



The Eagle's Eye

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Halphen named '18 Eagle Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to our Eagle Volunteer of the Year for 2018 Samuel "Sammy" Halphen. Sammy is our Chairman for the Roots for Boots (RfB) Program, and along with his wife, stood up the program from its inception. In addition, Sammy is serving on our Board of Directors.

Sammy has worked as the Health, Safety, Environmental Superintendent and Emergency Manager with BHP Billiton, a Global Energy company. His achievements in the field of Safety, Emergency Management and community service are vast with over 30 years of service.

His career of caring for others started in the United States Air Force as a Medic then continued by serving as a Firefighter/Paramedic, Commissioned SWAT Medic, Assistant Chief of Training, Emergency Medical Services Director, and Fire Chief for Bossier City, finishing his government career as Homeland Security Director for Bossier Parish Louisiana.



He has effectively managed hundreds of employees and integrated teams to a common goal of caring for the residents of Louisiana in times of emergencies.

He has received recognition such as the Chamber of Commerce Patriot of the Year Award, LA House of Representatives Life Saving Award, Veterans of Foreign Wars Life Saving Award and voted one of the top 5 Fire Chiefs in the Nation from International Association of Fire Chiefs, Fire Chiefs Magazine.

He serves Christus Health Systems as a Quality Care Committee member. Sammy has served on many State Governmental Commissions/Boards such as The Louisiana Emergency Response Commission, Emergency Medical Services Certification Commission and Fire Prevention Board of Review.

He was born in Shreveport and has lived in Bossier Parish for the last 48 years. He is a Christian, married to the former Sara Carroll and has 3 children.

8 AF welcomes new leadership

Maj. Gen. James (Jim) Dawkins Jr.

Maj. Gen. James (Jim) Dawkins Jr. is the Commander, Eighth Air Force, and Commander, Joint-Global Strike Operations Center, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana. "The Mighty Eighth" is the numbered Air Force responsible for the service's bomber force and airborne nuclear command and control assets. The J-GSOC is the primary organization supporting the Commander, Air Forces Strategic, the warfighting air component to U.S. Strategic Command. The J-GSOC serves as the central command and control node for all operations within Air Force Global Strike Command.



General Dawkins was commissioned in 1989. He has held a variety of operational and staff assignments, including command of the 5th Bomb Wing at Minot AFB, North Dakota; the 509th Operations Group at Whiteman AFB, Missouri; and the 338th Combat Training Squadron, an intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance training squadron at Offutt AFB, Nebraska. His staff assignments include positions at the Joint Staff, U.S. Strategic Command, Headquarters International Security Assistance Force Joint Command, the Department of Energy and the National Security Council.

The general is a command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours in fighter, reconnaissance and bomber aircraft.

Chief Master Sergeant Melvina A. Smith

Chief Master Sergeant Melvina A. Smith is the Command Chief Master Sergeant of Eighth Air Force and the Senior En-

listed Leader for the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center (J-GSOC) at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana. She is responsible to the commander for the operational utilization, readiness, assignment, morale and welfare of more than 34,000 active duty, civilians, Air National Guard and Reserve professionals. "The Mighty Eighth" is the Numbered Air Force responsible for the service's bomber force and airborne nuclear command and control assets. The J-GSOC is the primary organization supporting the Commander and is also the warfighting air component to U.S. Strategic Command. The J-GSOC serves as the primary command and control center for all operations within Air Force Global Strike Command.



Chief Smith grew up in Chicago, Ill., and entered the Air Force in August, 1992. Her background includes numerous leadership roles at the squadron, group, wing and headquarters level. She was stationed at locations in Idaho, Georgia, Louisiana, Japan, Korea, Alabama, Oklahoma, the District of Columbia and Missouri. While supporting Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM, she deployed to Baghdad International Airport, Iraq, Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan, and Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. Before assuming her current position, she served as Chief of the Chiefs' Group and Deputy Chief of Staff. Chief Smith also provided guidance to all senior leaders on the execution of command chief hiring as well as serving as the principal advisor to the Deputy Staff, Manpower, Personnel, Services and the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force on all chief master sergeant matters.



Barksdale hosts 2019 Air Show

We are proud to host the Canadian Snowbirds as the headline act for the 2019 Barksdale Airshow. The Airshow will be May 18-19, 2019 and we are coming back with a **BOOM!** Along with the Snowbirds, you will witness one of the greatest pyrotechnic shows Tora, Tora, Tora and then the Black Daggers parachute team will mesmerize you with their jump skills. The purpose of military airshows is to stimulate interest in the mission of the U.S. military and recruit our best and brightest young people to protect and lead our military in the future.

The MAC provides financial support for the Barksdale Airshow, and since a majority of the expenses are funded by the MAC, your support is very important. These donations are used to pay for fuel, attracting the best aerobatic pilots in the world, lodging and transportation, and ensuring Barksdale is the performer's best airshow experience.

Over the past few years the Barksdale Airshow has become a world class show and we need your support to continue to rise to the next level. Please consider supporting the show and become a President's Club member. For additional information or to sign up please contact Cathy McHugh, President's Club chairperson, at mchughc00@gmail.com or (318) 393-2774.

The Barksdale Air Show has a new link on

Facebook: www.facebook.com/barksdaleairshow/.

Please check it out, "Like" the page and share it.



We are currently in our Membership Renewal Drive. All Civic Leader Passes issued in 2018 will expire 31 Jan 2019, no matter what the listed expiration date is on the card. Civic Leader Passes do not authorize you to escort on base. Everyone who enters Barksdale Air Force Base must have a pass, no exceptions. If you are attending an event on base and bringing someone with you that does not have a Civic Leader Pass, please allow enough time to stop and get the pass.

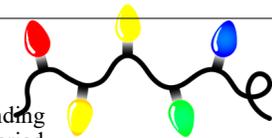
Those members involved in the Adopt an Airmen "Roots for Boots Program," will be issued a Roots for Boots Pass. Because there are families involved in this program that are not members of the Military Affairs Council, the Pass is not the same as a Civic Leader Pass.

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.

Operation Bright Holiday

The Company Grade Officers Council's (CGOC) Operation Bright Holiday Program was a resounding success again this year. In total, 126 deserving Airmen were sent home for the holidays. Locations varied across the entire United States and overseas locations of Hawaii, Ghana, Philippines, China and Guam. The Military Affairs Council, and its Corporate Partners, helped raise a large portion of the almost \$62,000.00 needed to send them all home. The CGOC would like to thank everyone for their generous donations that make this program possible.



MAC Spring Social, 8 April 2019, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Eldorado Resort & Casino

Barksdale Air Show, 18-19 May 2019

MAC Update Luncheons/Scholarship Presentation, TBD

Celebrate Barksdale Picnic, 11 Oct 2019

MAC Christmas Social, TBD

Operation Hero 2018: Here to Serve

By Airman 1st Class Lillian Miller
2nd Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The 2nd Force Support Squadron kicked off another year of Operation Hero Sept. 30, 2018 at the Senior Airman Bryan Bell Fitness Center.

Barksdale Airmen simulated a mock deployment for military children to help them understand the deployment process.

“One or more of their parents will deploy at one point of their childhood,” said Master Sgt. Jennifer Ellison, 2nd FSS readiness NCO in charge. “They don’t always understand what a deployment is or what their parents go through.”

Before deploying, military members must go through an out-processing checklist which includes finance, the chapel and other organizations. The children see firsthand what the deployment process is like. The experience included:

- Equipment demonstrations from the 2nd Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal team
- Mission-oriented protective posture gear from the 2nd Civil Engineer Squadron emergency management flight.
- A fire truck static display from the 2nd Civil Engineer Squadron fire department.
- A shooting range with special toy weapons from the 2nd Security Forces Squadron.



A military dependent child dons a gas mask while participating in Operation Hero at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., Sept. 29, 2018. Airmen from the 2nd Civil Engineer Squadron demonstrated hazardous material detection and gas mask operation. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Lillian Miller)

“We added in meals ready to eat because while deployed we have to eat MREs,” Ellison said. “It’s a way to give them a taste of the deployed life. It’s about showing all the kids what their parents do when they deploy.”

The event had 87 children participate this year. Over 100 Barksdale personnel volunteered to man the stations.

“I volunteered for this because I think it’s important for the kids to understand what their parents go through,” said Airman 1st Class Rhiannon Woods, 2nd Medical Support Squadron public health deployment technician and Operation Hero volunteer. “If they have a better understanding of a deployment, they get a better understanding of their parents as well.”

The A&FRC reached out to various units on base who are normally involved in the deployment process. Volunteers painted faces, managed static displays and educated the children about how deployments work.

“This is my son’s fourth duty station,” said Sarah Chen, Barksdale spouse and parent. “He has been around military personnel his whole life and this is the first time he has seen these other sections such as EOD, the fire department and emergency management. It’s incredible for the kids to get a hands on experience. It’s a huge base-wide preview of just so much excellence.”



An Airman from the 2nd Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal team showcases a bomb suit helmet during Operation Hero at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., Sept. 29, 2018. As part of Operation Hero, EOD team members demonstrated various tools used to keep Airmen safe.

Col. Michael Miller, 2nd Bomb Wing commander, welcomes Operation Hero participants at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., Sept. 29, 2018. Barksdale Airmen simulated a mock deployment for military children to help them understand the deployment process.

The Military Affairs Council is the sponsor for Operation Hero.

