

COMMENTARY

Mobility 2000 briefs explain our future

About the paper

AIRLIFT
Dispatch

Published by Diggle Publishing, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 437th Airlift Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military service.

Contents of the *Airlift Dispatch* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or Diggle Publishing, Inc., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. All photos are Air Force photos unless identified otherwise.

Deadlines

The deadline for submitting news stories for space-available publication is noon Friday, preceding the desired publication date. The *Airlift Dispatch* reserves the right to edit all copy submitted for publication.

Advertising

Classified advertisements may be referred to Diggle Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 2014, Charleston, S.C., 29465, Phone: (843) 849-1778 or fax 849-0214. Classified advertisements are free, with the exception of personal business ads, for active duty military members and their spouses, retirees and Reservists.

Address/Numbers

Editorial content is prepared by the 437th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1600, Rm. 223.

Phone: (843) 963-5608

Fax: (843) 963-5604.

Mail to:

437 AW PAI

102 East Hill Blvd.

Charleston AFB, SC 29404-5154

or send to:

dispatch@charleston.af.mil

Editorial Staff

437 AW Commander
Col. Vern M. "Rusty"
Findley II

Chief, Public Affairs
Lt. Col. Edmund Memi

Editor
Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith

Associate editor
Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe

Photo Support
Base Visual Information Center

By Col. Rusty Findley II
437 AW commander

We had a great time this past weekend paying tribute to a great leadership team, Col. Ed and Linda Stickler, 315th Airlift Wing commander. We are going to miss them.

We welcomed in Brig. Gen. Gerald A. Black and his wife, Judy, who assumed command of the 315th on Sunday. General Black brings a wealth of experience to Charleston and I know he will keep the model relationship that we have with the 315th AW strong. General Black has served as the commander of the reserve associate wing at Travis AFB, Calif., and returns to his hometown of Charleston. General Black was born in Charleston, and graduated from The Citadel where he received his commission through Air Force ROTC. In 1977, he joined the Air Force Reserve and was assigned to the 315th, where he served as a scheduler, training officer, squadron standardization pilot, wing standardization pilot and operations officer until 1988. See the article on page 2 for details.

Our firefighters and medical folks responded flawlessly to a C-130 that diverted in here due to a rapid decompression incident involving 43 passengers last Sunday afternoon. The 437th Civil Engineer Squadron fire rescue crew comprised of Staff Sgt. Donovan Baldwin, Senior Airman Andrew Willey and Senior Airman Shaun Dion performed magnificently responding to this emergency. Also, the 437th Medical Group went above and beyond what was required and ensured each person was thoroughly evaluated and received the appropriate care.

After assessing the condition of the passengers, our medics referred one individual to the Naval Weapons Medical facility, where she required hyperbaric chamber treatment. It was a true Team Charleston effort that averted any injury.

Because of the number of passengers involved, the 437th Medical Group implemented a limited recall that brought in Col. Regina Aune, Maj. (Dr.) Craig Castillo, Capt (Dr.) Rawson Wood, Senior

Master Sgt. John Dee, Master Sgt. Valerie Gordon, Tech Sgt. Steven Cook, Tech. Sgt. John Kelley, Tech Sgt. Joey Meadows, Tech Sgt. Karen Smith, Staff Sgt. Dale Black, Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Boyd, Staff Sgt. Donna Williams, Staff Sgt. Wayne Lightburn, Senior Airman Ronnie Godbolt, Senior Airman Wendi Guistwite and Senior Airman Robert Liggon.

Not only did our folks transport and medically evaluate the passengers, they fed them and assisted with their transportation, billeting and follow-up arrangements. They took superb care of these people. The C-130 aircraft commander heaped praise on our folks for their great response to this serious problem. It's true...we are family that takes care of one another!

By now, you've had a chance to read some of the literature and participate in the Air Mobility Command Services run ATWIND program, which means "Around the World in Ninety Days." This is a great chance to win thousands of prizes and participate in the Year of the Family activities throughout the summer. Each time you participate in one of the activities, programs or events, you'll receive a game piece. You then register the game piece by calling the toll free number at 1-888-597-9960 or by logging in at www.atwind.com.

Each time you enter a game piece, you travel 1,100 miles towards your journey around the world. The farther you go, the more prizes you can win. Besides the possibility of winning a new car or an all-expense paid family vacation, you can also win a number of instant prizes. It is simple and easy to participate. Additionally, the top three bases for the command in terms of participation will win additional cash too. I know we're up to the challenge to win some of those additional funds, so let's give it our best shot. We're already off to a great start!

Our first sergeants group recognized our top enlisted performers up to the grade of staff sergeant who went above and beyond what was required with the Diamond Sharp awards for June. I was pleased to recognize the fol-

lowing: Staff Sgt. Mark Henriquez of the 17th Airlift Squadron, Senior Airman Chad Bartosh of the 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, Airman 1st Class Kelly Diaz of the 437th Supply Squadron, and Airman 1st Class Peter Conde of the 15th Airlift Squadron.

I enjoyed hosting 32 members of the 88 Club, a group of Mount Pleasant business and community leaders, for a short visit to the base last Wednesday. The club got its name when most of members had telephone numbers that began with an "88." It was a lot of fun hosting this group and they are truly supportive of the young men and women of Team Charleston. A special thanks to 1st Lt. Beth Szucs, Public Affairs, for planning the visit. A big thanks to those who helped out on the C-17 static: Senior Airman John D. Carter and Senior Airman Christopher Timm from the 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron and Maj. Rusty Mueller and Airman Jake Sampson from the 15th Airlift Squadron. All provided an excellent tour of the C-17.

Although I could not attend last week due to a TDY, we did say farewell to retired Air Force Col. Paul Canant and Chief Master Sgt. Henry Scott for their efforts in running the Retirees Activities Office. We appreciate all their hard work over the years. Both have spent their lifetimes serving their country. We also welcomed in retired Air Force Master Sgt. John Dupont, who graciously accepted the unpaid position of Director of the Retirees Activities Office. Please give him your full support. Retirees are a key segment of our Air Force family and the Retirees Activities Office is one of the best ways to help ourselves.

We host the Mobility 2000 Road Show briefing team June 19-20 that is led by Maj. Gen. (Sel) Michael Wooley, commander of the Tanker Airlift Control Center at Scott AFB, Ill. The 15-person team will provide a series of briefings to the senior leadership, operations and logistics group personnel and other interested parties. The briefing will focus on implementation of the new flight dispatch system. This is a great project that will enhance the way we

do business in the command. We are the first base in the command to be visited and they are looking for plenty of feedback. Let's give it to them! We need maximum attendance from our operators and maintainers at these briefings.

The Town Hall meeting was a good success. We enjoyed everyone's input and are working to address your concerns. During the meeting, briefings were provided on vehicle safety and 101 Critical Days of Summer, housing construction, current and future construction projects, Military Family Housing issues (fire safety, recycling), hurricane season preparation, Family Support Center (summer workshops), a base crime update, Juvenile Services Board and upcoming summer Services events. We'll have an article in next week's paper about some of these topics for those who could not attend the town hall meeting.

Our town hall meeting was also a success because of the many civilian sponsors who provided gifts for the attendees, which provided an added incentive for people to attend. I was pleased by the many on and off-base units that provided information booths for the attendees. Among those organizations represented included the Air Force Sergeants Association, Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Education office, Family Advocacy, 437th Medical Group, Tricare, legal office, Officers Spouses Association, Housing office, Security Forces, Services, CE environmental flight, and the base chapel. We also appreciated the civilian organizations that set up displays.

I also enjoyed the 437th Support Group golf tournament last Friday afternoon. Senior Airman "H.P." Bordeaux of the 437th Support Group did an outstanding job in organizing this event. Col. Karl Young's team was stacked! I won't hold it against him that even though he turned 50 on June 2, he decided to play from the senior's golf tees.

We are pleased to have 21st Air Force vice commander Brig. Gen. Randal Starbuck with us this week. He is here to fly the C-17 and