



Visiting with the chief of staff

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III visits with members of the 317th Recruiting Squadron during the open house at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, Sept. 19. From left are Staff Sgt. Arnold Suchit, Lt. Col. James Hamilton, Master Sgt. Yakima Armstrong, Welsh, and Staff Sgt. Andrew Emert. For more photos of the event, see Page 3. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Policy clarified for award of MSM to master sergeants

By Chief Master Sgt. Charles E. Lamer Jr.
Air Force Recruiting Service Command Chief

“Chief, what is the AFRS policy on the award of the Meritorious Service Medal to master sergeants who aren’t flight chiefs?”

Great question, and one I entertain often. In fact, I had to answer a request from the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force’s office on this very subject.

During recent travels, CMSAF James A. Cody was approached by a former recruiter who had returned to force. The former recruiter stated AFRS didn’t give him an MSM as a master sergeant because he wasn’t a flight chief and this was AFRS policy. CMSAF Cody responded that he was pretty sure AFRS didn’t have such a policy, but he would check into it.

Here is pretty much what I replied to CMSAF Cody’s office: AFRS doesn’t have a policy on the award of the MSM for master sergeants, or for any other rank for that matter.

Each member is evaluated at the conclusion of their eligible tour based on how well they executed their assigned duties, roles and responsibilities. The overriding decision is that we uphold the spirit and intent of Air Force Instruction 36-2803 and the Air Education and Training Command Memo on MSMs (21 May 2012). In doing so, we look to ensure the member’s inclusive period in question was commensurate with the highest levels of responsibility commonly associated with a field grade officer or senior NCO, before determining if an MSM should be awarded.

In most cases, a Tier 1 or Tier 2 master sergeant recruiter performs the same duties and responsibilities as our Tier 1 or Tier 2 staff sergeant recruiters. Therefore, unless the unit can clearly convey how the member exceeded these normal duties and expectations commensurate with a Tier 1 or Tier 2 recruiter, an MSM will probably not be awarded. We will not award an MSM just because of rank.

If the master sergeant recruiter did, however, take on higher levels of responsibility, such as those commensurate or normally associated with flight chief duty, then we will take that into consideration. These will be case-by-case exceptions and must be clearly articulated in supporting documentation, such as the Enlisted Performance Reports. A push note from the unit declaring why the person deserves an MSM, with no supporting documents to substantiate it, falls short of proper justification.

It should not be a surprise to anyone when we push exceptional members for these prestigious decorations. We should be able to look back through the member’s EPRs and other supporting documents during that period of time and see a well-documented story of how this individual

“The bottom line is AFRS will continue to award the MSM to eligible members who have demonstrated sustained excellence over the course of the tour and in the capacity our Air Force says is fitting.”

consistently exceeded expectations and performed at a level commensurate with award of an MSM.

If the push note states the member was flight chief for six months during a turnover period between flight chiefs as an example, then I expect to see this captured in an EPR. Even if they did, and it was documented, we still have to ask what they did during this time that justifies the award of an MSM.

Much like we wouldn’t give an MSM to an assigned flight chief who hasn’t performed to the expected level, we won’t award one to a person holding down the fort if they haven’t demonstrated how they have exceeded expectations in that capacity.

It is important to note that AFRS has awarded MSMs to master sergeants not assigned as flight chiefs, and we will continue to do so. This will happen as long as members clearly exceed expectations and for sustained meritorious service over a substantiated period of time, as I outlined above. We must understand these are the exception and not the norm.

As a command, we understand the awkward situation presented when master sergeants are assigned to a Tier 1 or Tier 2 recruiter billet. We’ve made deliberate changes to our policy on hiring master sergeants into AFRS and no longer allow them to be hired due to potential career implications such as this. This won’t fix all situations, but it is a proactive step in limiting these types of situations.

I hope this helps clarify the misunderstanding that “AFRS does not give MSMs to master sergeants not performing as flight chiefs upon completion of their recruiting tour.” The bottom line is AFRS will continue to award the MSM to eligible members who have demonstrated sustained excellence over the course of the tour and in the capacity our Air Force says is fitting.

Being a master sergeant isn’t an automatic yes for an MSM, but not being a flight chief isn’t an automatic no!



Andrews open house

ABOVE – Lt. Col. Christopher Hammond, commander/leader of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, addresses the crowd before swearing in members of the 317th Recruiting Squadron Delayed Entry Program at the open house at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, Sept. 19. LEFT – Open House visitors check out the Vapor Supercar at the open house. Members of the 317th RCS A-Flight worked the booth, including Master Sgt. Yakima Armstrong, flight chief, and Staff Sgts. Ronald Suchit and Andrew Emert. (U.S. Air Force photos)

Members of the 317th Recruiting Squadron display the coins they received from Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Flight administrator honored with Image Award

By Annette Crawford
Air Force Recruiting Service Public Affairs

Maria McAlister, flight office manager for the 362nd Recruiting Squadron, D-Flight located in Goodyear, Arizona, was named a recipient of the National Image Award for Diversity at a ceremony in Houston Sept. 24.

McAlister, who has been with the 362nd RCS for eight years, was nominated for her significant contributions to diversity in the Air Force.

“She improved an already impressive applicant tracking system in her flight which highlights not just the most qualified individuals for enlistment into the United States Air Force, but one that highlights diversity in our applicants to ensure our Air Force is the best and most diverse Air Force on the planet,” said her supervisor, Master Sgt. Brian Broyles, D-Flight chief.

“Maria is the best civilian team member I have ever worked with in my 20-plus years in the Air Force,” Broyles said. “She is always seeking opportunities to excel and make life easier, not just for me but for the recruiters and our applicants.”

As the flight’s administrator, McAlister comes into contact with the general public on a daily basis. Broyles said she takes it upon herself to qualify potential applicants for enlistment, and directs them to local recruiters within the region. He said her talents assisted her team with recruiting 48 Hispanic and 18 African American applicants in 2014.

“Maria also created a process within her flight to assist with special testers and Air Force broadcasters,” Broyles added. “Her processes ensured we get the right people in the right jobs. In her flight she has 28 percent more minorities in special testing jobs than any other flight in the squadron and also ensured we had 200 percent more females in broadcaster positions when compared to other flights.”

Her efforts have also been recognized at the squadron and group level, when she was named the top civilian of the year at both levels in 2014.

“We are stoked to have such talent, drive and determination in our squadron and AFRS! She absolutely deserved to win,” said Lt. Col. Erin Meinders, 362nd RCS commander.

McAlister earned a 4.0 grade point average and National Dean’s List distinction while completing her Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice at Arizona State University. She also has been selected for an internship with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

National Image Inc., was founded in 1971 to assist Spanish-speaking Americans interested in government service and developing upward mobility for those in Civil Service employment. The original name was National Incorporated Mexican-American Government Employees (IMAGE).



Maria McAlister receives the National Image Award for Diversity from Brig. Gen. Richard Noriega, left, and Jose Rodriguez, CEO and President of National Image, Inc., in Houston Sept. 24. (Courtesy photo)



Maria McAlister, left, celebrates with her daughter, Senior Airman Amanda Conrad, after receiving the National Image Award for Diversity in Houston, Sept. 24. Conrad is stationed at the Defense Intelligence Agency in Virginia. (Courtesy photo)

Happy 'New Year' from the commander

AFRS Family:

I want to congratulate each and every one of you on a job extremely well done! Last month we put the cap on another incredible year of recruiting the best and brightest our nation has to offer. While I know we are already off and running toward finding our fiscal 2016 requirements, please take just a minute to reflect back on what we've just accomplished.

In FY '15 you recruited onto active duty a total of 23,944 enlisted Airman, 532 line officers, 661 health professionals, and 39 chaplains! That's right, you forever changed 25,176 individuals by leading them to join our team. At the same time, you met all Air Force requirements levied on AFRS. What an amazing feat, especially in our resource-constrained environment. You truly are the envy of our Air Force.

I am honored and excited to be your new commander and really look forward to getting out to meet as many of you as I can. Once again, thanks to each of you and your families for all you do for our command and our Air Force every day. I look forward to our continued success in the year ahead.

Happy "New Year!"

Garrett Harencak
Major General, USAF
Commander, Air Force Recruiting Service

AFIS: What to expect from new inspection model

By Chief Master Sgt. Edward H. Edgar
Chief Enlisted Manager, AFRS Inspector General

While the Air Force began transitioning to the Air Force Inspection System in 2012, Air Force Recruiting Service didn't fully begin until October 2014. Waiting was done in part to complete measurement of all squadrons under the previous system (Unit Compliance Inspections) and of course start fresh together. Additionally, the Air Force rollout was done incrementally to enable lessons learned.

With that said, AFIS is significantly different from previous inspection models, especially the role your command inspection team plays. Historically, teams would arrive to units and give the "black hat" treatment to everything from planning guides to policy guidance. While compliance is still reviewed by the IG, it is not concentrated at the squadron or "shop-level," nor is it "black hat" focused.

Command-level IG focuses on the four Major Graded Areas (MGA) described in Air Force Instruction 90-201, *The Air Force Inspection System*, and a wing commander's effectiveness in maneuvering their wing within these MGAs using the Commander's Inspection Program (CCIP).

Specifically, AFRS IG, along with command Functional Area Managers (FAMs), continuously monitor wing performance over a two-year period to spot areas of undetected non-compliance in the CCIP. We help to identify

blind spots, or poorly focused or mis-aimed sensors in their programs. The CCIP along with AFI 1-1, *Air Force Standards*, and AFI 1-2, *Commander's Responsibilities*, are linchpins to AFIS.

"Where do I fit into AFIS?" I thought you'd never ask!

There are several new components to AFIS but of note are the anonymous survey, Airman-to-IG Sessions Group (ATIS-G) and Airman-to-IG Sessions-Individual (ATIS-I) interviews. The survey and sessions are scripted and ask very specific questions to obtain confidential beliefs, attitudes and opinions of those interviewed toward the wing's effectiveness in those four MGAs. Never before has an inspection system sought to ask Airmen such things as how their time is being valued or if they are being mentored.

The Navy has used this program for many years and found it very effective. As with any change, it will take time to fully integrate into the AFRS culture. However, this and several other initiatives the Air Force has taken will only better us as an enterprise.

Your AFRS IG is Lt. Col. Mitchell Dixon, and he and any other IG staff member are at your disposal. Finally, below are two sources of additional information on AFIS. The first is mandatory ADLS training for the Total Force and the other is a quick YouTube video.

- Air Force Inspection System (AFIS) (ZZ133134)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOR_WTGxPyI



Chief Master Sgt. Jackie Foster, former superintendent of the 339th Recruiting Squadron, stands with Lt. Col. Brian Shaffer, the presiding officer at her retirement ceremony, at The Hub Sports Bistro in Macomb Township, Michigan, Sept. 25. Foster retired earlier in the day in a ceremony that was held in conjunction with the squadron's end of fiscal year celebration. Her retirement gift was a flag flown in her honor over Comerica Park in Detroit. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Chief offers sage advice after 26-year career

Editor's Note: Chief Master Sgt. Jackie Foster, superintendent of the 339th Recruiting Squadron, retired Sept. 25 after 26 years of service. What made her retirement ceremony more special than most was that she celebrated the occasion cancer-free.

Foster was diagnosed in January 2014 with breast cancer. Since that diagnosis, members of Air Force Recruiting Service rallied to support her. Behind the Badge featured numerous photos of the AFRS family participating in events that promoted breast cancer research and awareness, all in honor of the chief.

Congratulations to Foster on her retirement, but more importantly, on beating cancer! Below is her farewell email to the members of AFRS.

As I write my last email as an active duty member of the Air Force, I wanted to let you all know what a thrill it has

been being associated with you and this organization. Over the last 26-plus years I have met, worked with and for, some of the most fantastic people/leaders that I can ever hope to be associated with. There are just so many of you out there that I would personally like to write, I hope you're not offended by one mass message.

As I leave, first I want to say thank you. It has been my experience the Air Force and AFRS are successful because of the people...it is each of you that make the difference. Even though we (AFRS) have entered into a period of transition, this exciting challenge will be met because of you. The spirit, commitment, dedication and forward thinking traits have always made recruiters a special breed. There is no doubt in my mind that you, the leaders and the workers, will make

'Chief' continued on Page 7

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Recruiting Service better than it ever was. I thank you for making this a classy organization!

Secondly, I certainly do not have all the answers, however I have learned a few things over the years. These are a few realities that I have found to be true in my career:

1. Be accountable to yourself. When things go right, we want the credit. When things don't go well, there is a reason for that as well.

2. Attitude is everything...but there is no substitution for hard work!

3. Make time to complete your education goals and learn how to make yourself/your family financially secure...retirement will sneak up on you faster than you think.

4. As important as it is to take care of yourself...take care of each other. Especially if someone is going through a hard time. Too many times I have seen a fellow Airman shunned because it is assumed he/she is guilty of something. Honestly, even if the Airman did do something wrong, he/she still deserves to be treated with respect. Just be there for each other.

5. You don't know everything...took me a while to learn this one. Everyone has a role on a winning team! As you progress to each new position, you will not automatically know what to do and that is okay...seek out a mentor.

6. Recruiters are special! Remember, YOU represent every member of this service every day in your town, city or community. Everything you do represents our Air Force. Take PRIDE in finding the best and brightest.

7. Success in your career is not based on luck. Set goals, follow through, and you will reap the benefits.

8. If you're a leader, remember the easiest

thing to do is to tell someone to do something. However, the key to effective leadership is to "INSPIRE SOMEONE TO WANT TO DO SOMETHING." Recognize your Airman's individual and team accomplishments.

9. The older you are...the faster time goes by. We think there is always tomorrow but that is definitely not a guarantee.

10. Last but not least, 3 keys to success! BE YOUR BEST & WORK HARD, MEET MISSION, and HAVE FUN! You can't have fun if you're not making mission, and you won't meet mission unless you are working hard.

On a personal note, many of you do know I am a breast cancer survivor. I am retiring on a medical retirement. The good news is the cancer is gone! My body has gone through a lot since January 2014 so it will take a while for me to heal. There are side effects from the chemo, radiation, and medication that limit my activities.

What I want to share with all of you is this...please take care of yourself and your family. Yes, our careers are important but you and your family are MORE important. Most of what I thought was so important before 22 Jan 2014 (day of diagnosis) I don't even do anymore. Ensure you take the time to have a healthy, balanced life.

A special thank you to all of you who prayed, called, visited, etc., during my treatment. It truly made a difference to know I had my Air Force family supporting me. I couldn't have gotten this far without that love and support.

Finally, Airmen will always hold a special place in my heart. If you ever need anything, I will be here, so please give me a call! Again, the past 26 years and especially my time in AFRS have been the best time of my life.

I salute every one of you and I thank you for your service. Good luck and God bless America!

Jackie Foster

JACQUELINE K. FOSTER, CMSgt, USAF
Superintendent, 339th RCS



Washington State University Tri-Cities student Blake Galloway is one of 29 electrical and computer engineering students in the world selected for the U.S. Air Force Technical Degree Sponsorship Program. From left are Master Sgt. Brian Rodgers, 361st Recruiting Squadron line officer flight chief; Dr. Scott Hudson, Galloway, Dr. Mohamed Osman, Dr. David Lowry and Staff Sgt. Cora Gjorgieveski, 361st RCS line officer recruiter. The recruiters presented Air Force Recruiting Salutes Plaques to each of the professors Sept. 28 for their support of the Air Force. Through their efforts, Galloway learned about the program opportunity. Galloway is holding his Certificate of Acceptance for TDSP. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Washington State University student qualifies for TDSP

By Maegan Murray
Washington State University

Washington State University Tri-Cities student Blake Galloway is one of 29 electrical and computer engineering students in the world selected for the prestigious U.S. Air Force Technical Degree Sponsorship Program.

To qualify and be selected, Galloway had to qualify for the U.S. Air Force – including meeting the physical requirements, be a junior in college and maintain at least a 3.0 GPA. Galloway submitted an application, indicating he maintained a 3.9 GPA at WSU Tri-Cities, currently serves as an officer for the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) professional association on campus, along with letters of recommendations from his engineering professors.

“Nobody else in Washington, Oregon or Alaska was selected for this,” said Master Sgt. Brian Rodgers, 361st Recruiting Squadron. “Blake Galloway was it for the region. There were only 29 selected in the world. It is very elite.”

Through the program, Galloway receives the pay of an E-3 through graduation, which will go toward paying for his college tuition and other costs, will receive full medical and dental, as well as 30 days of paid leave. After he graduates, he

will complete officer training school and serve a minimum of four years in the U.S. Air Force.

“It feels really good,” Galloway said. “I didn’t think I qualified at first. It’s a huge relief and a huge honor. I won’t have to work at Albertson’s for the next year, thanks to this. I can dedicate my time to getting my work done for school.”

Electrical engineering professors Mohamed Osman and Scott Hudson said Galloway was the perfect choice for the honor.

“He’s an excellent student, holds a high level of responsibility and maturity, he’s a self-starter and his leadership potential is going to be a very important characteristic as an officer,” Hudson said.

Galloway said the military had always been something he had considered, but didn’t think it was possible while earning his major in electrical engineering.

“I’m excited that I can do both,” he said. “I’m just overwhelmed ... I can’t believe I was selected for this honor.”

Hudson said Galloway’s story is just one of many ways WSU Tri-Cities is able to connect both students who are interested in careers in the military and veterans who are freshly out of the service.

“We are interested in helping our students pave their careers both for going in and coming out of the military,” he said. “We are very veteran and military friendly.”



Strong community ties

Master Sgt. Brian Rodgers, 361st Recruiting Squadron line officer flight chief, presents Daniel Spanner with an Air Force Recruiting Salutes plaque Sept. 29. Spanner is the principal IT engineer at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and is on the executive leadership board for Voiland College of Engineering and Architecture. The board has a significant impact in shaping the direction of the college. Board members bring valuable industry perspective, act as facilitators in acquiring donor and industrial support, partner in the education process, promote the college in their company, and help to champion the college to leaders around the state. Spanner assisted the line officer team and put them in direct contact with the professors at Washington State University Tri-Cities, in turn making the Air Force recruiting goal for the Technical Degree Scholarship Program. (U.S. Air Force photo)



A landmark visit

Staff Sgt. Crystal Plourde (left) and Staff Sgt. Lindsey Kutty, 361st Recruiting Squadron, stand in front of Stadium High School in Tacoma, Washington, Oct. 2. The school is a national historic landmark established in 1893, and has been featured in several Hollywood movies. (U.S. Air Force photo)



A visit from the commander

Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, Air Force Recruiting Service commander, visited various offices within the 341st Recruiting Squadron Oct. 7. TOP PHOTO – From left, Staff Sgt. Misael Torres, B-Flight recruiter; Harencak; Staff Sgt. Adrian Rodriguez, B-Flight recruiter; and Master Sgt. Teyhones Lundy, B-Flight chief; are shown during the general's visit to a San Antonio recruiting office. ABOVE LEFT – Before swearing them in, Harencak speaks to members of various branches of service at the San Antonio Military Entrance Processing Station. ABOVE RIGHT – Harencak presents the silver badge ring to Tech. Sgt. Talia Waters, San Antonio MEPS Liaison NCO. (U.S. Air Force photos)



Memphis Air Show

Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Babb, 345th Recruiting Squadron, stands with members of his Delayed Entry Program and a Thunderbird crew member at the Memphis Air Show in Millington, Tennessee. Babb and other B-Flight recruiters were at the show Sept. 25-27. In partnership with the Thunderbirds and the Rapid Strike team, they shared Air Force opportunities with the greater Memphis area, including a high school visit. Rapid Strike alone drew 979 registrants and produced 159 leads. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Joining the team

Col. Robert Trayers, chief, Operations Division, Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service, speaks to members of the 319th Recruiting Squadron Delayed Entry Program at the NASCAR marketing event at New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Sept. 27. Trayers swore in 25 DEP members from A-Flight, and was also at the event a day earlier to assist the recruiting team. Recruiters gathered 820 registrants and 149 leads throughout the three-day event. (U.S. Air Force photo)



A visit with the mayor

Lt. Col. Robert Firman, 344th Recruiting Squadron commander, and members of his squadron visit with Mesquite, Texas, Mayor Stan Pickett at City Hall to discuss Air Force recruiting mission Sept. 29. Firman showed the Air Force Recruiting Service mission video and discussed possible ways the squadron could assist the community. From left are Pickett; Firman; Tech. Sgt. Zachary Tift, A-Flight chief; Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Romero, Mesquite recruiter; Staff Sgt. Cameron Wiley, marketing; and Tech. Sgt. Brandon Pike, Mesquite recruiter. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Red Bull Air Races

Tech. Sgt. Theron Holmes, 344th Recruiting Squadron, speaks with attendees at the Red Bull Air Races at Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth. Recruiters from C- and H-Flights were at the event, held Sept. 26-27, which featured the X1 Supercar. The races are only held in two U.S. cities during their season-long tour. Holmes is based in Arlington, Texas. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Air Force presence

Members of the 317th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight brought an Air Force presence to the air show at Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia Beach, Virginia, Sept. 19.

The area is historically known for its large Navy influence.

ABOVE – Staff Sgt. Andrew Snethen talks to a prospective applicant. LEFT – Tech. Sgt. Jesse Hegeman compares hairstyles with Jake, the special operations display. (U.S. Air Force photos)



Going over the rules

Master Sgt. Michael Charvat, a combat controller with the 342nd Training Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, reads instructions to a group of prospective special operations applicants during a Physical Ability and Stamina Test hosted by the 341st Recruiting Squadron at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, Sept. 30. Charvat teamed with 341st RCS recruiters to hold the test for 11 applicants. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Special ops opportunities

Master Sgt. Ismael Villegas and Senior Airman Christopher Ruiz (in red T-shirts), 24th Special Operations Wing at Hurlburt Field, Florida, joined Staff Sgt. Denise McHaney, 341st Recruiting Squadron, during a Delayed Entry Program commander's call Oct. 5 in Rosenberg, Texas, to discuss special operation opportunities. Villegas and Ruiz were participating in the Special Tactics Memorial March in honor of two Special Tactics Airmen killed Aug. 26 in Afghanistan. The Airmen trekked more than 800 miles from Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, to Hurlburt Field over 10 days, and conducted several school and recruiter visits along the way. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Flight centric office opens in Duluth

The 343rd Recruiting Squadron celebrated the opening of a flight centric office in Duluth, Minnesota, Sept. 2nd. More than 50 officials, influencers and family members attended the ceremony. The speakers at the ceremony were Capt. Rudolph Bowen, 343rd RCS Flight Commander, and Master Sgt. Ryan Pokorny, 343rd RCS I-Flight chief. Bowen spoke to local media stations about the flight centric office concept. Pictured from left are: Daniel Elnes, Chamber of Commerce Ambassador; Master Sgt. Jesse Roen; Tech. Sgt. Aaron Sandbakken; Tech. Sgt. Annette Deering; Bowen; Pokorny; Tech. Sgt. Travis Layman; Staff Sgt. Matthew Halvorson; Staff Sgt. Anthony Cook; and Kathleen Privette, Chamber of Commerce Director of Events. (U.S. Air Force photo)



9/11 tribute

Jon Vega, husband of Tech. Sgt. Jessica Martinez, 311th Recruiting Squadron, sang the national anthem and "God Bless America" at PNC Park in Pittsburgh, Sept. 11. The Pittsburgh Pirates hosted a tribute to the military and family members from United Airlines Flight 93, which was hijacked on 9/11 and crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Martinez is the NCO in charge of Client Systems. (Courtesy photo/Pittsburgh Pirates)



Chief Master Sgt. Steven Milby, 20th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, presents Airman 1st Class D'Andre Love with notification of his selection to Senior Airman Below-the-Zone. (Courtesy photo)

Recruiter shares good news email

Master Sgt. Michael Cook, now with the 369th Recruiting Group, recently heard from the mother of one his recruits. He shared the email from Patricia Love, who emailed Cook Oct. 1.

“Good Morning MSgt Cook...I know you recruit hundreds of people and get updates all the time, but I had to update you on my son, D'Andre. I'm not sure if you knew but D'Andre DID NOT want to go into the Air Force.

Fast-forward to a few months ago, D'Andre was recognized by his CC for stepping up and accomplishing tasks a SSgt would do, especially with most of his flight TDY. He was presented a certificate and 2-day pass at Commander's Call.

Fast-forward to this week, my son was selected for SrA Below-the-zone!!!! I was so ecstatic when he called me this past Tues with the news!

Even though D'Andre really isn't feeling his job, he continues to excel and do whatever is asked of him. He's currently taking two classes a semester so he can accomplish his BA by next summer and submit a package for OTS. None of this could've happened if it wasn't for you stepping in and taking D'Andre under your wing and ensuring he made it in. I truly thank you and appreciate you!!”

“It was a lot of effort to get this young man in,” Cook said. “I was the flight chief at the time wearing dual hats due to a short term manning shortage and ended up getting this young man across, goes to show if you put forth the effort to take care of someone good things happen.”



Flight centric office opens in Washington

The 368th Recruiting Squadron hosted a grand opening ceremony for the D-Flight centric office in Spokane Valley, Washington, Sept. 25. The ceremony included a Delayed Entry Program swearing-in, conducted by Col. Dennis Tucker, 372nd Recruiting Group commander. Shown at the ribbon cutting are, from left: Tech. Sgt. Eric Pulkinen, 368th RCS enlisted accessions recruiter; Chief Master Sgt. Carmelo Vegamartinez, 368th RCS superintendent; Shelly O'Quinn, County Commissioner District 2; Tucker; Lt. Col. William Parker, 368th RCS commander; and Master Sgt. Rebecka Composano, 368th RCS D-Flight chief. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Health fair

Tech. Sgt. Gene Moll, 336th Recruiting Squadron, his wife, Tiffany, and stepdaughter, Paige, volunteer at the 9th Annual Health Fair in Albany, Georgia, Oct. 5. The fair, held at the Albany Fairgrounds, is a family-friendly way for the community to get more informed about their health. The vendors provide health tips, job opportunities or health services to the public. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Spreading awareness

Tech. Sgt. Michelle Corning, Tech. Sgt. Eric Williams and Master Sgt. Ashli Betts of the 318th Recruiting Squadron stand at their display at the oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Convention at the Washington, D.C., Convention Center. More than 4,000 people attended the event Oct. 1-3. Betts is the D-Flight chief. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Making an impact

ABOVE – Tech. Sgt. James Gilliland, 344th Recruiting Squadron F-Flight, speaks to students at Paris High School in Paris, Texas, Sept. 30. The school hosted the X-1 Supercar, which drew more than 300 leads. Faculty members incorporated the visit with their physics class to include torque calculations and percentages to give the visit more of a student impact. Local media were also on hand to interview the crew and recruiter. LEFT – Students check out the X-1 display. (U.S. Air Force photos)





Marathon runners
Staff Sgt. Charles Quinsay (left) and Tech. Sgt. Aaron Goodrum, 338th Recruiting Squadron D-Flight recruiters, stand near the Air Force Performance Lab before the Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Sept. 19. Quinsay is based in Lima, Ohio, and Goodrum in Piqua, Ohio. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Promoting suicide awareness

Tech. Sgt. Erich Marquardt (second from right), and Staff Sgt. Brian Barr (far right), 338th Recruiting Squadron Marketing NCOs, stand with event organizers and participants at the First Suicide Awareness 5K Run/Walk at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Oct. 1. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Good sports

As part of ongoing mentorship and sportsmanship activities between the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, Chiefs Group and the JBSA-Randolph Airman Leadership School, the two groups played three games of volleyball Oct. 22. The Chiefs Group took two out of three games from Class 15-7. Chief Master Sgt. Edward H. Edgar (standing sixth from left), Air Force Recruiting Service Inspector General's Office, is vice president of the Chiefs Group. (Courtesy photo)



Certificate of appreciation

Staff Sgt. Rodrigo Camacho, 336th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight, presents a certificate of appreciation to Ted Badami, owner and manager of Wayne Family Fitness in Jesup, Georgia, Oct. 7. Badami has offered free membership and personal training to all local Air Force Delayed Entry Program members while they're in the DEP. He is a retired federal law enforcement officer and air marshal. Camacho is based in Hinesville, Georgia. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Newly certified
Staff Sgt. Henry Anderson, 332nd Recruiting Squadron, receives his recruiter certification from Senior Master Sgt. John Roy, 332nd RCS production superintendent, Oct. 6. Anderson is based in Bristol, Virginia. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Domonic Longo)



In his dad's footsteps
Mathew Oien, son of Chief Master Sgt. Daniel Oien, 369th Recruiting Squadron superintendent, shipped to Air Force basic military training Sept. 29. From left are Senior Master Sgt. Steven Shulski, former 369th RCS first sergeant; Lt. Col. John Patrick, 369th RCS commander; and the Oiens. The younger Oien is going into the 3E7X1 career field, fire protection. (U.S. Air Force photo)