



The Eagle's Eye

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MAC Eagle of the Year

We would like to congratulate David Dethloff our Eagle Volunteer of the Year for 2017. David leads our Air Show Program as the Vice President. In addition, he has chaired the President's Club, Celebrate Barksdale Picnic and Golf Tournament and serves on the Board of Directors.

David is President of Dethloff & Associates, Inc., an Independent Insurance Agency providing property and casualty insurance and risk management services to both commercial and personal clients.

In addition to his involvement with the MAC, Dethloff served as President of the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of LA and on the boards of the Independence Bowl, Northwest Louisiana Goodwill, Pierremont Oaks Tennis Club, Shreve-



port Little League, a Feist-Weiller Community Advisor and an Elder at First Presbyterian Church. He also is a member of the Committee of 100, currently serving on the Government Committee.

In his spare time, David enjoys tennis and hunting.

David graduated from Louisiana State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. He has been married to his wife Pam for 28 years and has a son named Drew.

AFGSC welcomes new command chief

Chief Master Sergeant Tommy Mazzone assumed the position of Command Chief for Air Force Global Strike Command in December. In this position, he is the senior enlisted leader responsible to the commander on matters concerning the readiness, effective utilization, professional growth and welfare of the command's Airmen. The AFGSC mission is to develop, equip and provide combat-ready forces for nuclear deterrence and global strike operations supporting the initiatives of United States Strategic Command and other geographic combatant commands. AFGSC is comprised of approximately 33,700 professionals operating at two Numbered Air Forces and eleven active-duty, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve wings. Assigned weapons systems include Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles, B-1, B-2, and B-52 strategic bombers, UH-1N helicopters, E-4B National Airborne Operations Center aircraft, and the Nuclear Command, Control and Communications structure.

Chief Mazzone enlisted in the Air Force September 28, 1990 as a Security Specialist, and was a member of the F.E. Warren AFB and Kunsan AB Emergency Services Teams. In 1996, he retrained as an Aircraft Loadmaster and is currently a Chief Enlisted Aviator with more than 2,700 flying hours aboard the C-130E and the MC-130E Combat Talon. The ma-

majority of his career has been spent in the special operations and contingency response communities. He is fluent on numerous fixed and rotary wing airframes, and holds a basic parachutist qualification. Previously, he was assigned to SAC, PACAF, AFSPC, AMC, AFSOC, USSOCOM, and AFDW. He has conducted numerous combat and combat service support missions during Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, JOINT GUARD, RESOLUTE RESPONSE, ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM.



His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor device, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Air Medal with twelve oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal with eight oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Combat Action Medal, and the Gallant Unit Citation.



Left: Dave Lay, Awards Chair, makes a presentation to 307 BW Quarterly Award Winners. (Courtesy Photo)

Right: Henry Burns, Lions Club, makes a special presentation in appreciation to Sammy Halphen for his Roots for Boots presentation at a local Lions Club Luncheon. (Courtesy photo)





We are currently in our Membership Renewal Drive. Membership year is from 1 January to 31 December.

As a reminder, due to some legal concerns, increased security posture and limited usage, Barksdale will no longer issue Eagle Passes to every member of the Military Affairs Council. Only those members that are on our board, will receive Eagles Passes. During luncheons and other social events scheduled on base, members will be placed on an Entry Authority List (after providing the necessary identification information) to gain entry.

Our long-standing Squadron Eagle Program was discontinued since it did not comply with revised Air Force Instructions.

Those members involved in the Adopt an Airmen "Roots for Boots Program," will be issued a Roots for Boots Pass. Because there are families involved in this program that are not members of the Military Affairs Council, the Pass is not the same as an Eagle Pass.

If we have MAC members involved in the Barksdale Honorary Commander's Program, they will obtain their passes through 2 BW Public Affairs Office or their assigned squadron. The Honorary Commander's Program is not affiliated with the Military Affairs Council and is managed through the 2 BW Public Affairs Office. The goal of this program is to build **new relationships and educate community members on Barksdale Air Force Base and its missions.** Because of this, most of our past Squadron Eagle members would not meet the criteria.

We are always looking for community members who are interested in joining us in our support for Barksdale and the Airmen that serve there. If you know of anyone that you think might be interested in becoming a member of the MAC, please email Kathi Smith at maceagle@shreve.net. You can also contact Melissa Couch, Membership Chair, at mcouch@bfcu.org or phone number 549-8028. They can also check out our website at sbmilitaryaffairs.com.



Airmen are presented their ticket home for the holidays during Operation Bright Holiday. Money for OBH is raised throughout the year through various fundraising events and donations from the Military Affairs Council and businesses and organizations in the local community around the base. (Courtesy photos)

UPCOMING Events

MAC Spring Social

9 April 2018, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. @ Eldorado Resort & Casino

No Barksdale Air Show in 2018

MAC Update Luncheon/Scholarship Presentation, TBD

MAC Christmas Social

17 December 2018, 6:00 p.m. @ Eldorado Resort & Casino



OPERATION HERO

By MSgt Jennifer Ellison & TSgt Linda Larsen

Deployments have become a common occurrence for military service members and their families. For members with children, deployments can become an especially challenging time for everyone. Children are often left behind wondering, waiting, and sometimes not understanding why their parent(s) had to leave home. On Saturday, 23 September, 2016, from 1000-1400hrs at the Senior Airman Bryan R. Bell Fitness Center, the Airman & Family Readiness Center (A&FRC) hosted "Operation Hero," a mock deployment for children. This event allowed dependent children the opportunity to encounter first-hand what their parent(s) will experience when called upon for a real-world deployment mission.

On the day of the event, the deploying children received a telephone recall ordering them to immediately report to "Camp Kudos" aka the SrA Bell Fitness Center. Upon arrival, they were issued identification cards (ID), dog tags, t-shirts, and their very own mobility folder. The children received a 2d Bomb Wing Mission Briefing, processed through a deployment processing line, and even took a mock physical fitness test. Additionally, there were demonstra-

tions from Security Forces, Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit, the Fire Department, and other outdoor static displays. This event was designed to provide a fun and interactive learning environment, to assist with alleviating some of the stress and anxiety children may feel when their parent(s) deploy. Lunch and several give-a-ways were provided for children. There was also be a closing ceremony, and each deployer was awarded a certificate and medallion.

"Operation Hero" is open to all Active Duty and Reserve ID card holders, children 4-14 years of age. Please sign-up for "Operation Hero 2018" by registering at the A&FRC. All deployers attending "Operation Hero" must be accompanied by at least one parent. There are no fees associated with this event. The goal is to provide the children with a better understanding of their parent's mission. Come out and join us for an educational, yet fun-filled day!

We are also looking for volunteers to assist the A&FRC with this event. If you're interested, please give us a call at 456-8400 or email us at Barksdaleairman.familyreadinesscenter@us.af.mil.

The MAC is an annual sponsor of Operation Hero.

MAC SCHOLARSHIP *continues*

As many of you know at the beginning of Sequestration, Tuition Assistance for Airmen was discontinued. As the MAC became aware of the hiatus in the Tuition Assistance Program, we began to explore ways to help soften the financial blow for some of the Airmen who found themselves covering their own tuition expenses.

The MAC embraced the opportunity to be of assistance to the men and women of Barksdale and made a pledge of \$100,000 to support a multi-year MAC Scholarship Program.

A five-year program (2013-2017) was developed to provide \$1,000 scholarships to 20 deserving Airmen each year. This program was so valued by Barksdale, that it was highlighted during a briefing to the Secretary of the Air Force's Installation Excellence Evaluation Team and was part of the award-winning presentation on support and cooperation between Barksdale and the surrounding community.

While the initial 5-year program came to a close in 2017, the MAC Board of Directors has voted to continue this program for an additional five years. We are currently looking for anyone who would like to support our Active Duty and Reserve Airmen continue their education. If you are interested in donating to our scholarship program, please contact our Executive Director, Kathi Smith at maceagle@shreve.net or 429-2418.