and McChord non-appropriated fund workers may attend two joint base town hall forums 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Thursday at the American Lake Club on North Fort Lewis. NAF employees with questions about their positions after the Joint Base Lewis-McChord merger begins Jan. 31, 2010, should hear how joint basing might affect them. Each meeting is scheduled for two hours. Similar town halls for appropriated fund employees have answered concerns about position transfers, pay and responsibilities.

The Army is designated as the lead for the joint base in managing and providing base support services. The base will feature an Army joint base commander and an Air

Force deputy commander.

For the NAF town hall forums, civilian employees may bring their questions and concerns to discuss joint basing personnel issues and hear from leadership representing both installations.

NAF experts will answer questions and Korean, Spanish, German and Vietnamese translators will be available.

Brig. Gen. Jeff Mathis, I Corps deputy commander, Col. Cynthia Murphy, Fort Lewis Garrison commander and Col. Jeffrey Stephenson, 62nd Airlift Wing commander, will attend the afternoon meeting.

On March 17, a video version of the meeting will available on the internal Lewis-McChord Joint Basing Website at <https://intra.lewis-mcchord.army.mil>.

For more information on the NAF Town Hall forums, call or e-mail Connie Lee at 253-968-9359, [connie.td.lee@conus.army.mil](mailto:connie.td.lee@conus.army.mil).

From 62ND APS, Page 1

the Airmen. "Without them, I wasn't sure he (Sergeant Lienard) was going to make it. They're really the heroes."

When complications ensued, Airman Perez acted quickly to clear Sergeant Lienard's airways.

"It was crucial," said Sergeant DeVera, "he showed absolutely no hesitation."

After clearing Sergeant Lienard's airways, Airman Perez said a light pulse was detected.

"We kept talking to him, trying to get a response. He was still blue and had dilated pupils, but he was starting to breathe a little better," Airman Perez said. "We were going to do whatever possible to keep him stable until paramedics could arrive."

It seemed like it took forever, but it really wasn't that long (from initial response to ambulances arriving)," he said.

After getting on the phone with the dispatcher, Sergeant DeVera said it was about 12 minutes until paramedics arrived and took over. At that point, Sergeant Lienard was blinking and showing other responsive signs.

"Afterwards, we heard that there was chaos going on all around, but it seemed as if we were inside a bubble," said Sergeant DeVera.

It was a perfect example of teamwork, the sergeant said. "The three of us knew we were the initial responders. We work together really well even without emergencies, so we knew what to do and what to expect from each other."

"Believing in each other, having that trust and confidence was necessary" said Airman Perez.

Another key element was the SABC and CPR training the Airmen received from the squadron's training section. Within the squadron, the leadership handpicks each of its instructors to train their personnel. Since all Airman assigned to the squadron are in an Air Expeditionary Force cycle with a tempo of 12 months home to six months deployed, it is critical the squadron has the right instructors to train the Airman to ensure they come home safe from a deployment.

One of the squadron's key instructors is Shawn Alexander, who teaches both SABC and CPR classes. Mr. Alexander believes the skills sets taught in both courses complement each other.

"Most Airmen in the squadron have deployed multiple times and are well-versed in the basics," he said. The additional CPR training is not mandatory but can be invaluable in situations like this.

"We talked about this in class last week - these were young Airmen who weren't nervous, but stepped in and acted without hesitation," said Mr. Alexander. "When people in class think they can't do it, we have three Airmen who just saved someone's life."

"I am really grateful for the assistance of Sergeant DeVera, and Airmen Young and Perez," said Sergeant Lienard, who was on military orders the day he fell ill. "Their quick reaction probably saved my life. Their response was a testament to Air Force self aid and buddy care training. I'm a living example that paying attention in S-A-B-C class can prepare you to react effectively in a crisis." Sergeant Lienard, a longtime Reservist at McChord, is back at work, on light duty, and is doing well.

## 0-0-1-3

The medical standard is one drink for women or two drinks for men if a daily drinker.



For periodic drinking, the standard is to keep the blood alcohol level or blood alcohol content under 0.05.

**0 Drinks under age 21**  
**0 DUI's**  
**Max 1 drink per hour**  
**Max 3 drinks in one night**

*Use personal risk management*  
*Use situational awareness*  
*Use your wingman*  
*Use a friend*

**DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE**



# Women's History Month: NCOs reflect on achievements

KABUL, Afghanistan (AFNS) -- In 1994, an 8-year-old girl from San Marcos, Texas, stood up in class and said, "I want to be a fighter pilot."

That little girl was Staff Sgt. Zaira Barba who didn't know that just three years earlier, Lt. Col. Martha McSally became the first American woman to fly a fighter aircraft during Operation Desert Storm. She later became the first woman to command a combat fighter squadron.

Fifteen years later, reflecting during the March 2009 Women's History Month observation, Sergeant Barba sat at her desk and laughed about what changed her mind on becoming a pilot.

"I took one ride in a T-38 and I decided then and there that being a pilot just wasn't for me," she joked.

Flying is not for everyone, but it definitely is for Jean Flynn. In 1992, she became the first woman to graduate Undergraduate Pilot Train-

ing and the first American woman to enter combat training as a fighter pilot. She completed her training and became the first mission-qualified female fighter pilot in 1994. By the end of 2002, she had logged more than 2,000 hours in the F-15E Strike Eagle, including 200 hours of combat time in Operation Allied Force. She was also the first female pilot to graduate from the Air Force Fighter Weapons School at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. Today, Major Flynn is assigned to the Fighter Weapons School as an F-15E instructor pilot; the first woman to hold that post.

Sergeant Barba is currently serving at the International Security Assistance Force Headquarters in Kabul, Afghanistan, as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, a designated combat zone.

Only in the last two decades have women in the U.S. military had the opportunity to serve abroad in combat zones. The current policies dictate that women are not allowed

to serve in units where the primary function is direct combat on the ground.

Army Sgt. Angela Aaron, who works in the ISAF U.S. National Support Element office, said Women's History Month is something to celebrate and sees it as an opportunity for perspective.

"If we're going to celebrate what we've become in society, particularly during Women's History Month, we must also look at what we've yet to achieve," said Sergeant Aaron, a native of Little Rock, Ark. "In the past, (women) found ways around the system to serve (in combat). Now we're very close to changing the system that forced them to do that to begin with."

Sergeant Barba said she also thinks those changes could come a lot sooner than one would expect.

"There's been a lot of progress made in my lifetime, which isn't all that long," the 23 year old said. "I really feel like whatever it is we're

still lacking, particularly with regard to combat, we'll probably see those changes very soon."

Both sergeants agreed that while women are still not involved in direct combat, the mere fact that they are able to serve in Afghanistan is a significant achievement. At ISAF, they have the opportunity to serve with both men and women of 41 other nations, as well as see firsthand a culture that has a completely different perspective on women's rights.

Sergeant Aaron recalled a recent volunteer trip to an Afghan women's school in Kabul where she said she was surprised by what she saw.

"These women want to go to college, they're smart and intelligent," she said. "Going to school is their way of expressing they want to contribute more. I feel like we can help them achieve that. I think seeing us serving in the military shows both the men and women that everyone can contribute."



McChord Airmen

# AROUND THE WORLD



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Phyllis Hanson

**KYRGYZSTAN** — Tech. Sgt. Thomas Pettit, left, and Staff Sgt. Shawn Lundgren, 446th Civil Engineer Squadron, install a new faucet at the Children's Cancer Hospital in Bishkek. Manas Air Base Outreach Society volunteers visited with the children and used their skills Feb. 25 to replace 10 old faucets with new ones. The faucets were donated by a private, non-profit volunteer service organization that supports a number of causes in Bishkek and around Manas. Both sergeants are assigned to the 376th Expeditionary CES.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Phyllis Hanson

**KYRGYZSTAN** — Senior Airman Taurence Campbell, left, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, directs Airman 1st Class Brian Moeller to safely align a 10K forklift and offload a pallet of tri-wall boxes at Manas Air Base. The boxes will be used for shipping military equipment to and from Afghanistan. Manas serves as a premier mobility hub for operations in Afghanistan, providing daily refueling missions and supporting personnel and cargo transiting in and out of Afghanistan. The Airmen are assigned to the 376th Expeditionary LRS.



## Special operators honored



Photo by Staff Sgt. J.G. Buzanowski

Maj. Gen. Marke Gibson, left, applauds five special operations Airmen who received awards at the Hall of Heroes in the Pentagon Feb. 24. The honorees are (left to right): Capt. Christopher Wilson, 17th Air Support Operations Squadron Ft. Lewis, Tech. Sgt. John DeMaso, Senior Airman Alexander Royal, Capt. Brett Plummer and Staff Sgt. Justin Cremer. Capt. Wilson received the Air Liaison Officer Award for his actions while recently deployed.

**Deployed Families  
Dinner & Movie**

All Families with Deployed or Deploying Members, TDYs & Remotes are Encouraged to Attend!

**"Hollywood Nights"**

9 March at 1730  
Chapel Support Center

RSVP by 6 March  
<https://62aw.mcchord.af.mil/awstaff/hc>  
(access from DoD military computers only)

For more info: Call (253)982-5556 or  
Email: [62aw.hc@mcchord.af.mil](mailto:62aw.hc@mcchord.af.mil)

Dinner Provided By  
**MAZATLAN RESTAURANT**  
No Federal Endorsement Intended



# Air Force's top enlisted Airman to retire

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The Air Force chief of staff announced the pending retirement of the 15th chief master sergeant of the Air Force recently here.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley will retire this summer after serving for 30 years.

Chief McKinley has served as the chief master sergeant of the Air Force since June 30, 2006.

"Chief McKinley is an incomparable leader and an exemplary Air-

man," Gen. Norton Schwartz said. "He has devoted his entire adult life to our Air Force and to taking care of Airmen and their families. Chief McKinley has accomplished so much throughout his career, but as chief master sergeant of the Air Force he has made monumental contributions."

"I will always be an Airman," Chief McKinley said. "This time as chief master sergeant of the Air Force has been especially humbling

for me. Everywhere I travel around the globe, I see Airmen and their families sacrificing, striving and fighting for our Air Force, our great nation and its ideals.

"We've been involved in a momentous struggle against agents of terrorism," the chief said. "We have never faltered in our duty and every day we stamp out the wanton destruction terrorists would like to bring to our nation and our allies. It's been an honor and privilege

for me to serve alongside the Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen who I am confident history will regard as some of the greatest warriors of all time."

A formal retirement ceremony for Chief McKinley and appointment for the 16th chief master sergeant of the Air Force is planned for June 30. The Air Force chief of staff selects the individual to fill the position of chief master sergeant of the Air Force.



On first glance, the thought of sitting in the driver's seat of a large cargo loader or forklift may send a rush of uneasiness or twinge of fear through a young 62nd Aerial Port Squadron Airman just out of technical school.

Such thoughts are replaced with confidence upon completion of the squadron's aerial delivery flight training course.

The 60-day training features a combination of career development courses, classroom instruction and in-the-field and on-the-job experience to prepare 62nd APS Airmen for their Air Force mission. Reservists are also routinely enrolled in the training.

"Our main purpose is to make sure they're ready to deploy once they finish," said Tech. Sgt. Patricia Malaglowicz, 62nd APS assistant NCOIC of training.

An Airman's introduction to the course entails completing three volumes of CDCs in the first three weeks of class. Although the timetable to complete the CDCs was recently reduced from 30 days to one week per volume, Sergeant Malaglowicz said students are repeatedly given practice tests and even formulate their own questions to further test each other.

"It allows them to go deeper into the material," she said.

The testing process has produced shining results. "We haven't had a failure on level five CDCs in nearly five years," Sergeant Malaglowicz said.

The classroom instruction is then supplemented with in-seat training at the lot located near the passenger terminal and on the flightline. The students are required to complete 30 hours per forklift or loader. Sergeant Malaglowicz said.

Those 30 hours are taught by a group of dedicated instructors who help the students build a familiarization with each vehicle while interweaving details of deployed life in the teaching sessions.

"We don't put them in a situation where a mis-step is going to cause any kind of damage," said Tech. Sgt. Eric Sjoberg, 62nd APS course instructor.

While students are allowed to make mistakes when learning how to drive the vehicles, Sergeant Sjoberg said the instructors are quick to stress the great responsibility that comes with driving on a busy flightline at a deployed location.

"Even after they get licensed, a little bit of fear or apprehensiveness is good," he said. "It makes them a safer driver."

The small class size (the average is between six to seven Airmen per session) and the simple fact the instructors spend a lot of time with the students throughout the course, enable them to incorporate more into the training than just how to load a pallet on to an aircraft.

"It's about sharing those past deployment experiences and letting them know what they're going to see when they deploy," said Sergeant Sjoberg, who's deployed 11 times throughout his APS career.

The instructors also enjoy helping Airmen get acclimated to the area and getting settled in their career field.

"There is only so much you can learn from a book or sitting in a classroom," said Staff Sgt. Justin Hartman, 62nd APS training instructor. "Being with them for 10 to 12 weeks, we're really in their lives. To see them succeed and to be able to help steer them in the right direction is a great thing."

# 62nd Aerial Port Squadron

# aerial delivery flight training

BY  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff Writer



Staff Sgt. Justin Hartman and Airman 1st Class John Bevacqua, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron, use hand signals to communicate to a forklift operator concerning the proper placement of an airdrop platform.



Airmen 1st Class David and Sable Fitzgerald, 62nd APS, complete a career development course during the classroom portion of their training.



Airman Joshua Hoelscher, 62nd APS, keeps an eye on a cargo pallet while operating a forklift during a recent training session.



Sergeant Hartman, left, and Airman Basic Joshua Greenbaum, both 62nd APS, maneuver an airdrop platform in the aerial port training area in preparation for an upcoming exercise.

Airman Hoelscher transfers an airdrop platform to a loading dock in preparation for an upcoming exercise.

# Foundation gives spouses chance to become financial counselors

By

Samantha L. Quigley  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Through their investor education foundation, representatives with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA, are helping military spouses become accredited as financial counselors.

The foundation's "Military Spouse Fellowship Program" has been providing military spouses the means to earn the accredited financial counselor designation since 2006, said John Gannon, the foundation's president.

Military spouses who are accredited financial counselors can provide a wealth of financial information to servicemembers and military families as the country faces a challenging economy, Gannon noted.

"What we're trying to achieve with our spouse fellowship program is ... [to] provide an additional resource for military families to go to get counseling on financial matters," he said. "A secondary thing is it helps military spouses, who have historically been underemployed, take on skills that may lead to future employment in the financial

services area."

The fellowship program, which the FINRA foundation administers in partnership with the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education and the National Military Family Association, is offered at no cost to the participants.

"We cover the costs associated with becoming an accredited financial counselor, and in turn, [we] ask the spouse who receives the fellowship to provide a certain number of hours of financial counseling to other military families," Mr. Gannon said. "To date, participants in the program have logged more than 95,000 hours of service back to the military community. That's all pro bono."

The program is competitive; more than 2,000 military spouses applied for 200 openings in 2006. The second year saw only slightly fewer applicants, Mr. Gannon said.

The online program is appealing to military spouses because it can be tackled wherever they're living, as long as they have access to a computer and the Internet, he said. In fact, 33 percent of the 189 spouses who began the program last year were overseas.

While the program is self-paced, it's designed to be completed in two

years. But foundation officials realize that situations can change, Mr. Gannon said.

"Because of the combination of the self-paced nature of the course work [and] the need to get a certain number of pro bono hours, it can take a couple of years to complete the program," he said. "We've tried to be lenient with spouses, because we realize that due to changes in their situation, ... sometimes things come up that make it much more difficult to complete the program."

FINRA officials try to make it easier by helping fellows find opportunities to fulfill their pro bono requirements. Sometimes those opportunities are with FINRA.

When fellows do complete all the requirements and become accredited financial counselors, they are equipped to help educate servicemembers and their families, Mr. Gannon said.

"One of the things that we've tried to do to our overall military financial education program is to really provide resources for the military on credit issues, especially now because of the tightening of the markets," he said. "It's even more important than it was just a short time ago that people have really good credit scores so that they can get a mortgage to buy a house,

or even a car loan.

"[Fellows] can help on that issue by working with military families to understand the importance of good credit and a good credit score," Mr. Gannon added.

They're also qualified to fill positions in defense federal credit unions, financial aid offices and community centers.

Officials try to maintain service diversity among the fellows, Mr. Gannon said -- Army spouses represented 33 percent of all the fellows, the Air Force 23 percent, the Navy 22 percent and the Marine Corps 11 percent -- but also try to give the fellowships to the best-qualified candidates.

The application process for the 2009 Military Spouse Fellowship Program has not yet opened. When the information does become available, it will be posted on the FINRA Investor Education Foundation Web site, Mr. Gannon said.

The program is open to spouses of active duty, reserve or retired Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Army and Air National Guard servicemembers. The spouses of U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration professionals also are eligible, Mr. Gannon said.



**When working with classified information, keep security in mind at all times! Use approved OPSEC, EMSEC, COMPUSEC and Info Protect facilities and equipment only!**



Photo by Abner Guzman

## Gospel sounds

Maureese Itson, a singer from Pacific Christ Center in Tacoma, sings gospel music along with an accompanying choir (not pictured) for Airmen in attendance at the African-American History Month recognition ceremony Feb. 26 at the McChord Clubs and Community Center. More than 50 people attended the ceremony, which included music, inspirational readings and a speech by keynote speaker Fort Lewis Chaplain (Maj.) Terrell Jones.





**2008 Air Mobility Command airfield operations annual award winners**

Air traffic control (civilian) controller in charge of the year: **James Robson**, 62nd Operations Support Squadron  
 Airfield management/journeyman technician (civilian) of the year: **Urouse Williams**, 62nd OSS

**2008 AMC logistics readiness annual award winners**

Air Force vehicle operations Airman of the year: **Senior Airman Mark Broadhead**, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron  
 George F. Ruestow Air Force logistics readiness senior civilian manager of the year: **Christopher Ferris**, 62nd LRS  
 Air Force materiel management civilian supervisor/leader of the year: **Teresa Standish**, 62nd LRS  
 Air Force transportation civilian technician of the year: **Terry Wheaton**, 62nd LRS

**Congratulations to Team McChord's senior master sergeant selects!**

- **Master Sgt. Troy Ballard**, 62nd Maintenance Group
- **Master Sgt. Shawn Bitton**, 62nd Operations Support Squadron
- **Master Sgt. Joe Gahan**, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Support Squadron
- **Master Sgt. Michael Gloss**, 62nd AMXS
- **Master Sgt. Willi Gruetzenbach**, 361st Recruiting Squadron
- **Master Sgt. Michael Lantz**, 361st RCS
- **Master Sgt. Patrick Lynch**, 62nd Maintenance Operations

- Squadron
- **Master Sgt. Stacey Mason**, 62nd MOS
- **Master Sgt. Daniel McLean**, 62nd AMXS
- **Master Sgt. Douglas Moore**, 342nd Training Squadron
- **Master Sgt. Nestor Prosper**, 31st Communications Squadron
- **Master Sgt. Curtis Stanley**, 62nd AMXS
- **Master Sgt. Brian Wilchenski**, 5th Air Support Operations Group
- **Master Sgt. Robin Young**, 5th ASOG



**Do you have a story idea? Spread the news in The NW Airlifter! Call Public Affairs at 982-5637 or e-mail us at northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil**



**McChord chiefs' induction**

Team McChord recognizes its newest chief master sergeants at a special ceremony at 6 p.m. today at the McChord Clubs and Community Center ball room. For more information, call 982-2441.

**Women's conference**

The Joint Women's Conference is 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 13 at the Stone Education Center on Fort Lewis. For more information, call 982-2695.

**Women's History Month Committee**

Help commemorate this year's theme of women's history month, "Women Taking the Lead to Save our Planet," by volunteering to help clean up a section of Interstate 5. Fifteen volunteers are needed to for a clean-up effort March 13. For more information, call 982-5505.

**Equity Housing office closure**

The Equity Residential housing office is closed March 13, but the maintenance office remains open. Work orders may be called in at 912-3500.

**Commissary early closure**

The McChord commissary closes at 5 p.m. March 17. Normal hours of operation resume March 18.

**Stepfamily seminar**

The Stepfamily Seminar for Helping Agencies and Parents is 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 23 at the McChord Clubs and Community Center. The registration deadline has been extended to March 20. For more information, call the Airmen and Family Readiness Center at 982-2695.

**Scholarship notice**

The Pacific Northwest Chapter of

Airlift/Tanker Association is offering two \$250 cash scholarships, available to A/TA members or their family members. Applicants must submit an essay by March 31 on the subject "the age of responsibility: my contribution to the nation." For more information, call 982-3858.

**Women's History Month event**

Celebrating Women's History Month at 2 p.m. March 27 at the base theater.

**Retiree Activities**

The Retiree Activities Office is looking for volunteers to assist with upcoming events and work in the office located in the customer service mall in Bldg. 100. The RAO is a resource and referral center which offers information concerning issues pertinent to retirees, including ID cards, DEERS, Tri-Care, health benefit changes, social security and Space available travel.

The 2009 dining out event is 6 p.m. April 17 at the McChord Clubs and Community Center. In addition to the banquet, the event includes a guest speaker and a historical military reenactment.

The RAO is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information on the RAO or the dining out event, call the office at 982-3214 or visit [www.mcchordrao.com](http://www.mcchordrao.com).

**McChord Phoenix Spouse voicemail**

The Phoenix Spouse program here now has voicemail (982-PHNX) for families wanting to contact or get more information about their unit's Phoenix Spouses. The voicemail gives every squadron the ability to have a personalized mailbox where people can leave messages for Phoenix Spouses.

**Peanut recall**

Updated information on the recall of contaminated peanut products is available at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Web site: <http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/salmonellatyph.html>.

The Public Health office here is coordinating recalls with base food establishments. According to Public Health officials, recalled items have been pulled from McChord shelves and no illnesses have been attributed to affected food items. For more information, call the Public Health office at 982-3717.

**Online GTC registration**

Online registration for the new CITI Bank government travel card is at available at: <https://home.cards.citidirect.com/CommercialCard/Cards.html>.

Online statements for cardholders will not be available before the client

receives their first paper statement. The cardholder must enter their card number, account name and address information in the exact format as it appears on the paper statement. For example, words like court, street, or road must be input exactly as they appear on the paper statement, either abbreviated or spelled out. Cardholders will also need their complete zip code, as displayed on the paper statement.

**New hours at wing self-help store**

The wing self-help store hours of operation are now 8 a.m. to noon weekdays. It closes on holidays and Air Mobility Command Family Days.

**Flu shots now available**

Flu vaccine is now available for active duty family members and retirees at the Immunizations Clinic here. For more information, call 982-5189.



## McChord Chaplain Corps Faith & Worship Programs

For more information on Chapel services and programs, please call 982-5556.

To contact Duty Chaplain after duty hours, contact the Command Post at 982-2635.

### CATHOLIC SERVICES and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

All Catholic services are in chapel two.

**Saturday:**  
4 p.m. Confession: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181

5 p.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181

**Sunday:**  
9:30 a.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181

11 a.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181

12:30 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

**Monday:**  
Noon. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

### Wednesday:

6:30 p.m. Faith Formation: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesday of the month: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

6:30 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

**PROTESTANT SERVICES and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:**

**Sunday:**  
8:30 a.m. Liturgical Worship: Chapel 1, Bldg. 180

9:45 a.m. Sunday School: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

11 a.m. Traditional Worship: Chapel 1, Bldg. 180

11 a.m. Contemporary Worship: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

### JEWISH SERVICES:

**Friday:**

6 p.m. Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Friday of the month: Ft. Lewis, Chapel 5, Bldg. T-2270

**OTHER PROGRAMS:**

The following Chapel programs take place at the Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746.

**Tuesday:**

9:30 a.m. Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS); 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month

6 p.m. Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) Bible Study; 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday of the month

**Wednesday:**

11 a.m. Adult Bible Study



# Successful Deep Freeze season comes to an end

By

**Maj. Sam Highley**  
JTF Support Forces Antarctica  
Public Affairs

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii (AFNS) -- Another season of Department of Defense support to the U.S. Antarctic Program and National Science Foundation activities in Antarctica came to an end Feb. 28.

The 2008-2009 season of Operation Deep Freeze, the U.S. military's operational and logistical support of the NSF's scientific research activities in Antarctica, began Sept. 4. Lt. Gen. Chip Utterback, 13th Air Force and Joint Task Force Support Forces Antarctica commander, deemed the season a resounding success.

"Every Deep Freeze season is a joint effort, and this one was no exception," General Utterback said. "Led by Airmen, Sailors, Coast Guardsmen and Soldiers--to include active duty, Guard and Reserve--all joined forces this season to provide outstanding support to our National Science Foundation partners and their scientific activities in Antarctica."

JTF SFA, headquartered here and led by 13th Air Force, coordinated strategic intertheater airlift, tactical LC-130 Hercules deep field support, aeromedical evacuation support, search and rescue response, sealift, seaport access, bulk fuel supply, port cargo handling and transportation requirements.

During the six-month long season, the joint task force completed more than 50 C-17 Globemaster III intercontinental missions moving 4.3 million pounds of material and 3,800

passengers. Additionally, more than 280 LC-130 ice missions flew more than 8.7 million pounds of supplies and 2,000 passengers. The tanker Gianella and cargo ship American Tern from the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command delivered approximately 5.7 million gallons of fuel and 14.6 million pounds of cargo.

"The movement of this cargo, fuel and personnel for our interagency partners at the National Science Foundation is vital to their mission," General Utterback said. "We are, in many ways, the 'lifeline' for their people down on the ice."

That lifeline was strengthened this season with the certification of the C-17 for landing in darkness using night vision goggles. Although night landings on the ice are not new, a McCord Air Force Base, Wash., aircrew landed a C-17 at McMurdo Station, Antarctica, on Sept. 11 in complete darkness, using night vision technology in combination with reflective cones for the first time. The certification enhances U.S. Antarctic Program logistics capabilities for year round operations using the C-17.

The joint U.S.-Australian movement of an injured Australian expeditioner out of Antarctica was another highlight of the season. The seriously injured patient was successfully moved by JTF SFA aboard an LC-130 to Hobart, Australia, on Nov. 5, where he received medical treatment and began his recovery.

The airmanship of the New York Air National Guard 109th Airlift Wing aircrew, in landing on an unprepared surface at the critically injured patient's Antarctic camp and transporting him to safety, drew international attention to the operational capabili-



Photo by Master Sgt. Chris Vadnais

**Maj. Jason Allen looks out over the Antarctic ice during the 2008-2009 Operation Deep Freeze season, which came to an end Feb. 28. Major Allen is a Reserve C-17 evaluator pilot with the 97th Airlift Squadron at McCord.**

ties of JTF SFA.

Such missions illustrate the harsh conditions under which the joint task force must operate. Antarctica is considered the coldest, windiest, most inhospitable continent on the globe.

"Every trip we take to Antarctica, whether via aircraft or ship, requires careful planning and coordination," General Utterback said. "Safety is paramount in all our Deep Freeze operations, and you can see that in the results this season."

General Utterback said the successful season is indicative of the high readiness of the U.S. military and its partners in the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility, and the United States' commitment to a peaceful Pacific region.

"To be able to use our military forces to further the scientific efforts in Antarctica--efforts that benefit all the people of the world--is really gratifying," the general said. "I couldn't be more proud of our entire team's efforts this season."

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