



100 years young
Staff Sgt. Lee Davis, 339th Recruiting Squadron, congratulates retired Air Force Lt. Col. Russell Woinowsk at his 100th birthday party in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Aug. 11. Woinowsk served as a bombardier in World War II and then as a bombardier trainer during the Korean War. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Congratulations, AFRS promotion selectees

Congratulations to the following Air Force Recruiting Service Airmen who have been selected for promotion.

To lieutenant colonel: Tracy Snyder, 348th Recruiting Squadron

To major: Glen Robinson, Headquarters AFRS

To staff sergeant:
Brantley, Christopher 313th RCS
Briggs, Latoia 333rd RCS
Drake, Damon 311th RCS
Duque, Davila 333rd RCS

Gaillard, Jasmin 361st RCS
Hibbs, Jason 338th RCS
Hubbell, Kayla 333rd RCS
Martin, Renee 364th RCS
Shepard, Sheerejah 338th RCS
Smiling, Janyll 319th RCS
Spoor, Edwin 311th RCS
Stewart, Christopher 319th RCS
Wilson, Rick 319th RCS



Staff Sgt. Andrew Snethen, 317th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight, stands with members of the Air Force Cycling Team from Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, at his office in Yorktown, Virginia. Snethen has helped the AFCT the last two years by providing promotional items for them to pass out during the Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa – RAGBRAI. He was coined by the Langley team's captain, retired Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Mark Wilder, third from left. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Air Force cyclists wow the crowds at RAGBRAI

By Annette Crawford
Air Force Recruiting Service Public Affairs

The Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa, more simply known as RAGBRAI, has gained in popularity since it began in 1973.

The Air Force presence at RAGBRAI has also steadily risen. It all began in 1995 when a group of recruiters in Bellevue, Nebraska, started the inaugural Air Force Cycling Team, called "Team Aim High." There were 28 riders that year. According to Senior Master Sgt. Larry Gallo, AFCT executive director, this year's team numbered 142. More than 80 of those riders took advantage of the We Are All Recruiters program, and were able to participate while on permissive TDY status for the period of July 16-27.

"The team's premier ride is RAGBRAI," Gallo said. "Team members serve as sentries on the roads of Iowa for a 500-mile trek."

The AFCT uses cycling as a way to display wingmanship and fitness, stopping to render first aid and perform bike repairs for other RAGBRAI cyclists.

While not an AFCT member, one Air Force recruiter based in Yorktown, Virginia, has supported the team in other ways.

"For the past two years I have supported retired Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Mark Wilder and the Air Force Cycling Team members from Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, by providing a few promotional items that they can pass out during RAGBRAI," said Staff Sgt. Andrew Snethen, 317th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight.

"This year Chief Wilder asked if I could support the team again and of course, I said yes. As a thank you for the support that I've been providing he suggested the team swing by my office during one of their training rides for a photo. I had no idea he was going to coin me as well," Snethen said.

Snethen said that he is always happy to help anyone who portrays a good public image of the Air Force like the AFCT does. He also has a personal connection to RAGBRAI; he has two cousins in Iowa and Missouri, one of whom is an Air Force veteran. They have ridden in RAGBRAI together the last several years.

Gallo wrote a blog about the RAGBRAI experience, which was posted on The Official Blog of the U.S. Air Force. He took a day-by-day look at the ride and the challenges team members faced along the way.

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LEFT – Air Force Cycling Team members support each other while riding in the 2015 RAGBRAI. (Courtesy photo/AFCT) ABOVE – The Air Force Cycling Team coin. (U.S. Air Force photo)

'Cyclists' continued from Page 2

Several people also took time to comment about the AFCT on their Facebook page. A sampling of the comments follows:

- Until my mother can figure out Facebook, I just wanted to thank you'll on her behalf for helping her with two different flat tires!
- Way to go, Air Force! Your team was great, and helped a lot of riders. Thanks for all you do, not just on RAGBRAI, but every day as well.
- The Air Force riders were amazing. They stopped for everyone in need of assistance and really helped to make RAGBRAI a safe and enjoyable ride for everyone. Thank you for your service every day and the service you provided during RAGBRAI.
- Thank you for the help with my flat in the first two miles on the first day. Thanks also for help when my dropped chain got stuck and wedged while going up a hill out of Mount Vernon. I was so impressed to hear the story of the Air Force rider who gave his century patch to the very disappointed man who didn't get his in the middle century town. He pulled his own patch out of his pocket and handed it to the rider and said, "Here, you can have mine." What a very gallant group of young men and women; you make us proud.
- Your team was awesome and so very diligent in your duty to care for others! I appreciated seeing everyone take a role at accidents, mishaps, road construction sites and even flat tires. Proud to have you all with us, AFCT!
- My wife and I had the privilege of riding RAGBRAI and seeing the AFCT in action, more often than not if a rider broke down one of the Airmen would stop and give assistance. I wanted to have a flat so I could get a picture with one of the Airmen and send it to my son (He's a Marine). Thanks for all you do and I look forward to seeing the AFCT on the road.
- My son and I just completed our first RAGBRAI, and we were so hugely impressed by the Air Force Cycling Team and their almost immediate presence whenever and wherever assistance was needed. We likened their arrival to that of Batman, swooping in to save the day, before you even had time to turn around. Pat yourselves on the back. What an amazing group of outstanding individuals, representing their country, their organization, and humanity in general. Rock on!

For more information about AFCT, visit their website at <http://afcycling.com/>. Find out more about RAGBRAI at <http://ragbrai.com/>.



A visit from the secretary of defense

Tech. Sgt. Robert Harrower, 361st Recruiting Squadron A-Flight, stands with Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter in Oak Harbor, Washington, Aug. 7. Carter stopped by for a five-minute visit and coined Harrower and an applicant who was there with his mother. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Saluting the Penguins

The 311th Recruiting Squadron presented an Air Force Recruiting Salutes plaque to Travis Williams, Pittsburgh Penguins chief operating officer, at Console Energy Center in Pittsburgh, Aug. 3. TOP PHOTO – From left are Williams; Capt. Curtis Weinstein, Support/Operations Flight commander; Master Sgt. Thomas Weir, first sergeant; and Staff Sgt. Justin Mulholland, B-Flight recruiter. The plaque was presented in appreciation of the Penguins' continued support of recruiting efforts. (U.S. Air Force photos)



Michigan Pure 400

The 339th Recruiting Squadron support the Michigan Pure 400 NASCAR Race at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Michigan, Aug. 15. They had the opportunity to explore the pits and stalls and meet NASCAR legend Richard Petty. ABOVE – From left are Maj. Steven Hatcher, Operations Flight commander; Lt. Col. Justin Tyree, commander; Petty; Tech. Sgt. Brandon Barnwell, recruiter in Jackson; Master Sgt. Jermaine Goodman, Air Force Recruiting Service Ground Safety Manager; and Master Sgt. Jason Bernstein, flight chief in Kalamazoo. BELOW – Tech. Sgt. Brandon Barnwell speaks to an applicant near the No. 43 show car at the Michigan Pure 400 Race Aug. 15. (U.S. Air Force photos)





Tech. Sgt. Daniel Hopper, 345th Recruiting Squadron Marketing NCO, and Tech. Sgt. Brian Harrison, recruiter in Springfield, Illinois, stand on the main stage before Vanilla Ice performs at the Decatur Celebration in Decatur, Illinois. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Recruiters let community know “we are back”

By Staff Sgt. Andre Cervantes
345th Recruiting Squadron

The 345th Recruiting Squadron participated in the Decatur Celebration in Decatur, Illinois, Aug. 6-9. The zone had been without an Air Force presence for nearly three years, so we did a phenomenal job letting the city and surrounding towns know that “we are back.”

Over the course of four days, more than 300,000 people attended; there were more than 600 registrants who experienced the Air Force Performance Lab.

As the new recruiter for Decatur, I have already received new business from being at the event. The event also didn’t cost anything, other than one person on TDY status from the squadron.

About five weeks ago, Tech. Sgt. Daniel Hopper, 345th RCS Marketing NCO, reached out to the tour manager for Vanilla Ice, who was the featured entertainer for the event, to set up a tour of the Air Force Performance Lab. Unfortunately, due to security issues, he was not able to make it to the display but he did invite recruiters backstage for a meet and greet.

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ABOVE – From left are Tech. Sgt. Daniel Hopper, 345th Recruiting Squadron Marketing NCO; entertainer Vanilla Ice; Staff Sgt. Andre Cervantes, recruiter in Decatur, Illinois; and Tech. Sgt. Brian Harrison, recruiter in Springfield, Illinois. Vanilla Ice invited members of the 345th RCS backstage for a meet and greet at the Decatur Celebration. BELOW – The Air Force Performance Lab on display at Decatur Celebration. (U.S. Air Force photos)



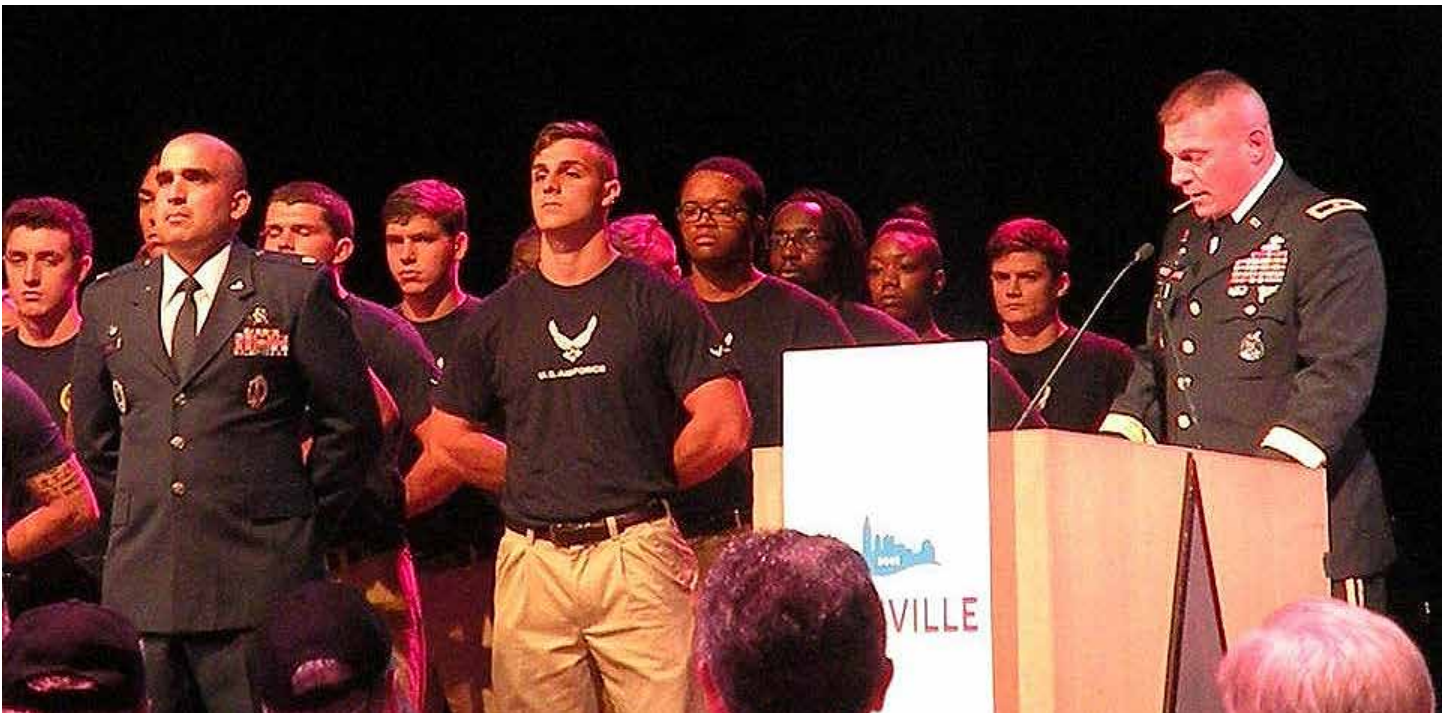


Nashville Salutes

The city of Nashville honored 25 Medal of Honor recipients and veterans during its Nashville Salutes Parade, Aug. 8. The parade was part of three days of events. Tech. Sgt. Colt Kelley led the way for the 332nd Recruiting Squadron in preparing for the event, working with the Nashville Salutes Organization and other military counterparts in making the event a success. He also helped coordinate a joint Delayed Entry Program swear-in ceremony. ABOVE – Tech. Sgt. Joshua Casey, left, and Tech. Sgt. Jordan Watts, seventh from left, stand ready to lead the parade in a joint color guard. The two are assigned to the 332nd RCS A-Flight. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Staff Sgt. Macon Wright, 332nd RCS A-Flight recruiter from Dickson, Tennessee, stands with Medal of Honor recipient Thomas Kelley and Delayed Entry Program member Kyle Hodge. Kelley coined Hodge after the swear-in with a Medal of Honor coin. Kelley was presented the Medal of Honor on May 14, 1970, by President Richard Nixon for his actions in the Vietnam War. For more photos, see Page 9. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Lt. Col. Assad Samad, left, commander of the 332nd RCS, stands in front of Delayed Entry Program members as Army Brig. Gen. Troy D. Kok, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Fort Knox, Kentucky, talks about the history of the Oath of Enlistment. The swear-in ceremony was held after the Nashville Salutes Parade, Aug. 8. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Tech. Sgt. Colt Kelley, 332nd RCS Standardization, Training and Marketing NCO, stands with Medal of Honor recipient James A. Taylor. Taylor was presented the Medal of Honor on Nov. 19, 1968, by President Lyndon B. Johnson for his actions in the Vietnam War. The Nashville Salutes Parade on Aug. 8 ended with breakfast at the Wild Horse Saloon, followed by a joint Delayed Entry Program swear-in. (U.S. Air Force photo)

**Welcome to the Air Force**

The 361st Recruiting Squadron held a briefing at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, for newly selected line officer applicants and welcomed them to the Air Force team Aug. 12. From left are Staff Sgt. Cora Gjorgievski, line officer selectees Erik Gallegos, Christian Diaz, Kayla Burton and Adam Sliver, and Tech. Sgt. Grant Grady, line officer recruiter. (U.S. Air Force photo)

**Kalamazoo Speedway**

Members of the 339th Recruiting Squadron are pictured with the Mark Shook Race Car, which is sponsored by the squadron, before a race at the Kalamazoo Speedway in Michigan Aug. 12. From left are Senior Master Sgt. Dale Graham, production superintendent; Master Sgt. Jason Bernstein, flight chief; and Staff Sgts. Randee White and Michal Medendorp, recruiters in Kalamazoo. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Squadron selfie

Members of the 369th Recruiting Squadron take time for a selfie portrait during semi-annual training at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, July 24. The photo was shot during base clean-up, where the squadron walked from the missile to the main gate picking up trash. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Certified

Master Sgt. Heather Poff, 361st Recruiting Squadron Operations Flight chief, presents Staff Sgt. Melinda Thornton, H-Flight recruiter, with her certificate and recruiting badge in Lacy, Washington, Aug. 12. Poff is a senior master sergeant selectee and will soon be the production superintendent. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Certified

Tech. Sgt. Seth Yothers, 338th Recruiting Squadron, holds the badge presented to him by Senior Master Sgt. David Jackson, 338th RCS production superintendent, after being certified Aug. 3. Yothers is based in Portsmouth, Ohio. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Saluting the Honor Guard

Lt. Col. Robert Firman, 344th Recruiting Squadron commander, presents an Air Force Recruiting Salutes plaque to Tech. Sgt. Phillip Acord at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, July 31. Acord is the manager of the Sheppard AFB Honor Guard, which has assisted the 344th RCS with more than 300 marketing events. The most recent was a nine-person team for the 4th of July Texas Rangers swear-in ceremony seen by more than 45,000 people. The award was presented in front of base leadership, including Brig. Gen. Patrick Doherty, 82nd Training Wing commander. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Air Force opportunities

Staff Sgt. Ralph Hall Gonzalez, 314th Recruiting Squadron A-Flight, represented the Air Force when all military branches were invited by the Philadelphia Work-Ready Summer Program and Culinary School for their Heroes of the Week luncheon Aug. 5. Hall Gonzalez was able to speak to local Philadelphia students about Air Force benefits and opportunities. (U.S. Air Force photo)



New HP display

The 318th Recruiting Squadron has a new health professions display, thanks to the efforts of their marketing team and field recruiters. The display, which was locally purchased, breaks down into two small cases and has minimal setup and teardown time. It includes a smart TV for videos. The display will make its debut in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, at the West Virginia Medical Association 2015 Healthcare Summit Aug. 27. Pictured from left are Master Sgt. Mario Rodriguez, 318th RCS Standardization and Training Flight Chief, Senior Trainer; Tech. Sgt. Michael Darter, 318th RCS Marketing and Training; and Chief Master Sgt. Charles Lamer, Air Force Recruiting Service command chief, during the chief's visit to the squadron July 30 in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Helping in the community

Tech. Sgt. Sergio Garcia, a 349th Recruiting Squadron E-Flight recruiter, assisted students of Winds West Elementary School in Oklahoma City by accepting donations of school supplies from Aug. 4-18. Garcia had a collection box in his office and at squadron headquarters. The supplies went to children of low-income families. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Pocono 400 Race

Lt. Col. George Peasant, 314th Recruiting Squadron commander, takes advantage of a photo opportunity with Aric Almirola, the Air Force No. 43 NASCAR driver, at the Pocono Mountains Raceway in Long Pond, Pennsylvania, Aug. 2. (Courtesy photo/Mark A. Brown)



Lt. Gen. Bradley Heithold, commander of Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, Florida, and Chief Master Sgt. Matthew Caruso, AFSOC Command Chief, address members of the 314th RCS Delayed Entry Program before their swearing-in at the Pocono Raceway, Aug. 2. (Courtesy photo/Mark A. Brown)

**Taking a break**

From left, Tech. Sgt. Travis Layman, Staff Sgt. Matthew Halvorson and Staff Sgt. Anthony Cook, recruiters in Duluth, Minnesota, with the 343rd Recruiting Squadron, take time for a photo in the squadron mini-jet after working at a school kickoff event Aug. 2 hosted by the Children's Museum of Duluth. The X-1 Supercar was also present and attracted radio and television media coverage. (U.S. Air Force photo)

**Generating interest**

Members of the 369th Recruiting Squadron were on hand for the Castaic Lake Triathlon Series in Castaic, California, Aug. 8. Recruiters had a pull-up bar with their booth in the parking lot of the Castaic Sports Complex. A combat controller mannequin helped generate interest in special operations careers. From left are Lt. Col. John Patrick, commander; Master Sgt. Alan Pickford, Reseda recruiter; Staff Sgt. Larry Mitchell, Valencia recruiter (partially hidden); Staff Sgt. Ricardo Fulgencio, Reseda recruiter (wearing security forces beret); Senior Airman Rene Soriano, Lancaster recruiter; the mannequin; Staff Sgt. Tavaras Hartman, Lancaster recruiter; Master Sgt. Aaron Stern, flight chief; and Staff Sgts. Brandon Wigginton and David Sarli, Glendale/Eagle Rock recruiters. (U.S. Air Force photo)

**Off to the 339th**

Staff Sgt. Nicholas Williams receives his certificate of training at the Recruiting School graduation ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, Aug. 12. Williams will be assigned to the 339th Recruiting Squadron, where one of the newest schoolhouse instructors, Tech. Sgt. Steven Phillips, was recently assigned. From left are Senior Master Sgt. Christopher McCool, school superintendent; Williams; Phillips; retired Air Force Col. Dale Ullrich, Air Force Recruiting Alumni; and guest speaker Chief Master Sgt. Edward Edgar, Air Force Recruiting Service Inspector General's office. (U.S. Air Force photo)

**Back to the Bricks**

Staff Sgt. Parker Smith, 339th Recruiting Squadron, participates in the 2015 Back to the Bricks Parade in Flint, Michigan, Aug. 15. The car show draws more than 250,000 spectators. (U.S. Air Force photo)