

COMMENTARY

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AIRLIFT
Dispatch

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By Col. Rusty Findley
437 AW commander

The chief's group golf tournament was very well done on Aug. 25. It was a lot of fun and many people participated in the tournament. Our group played well, but didn't win. Everyone had a great time. Special thanks to Chief Master Sgt. Robert Langston and all the chiefs for another great event. The proceeds of the tournament will benefit Team Charleston.

We were fortunate to have as our guest speaker for the Swamp Fox flight of the Order of Daedalians Aug. 24, retired Lt. Col. Bill Page, a famous aviator who fought in three wars and amassed more than 15,000 flight hours in more than 50 different aircraft. He thrilled us with fascinating anecdotes and allowed us an opportunity to learn what it was like back then in combat and peacetime. See the article on page 11 for more details.

We had a very pleasant visit with Senator Ernest "Fritz" Hollings, D-S.C., and Joe Maupin, his congressional staffer for the Charleston area office, on Aug. 28. He visited the Hunley Park housing area and we discussed all the ongoing efforts we have to make Charleston a better place to live and work for all of us. He is a staunch supporter of the base. It was great to hear firsthand how much he supports what we do and how pleased he is with the base's overall appearance. He's very proud of what you do. Once again, Kathy Knichel and the Protocol office did their usual, superb job.

Armed Forces Voters Week, held Sept. 3-9, is

designed to get the word out about the importance of voting for military members and their families. Our base project officer is Maj. Gus Schott, 437th Airlift Wing Plans, and he is working very hard to ensure unit-voting representatives are appointed and that information gets passed down to you. We defend this great country for the right to vote and the freedoms that we all enjoy. You need to act now if you want to get your absentee ballot in time for the November 7 general election. It's an easy form to complete and you can make your voice heard. See the article on page 1.

Thanks to Lt. Col. Henry Haisch as he broadens his horizons and assumes his new duties as one of the deputy commanders of the 437th Logistics Group. Congratulations to Lt. Col. John Norton as he returned to the 437th Operations Support Squadron as its new commander Aug. 31. Special thanks to Lt. Col. Ed Martin upon the occasion of his pending retirement in March, and a hearty welcome to Lt. Col. Chris Hair as he assumes command of the 437th Logistics Support Squadron on Sept 15.

The 437 LSS and OSS play critical support roles to their respective groups and the wing could not accomplish

what it does without their hard work. Congrats and thanks to everyone for their great work!

We hosted retired Maj. Gen. Earle E. Morris Jr., director of the South Carolina Selective Service System and about 10 members from SSS for their regional conference Aug. 24-27. Morris is a well-known South Carolinian as he has served as the state's adjutant general, comptroller and lieutenant governor. He has a wealth of knowledge about state government and I truly enjoyed hosting him. Another successful visit arranged by our outstanding Protocol office.

The annual enlisted dining-out is scheduled for Sept. 16, at 6 p.m. in the Charleston Club. Master Sergeants Tracy Brewster, James Scanlan and the entire dining-out committee have been hard at work for the past few months to arrange for a first class event. The cost has been

kept low to ensure maximum participation and they are hoping for a great turnout by the enlisted workforce. Contact Brewster at 963-6318 or Scanlan at 963-2798 for more information.

I want to say congratulations and thanks to Tech Sgt. Will Crosby, 437th Logistics Group foreign object debris/ dropped object prevention manager and the LG assistant safety and operational risk manager, who retires today after 20 years of dedicated service.

We also bid farewell to Joe Lloyd, chief of Training Management for the 437 LG who is retiring today after more than 30 years of service.

Congratulations to them on the occasion of their retirement. Thanks for all they have done for the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet. Have a safe Labor Day weekend as we close out the 101 Critical Days of Summer.



Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier

Col. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander, addresses the regional conference of the South Carolina Selective Service System. The conference took place Aug. 25-27 and included retired Maj. Gen. Earl Morris, former commander of the South Carolina guard.

Action Line

The Commander's Action line is your direct link to me. It's your opportunity to make Charleston Air Force Base a better place to live, work and play.

First give the appropriate base agency a chance to solve the problem, but if you don't get a satisfactory answer, call me at 963-5581 or send an e-mail to action@charleston.af.mil.

To ensure you receive a response to your concerns, please leave your name and the information needed to contact you.



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Medical Group Information.....	963-6700
Family Support Center.....	963-4406
Education Office.....	963-4573
Charleston Club.....	963-3914
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