

Heartland

Warrior

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Serving the men and women of the 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom ARB, Ind.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pat Kuminecz

Yeee-ouch!!

Master Sgt. Iris Collazo, 434th Communications Squadron, reacts as Tech. Sgt. Mike Dardini, 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, administers a vaccine during a recent unit training assembly.

Central Command Storage takes shape

By SrA. Carl Berry
Public Affairs staff

More than 60,000 Airmen Battle Uniforms, a plethora of chemical warfare JS-LIST suits, an abundance of individual body armor and plenty of gas-masks are located at the supply building at Grissom.

However, these items don't solely

belong to Grissom, but to Air Force Reserve Command.

Grissom is home to AFRC Central Command Storage.

"We were chosen because our mobility warehouse is reputed as being the best of the best and the fact that we have the space," said Lt. Col. Darrell Bredehoeft, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron operations

officer.

"CCS saves money and reduces waste," said Colonel Bredehoeft. "Rather than each base storing excess mobility assets, central storage provides the capability to ship as needed, mirroring "Just in Time" supply procedures used in corporate America.

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Back to the basics--Air Force core values

By Chief Master Sgt. Peri Rogowski
434th ARW command chief

Happy New Year, everyone!
As we look forward to a year of new beginnings and new goals, I would like for us to take a moment and reflect on our past to help us with our challenges for the future.

Many of you have heard me talk about this year being the year we all get "back to basics."

This term has different meanings in different situations.

For the sports-minded individual, it means getting back to the fundamentals of the particular game you are playing.

For corporate executives, it means focusing on the foundation of the mission of the organization and not just reacting to the challenge of the moment.

Not so coincidentally, the military's use of this term combines the two philosophies - getting back to the fundamentals learned when we were Airmen and focusing on the foundation of our mission.

Think back if you will to when you went through basic military training.

Remember when all you could think of was why we always have to rush everywhere just to wait in line - or as we knew it... "hurry up and wait."

Now think about your life... whether at our civilian jobs or sitting on the freeway. Little did you know that annoying practice would be a life-long lesson in the art of patience. How about the time when we had to "pick

'em up, set 'em down" about 200 times?

What on earth did that teach us? Believe it or not, it taught us our very core of military respect and courtesy for those in charge. It taught us to obey the orders of the President and officers appointed over us.

Remember studying your Airman's Manual every time we stopped for longer than 5 minutes? That gave us the foundation and critical importance to studying and passing our military career development courses and professional military education courses.

How about when we were out marching for what seemed like hours upon hours until our feet hurt so bad we could barely run the next day?

Remember the one or two people in your flight that just didn't know right from left and when they made a mistake, the entire flight would get in trouble - especially their element leaders?

What did that teach us? It taught us teamwork and leadership. In good times and bad, we share successes and failures equally. It taught us that we must work together to achieve our



Chief Rogowski

objectives and no one person can do it alone. It taught us that as leaders, we have to put ourselves under pressure to keep up with the team and we have to be responsible and accountable for our own actions and how our actions affect the rest of our team.

As simple as all this sounds, no matter how long ago we went to basic training, we were taught our *Air Force Core Values - Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in All We Do*. So how does this trip down memory lane affect you and me for this new year?

I am challenging all of us to revisit our basic lessons learned and apply them in our daily lives:

- Professional and personal responsibility and accountability
- Military customs and courtesies
- Patience
- Respect, compassion and kindness for each member of the team
- Strength in diversity of the team
- Effective communication skills to include active listening
- Mentorship
- Dedication
- Servitude and Leadership

I am excited about the challenges the New Year is sure to bring.

I am energized to know that Team Grissom is prepared to face them head on and I am proud to serve along side each and every one of you and I salute you as we continue to defend the freedom and security of our great nation.

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Contents of the Heartland

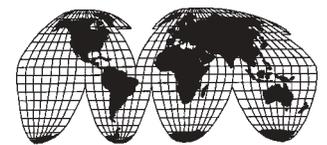
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World Wide Web

Air Force Reserve Home Page

<http://www.afrc.af.mil>

Grissom Home Page

<http://www.grissom.afrc.af.mil>

CCS, from page 2

By doing this AFRC maintains better asset visibility and greater flexibility to ship on demand.

CCS is expanding and will continue to expand. Due to base realignment and closure all of their mobility assets will be sent here, stated Jim Vance, warehouse supervisor for mobility.

To accommodate the influx, two 9,360 square-foot pole barns are being renovated, and shelving is being added to the main supply building to provide more vertical storage.

The mobility warehouse staff is constantly taking inventory and keeping everything updated.

To track all of the equipment the Mobility Inventory Control and Accountability System or MICAS is used.

“This system tracks all mobility items from cradle to grave,” Mr. Vance said. “As soon as a package arrives to when it is destroyed we know who used it and where it has been.”

“This program is used because of its visibility,” he added. “The program automatically submits reports to all necessary authorities.”

Those wanting to know when Grissom will begin issuing ABUs are going to have to wait until AFRC gives the order.

“Headquarters gives redistribution orders and tell us what needs to go where,” said Mr. Vance.

“It is great having the CCS here because we don’t have to wait and if a uniform does not fit we can fix it right away,” added Staff Sgt. Billie Cimmino, a financial management specialist with the 434th Air Refueling Wing.



Photo by SrA Carl Berry

Supply personnel stock supplies at the new Command Central Storage facility at Grissom.

New era begins for *Heartland Warrior*

Unit newspaper transitions to electronic-only format for publication, distribution

By SrA. Chris Bolen

Public Affairs staff

Grissom’s base newspaper is about to under go a dramatic transition. The *Heartland Warrior* is changing to an “E-Newspaper” format. The new format means that “hard copies” will no longer be printed.

“There will be no hard copies of the *Heartland Warrior* on base or in the common areas effective January 1, 2008,” said Lt. Col. Gary Lockard, chief of public affairs.

This change is expected to improve the paper’s distribution, increase circulation, and reduce printing costs. However, cost is not the major driver. Market studies indicate that readership for base newspapers is declining. In

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light of this fact, the Air Force decided to transition to what is becoming the more popular format.

Consequently, e-newspapers are a trend that the Air Force is pursuing aggressively. Many overseas Air Force bases have already ceased publishing hard copy newspapers. Misawa Air Base, Japan and Eielson AFB Alaska, ceased publishing last year. Osan, Kusan, Kadena, and Yokota Air Bases will follow this year.

Instead of working to produce a single monthly paper, Air Force journalists will post their information directly online through their base web sites. Grissom has been transitioning to the new format over the past year.

“There are now two electronic

options to receive the *Heartland Warrior* on an individual basis,” explained Colonel Lockard. “On the Grissom website, there is the *Heartland Warrior* icon which will take the reader to the current *Heartland Warrior* issue and archive,” he continued.

“Additionally, below that same icon there is a subscription link allowing personnel to sign up to receive the paper via their email address,” the colonel notes.

“Anyone can download or read the online version of the *Heartland Warrior* as long as you have PDF on your computer.

For the email version the publication will be forwarded via Adobe reader software,” he added.

Grissom members claim annual awards

By Staff Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner

Stars are people that stand out from the rest. Whether actors, athletes or musicians, there is something special about them that makes them shine.

Grissom's stars are no different, but instead of honoring them with an Oscar, Grammy or star on a walk of fame, the 434th Air Refueling Wing recognized its superior performers with the wing's annual awards program.

These awards included 434th Airman of the Year, 434th NCO of the Year and 434th Senior NCO of the Year; and are given to unit members who demonstrate exceptional expertise, professionalism, and advanced skills in their jobs, while supporting the mission of Grissom and the Air Force Reserve Command.



Airman Schwartz



Sergeant Ferron



Sergeant Bartel

Airman of the Year

The title of 434th Airman of the Year 2007 was awarded to Senior Airman Anne Marie Schwartz, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Putting Airman Schwartz at the top of the list was her service superior performance as a supply representative for the 434th LRS unit advisory council.

Additionally, she volunteered to backfill for active-duty supply personnel at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., so they could deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

And while supporting both the mission at home and abroad is what

made Airman Schwartz stand out on paper, it was her poise, charisma and military bearing that a board of first sergeants had to take into consideration as she competed against other quarterly award winners for the prestigious annual award, officials said.

After all was said and done, it was Airman Schwartz who was atop the list of Grissom's stellar performer list as AOTY.

NCO of the Year

Recognized for his outstanding performance as NCO of the Year is Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Ferron II, 434th Military Personnel Flight Personnel

Employment NCOIC.

Of his many accomplishments, the ones that made Sergeant Ferron shine were accomplished while he was working full-time as an Air Reserve Technician in the role of 434th MPF chief of relocations.

In this role, Sergeant Ferron said he managed the relocations of active-duty and prior service personnel who were transitioning to the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

ARTs are federal employees in civilian status whose jobs are directly linked to their military role in the USAFR.

Sergeant Ferron, like Airman

Please see awards, page 5

Heartland Warrior

Maintenance officer named wing's best

By SrA. Omar Delacruz
Public Affairs staff

Capt. Timothy Bartlett, the deputy commander for the 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, was selected as the 434th Airlift Refueling Wing Officer of the Year.

It is an honor receiving this award, Captain Bartlett said.

"He is a superior performer," said Col. Stan Sheley, the commander of the 434th Maintenance Group. "He also has good analytical and problem solving skills."

Captain Bartlett won officer of the quarter earlier this year for his outstanding dedication to the mission.

He is also a recipient of 14 service commendations including receiving the Citizen Soldier Award and numerous fitness awards.

During the recent Grissom deployment to Turkey, Captain Bartlett was

the senior maintenance officer for the group.

He was in charge of the dispatch of aircraft and maintenance.

At Grissom, he has taken on the role of lead officer trainer for the junior officers in the 434th Maintenance Group.

"His ability to lead and teach at the same time makes him a superior performer and officer," said Colonel Sheley.

Mentoring is vital in guiding junior officers through their upgrade training, Captain Bartlett said.

"My individual success has been a result of mentoring," he said.

"The mentoring I received has not



Captain Bartlett

been limited to the people with more rank than I. The enlisted core here at Grissom is also exceptional."

Captain Bartlett's service at Grissom includes having served as a quality assurance officer, wing logistics plan officer, officer-in-charge of propulsion and aerospace ground equipment and as an enlisted crew chief.

He is also committed to community service, he said.

"Any opportunity that an individual has to give back to his community is something that we should all strive to accomplish," he added.

He has volunteered in projects which help the environment such as the Historic Bolsa Chica Wetlands Reclamation Project in California, and the land conservancy Mountains to Sound Greenway project in Washington.

Captain Bartlett has also volunteered in centers for domestic violence in St. Louis where he has helped with the maintenance of the offices.

Awards, from page 4

Schwartz had to go before a board of first sergeants to compete against other top performers in Grissom's junior NCO core.

And being a part of this process as an NCO is what Sergeant Ferron said made him proud and gave better perspective on being an NCO.

"Integrity plays a big part in being a supervisor, especially when other NCOs look up to you," he said. "I feel very honored to have been nominated as an NCO to represent the wing at the 4th Air Force level.

Recipients of Grissom's annual awards move on automatically to compete at the numbered Air Force level. If they win at the NAF, award winners move onto the command level and then on to Air Force level.

The entire process whittles down the most stellar of Airman from around the world to come up with the top 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

When it comes to winning such awards, Sergeant Ferron said all Airmen have to do, is perform their jobs to the best of their abilities.

"It shows hard work does pay off,"

he said. "Continue to always follow the core values; that's what earns these awards."

Sergeant Ferron, who started her military career on active-duty as a security forces Airman at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., now works for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Indianapolis.

SNCO of the Year

At the top of the top of Grissom's annual award winners is the 434th Senior NCO of the Year award recipient, and for 2007 this was Master Sgt. Christy Bartel.

Sergeant Bartel, a logistics management specialist with the 434th Maintenance Operations Flight, is also an ART and has nearly 20 years of military service.

Putting this stellar performer at the top of the list were her exceptional leadership and management abilities at both Grissom and abroad.

Her role in both locations is the same; getting people and supplies where they are needed most. It is in

this vital mission where both her leadership and management abilities as a senior NCO are vital to mission success.

"It is my job to ensure that everyone has the necessary training and equipment when they go on deployments," she said. "If they do not have the required training then I notify the individual and their supervisor so that it can be completed before the deployment date arrives."

It was during a recent deployment to Guam, where she shined brightest, where she managed several manpower issues, while at the same time staying involved with various base committees.

Sergeant Bartel, a resident of Kokomo, Ind., joined the Air Force Reserve after 4 years of active-duty service and has a her bachelors of science degree in psychology from Indiana University at Kokomo.

Sergeant Bartel, like the other annual award recipients will go on to compete at the 4th Air Force level.



Photo by SrA. Omar Delacruz

Holiday cheer

Brig. Gen. Dean Despinoy, 434th Air Refueling Wing commander, right, shares a laugh with Master Sgt. Larry Massey, a crew chief with the 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, during the December unit training assembly. General Despinoy and other wing leadership passed out candy canes to Airmen on base before members signed out on Sunday.



ESGR now has a link on Grissom Website

By SrA Chris Bolen

Public Affairs staff

In its continuing drive to improve ties and actively partner with the Indiana Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, the 434th ARW Public Affairs Office has added a page to the Grissom internet website dedicated solely to the Indiana ESGR.

The Indiana ESGR is the state branch of the National Committee for ESGR which is dedicated to informing and assisting employers who hire and employ National Guard and Reserve

personnel.

The Indiana ESGR employs a variety of programs to increase employer awareness through out Indiana of the important role that Guard and Reservists in their employment serve in the nation's defense.

This effort to increase employer awareness is for all branches of the United States military reserve components.

Some of the programs used include: base visits, orientation flights, briefings, awards, and executive sessions with key leadership members of the reserve components through out the state.

The Indiana ESGR will be hosting their annual awards dinner at Grissom this coming April. The purpose of the dinner is to recognize and pay tribute to civilian employers who have provided outstanding support to their employees who are guard or reserve members.

"Grissom reserve personnel are strongly encouraged to nominate their employer for an award by completing a *My Boss is a Patriot* nomination form," said Lt. Col. Gary Lockard, chief of public affairs.

"Be sure to provide as much information as possible on why your employer is a Patriot," he continued.

The forms are available on the Grissom web site.

Simply download and complete the form, then return it to the Grissom PA office.

Further details are available on the Grissom website, and questions regarding the Indiana ESGR should be directed to the PA office at (765) 688-3348.

Military ball

Grissom will host a military ball April 5, 2008 to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Air Force Reserve Command

Dress will be service dress, semi-formal, or Mess Dress for military members and suit and tie and cocktail/T-length dress for civilians.

Married military members can opt for one member to be in civilian clothes.

More information on cost will be

provided as soon as it is announced.

Basketball tourney

The 12th annual basketball tournament is scheduled to start January 05.

Five games are on tap in the opening round with the Civil Engineers tipping the tourney off against the Aerial Porters at 5:00 p.m.

A total of 15 teams have signed up to participate.

This year's tournament format is double elimination.

Games will continue on through March

Honor Guard

The Grissom Honor Guard is currently recruiting highly motivated individuals to join their ranks.

Grissom will hold a training class for new members Jan. 28-Feb. 1 at Grissom.

For more information, Senior Master Sgt. Linda Mason at Linda.mason@Grissom.af.mil.

In the limelight

Medals

Air Force Combat Action Medal – Maj. Erick Thorell, 72nd Air Refueling Squadron.

Meritorious Service Medal— Master Sgt. Charles Hamilton, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Major Valerie Hazley-Anyiwo, 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Master Sgt. Douglas Greenbank, 434th Services Flight; Master Sgt. Chester Nance, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. Michael Kamp, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. John Jones, 434th SFS; Lt. Col. John Kitchell, 434th Operations Support Squadron; Senior Master Sgt. Connie Pierce, 74th Air Refueling Squadron; Lt. Col. Thomas Pemberton, 72nd ARS; and Maj. Linda Blair, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Air Force Commendation Medal— Maj. Randall Stivers, 434th Security Forces Squadron; Maj. James West, 72nd ARS; and Tech. Sgt. Tammaia Rhodes, 434th Maintenance Operations Flight.

Air Force Achievement Medal— Tech. Sgt. Bradley Sommers, 434th SFS; Tech. Sgt. Adam Soultz, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Nicholas Stapleton, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. Kathleen Stiers, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. Wayne Svantner, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Kent Taylor, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. Cinthia Webb, 434th SF; Tech. Sgt. John Rapp, 434th SFS; Senior Master Sgt. Lewis Raye, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Leslie Richman,

434th SFS; Senior Airman Richard Rinella, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Daniel Rosa, 434th SFS; Tech. Sgt. Werner Rose, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. Ralph Ross, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Tony Russell, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Nathan Salvagni, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. Nicolas Sanchez, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. John Serban, 434th SFS; Chief Master Sgt. Georgia Shaw, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Brian Haase, 434th SFS; Tech. Sgt. David Douglass, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Ryan Monahan, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Ellis Owens, 434th SFS; Senior Master Sgt. Robert Owens, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. Lloyd Padgett, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. Garold Peacock, 434th SFS; Senior Airman John Pelance, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Danny Perez, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Arielle Alexander, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Gregory Moolenaar, 434th SFS; Tech. Sgt. Michael Miller, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Ronald Mahoy, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Christopher Kowalski, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Jacob Koch, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Anthony Kahl, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Andrew Julius, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Jacob Johnston, 434th SFS; Tech. Sgt. Mark Jasek, 434th SFS; Maj. Ronald Jackson, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. William Huggins, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Michael Hoffarth, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. Nelson Hernandez, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Matthew Hammer, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Shaun Bullick, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Sarah Walton, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Luke Whitman, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Dustin

Gibson, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Robert Walter, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Jason Williams, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Anthony Woods, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Andrew Grist, 434th SFS; Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Grant, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. James Glasgow, 434th SFS; Master Sgt. Matthew Gantt, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Allen Dozier, 434th SFS; Tech. Sgt. Robert Delee, 434th SFS; Senior Airman Michelle Curtiss, 434th SFS; Tech. Sgt. Roy Cox, 434th SFS; and Master Sgt. Tony Cochran, 434th SFS.



Promotions

To senior master sergeant— Richard Miller, 434th AMXS.

To master sergeant— Lisa Fitzgerald, 434th Mission Support Flight; Alicia Bartel, 434th AMS; Sabrina Greer, 434th CES; and Mark Copp, 434th OSS.

To technical sergeant— Shaun Bullick, 434th AMXS; Kevin Hutchisin, 434th AMXS; and Jeffrey Knode, 49th APF.

To staff sergeant— Thomas Cavanaugh, 434th AMXS; Jason Bireley, 72nd ARS, Tammie Washington, 434th MXS; Debra Wilson-Strong, 434th MSF; and Timothy Sommers, 434th SFS.

CE projects reinforce upgrade training

By SrA. Ben Mota
Public Affairs staff

For Air Force reservists, training is important to learn and maintain skills, but it is even more important when that training improves the structure of the base and saves money and time.

Brig. Gen. Dean Despinoy, 434th Air Refueling Wing commander, has tasked the 434th Civil Engineer Squadron to complete three to four local projects a year that would benefit upgrade training for reservists.

“We are looking for projects that will enhance the base while providing skill training for our members, but before we begin a project we must make sure that we have the personnel and equipment needed to complete it,” said Senior Master Sgt. Chuck Gill, 434th CES operations superintendent.

One project is the renovation of base supply pole barns 213 and 214, located outside the perimeter.

The two 9,360 square-foot barns began their upgrade Oct. 9 and are expected to take approximately 60 days to complete.

To control the climate in the buildings the civil engineers will be installing: weather stripping on all of the doors, nearly 13,000 square-feet of insulation, and gas operated forced heat, fans and dampers.

These improvements are being made to allow storage of items that need a controlled temperature.

New lighting fixtures will also be installed to provide improved lighting to



Photo by SrA. Ben Mota

Senior Airman Loinn Htaik, a heating, ventilation and air conditioning journeyman with the 434th Civil Engineers Squadron, wires a light during renovations on base.

the structures.

“These projects give us a variety of opportunities to cross-train our personnel,” said Tech Sgt. Dan Sharp, 434th CES project manager. “We are very diverse. If we can not get personnel from a required Air Force specialty code then we will cross-train people in other engineering AFSC’s.”

It is not uncommon to see a civil engineer with a heating ventilation and air-conditioning specialty performing the job of an electrician or a plumber laying carpet in order to get the job

completed.

“Cross training allows our reservists the ability to complete a project without having to wait for someone else,” said Sergeant Gill. “That is important to getting the job finished and it is an enhancement to the base because you have a better trained Airman.”

Another project in the making is the remodeling of Building 430.

The completion of the new pass and identification building, outside the main gate, has left an empty area that can not be used until it is remodeled.

The old site no longer needs the customer service window. The window has been removed and new carpet installed.

In addition, the orderly room adjacent to the old pass and identification room has been partitioned off for the Office of Special Investigations by installing a new wall.

This will provided the agents with offices and a briefing area.

The new wall will require electrical outlets and the old ceiling tiles will have to be replaced to accompany the wall.

The partitioned area will also need a heating source and the florescent lighting will be relocated to light both rooms.

“It is easy to overlook the amount of work needed to complete a project, but cross training gives our Non-Commissioned Officer’s the ability to look at a project as a whole and know what is needed to complete it,” added Sergeant Gill.