

## Computer virus problems expected to get worse in 2000

Air Force communications and information security officials have noticed a rise in the number of computer viruses on the internet, and expect the problem to become worse as year 2000 approaches.

Thus, Lt. Gen. William J. Donahue, Air Force Communications and Information director, wants to ensure AF-wide dissemination of "McAfee - Total Virus Defense" and "Norton Anti-Virus Solution." Both products are licensed for use by Air Force personnel, on office computer systems as well as home personal computers. In fact, officials are highly encouraging all AF members with a PC at home to install one of the two virus-protection software programs.

"Allowing military members to install these government-procured software programs on home computers helps stop the spread of viruses to base systems," explains MSgt Robert Yawn, Wing Information Assurance Office superintendent. "Since we're all doing more with less, more and more people are taking work home with them. If their home computers are infected, by transferring their work to a floppy disk and bringing it to their office, they spread the virus on base. If we catch that virus at home, we eliminate it before it's introduced to a base system."

The military member also benefits. By installing the government-licensed software at home, individuals save approximately \$40 since they do not have to purchase the software themselves. While both virus software programs are covered under the licensing agreement, Norton is the preferred product on base Yawn said.

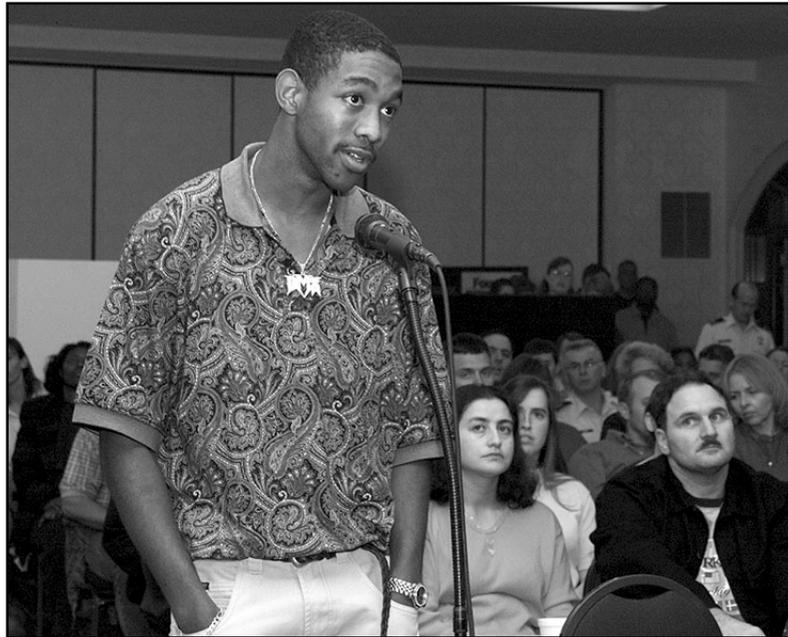
Individuals wishing to install the anti-virus program on their home computer should obtain a copy of the software from their unit computer security manager.

## Meeting

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smoothly transition into the next century."

Lt. Col. Craig Armstrong, 437



**Lamar Moorhead, a member of the Keystone Flyers, asked about youth activities and what Charleston AFB could do to set up more programs for the younger military family members.**



**Seven-month-old Matthew Bakonyi, used the question and answer portion of the town hall meeting to catch up on his sleep. Matthew is the son of Capt. Jon Bakonyi, 437<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron, and his wife, Chris.**

photos by Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier

SPTG deputy commander, assured attendees that, "Team Charleston is more than ready to take on Year 2000." He said there have been many tests and exercises to make sure computers will smoothly flow the base into the new century.

Also on hand were representatives from local utilities companies with the good news that their confidence is high that there will be no interruptions in service to the base.

In the event there are problems, base personnel should consider a Y2K kit, similar to something put together for hurricanes.

Lt. Col. Jon Roop, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron commander, reviewed the progress and plans for base housing renovations. "We're pleased with the way the construction is going, and look forward to providing the best for our people."

If there was any question about what base has the best Services Squadron, Maj. Brian Blankenship, 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron commander, laid that to rest.

"Services Squadron is ready for Y2K, and we have so much to offer you that you won't believe it." Quite enthusiastically, he provided information about what Services Squadron has done to prepare for Y2K.

The town meeting was video taped, and will be shown on the commander's access channel, Channel 2, for base housing personnel who were not able to attend the meeting.

## Y2K

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from AMC's Command and Control Information Processing System to hand-held calculator devices used to balance the loading on AMC aircraft.

AMC, in turn, built a certification package around each checklist. Each certification package included the checklist, test plans and test reports, an independent assessment of the system's readiness, and other supporting documentation. In addition, a technical review was conducted to uncover any possible issues that might have been overlooked.

"We haven't really discriminated on how we treated any systems based on size or importance ... we went through the same process with all of them," said Lowe.

According to Lowe, AMC is now adding one more step to its readiness. "We're going to have people in a mini crisis cell ... keeping an eye, not only on our systems, but on AMC around the globe," said Lowe.

The YAT consists of members from several career fields, including communications, operations, logistics, civil engineering, security, medical and intelligence.

"Previously, all the wings and the TACC put together contingency plans, and those plans have been exercised at least twice, some of them several times," said Lowe. "The big advantage is that those contingency plans can be kept and used for the next five to 10 years, whether the system goes down because of Y2K or not." For

example, Hurricane Floyd provided an opportunity for some of the bases on the East Coast, including Charleston, to test their contingency plans, he added.

Command systems are certified, contingency plans have been tested and are in place, and the YAT is ready to keep watch, said Lowe. "We're extremely comfortable with where AMC stands for Y2K. We're looking forward to a relatively quiet New Year's."

Charleston officials anticipate a relatively quiet New Year as well, according to Armstrong. However, there are several precautions base personnel should take...just in case:

- Know what forms your duty section uses; have a one-week supply of necessary forms printed out

- Ensure you have enough contingency kits prepared for your office. (Flashlights, batteries, pens/pencils, telephone numbers)

- Ensure the squadron recall roster is up-to-date? Ensure your orderly room, flight commander, or UCC have your current telephone number and directions and/or a map to your house?

- Be sure you have a list of important telephone numbers. (Flight commander, supervisor's, first sergeant's, water, electricity, friends and family)

"If everyone will take a few extra precautions and follow their Y2K plans and checklists, we will be prepared for a worst-case scenario, although we're hoping for and expect the best," concluded Armstrong. (AFPN)

## Holiday

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the Commissary and Base Exchange for anyone who wants to contribute. All proceeds collected will help buy food and some gifts for families in need this Christmas.

The Holiday Angel Tree has been set up to collect gifts for young Charleston AFB family members. There is a tree at the Family Support Center, Chapel 1 and the 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group.

Each tree is decorated with ornaments that have an age and sex on them. Members are encouraged to pull and ornament from

the tree and buy a gift fit for the description of the child they pulled. Gifts should be dropped off at the FSC or chapel by Dec 21. Each ornament also has a unit on it, so the first sergeants can keep track of where the gifts go.

Money from the Holiday Cheer program will help finance gifts for the children whose ornaments do not get pulled from the Angel Tree.

"Our goal is to take care of the needy families on Charleston so they don't have to go without during the holiday season," said Master Sgt. Tammy Van Etta, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron first sergeant.

## Correction

The ranks of the following December promotees were wrong in the Dec. 3 issue of the *Airlift Dispatch*. Their correct rank is stated below. Congratulations promotees.

### Senior airman

Blankenbeker, James 437 APS  
Boyer, Casey 437 APS  
Cameron, Sara 437 SFS  
Delagarza, Ven 437 EMS  
Gaffney, Joshua 437 EMS  
Hess, Renee 437 AGS  
Holmes, Jennifer 437 MOS  
Kasch, Jeffrey 437 AGS  
Kelly, Sherree 437 SVS  
Limon, Mathew 17 AS  
McKay, Shonta 437 OSS  
Roberson, Darius 437 AGS

Sonnenberg, Kimberly 437 CPTS  
Thomas, Felisha 437 MSS

### Airman first class

Bickel, Caryn 437 MOS  
Choiniere, Todd 437 SFS  
Clayborne, Daniel 437 APS  
Cobb, Christopher 17 AS  
Graham, Damien 437 CES  
Guay, Richard 437 SFS  
Halsey, Michelle 437 AW  
Jordan, Tiniki 15 AS  
Koerner, Adam 14 AS  
Moore, Duane 437 CES  
Morris, Michael 17 AS  
Price, Rayance Jr. 437 CES  
Shillingburg, Adam 437 CRS  
Thompson, Shawn 437 TRANS  
Varelas, Rachel 437 AW  
West, Adam 437 EMS  
Zimmer, Shannon 437 APS