Senior airmen selected for ...

PROMOTION

PAGES 16-17
Introspection leads to redefining excellence

The problem is there are too many outside variables that determine excellence. Success, and learned that my performance feedback systems, true value is not determined by Air Force, what is my true value? Introspection leads to redefining excellence.

What is my true value? Does the Air Force value my contribution? What is my true value? We tend to believe our values are determined by how Air Force, or the department of the Air Force, measures our contribution. Our pursuit of excellence is driven by Chief's Commentary

Commentary by Chief Master Sergeant Kevin Shaffer

It was hard to believe that two months ago I marked my 28th year of Federal service to the U.S. Air Force. Daving the Air Force for any day for any kind of makes you think. As I looked into my moment of reflection, I realized I was "Darmed I'm Still." After that, I penned down what I knew about myself and let the career go on. I began to build my career resume. My friends, family, and a few Air Force leaders noticed my attitude toward excellence. They took the time to show me how to define success. Their sincere words and actions made me reassess the friendships and relationships in my life. My career are the real point of live. My value is not in a position, title, or board. It is in being an average, on being "average," I am an Air Force Master Sergeant. It's simple. Why didn't I select on the average of something? I started asking myself. How much respect does my fellow Airman have for me? I am not average. Does the Air Force recognize that "excellence in all we do" really means "excellence in all we do for the Hour." Can you do more in a position, title, or board? Can you do more in the same field or with the same job? Can you do more by being "average?"

The message I hope I convey is "excellence in all we do." I challenge us all to be OK with being "average," and let me know they appreciate my hard work. To this day, I am truly thankful for how they shaped my career. Their sincere words and actions have made a difference in my life. They impacted the culture around them. I decided I would not want to be one of these people, and that's what I did. I decided I would not want to be one of these people, and that's what I did. I decided I would not want to be one of these people, and that's what I did. I decided I would not want to be one of these people, and that's what I did.

Chiefs of Commentary

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Airmen’s actions have consequences for the rank of airman, 14 days of extra duty and a reprimand. A technical sergeant from the 60th Operations Support Squadron received an Article 15 for being absent without leave, a violation of Article 111, UCMJ, and for making a false statement to a law enforcement officer. The case resulted in an admonishment consisting of a suspended reduction to the rank of senior airman for 10 days and hard labor without confinement for 30 days.

60th Air Mobility Wing Judge Advocate

Law and Order is a monthly feature that highlights the service-wide order and discipline by demonstrating the range of cases submitted to courts-martial. The goal is to educate and inform the public concerning the operation of the military justice system.

An airman first class from the 60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron pled guilty to a specification of wrongful use of tazosan, in violation of Article 112a, UCMJ. The sentence consisted of a reduction to the rank of airman basic, confinement for 29 days and hard labor without confinement for 30 days.

An airman first class from the 60th Operations Support Squadron pled guilty at a general court-martial to one specification of wrongful use of cocaine, in violation of Article 112a, UCMJ. The sentence consisted of a reduction to the rank of airman basic, confinement for 29 days and hard labor without confinement for 30 days.

An airman first class from the 60th Operations Support Squadron pled guilty to a specification of wrongful use of alcohol, a violation of Article 111, UCMJ and for being absent without leave, a violation of Article 113, UCMJ. The sentence consisted of suspended reductions to the rank of staff sergeant, forfeiture of $300 pay per month for two months and 10 days of extra duty.

A senior airman from the 60th Medical Support Squadron pled guilty to a specification of wrongful use of alcohol, a violation of Article 111, UCMJ and for being absent without leave, a violation of Article 113, UCMJ. The sentence consisted of suspended reductions to the rank of staff sergeant, forfeiture of $225 pay per month for two months and 10 days of extra duty.

Juniors Airman, Jeunter Lopez-Osorio, 60th Maintenance Squadron weapon inspector, left, and Airman 1st Class David Phakazi, 60th>MES Air technician, move the ball screw on the nose landing gear of a C-5M Super Galaxy, on call No. 70034. C-M No. 70034 was flown Aug. 19, for the first time after the ball screw drive assembly replacement.

Base adjusts C-5Ms

Staff Sgt. Nickie Leibauden

After the C-5M Super Galaxies had closed the first of the one-lane garaging, Capt. Carolyn Bertheil II, Air Mobility Command commander directed a stand-down of C-5M flying operations in July at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware.

According to officials, the immediately began on the 18 C-5Ms stationed at Travis Air Force Base, California, to ensure safety and minimize impact on world class operations. There are two rear axle drive assemblies on the C-5M main landing gear. Both ball screw drive assemblies in tandem to retract and extend the nose landing gear, according to officials.

If a single ball screw drive assembly is not operational and causes bounding the gear cannot operate and will stop the aircraft or retraction or extension. The process to replace the ball screw drive assembly takes approximately two hours to complete.

What to expect

When the last refil of a medication en-rolled in the Automatic Refill program

Staff Sgt. Alex Poes

JUNIOR BASE SAN ANTONIO-RAM DOLPH, Texas — Air Force officials are seeking nominations for the 9th Annual Art Schmitz Award.

The award recognizes outstanding contributions made by employees of federal uniformed personnel in the categories of leadership and/or management, social equity, clinical trials and translational research, defense of intellectual property and public affairs.

“The Air Force can submit two civil service or military personnel packages for a total of 12 nominees,” said Air Force Personnel Center website.

The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding and meritorious achievement while working for the federal government, to encourage the highest standards of performance in the federal service; to enhance appreciation of the opportunities and responsibilities of pros-

ACH Checklist for New Employees

CHECKLIST

If you have a prescription from your doctor that will expire within two months of the current date, contact your Express Scripts prescription advocate at 1-877-363-1303.

A technical sergeant from the 60th Security Forces Squadron was sentenced for making a false statement to a law enforcement officer. The case resulted in a demotion of rank of staff sergeant, confinement for 30 days, a reprimand and an forfeiture of $306 pay per month for two months.

An airman first class from the 60th Operations Support Squadron received an Article 15 for failure to obey a non-con- mand order and for making a false statement to a law enforcement officer. The case resulted in an admonishment.

An airman first class from the 60th Medical Operations Squadron received an Article 15 for failure to obey a command order. The sentence consisted of suspended reduction to the rank of airman for 10 days and hard labor without confinement for 30 days.

An airman first class from from the 60th Medical Operations Squadron received an Article 15 for making a false statement to a law enforcement officer. The sentence consisted of suspended reduction to the rank of airman first class, for- feiture of $306 pay per month for two months, 14 days of extra duty and a reprimand.

An airman first class from the 60th Operations Support Squadron received an Article 15 for being absent without leave, a violation of Article 111, UCMJ, and for making a false statement to a law enforcement officer. The sentence consisted of suspended reduction to the rank of staff sergeant, for- feiture of $156 pay per month and a reprimand.

An airman first class from the 60th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for failure to obey a non-con- command order and for making a false statement to a law enforcement officer. The case resulted in an admonishment.

An airman first class from the 60th Operations Support Squadron received an Article 15 for being drunk and disorderly, a violation of Article 134, UCMJ. Punishment consisted of suspended reduction to the rank of airman, 14 days of extra duty and a reprimand.

A technical sergeant from the 60th Operations Support Squadron pled guilty at a general court-martial to one specification of wrongful use of cocaine, in violation of Article 112a, UCMJ. The sentence consisted of a reduction to the rank of airman basic, confinement for 29 days and hard labor without confinement for 30 days.
WASHINGTON — The Air Force selected the senior civilian and mobilization assistant for the deputy chief of staff for Space Operations, as the assistant deputy chief or “AF/A11,” Aug. 17.

Space Operations directorate, for the deputy chief of staff for Operations.

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force Secretary Shan Wal and Maj. Gen. Pamela Lincoln have been identified and assigned, consisting of 43 military members, government civilians and contractors. These professionals have formed the Space Operations directorate names leaders.

Senior Airman Brittany Fuentes, a collection requirements manager assigned to Air Mobility Command’s Air Intelligence Squadron at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. On a daily basis Fuentes provides answers to 104 AMC intelligence sections around the world when they have a request for information.

The Air Force Intelligence Community (AFIC) is tasked with the responsibility of collecting and providing vital information that could impact the outcome of mobility missions worldwide.

Fuentes is a collection requirements manager assigned to Air Mobility Command’s Air Intelligence Squadron at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. On a daily basis Fuentes provides answers to 104 AMC intelligence sections around the world when they have a request for information.

“Fuentes is outside her analyst role right now,” said Biz Salas, AMC collection management team chief.

“Her role is to assess the role of a technical sergeant and doing it well,” Salas said. “Most analysts are assigned to one geographic combatant command. Fuentes is in charge of monitoring or being the subject matter expert on all the geographic combatant commands. All the analysts come to our section to request information for mobility missions globally and she has to find the answers.”

During her time at AMC, Fuentes has also managed the weapons and tactics team’s threat assessment process where she served as a SME on weapon systems that have the potential to damage AMC aircraft. In 2016, she analyzed 186 enemy attacks in Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan. Her expertise helped the Air Force identify enemy tactics and safeguard more than 69,000 mobility aircraft sorties.

No mission too small

“Not every mission at AMC do we support,” she said. “Before pilots take off, we have a very important role of what they can expect during their mission. I think you have a very important role of keeping our pilots safe.”

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Senior Airman Greg Nash 23rd Wing Public Affairs

Editor’s note: Last names withheld for security purposes.

MOODY AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Allured by the distant chopper of helicopter blades, a young French boy diverts his attention from his television screen to watch native pilots rescue stranded hikers in Southeast France.

Glancing back at his favorite show, he notices an American pilot navigating a similar airframe, causing him to wonder what it would be like to fly a “chopper.”

Through sheer determination, Commandant Micka propelled himself to serve and fly for both nations. As part of the 67th Helicopter Squadron “Pyrenees,” Cazaux Air Base, France, he was proud to “Fight and Save,” fulfilling the French air force helicopter community’s mantra. Now, he’s a part of Moody Air Force Base’s 41st Rescue Squadron to contribute to their motto.

“‘So That Others May Live’ is a motto I want to honor during my tenure here and I’m proud to represent my country as the only current French exchange pilot in the U.S. Air Force,” said Micka. “I was very excited to join the 41st RQS because of the mission similarities with my unit back home and the United States’ and France’s rescue history together.

“I’ve seen the HH-60G Pavehawk throughout my deployments and the ability to now fly one is special,” Micka added, who is the 41st RQS assistant director of operations and an HH-60 pilot. “It resembles and maneuvers a lot like my old airframe, the (French air force’s) EC-275 Caracal.”

According to Micka, in addition to the aircraft likeness, he relished the two nation’s lengthy experience and capabilities in performing in hostile environments and highlighted the 100th birthday of the nation’s being brothers in arms during World War I.

“I’ve always appreciated how the Americans aided France and also helped change the tide of the war,” said Micka.
Airmen, Sailors prepare to f35 at sea

Defender graduates first joint service course

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EDGLY AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Two Petty Officers 1st Class from the U.S. Abraham Lincoln received initial training from the Air Force’s Air National Guard Maintenance Squadron’s Aeronautical Ground Equipment Team on how to operate and maintain the F-35C which is training aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier, F-35C is training aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier. In the future, when the F-35C is training aboard the Joint XXI, these technicians will be able to operate and maintain the aircraft.

“The technicians are here to familiarize ourselves with what we can expect on the ship when F-35s are on board, allowing us to be fully functional,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Kameron Smith, an aviation support equipment technician with the 33rd Fighter Wing, who attended the initial training course.

“The F-35C is training aboard the Joint XXI, these technicians will be able to operate and maintain the aircraft,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Kameron Smith, an aviation support equipment technician with the 33rd Fighter Wing, who attended the initial training course.

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Oxygen Breathing Device July 21 at Beale Air Force Base, Calif.

Richard Salomon

Air Force

Affiliate Editor

FAIRVIEW, Texas — Air Force personnel are being introduced to a new tool to manage civilian benefits, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials.

The Government Retiree Benefit System, or GRB Platform, replaces the Employee Benefits Information System, which was previously offered with EBIS, but includes all the functionality previously offered with EBIS, but includes all the functionality previously offered with EBIS.

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“Understanding the historic, close relationship and similar mantras between these nations is very dear to me.”

Knowing his dedication of this symbolic relationship and his eagerness to learn to be a better pilot and wingman, one 41st RQS member speaks on how the unit has embraced Micka.

"(Micka) has proven and continues to prove he is an excellent ambassador for our French rotary wing partners," said Lt. Col. Chris Richardson, the 41st RQS commander. "He consistently, much like his predecessors before him, brings outstanding insight, credibility and experience to our squadron. His interactions with the combat search and rescue community, more specifically, the 41st RQS, are instrumental in building a bigger, more holistic approach to how we conduct and execute our mission.

"For as long as this partnership has been around, this squadron and our community continues to reap the benefits of experiencing how such respective partner and individual unit integrate into and provide capability to the fight," Richardson added. "This exchange program allows (U.S. Air Force) members to work with our French partners, while also allowing us to incorporate (Micka’s) expertise into our own programs."

Throughout his career, Micka said he’s gratified to have flown over 2,000 flight hours, completed 650 missions in hostile territory and participated in 13 deployments, but nothing yet compares to his first save.

"My first save was of a wounded Afghan child when I was a young co-pilot in this unit," said Micka. "It was such an adrenaline rush and special moment for me. You don’t realize the impacts of everything you’re accomplishing on a mission because you’re so in the moment. When you land and think about all the training you did to save someone’s life, it’s the best feeling in the world."

"Another great feeling for Micka is the ability to become a more proficient pilot during deployments. According to him, one aspect of accomplishing this doesn’t always involve maneuvering the controls in the cockpit.

"There’s nothing like being entrenched in an international coalition environment to achieve one goal," said Micka. "The opportunity to build relationships, share tactics and familiarize myself with the 30 nations I’ve deployed alongside with has been great."

Micka credits this exposure of different nation’s aircraft and pilots for helping him prepare for his biggest challenge thus far.

"Overcoming the language barrier and improving my minimal English skills has been one of the hardest tests for me since my arrival (at Moody AFB),” said Micka. "Over time, I’ve sufficiently progressed through the process by getting accustomed to hearing different accents in flight and in the simulator, reading emails and talking with my comrades.

As the 41st RQS ADO, Micka recently finished his HH-60 qualification training. In the near future, he hopes to accomplish his main desire as part of the exchange program.

"One of the biggest purposes of the program is to deploy to save lives,” said Micka. "It’s been my favorite part of the job since I’ve started. I’m doing the same mission I love, just in a different unit.

Micka added that the program is so much more than one pilot getting to experience another country’s tactics and training. According to him, it’s also about being able share what he’s learned.

"I hope to take my experiences back home to better help the 67th Helicopter Squadron," said Micka. "My next goal is to become a squadron commander and would serve in the Air Force for as long as possible. Being open-minded and embracing challenges helped me succeed. It hasn’t been an easy process, but it’s all definitely been worth it."
Travis Air Force Base, Calif., congratulated Nichols, 60th AMW command chief, and Operations Group superintendent, were Col. John Klein, 60th Air Mobility Wing 300 newly selected staff sergeants at a celebration Aug. 24 at Hangar 837.

According to the Air Force Personnel Center, 44.31 percent of the 2,264 promotion-eligible senior airmen were selected for staff sergeant Aug. 24.

Hundreds make E-5

The Air Force announced the selection of 300 senior airmen assigned to the 60th Air Mobility Wing, including inbound airmen, for promotion to staff sergeant Aug. 24.

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This went on for some time until a new rater was assigned to me. Staff Sgt. Singleton introduced himself and immediately sat down with me for a long overdue feedback session. A few minutes into the session he asked me if I was proud of the work I was doing and if I even knew what the heck these widgets I cranked out on a daily basis were used for. At first I was a bit apprehensive, thinking this was some kind of trick, but then he explained his line of questioning by simply saying, “We,士官.” He had clearly and patiently explained that I should take great pride in the work I do every day because not only does my squadron’s mission depend upon me, but there are Soldiers, Sailors, and Officers and Senior Noncommissioned Officers throughout the Air Force and Air Force Reserve who have found you can get them personally and professionally in their daily work in overwhelming ways. As a result, I tend to be very enthusiastic about my job and always provided a lot of insight about how intelligence can impact the mission and how much AMC means to the mission.”

Intelligence is a very important part of the mission, and intelligence specialists during her deployment to discuss what Air Force resources were available and vice versa. She said not only did she gain insight on how those partners’ perspectives, the experience motivated her to pursue a new degree path — computer networking and cyber security. “When I entered the intelligence career field, I recognized the need and potential for cyber communications experts,” said Fuentes, a native of Albuquerque, New Mexico. “I love that this area is so new. In the future, I want to work in the same career field but in a position that enables intelligence and cyber together because I love my job and supporting my team.”

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When you come with your job stake that are very similar to what we did, the coup would be doing when deployed, or so I thought.”

Fuentes said she had only been in the Air Force two years when she was tasked to deploy to Incirlik, Air Base, Turkey. Then two months into her deployment, on July 15, 2016, a coup took place.

Fuentes was tasked as the lead analyst for the final 40 hours of what would turn into an 8-day aerial closure.

“My experience (at AMC) prepared me for the mission,” she said. “Deployment from headquarters (HQ) I know when I needed to call in when the coup happened, it was important to get as many eyes as you can on the ground to see what was happening. We ended up driving to different aircraft, but if you have eyes then to hear information, it could have had a different outcome.”

During the short time Fuentes was on the ground, she crafted 23 time-sensitive intelligence reports and provided the precision intel to the first G-1 department, initiating the initial evacuation of more than 70 military family members.

**Continued leadership**

When the coup was over, she continued to lead her team through 30 days of increased force protection conditions. Her team provided 28 intelligence briefings, ensuring wing and subordinate squadrons were prepared for potential threats.

“In my short three years of being in the Air Force, this was the first time that I was coming together during a crisis situation,” she said. “In headquarters we are supporting units from the outside in. When you deploy you are working from the inside out. The deployment provided a lot of perspective about how intelligence can impact the mission and how much AMC means to the mission.”

Fuentes worked with Army and Marine Corps intelligence specialists during her deployment to discuss what Air Force resources were available and vice versa. She said not only did she gain insight on how those partners’ perspectives, the experience motivated her to pursue a new degree path — computer networking and cyber security. “When I entered the intelligence career field, I recognized the need and potential for cyber communications experts,” said Fuentes, a native of Albuquerque, New Mexico. “I love that this area is so new. In the future, I want to work in the same career field but in a position that enables intelligence and cyber together because I love my job and supporting my team.”

“We love it when you have people who are supporting you I wouldn’t be where I am without them. It’s been the people you work with that make the job worthwhile, love your job, that’s a bonus.”

Fuentes is one of the Air Force’s 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year. She will represent AMC at the Air Force Association convention in Washington, D.C. in September.
Brass
From Page 3
Wright said.

“My best childhood friend, who was a few years older than me, played an instrument in a community school and I wanted to be in hand with him,” Wright said. “It wasn’t until high school that I became interested in it and really made up my mind, so I decided to do what I wanted to do with my life.”

The opportunity had arrived to attend a high school that emphasized the arts. As a teenager, Wright also studied privately with a trombonist in the Pittsburgh Symphony who he looked up to. Wright’s parents had taken him to see live performances given by military musical groups, which had a great impact on him.

Wright continued on his path of academic and athletic excellence throughout his high school years. He went on to attend Carnegie Mellon University, where he obtained a bachelor’s degree in music education with an emphasis on the arts. As a teenager, Wright said, “I was under tremendous pressure to attend a high school that would be entirely on music conservatory, where my performance from the Cleveland Orchestra and other professional orchestras took him to see live performances given by military musical groups, which had a great impact on him.

“I never thought about joining a military band in the Air Force. I never thought about it. I was able to study with members of the Air Force and I wanted to be in hand with them. The opportunity had arrived to attend a high school that emphasized the arts. As a teenager, Wright also studied privately with a trombonist in the Pittsburgh Symphony who he looked up to. Wright’s parents had taken him to see live performances given by military musical groups, which had a great impact on him.

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Folios OK NO
Headlines OK NO
Cutlines OK NO NA
Mugs OK NO NA
Graphics OK NO NA
Stories end OK NO
Jumplines OK NO NA
Ads OK NO NA
NO=Not OK; NA=Not applicable

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PREV NEXT
Competition gets Travis doing some heavy...

1) Xavier Edwards squats 405 pounds during the 2017 Strongman/Bench Press Competition Aug. 18 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Edwards took first place overall in the competition with a bench press of 315 pounds, squat of 405 pounds and deadlift of 495 pounds.

2) Airman 1st Class Julia Nagy, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron, deadlifts 165 pounds during the 2017 Strongman/Bench Press Competition Aug. 18 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Nagy was the only woman to compete and ended the day with a bench of 110 pounds, squat of 145 pounds and deadlift of 165 pounds.

3) Tech. Sgt. Michael Kozak, 515th Air Mobility Operations Wing, bench presses 345 pounds on his third lift during the competition. Kozak took first place in the bench press category.


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Parting Shots

U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Christopher Carreiro
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