

Charleston Profile

Master Sgt. Barry Kowald
315th Airlift Wing Recruiting Office manager

Master Sgt. Barry Kowald is the recruiting office manager for the 315th Airlift Wing. He assists the senior recruiter in the management of recruiting office activities and acts as the full time recruiter at more than 24 area high schools.

Kowald is a Reservist on an active duty tour at Charleston, which means he wears the uniform every day just like his active duty counterparts, but recruits solely for the Reserve.

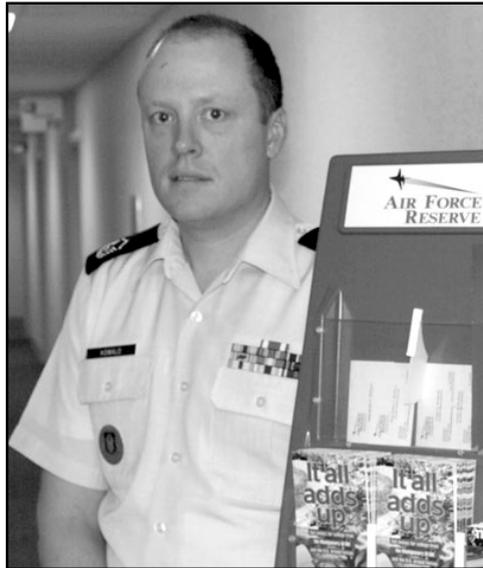
Although the military was the farthest thing from his mind when he was younger, the San Antonio native said he entered the Air Force Reserve and enjoyed it so much, he wanted to help others "go above and beyond."

Kowald was an aeromedical services specialist before entering the recruiting career field.

Kowald said he feels recruiting to retain is the answer to the retention challenge in the Air Force Reserve. His personal goal is "to make sure everyone I put in the program is right for the program and understands all of the benefits, both tangible and intangible."

When he's away from work, Kowald and his family, including wife, Tracy; 9-year-old daughter, Elise; and 7-year-old son, Erik; are very active with the Oakbrook Community Church in Summerville. Kowald wants to eventually attend seminary school and become a minister.

His advice for a successful life is to always strive for excellence. "You have to go after opportunities rather than wait for them to come to you," he said.



Master Sgt. Charlie Hall , Jr., 315 AW PA

Spotlight

Retirement luncheon and ceremony: The 437th Comptroller Squadron is hosting a retirement luncheon and ceremony for Chief Master Sgt Larry Hill today at the Charleston Club.

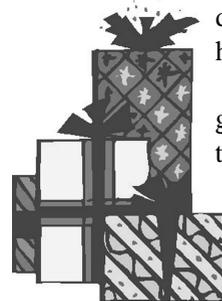
The luncheon is at noon and the ceremony is at 2 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. For information, call 963-3781.

Retirement ceremony: The 437th Logistics Support Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Joseph Johnson Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the Charleston Club. Lunch will be pay as you go. For information, call Master Sgt. Peggy Miller at 963-2337.

Around the base

Office closure: The 437th Comptroller Squadron will close at 11 a.m. today for an official function. For emergencies, call Tech Sgt. Charles Pippin at 973-8166.

Holiday Cheer: It's that time again! The Charleston AFB First Sergeants' Association has started the 1999 Holiday Cheer drive for the upcoming holiday season.



Each year, the first sergeants and base volunteers collect donations to help military members and civilians who need assistance during the holidays. This year's

drive began Oct. 29 and will continue every day of the week until Dec. 20.

Collection points have been set up at the entrances of the Base Exchange and commissary for anyone wanting to contribute. Last year, the program helped more than 350 military and civilian families during the holidays by providing food for Thanksgiving and food and toys at Christmas.

The First Sergeants' Association hopes the 1999 Holiday Cheer Drive will help more families this year.

Computer system installment: The 437th Contracting Squadron's existing computer system will be down until Dec. 10. During this time, 437 CONS will implement and train personnel on the new Standard Procurement System.

The Automated Business Services System will still be active, but only emergency AF Form 9s will be processed. For information, call 963-5186.

Instructors needed: C-17 field training detachment instructors are needed at McChord AFB, Wash. Eligible volunteers can contact the 373rd Training Squadron, Det. 5 at 963-2948 to request an interview or call DSN 982-3904 or 982-3855.

Registration: Webster University is having Spring I Term registration until Dec. 22. Register Monday through Thursday, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., in Bldg. 221, room 128. Students may also register at the Webster Metro Center on Northside Drive