



944th Fighter Wing Monthly SnapShot

www.944fw.afrc.af.mil

May 2013

944 FW KEY LEADERS

Commander

Col. Kurt J. Gallegos

Vice Commander

Col. Chris Yancy

Command Chief

CMSgt Thomas Brandhuber

Mission

**Provide combat-ready
Citizen Airmen in support
of our national objectives.**

UTA Schedule

May 4-5, 2013
Jun. 1-2, 2013
Jul. 13-14, 2013
Aug. 3-4, 2013
Sept. 7-8, 2013

944th Fighter Wing Monthly SnapShot:

Contents of the Monthly SnapShot are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, DoD or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 944th Fighter Wing, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 85309. All photographs and graphics are property of the Air Force unless otherwise indicated. Articles can be submitted via 944fw.pa@luke.af.mil.

The SnapShot wants to highlight you and/or your unit. If you would like to submit an idea, article, or photo for the SnapShot, please e-mail 944fw.pa@luke.af.mil or call 623-856-5388.

Safe'n Sound All Year Round

By Colonel Kurt J. Gallegos, 944th Fighter Wing Commander

Wow, it's hot in Arizona already. It seems we are going to have an early start to the summer heat this year. The Air Force's 101 Critical Days of Summer safety campaign doesn't typically start until 4pm the Friday before Memorial Day, but since we have hit 100 degrees here I'd say we are already in summer mode.

This year's 101 days of summer theme is, "Safe'n Sound All Year Round." It's a great reminder that we constantly need to be on guard against complacency and always have a plan.

The number one cause of serious injuries and fatalities to Air Force members during the 101 Critical Days of Summer is motor vehicle mishaps (this includes motorcycles). There are more people on the roads taking vacations or visiting family. Be smart and be safe, don't talk on phones or text, do drive defensively and pay attention to the other vehicles on the road. If you ride a motorcycle be extra cautious and don't do anything stupid. And NEVER drink and drive.

The 56th Fighter Wing lost three members in four weeks earlier this year. Two of them were due to driving/motorcycle accidents. Be safe all year around while driving.

Water sports are another safety concern during the summer. Make sure your kids are always chaperoned when near a pool or any water. If you are going boating or enjoy any other water sports make sure you are wearing the proper gear, have a plan and remember that alcohol and water sports don't mix well.

Here in Arizona we really have to be careful of the heat during the summer. Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate, I can't say it enough. Always carry water with you and if you are going hiking or for a drive take more water than you think you will need. Stay out of the sun and out of the heat as much as you can. Ten a.m. to three p.m. tend to be the hottest time of the day so plan accordingly. Sunburn, heatstroke and other heat-related illnesses may not cause a fatality, but can certainly cause lost work days and days of pain.

Finally, I want to touch on something that I feel goes hand in hand with our 101 Critical Days of Summer ... suicide prevention and being a Wingman. We just had our Wingman day briefs but I think it is important to reemphasize it. The summer can be a lot of fun but it can also highlight hardships and loneliness. Last year the Department of Defense had its highest suicide rate since they started keeping track in 2001. We lost 349 brothers and sisters in arms to suicide in 2012. According to a study done by the Department of Veterans Affairs they estimate 22 military veterans take their lives every day in America. This is completely unacceptable!

Resiliency helps Airmen overcome adversity, bounce back from setbacks and even grow as they overcome challenges. Sometimes though we need a little help and that is where our Wingmen come into play. Don't wait for someone to ask for help; if you see signs of distress, reach out, now, and offer help in any way you can.

Let's make it through this long hot summer without any mishaps and stay Safe 'n Sound All Year Round.

944th Fighter Wing NOC and SNCO Induction Ceremony

**May 4, 2013 at 1430
Club 56**

Come out and congratulate our newest NCO's and SNCO's





Don't suffer and avoidable tragedy

By Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Brandhuber, 944th Fighter Wing Command Chief

Well triple digits are back and along with those hot summer days come even more opportunity for people to make poor choices. I know this article is going to look familiar to last summer's (and Col. Gallegos's commentary) but people are still doing the same things over and over again.

The inside of a car gets very hot during the day in Arizona; don't leave children in an untended car for any period of time. In the greater Phoenix area there were three incidents of children being injured from being left in a hot car last week alone.

Never leave a child, for any period of time, alone in or by any type of water. Just this last week in the Tucson and Phoenix area several children have been involved in near drowning incidents. I understand that there is a strong connection between water, sun, and alcohol. I am not saying that is a bad thing, however, I am saying that there should be at least one responsible person making sure the environment is safe. If you're on a boat, wear your life jacket, and if you are operating the boat don't operate it under the influence. If you're at a pool party designate a responsible sober person to watch the children in and around the pool.

Again, I am not trying to be preachy and I have been known to make a few bad choices here and there but I don't want any member of our wing to suffer an avoidable tragedy. As a father myself I can think of nothing worse than one of my girls being hurt or killed because of a poor choice I made. Fire Fighters, Police Officers, EMS personnel, and medical professionals get to see the best and the worst of humanity, there is nothing worse than responding to an incident where a child has died due to a preventable action. So please, enjoy the summer time, spend time with family and friends, but do it safely.

Keep our deployed members and their families in your thoughts. See you around the wing. Go Irish!

Promotions:

The following members were promoted May 1, 2013:

Airman 1st Class Jacobi J. Goodman to the rank of Senior Airman, 944th Civil Engineer Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Mary D. Jones to the rank of Senior Airman, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Kendra N. Roberts to the rank of Senior Airman, 944th Medical Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Paul J. Sierra to the rank of Senior Airman, 944th Medical Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Andrew D. Struebing to the rank of Senior Airman, 924th Maintenance Squadron
 Airman 1st Class Joshua Young to the rank of Senior Airman, 924th Maintenance Squadron
 Senior Airman Luis A. Castro to the rank of Staff Sergeant, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Staff Sgt. Eric F. Washburn to the rank of Technical Sergeant, 414th Maintenance Squadron
 Staff Sgt. Grant P. Duffield to the rank of Technical Sergeant, 944th Security Forces Squadron
 Staff Sgt. Daniel E. Pottinger to the rank of Technical Sergeant, 944th Security Forces Squadron
 Staff Sgt. Daniel R. Sanderson to the rank of Technical Sergeant, 944th Security Forces Squadron
 Staff Sgt. Rene S. Pallanes to the rank of Technical Sergeant, 924th Maintenance Squadron
 Staff Sgt. James Oberhaus to the rank of Technical Sergeant, 944th Force Support Squadron
 Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey D. Braselton to the rank of Master Sergeant, 944th Force Support Squadron
 Tech. Sgt. Paul J. Sadorf to the rank of Master Sergeant, 944th Medical Squadron



Welcome Home!!

Airman 1st Class Renee L. Boehm, 944th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, returned home from Ramstien Air Base

Staff Sgt. Jessica A. Stanton, 944th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, returned home from Ramstien Air Base

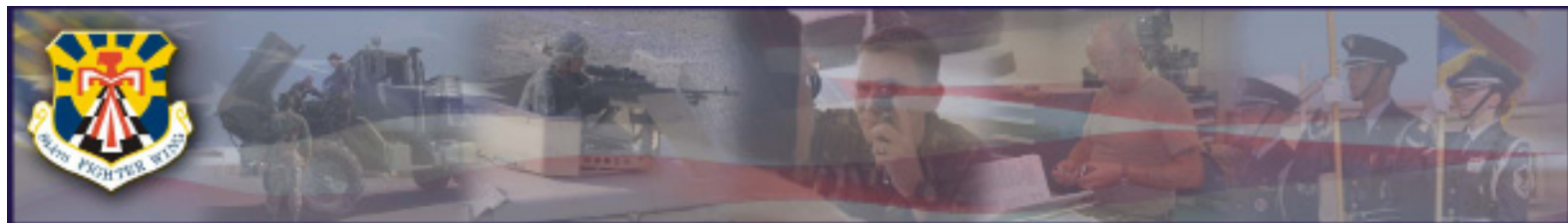
Staff Sgt. Yolanda L. Thomas, 944th Medical Squadron, returned home from Ramstien Air Base

Tech. Sgt. Shawn C. Jordan, 944th Medical Squadron, returned home from Ramstien Air Base

Lt. Col. Cookie S. Avvampato, 944th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, returned home from Ramstien Air Base

Lt. Col. Debbie L. Davis, 944th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, returned home from Ramstien Air Base

Col. Gregory C. Jones, 944th Operations Group, returned home from Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan



Fellow Citizen Airmen,

Happy 65th Birthday to the Air Force Reserve!

Since President Truman founded the Air Force Reserve on 14 April 1948, America's Citizen Airmen have served with distinction in defense of our nation. Together, we share a history built upon a proud heritage, which is foundational to our Air Force Reserve story.

Our story is not just about our past successes, but also our future. As America's Citizen Airmen, you constantly demonstrate a tradition of innovation by leveraging your unique blend of civilian and military expertise. I'm excited to see the success you'll bring to the Air Force Reserve in the upcoming years.

To read more about our AFRC history visit: <http://www.afrc.af.mil/library/history/index.asp>

Thanks for all you do,

JJ

JAMES F. JACKSON, Lt Gen, USAF
Commander

Wing Quarterly Award Winners First Quarter

Airman of the Quarter:

Airman 1st Class Antonio Rosas, 944th Medical Squadron

Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter:

Tech. Sgt. Shawn Jordan, 944th Medical Squadron

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter:

Master Sgt. Stuart Brown, 414th Maintenance Squadron

Company Grade Officer of the Quarter:

Capt. Allyson Olson, 69th Fighter Squadron

Field Grade Officer of the Quarter:

Maj. Jason Reiss, 307th Fighter Squadron

Instructor Pilot of the Quarter:

Maj. David Zeytoonjian, 69th Fighter Squadron



944 FSS Volunteer at Special Olympics

Over 20 members of the 944th Force Support Squadron and their families volunteered Saturday at the Special Olympics Arizona Summer Games Competition as part of their Community Outreach program.

944 FW Rising Six Presents:

CINCO DE MAYO

SALSA SHOWDOWN

Where: Bldg 993 Back Open Bay
When: 5 May 1430 - 1530

Your \$3 entry fee includes:

- Salsa tasting w/chips
- Small drink
- 1 voting ticket

Want to make sure your favorite salsa wins?
Buy extra voting tickets for a \$1 each!!

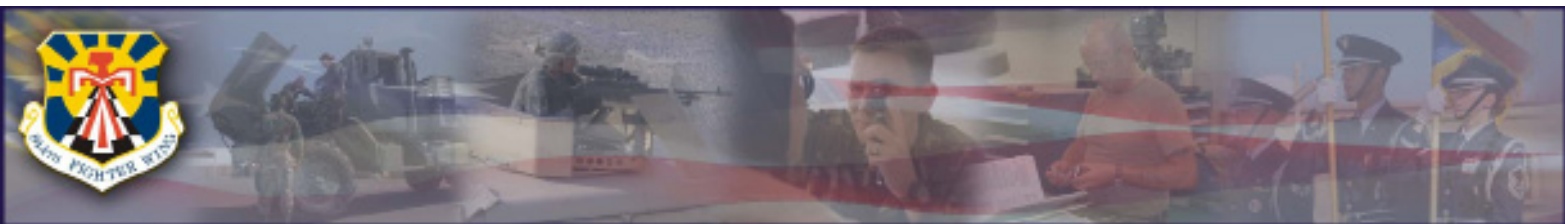
PATS RUN

Sixteen 944th Fighter Wing members joined 35,000 participants in the Ninth Annual Pat's Run on Saturday, Apr. 20. The 4.2 mile race and .42 mile kids race started and ended at Arizona State University's Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe and finished on the 42-yard line to commemorate the #42 that Pat wore on his jersey at ASU. The run/walk helps raise money for the Pat Tillman Foundation which provides resources and educational scholarship support to veterans, active servicemembers and their spouses.

This is the third year that the 944th Aeromedical Staging Squadron has coordinated a team from the 944th.

Pat Tillman put his NFL career with the Arizona Cardinals on hold in 2002 to join the Army. Following his death in 2004, while serving with the U.S. Army's 75th Ranger Regiment in Afghanistan, his family and friends established the Pat Tillman Foundation.





Air Force ushers in new savings culture

By Amaani Lyle, Air Force Public Affairs

With budgets shrinking, Air Force leaders are calling on Airmen to

share their best money-saving ideas through the Every Dollar Counts campaign.

In the wake of sequestration, the initiative marks a cultural shift that empowers Airmen to find and recommend areas for savings that may be used to support readiness needs, said Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Larry Spencer.

Beginning May 1, Airmen can submit their cost-reducing ideas via the Airmen Powered by Innovation websites while at home, the office or on their smartphone.

Both uniformed and civilian Air Force members can participate in the month-long open call for ideas and share their creative and efficient ways to save money and time.

"When things get tough, Airmen figure out a way to get it done," Spencer said. "We have some of the most innovative folks in the world, so I know there are ideas about how we can do things better."

Spencer's resource management and budget-related background amplifies the urgency to mine those ideas.

"We stopped flying one-third of Air Force

active duty combat-coded fighter squadrons in April, and we're projected to slow down or stop the flow of aircraft and engines in the depots," Spencer said.

Furthermore, he said, the Air Force must trim about \$11 billion in the last half of fiscal year 2013. Additionally, our overseas contingency operations funding is almost \$2 billion short so we have to make up that difference as well.

And the challenge is compounded by the sequester timeline, which officially began March 1.

"We have to squeeze a year's worth of cuts into about six months," Spencer said of the Air Force budget. "So there's a lot of money to be taken out of our budget in a short period of time ... I've never seen anything quite like it."

Airmen at every level should feel less encumbered by perhaps dated or unnecessary Air Force Instructions or guidelines when brainstorming cost-cutting measures, the general said.

"Airmen Powered by Innovation means go into that file of good ideas that were maybe 'too hard to do,' pull them out and submit them," Spencer declared. "If it's a good idea and requires an Air Force Instruction change, then we'll see if we can do that."

Spencer wants Airmen to submit their ideas regardless of the idea's potential savings.

"Whether it's \$500, \$1 million or \$30 million, we want to hear it because those dollars add up," he said.

"We're taking every angle we can to manage our money and 'buy' as much mission as we can," he said. "In that sense, every Airman, whether they're at a wing or headquarters can help."

Spencer said the Every Dollar Counts campaign does not just focus on our wings but includes those large centrally managed accounts as well.

"The Centralized Asset Management Office at Wright Patterson AFB manages the money we spend on flying hours, sustaining space operations and depot operations -- over \$16 billion -- so we're taking a close review of that account to determine how we can stretch those dollars.

"This is an opportunity to not only look at homegrown ideas, but broader ideas that affect the larger Air Force as well."

The general expressed optimism in quickly finding solutions through ideas.

"Innovation is what we're all about," Spencer said. "This is our family and we're going to get through this because we've got great Airmen to help see us through this."

Airman can submit your idea one of three ways:

1. The Air Force Portal link provides for submission of ideas and/or an interactive discussion forum: <https://www.my.af.mil>
2. The Air Force Public Site is set up for access via your mobile device or home computers: <http://www.af.mil>
3. Visit the "Airmen Powered by Innovation" Facebook page: <http://on.fb.me/15DHimz>

Air Force restarts tuition assistance

By Staff Sgt. David Salanitri, Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

The Air Force has officially restarted military tuition assistance, effective immediately.

The service restarted the program as a result of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013, where Congress called for the MTA program to continue in the current fiscal year.

As a result of the restart, the program will resume the same benefits as before. Airmen are eligible for up to \$4,500 per fiscal year and a maximum of \$250 per semester hour or quarter hour equivalent to cover tuition and allowable fees. Military tuition assistance is not available retroactively to cover courses taken and paid for using any other funding source during the suspension of military tuition assistance.

"Military tuition assistance will be the same program Airmen are used to," said Russell Frasz, the director of Force Development. "The same policies and procedures will be in place."

With this change, current and future Airmen will be given another tool to develop professionally through advanced education, Frasz said.

"Voluntary education and military tuition assistance programs continue to be integral to the recruiting, retention and readiness of Airmen and contribute to institutional competencies," said Kim Yates, the Air Force Voluntary Education chief. "In the long term,

the Air Force will still be able to leverage the learning achieved by Airmen to ensure a dynamic, flexible force able to work in uncertain environments around the world. The will have the ability to think critically."

Looking to the future, Frasz notes that they are trying to maintain the balance of the military tuition assistance benefits while also ensuring the force is ready and equipped for operations.

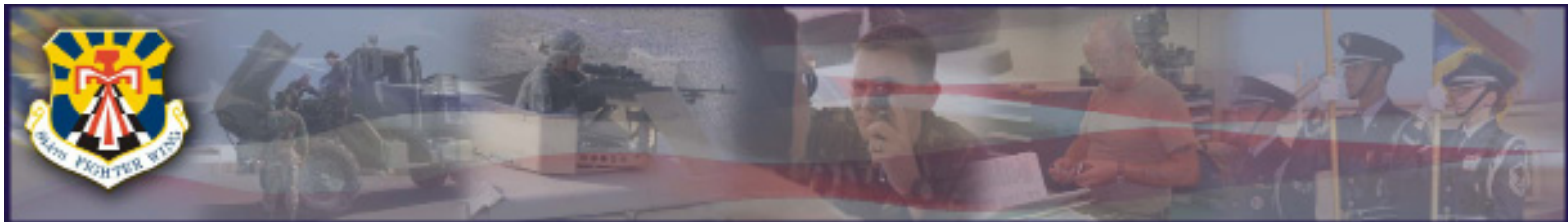
"We are working with senior leaders to develop a way ahead for fiscal year 2014 that takes into account both the value of the (military tuition assistance) program as well maintaining the financial health of the program within funding constraints."

Though times may seem uncertain, Frasz wants to reassure Airmen of senior leaders' commitment to Airmen and their education.

The Air Force continues to value education as a force multiplier and Airmen should take advantage of educational opportunities making them more proficient in their profession, setting them up for success in their career.

Like all organizations going through sequestration and budgetary struggles, Frasz is committed to fighting for the best Air Force possible.

"Fiscal constraints create a challenge that Air Force leadership continues to work through," he said. "We strive to meet the needs of Airmen and the Air Force."



Secretary of the Air Force announces departure

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley has announced his plan to step down June 21 as the Air Force's top civilian after serving for nearly five years.

"It's been an honor and a privilege to serve with our Air Force's great Airmen," Donley said. "Their accomplishments have been nothing short of impressive and I'm humbled to be a part of this team. The Air Force has been a way of life for so much of my career, I know it will be bittersweet to say farewell."

Donley was confirmed as the 22nd secretary of the Air Force Oct. 2, 2008. He served as the acting secretary since June of that year, as well as for seven months in 1993, making him the longest serving secretary in the history of the Air Force. He also served as the service's top financial officer from 1989 to 1993.

"Mike has been an invaluable adviser during my first two months as Secretary of Defense

and has been an outstanding leader of the Air Force for nearly five years," said Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel. "His leadership came during a challenging time for the Air Force, and he helped instill a culture of responsibility, initiative and professionalism to the service. Mike has been an unwavering champion for our Airmen, their families, and for American airpower. The Air Force he leaves behind is more resilient and more respected because of his leadership and personal dedication."

Though Donley has not yet announced any future plans, he remains dedicated during his remaining time to supporting the Secretary of Defense in the many challenges that lie ahead for the service.

"In the meantime, there remains much to do," Donley said. "This is an extraordinary and exciting time for our Air Force, filled with both challenges and opportunities. I remain confident that

the strength and professionalism of our Airmen, and the commitment and determination of General Welsh, Chief Cody and our military and civilian leadership team, will continue to see us through."

Donley's 35 years of experience in the national security community also includes service in the Senate, White House and the Pentagon. Prior to assuming his current position, he served as the Director of Administration and Management in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.



Reserve, Guard leaders discuss FY14 budget

By Col. Bob Thompson, Air Force Reserve Public Affairs

The top leaders from Army, Navy, Marine and Air Force Reserve and National Guard were on Capitol Hill here Apr. 17 to provide statements and answer questions regarding their FY14 budget proposals.

Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., the chairwoman of the full U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., the chairman of the Subcommittee on Defense, and Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., the subcommittee's ranking member, led discussions and listened to testimony from Reserve and National Guard leaders.

"In an increasingly limited fiscal environment, reservists remain efficient and cost-effective solutions to our nation's challenges," said Lt. Gen. James F. Jackson, the chief of Air Force Reserve at the Pentagon and the commander of Air Force Reserve Command at Robins AFB, Ga.

In written and verbal testimony, Jackson outlined how the FY14 President's Budget request would fund Air Force Reserve requirements of approximately \$5 billion. It provides for the operation and training of 34 wings, funds 102,212 flying hours, maintains 362 aircraft, and provides for the readiness of 70,400 reservists.

The Senate Appropriations Committee is the largest committee in the U.S. Senate. Its role is defined by the U.S. Constitution, which requires "appropriations made by law" prior to the expenditure of any money from the federal treasury. The Defense subcommittee is responsible for reviewing the president's budget request, hearing testimony from government officials, and drafting the spending plans for the coming fiscal year.

The Air Force Reserve budget request is about 5 percent of the total Air Force budget, and includes \$3.16 billion for operation and maintenance for air operations, service support and civilian pay; \$1.7 billion for military personnel; and \$45.6 million for military construction.

"Our highest priority project is the construction of a personnel deployment processing center at March Air Reserve Base, Calif.," Jackson said. "This military construction request also provides for construction of a squadron operations facility for the 513th Air Control Group at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma and an entry

control complex at Homestead Air Reserve Base in Florida."

Air Force reservists have served in every U.S. combat and humanitarian operation throughout the world including Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Japan, Mali and the Horn of Africa.

"Currently, more than 2,000 of America's Citizen Airmen are deployed around the world," Jackson said. "Additionally, there are over 4,000 serving on active-duty status in direct support of combatant commander requirements."

Although the FY14 DOD budget request is essentially flat compared to the fiscal 2013 request, it meets the deficit reduction targets required by the Budget Control Act of 2011. This includes a portion of the more than \$487 billion required in savings over 10 years. However, the fiscal 2014 budget does not include additional cuts that may be required by sequestration's requirements to save about \$600 billion more in the next 10 years.

"Our ability to effectively respond with a capable force is increasingly threatened by sequestration and fiscal uncertainties," Jackson said.

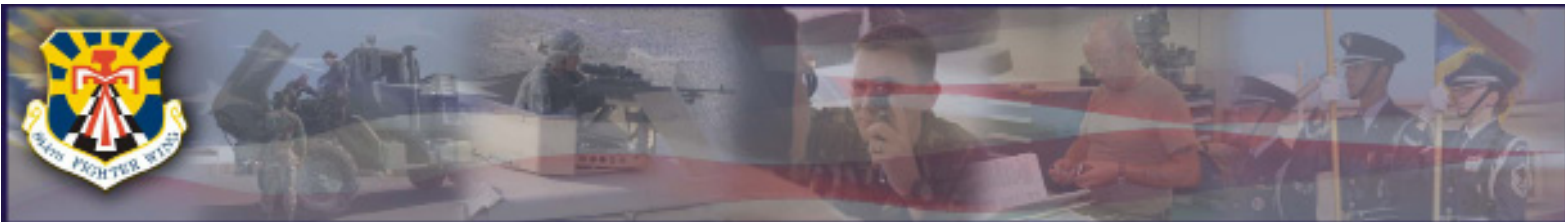
The senators questioned the guard and reserve leaders on the impact of more budget cuts and what the ratio should be between active-duty and reserve component forces.

"Perhaps our greatest strength is we retain 'Airmen for life,' preserving the considerable investments and expertise of our Airmen beyond their active-duty service," Jackson said. "Today's Air Force Reserve is a force of combat-tested warriors."

Also, the senators led discussions of one of the biggest issues for the future of the Air Force -- to develop the right force mix of regular and reserve component Airmen. The "National Commission on the Force Structure of the Air Force" was established by the FY13 National Defense Authorization Act and is tasked to make recommendations on the mix to the president by Feb. 1, 2014.

In the past, the traditional approach to rebalancing during a budget reduction has been to reduce reserve component force structure to preserve active component operational capabilities, or to reduce all components through some proportional or fair-share model to spread the cuts across the force.

"My staff and I look forward to providing input to the National Commission on this important issue," Jackson said.



Owning your career

By Senior Master Sgt. James King, first sergeant, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron

I have heard during my 24 years in the Air Force that I need to “own my career.” It was something I was told as a young airman and it really did not mean anything to me. It was not until I had been in for over 17 years and was listening to Chief Master Sgt. Wilson talk to new airman explaining what it meant to “own your career.” Chief Wilson was a dynamic; people focused Security Forces chief who brought everyone around him up. He inspired people and in-turn they gave 110% to meet his expectation. As I listened to him explain to the new airman about owning their career, it finally hit me. I will try to reiterate what the chief said that finally made this concept click.

Don't be the Chevy

Try to picture the following – there is a lot full of automobiles. Let's eliminate all of the cars so only trucks remain. Next eliminate all the 4X2 trucks so only 4X4 are left. Still narrowing the field down, eliminate all the trucks that are not lifted; then pull all the foreign models out of the mix. We would now be down to just a few models left to choose from if we were going to make a selection. If there is still too many, then we could narrow the selection down even more by pulling all the Chevy's out. (Actually that should have been the first thing we eliminated....friends don't let friends drive Chevy's). Now only the best choices remain.

So how does that relate to owning your career? This analogy is very similar to how people are selected for opportunities and promotions. You can eliminate the airmen that are not participating. You have to show up on the unit training assemblies to even get on the list. Next you can eliminate the airmen that are not meeting the minimum standards – failed physical training, not completing professional military education, showing up late, etc. Now you can start looking for the positive qualities – do you own additional programs outside of your normal job (physical training leader, Safety Monitor, CPR instructor), do you have your Community College Air Force, are you participating outside your squadron at the wing level (i.e. member of Raising 6 or Top 3), have you been submitted or won a quarterly award, etc. If you ask yourself some of these questions – and answer them honestly – you will be able to see where you are in the rack and stack against your peers. You want to be in the last pool and be one of the best choices for leadership.

Toot your own horn and do it loudly

Once you are doing the additional duties/jobs, then you need to make sure you are recognized for the work. I heard Wilson say something that I now repeat to all the airman I talk to, and it was something like this: There will never be a day your supervisor gets up, comes to work with nothing to do and says to himself “I think I need to write Airman Snuffy an award package today because there is nothing else on my plate.” We are all busy and the higher up you go, the more tasks are put on your plate. If you are doing all the extra work, you should be recognized for it. I am not saying

that your supervisor does not see it and appreciate it but having the time to put it on paper maybe lower on the priority list. This is where you need to “own your career.” Nobody knows better what you are doing than YOU. Write a draft of the AF1206 with all the stuff you are doing and give the information to your supervisor. This will help him with the “meat” of the award and now he will be

able to polish the package to help you shine. People are too engrained to not talk about themselves because it makes them sound conceited. You want people to know all the extras you are doing, give it to them so they can give you the recognition you deserve.

Plan your career

If I asked you, “what position do you hold on the unit manning roster?” Do you know the answer? It is important to understand your organization's structure. What slot are you in

(SSgt, TSgt, MSgt)? Are you in the slot or are you in an overage slot? What slots are above or lateral to you and how will you position yourself to move into those slots? This is very important when you start considering things like Promotion Enhancement Program and career progression. If you don't know the answers to these questions or if you don't know what I am talking about, you need to talk with your supervisor and they can enlighten you. This was not something that was ever discussed when I was a lower ranked airman but it is critical in understanding how and where you fit in. Again, you need to own this information and work your career.

Communicate your plan

One of the most important things in your entire career is to communicate to the people around you. You have the best plan for your career but if you do not share it, then you probably will not get as far. You need to have people help put your plan into action. This would be your supervisor, co-workers, first sergeant, and commander. If these people know what you want to do, they have the connections and can provide you with opportunity. Remember that they can only open the door; you must take the next steps to go through it. You need to have a short and long term plan and steps you are going to take to make progress. Sometimes your plan maybe switching positions to a job that is a better fit. Do not be afraid to share your goal, even if it is going to move you out of the organization. If you are a great asset to the Air Force, your leadership would be more than happy to help get into a position you want to be in instead of having you leave the military. The sooner you can share your plan, the better your chances will be to get opportunities which will expand your experience and put you on the right path.

As I look back on my 24 years, I wish I would have taken more ownership of my career growth. Part of it is having the right people around to help and explain it to me and the bigger part was me wanting to listen. If I could only go back and hit that young airman in the head so he would have paid more attention and taken some personal ownership!!

As I look back on my 24 years, I wish I would have taken more ownership of my career. Part of it is having the right people around to help and the bigger part was me wanting to listen.



Check us out on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/944thFighterWing.LukeAFB>
or on our web page at <http://www.944fw.afrc.af.mil/>



Do you have what it takes to be one of the few?

The Air Force Reserve Command is looking for Traditional Reservists, Staff Sgt. (with two years time in grade) to Master Sgt., who are interested in filling Military Training Instructor positions at 433rd Training Squadron, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Currently, 40 Air Force Traditional Reserve members from around the country serve as MTIs. The 433rd TRS is in search of high-quality Airmen to fill 76 MTI vacancies. Some of the requirements are: Excellent military image and appearance, minimum fitness score of 80 on last two PT tests, ability to speak clearly, total Air Force military service of less than 16 years, minimum score of 49 in general area on ASVAB.

If you have what it takes to give back to the next generation, recruiters will be at Luke Saturday, June 1, 2013 (June UTA) to give a brief presentation and meet one-on-one with interested applicants. For more information on the program you can contact Tech. Sgt. Terri Taylor-Trapp at DSN 473-7336/2410, commercial (210) 671-7336/2410 or send an e-mail to 433trs.recruiting@us.af.mil.



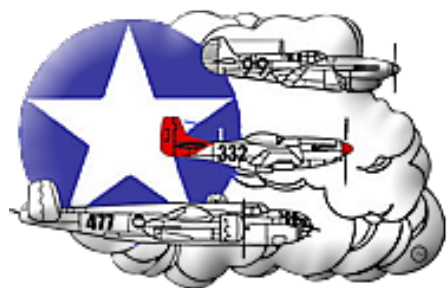
KEY NOTES:

Triathlon Challenge: The Soma Triathlon is scheduled for Oct. 20, 2013. The triathlon is a HALF IRON MAN meaning it is 1.2 mile swim, 56 mile bike, and a short 13.1 mile run. The organizers are offering a 50% discount to military members. To register visit <https://register.bazumedia.com/reg/form?eventID=2139> and enter the promo code: MIL50. For more information on the Soma Triathlon go to <http://www.redrockco.com/events/event-details.cfm?id=053D50CE-D086-C29F-5585A821EAF5BDB8>. If you are interested in competing and do register please call Tech. Sgt. Tymmothy Roy (623-856-9474).

Guitars for Vets: Join the fun and support our veterans at Vistal Golf Course and Alice Cooperstown on June 14th for Guitars for Vets 2013 fundraiser golf tournament. Players will receive: practice balls, 18 holes of scramble golf tournament 1st, and 2nd place pro-shop awards, low cost chances at two hole in one competitions with \$10,000 cash rewards longest drive, and closest to the hole competition golf shirt to remember the event. The golf tournament is at Vistal Golf Course at 701 E Thunderbird Trail Phoenix, AZ 85042. The post Golf Banquet will be at Alice Cooperstown. To sign up visit <http://www.facebook.com/GuitarsForVets#!/G4VPhoenix?fref=ts>



USAF Marathon MAJCOM Challenge: The Air Force Marathon will be held Sept. 21, 2013 at Wright-Patterson AFB. There is a MAJCOM Challenge for a 10 person team to represent each MAJCOM. Participants will receive uniform items, registration, and some travel support. Team must be made up of three males and one female for the Full Marathon and four males and two females for the Half Marathon. To register submit an AF Form 303, Specialized Sports Training Form, to the Fitness Director/Athletic Director/Local POC by May 15, 2013. For more information on the Marathon visit, <http://www.usafmarathon.com> or contact Danny Acosta, Luke AFB Sports Dept at 623-856-4261.



Great opportunity! The Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy will be held May 28 to Jun. 1 at the Papago Army National Guard Training Site Command. The week long ACE Academy is for students 13 – 17 who have a desire to learn about aviation careers. The participants will build model airplanes, tour aviation facilities, participate in hands-on activities and learn the history of aviation and the Tuskegee Airmen. The academy is sponsored by the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals and supported by the Archer Ragsdale Arizona Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen. For more information or to get an application please contact Tech. Sgt. Goya Johnson at 623-856-5358 or visit <http://aractai.org/Youth.html>. (Applications must be post marked by May 10, 2013)

WINGMAN TOOLKIT

◊ AIR FORCE RESERVE ◊

Visit <http://afrc.wingmantoolkit.org/>

Or to get help now call 1-800-273-TALK