

January, February, March 2013



Civilian Military Support Group NEWSLETTER



President's Corner

By *Danny A. Bazzell*



Danny A. Bazzell

As I sit here thinking of what to write, I'm reminded of the lyrics in the song "Time" by the venerable group, Pink Floyd that say; "you run and you run to catch up with the sun but it's sinking, racing around to come up behind you again" and I'm reminded just how quickly time goes by. Here we are, well into spring already and it seems like just the other day I was

putting Christmas lights on my house.

Over the last few months, members and supporters of the Civ/Mil Group have been actively doing what we do best: providing assistance to the men and women who work and serve at our nation's premier flight test facility. During the holiday season, the organization provided \$3,500.00 in financial assistance to the Edwards First Sergeant's Council, enabling them to continue in their crucial mission of supporting our young enlisted men and women over the holidays. The First Sergeant's Council is a vital tool in providing emergency assistance, counseling and support for our Airmen and your donations are critical to their success.

Contributions to the Airman's Attic continue to come in steadily however we do have a need for assistance in transporting items to the base. So, if you have or know of anyone with a large truck that could be used from time-to-time in transporting larger items like appliances and furniture, let us know and we will keep your information on file for when it is needed.

After the New Year, the Civ/Mil Group was asked to provide input to the 412th Test Wing leadership in reconstituting the Honorary Commander program. With a very eclectic group of community leaders from all over Southern California taking part as Honorary Commanders, the program will facilitate a greater understanding of the mission and economic impact of Edwards AFB and the USAF in general.

Equally important, the program allows for the senior leaders at Edwards to gain a better understanding of the synergistic relationship between their mission and the needs of the surrounding community. I'm looking forward to seeing this program progress and I know that all those involved will benefit personally and better yet, the community as a whole will see rewards from this outreach.

March 28th saw our first event of the year and our first major event held in Building 3000: the Annual Spring Mixer. There is an article related to this event further on in the newsletter so I won't go into detail here but I did want to say "Thank You" to Julie Swayze for the fantastic job she did in planning, organizing and implementing the event. I would also like to recognize the staff of Club Muroc, and the 412th FSS, for doing such an outstanding job of catering the event and meeting our needs.

The annual project for 2013 will likely be a continuance of the sustainment project for the Flag Park, which began in 2012. Last year, if you recall, we provided several sets of new flags for all 50 states and the U.S. Territories. This year we will be looking at repairing and reconditioning the nameplates and hardware on each flagpole. These nameplates have been exposed to the elements since 1991 when Civ/Mil built the park and are in dire need of a face lift. Keep an eye on your e-mail for more information on how you can get involved.

Our next scheduled event will be our annual Barbecue at the Hacienda Lane Ranch, which will be held on the evening of July 18, so mark your calendars and save the date. This is an event you do not want to miss, so I hope to see you all there!

Danny A. Bazzell
President
Edwards Air Force Base Civilian/Military Support Group



412 Test Wing Inducts Honorary Commanders

By Laura Mowry
Staff Writer
Desert Wings



Brig. Gen. Michael T. Brewer, 412th Test Wing commander, welcomed civic leaders from surrounding communities during the Honorary Commanders Program induction ceremony recently held at Club Muroc's Alliance Ballroom. The event introduced honorary commanders to their respective group and squadron commanders. {U.S. Air Force Photo by Edward Cannon}

Team Edwards welcomed civic leaders from surrounding communities February 27 during the Honorary Commanders' Program induction ceremony held at Club Muroc's Alliance Ballroom.

Brig. Gen. Michael T. Brewer, 412th Test Wing Commander and Chief Master Sgt. Brian D. Randolph, 412th TW Command Chief, hosted the event that introduced the honorary commanders to their respective group and squadron commanders.

"The Honorary Commanders Program is one of our key interfaces with the community. We want to join folks up with a commander so you can learn about what it is that we do on base. This provides opportunities for you to come out and join us and see some cool stuff," said Brewer.

"This is also an opportunity for us to go and see how things are done in the city. It's an opportunity to learn from the community," he added.

The primary objective of the Honorary Commanders Program is to provide Edwards commanders with the capability to develop, promote and maintain a continuous working partnership with the surrounding communities.

This program is an avenue for community partner leaders to learn about Air Force mission, personnel, programs and operations. Likewise, base commanders as well as personnel will benefit from community leaders through continued

cooperation with the community and its key leaders.

These mutually beneficial partnerships play an important role in strengthening relationships with surrounding communities and their leaders.

The induction ceremony introduced the following Edwards leaders with their civilian counterparts:

From the 412th Operations Group, Col. Chris Azzano and his Honorary Commander, Steve Finnegan. Finnegan is the Manager for Government and Legislative Affairs at the Automobile Club of Southern California.

From the 412th Operations Support Squadron, Lt. Col. Ryan Osteroos and his Honorary Commander, Jaque Hickman. Hickman is the Lone Pine Airport Fixed Base Operator and Inyo County civic leader.

From the 411th Flight Test Squadron, Lt. Col. Daron Drown and his Honorary Commander, Rod Van Norman. Van Norman is a retired Superintendent for Southern Kern Unified School District.

From the 412th Flight Test Squadron, Lt. Col. Matthew Fritz and his Honorary Commander, Julie Hackbarth-McIntyre. Hackbarth-McIntyre is the Mayor of Barstow, Calif.

From the 419th Flight Test Squadron, Lt. Col. Jason Wierzbowski and his Honorary Commander, Matthew Winheim. Winheim is the Assistant Headmaster at the Palmdale Aerospace Academy.

From the 445th Flight Test Squadron, Lt. Col. Christopher Spinelli and his Honorary Commander, Ron Emard. Emard is the Owner of Antelope Valley Harley Davidson.

From the 412th Maintenance Group, Col. Robby Weaver and his Honorary Commander, Steve Irving. Irving is the Manager at General William J. Fox Airport.

From the 412th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Maj. Larry Tanksley and his Honorary Commander, Julie Swayze. Swayze is the Development Associate for Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy and Secretary for the Edwards Air Force Base Civilian Military Support Group.

From the 412th Electronic Warfare Group, Col. Kevin Muckerheide and his Honorary Commander, the Honorable Dick Spann. Spann is a U.S. Superior Court judge.

From the 412th Test Wing Fire Protection, Michael Hurlles and his Honorary Commander, Capt. Scott Polgar. Polgar is the Fire Prevention Officer for the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

From the 412th Test Wing Environmental Management, Randy Beckett and his Honorary Commander, Bret Banks. Banks is the Operations Manager for the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District.

From the United States Air Force Test Pilot School, Col. Lawrence Hoffman and his Honorary Commander, Scott Seymour. Seymour is the General Manager of the Inyokern Airport.

From the 412th Mission Support Group, Col. Robert Hoff and his Honorary Commander, Anne Ambrose. Ambrose is the Director of Public Safety and Community Relations for Palmdale.

From the 412th Force Support Squadron, Alexander Kovras and his Honorary Commander, Joudi Alsaady. Alsaady is a restaurant owner.

From the 412th Security Forces Squadron, Lt. Col. Kris Zhea and his Honorary Commander, Capt. Paul Foley. Foley is the Commander of Operations and Training for the Arcadia Police Department.

From the 412th Communications Squadron, Lt. Col. Keith Repik and his Honorary Commander, George Nagy. Nagy is the President of Mojave Desert Bank and an Edward Air Force Base Civilian Military Support Group Director.

From the 412th Medical Group, Col. Stephen Donaldson and his Honorary Commander, Judy Cooperberg. Cooperberg is the Executive Director for the Antelope Valley Services for Mental Health.



{U.S. Air Force Photo by Edward Cannon}



From the 412th Civil Engineering Squadron, James Judkins and his Honorary Commander, Michelle Cantrell. Cantrell is the City Engineer for Lancaster.

From the Air Force Research Laboratory, Col. Michael Platt and his Honorary Commander, Dr. David Vierra. Vierra is the Superintendent of the Antelope Valley Union High School District.

From the 412th Test Engineering Group, Paul Tierney and his Honorary Commander, Jack Connell. Connell is the Executive Director of the China Lake Alliance.



Our Mixer at Edwards AFB

By Julie Anne Swayze

Event Coordinator

EAFB Civ-Mil Secretary

Building 3000, known to the Edwards community as a place to get ID and passes, seems like an unlikely location for a party. With the roar of Viper engines in the background, Lydia Rivera's staff was able to affect a remarkable transformation. With the removal of the lobby furniture, addition of tables of various sizes (inside and outside), and it became the perfect social environment.



On March 28, a rare non-windy evening, Building 3000 played host to the Edwards Air Force Base Civilian-Military Spring Mixer.

Over plates of heavy hors d'oeuvres, EAFB senior officers and Antelope Valley civic leaders and volunteers met for the first time, or caught up on old friendships. The evening had a brief ceremony. The speeches were saved

for last, and they were used to thank the guests, recount the Civ-Mil projects and thank Northrop Grumman and Lockheed Martin for their generous monetary gifts. We look forward to our next gathering at our annual picnic.

Edwards Civ-Mil Spring Mixer Attracts Good Crowd

By Raphael Jaffe

Staff Writer

“Courtesy of Aerotech News and Review”



About 96 people attended the Edwards Air Force Base Support Group Spring Mixer on March 28 and the breakdown was about 50-50 between Air Force officers and group members.

Amongst the Air Force officers in attendance were Maj. Gen. {Select} Arnold Bunch, Commander of the Air Force Test Center; and Brig. Gen. Michael Brewer, Commander of the 412th Test Wing. Since the AF Material Command reorganization, the Air Force Test Center is responsible for the Edwards and Elgin AF bases and Arnold Air Development Center.



Maj. Gen. Arnold Bunch {Right} and Col. Keith Donaldson

Photograph by Linda KC Reynolds

The mixer was held at the lobby and patio of building 3000. Many local civic leaders attended. These included Keenan Hochschild, representing US Representative Kevin McCarthy, Gale Knight representing California Senator Steve Knight, Kern County Supervisor Zack Scrivner, Palmdale City Manager David Childs, and California City Manager Tom Weil.

Other Air Force attendees included:

Dr. Davy Belk, AFTC Executive Director, Col. Daniel Daetz, 412th Test Wing Vice-Commander, Col. Amy Arwood, 412th Test Wing Chief of Staff, Col. Robert Hoff, 412th Test Wing Mission Support Group, Col. Kevin Muckerheide, 412th Test Wing Electronic Warfare Group, Col Robby Weaver, 412th Test Wing Maintenance, Lt. Col. Matthew Fritz, 412th Flight Test Squadron, and Col. Lawrence Hoffman, Commander of the USAF Test Pilot School.

From AFOTEC Det 5, Commander Col Arthur McGettrick attended.

Air Force Plant 42 DCMA Col Glenn Graham attended.

Air Force enlisted forces were represented by CMSgt Chris McCollor of the AFTC and by CMSgt Brian Randolph from the 412th Test Wing.

Brig. Gen. Brewer gave a short informal talk. He said the successful operation of the 412th Test Wing is based on four cooperating groups: the military; civil service employees; contractor personnel; and community support of the other three. The Edwards Civ-Mil Support Group showcases the outstanding cooperation of the community. He also said we will get through this budget tightening.

Danny Bazzell, President of Civ-Mil, briefly reviewed highlights of past Civ-Mil service projects for Edwards and its staff:



Higher Grounds is an Internet cafe located at the Building 2423 enlisted dorm. It was set up in July 2007 with the donation of \$50,000 worth of computers and displays. It provides a non-alcoholic recreation space for the airmen, and now includes game consoles.

When the Airman's Attic was expanded into an 8,000 square foot facility, Civ-Mil supplied carpeting for it, including special carpeting for the children's play area. We also installed partitions. The cost was \$18,000. It has been called the finest Airman's Attic of any Air Force installation.

To support deployed airmen, Civ-Mil provides "goodie bags." These include snacks, chewing gum, toiletry articles, books, games, prepaid post cards to send greetings back home, pens and pencils, and a host of other items not easily available through {USAF} channels. Since 2002, over 3,000 bags have been given out.

The Flag Park at Building 1 was installed in 1991. It flies the flags of all 50 states and the US possessions. The flags were just replaced and there are three sets of replacements on hand when they are needed.

Holiday activities supported by Civ-Mil include the Holiday Meal Program, the Angel Tree of children's gifts, and Holiday Gift Baskets for the junior enlisted. These have been coordinated by the First Sergeants Council, and recently assisted by other sponsors.

Contributions to the Civ-Mil Edwards AFB projects are held in a separate fund.

Operational Civ-Mil funds are in a separate account.

During the past year, Northrop Grumman generously donated \$5,000 to Civ-Mil for its Edwards activities. Lockheed Martin has made a similar generous donation of \$4,000. Those donations were acknowledged by President Bazzell.

The 412 Test Wing recently inducted Honorary Commanders. These civic leaders from surrounding communities provide the Edwards' commanders with the capability to develop promote and maintain a continuous working partnership with the surrounding communities. The program was originated by Civ-Mil several years ago. Several of the new Honorary Commanders attended. Most of the Civ-Mil Directors were present, in addition to many members.



The Spring Mixer was arranged by Civ-Mil Secretary Julie Swayze and her committee of Michelle Slade, Pam Russell, founder Aida O'Connor, and John Fergione. Club Muroc catered an outstandingly delicious buffet.



Awards in appreciation of support for the Civ-Mil Edwards improvement projects were presented to Lockheed Martin, Terri Garcia {Left} Community Relations; and to Northrop Grumman, Michelle Webb and Mick Jagers, Corporate Citizenship Officers.

Photograph by Linda KC Reynolds





Christine Scrivner picks the winning raffle ticket from a basket held by Danny Bazzell, as her husband, 2nd District Supervisor of Kern County looks on.
 Photograph by Linda KC Reynolds

**To the Men and Women
 in Uniform,
 Past and Present**

**We Thank You
 for Your Service!**

2013 Annual Project Possibilities

By George Nagy
 Board of Directors

On February 6, 2013, Dennis Shoffner gave my wife Diane and me a very nice tour of Edwards AFB. During this tour, we visited Higher Ground, the Flag Park and the museum, along with a number of other attractions.

From this visit, we were able to arrive at the following possible topics to consider for the 2013 annual project:

“Higher Ground” would like to upgrade their coffee bar to a barista style machine. While at approximately \$2,000 the cost is not prohibitive, the executive committee decided that the proper use of such a machine would require on-going training and a continuing flow of supplies that we could not monitor, nor commit to on an ongoing basis. Accordingly, we will not give further consideration to this request at this time. However, their request for new controls for their video game consoles is still under consideration and we are in the process of gathering more specific information on the exact types, numbers and costs of these units.

George Welsh, director/curator of the Flight Test Museum, indicated that they are in need of two flat screen televisions to enhance their abilities to show historical and educational film footage. Since our visit, they received one television from another source and we are still considering the possibility of satisfying their need for the second set.

Our visit to the flag park revealed that the name plaques are in need of cleaning from water stains and that a small number of them are bent and in need of repair or replacement. These plaques are 24”X6”, are made of bronze and



are mounted on aluminum mounting brackets. We explored the possibility of replacing them, but after speaking with Dennis Persons of “Chapel of the Valley Mortuary”, and doing some other research, we found that this would be a very expensive proposition. An on-line source quoted a price of \$385.00 to produce one replacement plaque. There are 54 flags and the total cost would be over \$20,000 to replace all of them.

We are in the process of researching the best way to clean the existing ones and determining whether the damaged ones can be repaired. The Board is updated on the progress with respect to the above on a monthly basis.



New Members

*We Welcome Our
Newest Members:*

Dwayne Chisam
Glen Moulton
Lisa Moulton
Phillip Lo Piccolo
Sandy Lo Piccolo
Raimone Roberts
The Palmdale Aerospace Academy

*As of the publishing of this Newsletter, our
Membership stands at 104 strong!*

Upcoming Events

Civ-Mil Annual Barbecue
July 18, 2013
Hacienda Lane Ranch
More Information to Be Provided

**Aerospace
Appreciation Night**
August 17, 2013
Jethawks Stadium
More Information to Be Provided

Civ-Mil Installation
September 2013
More Information to Be Provided

Airman's Attic Notice

Special thanks to Pan Patel

If you, or anyone you know, are interested in making a donation to the Airman's Attic, here is some important information you should know. Pan has donated the use of a storage facility to hold items for delivery to the Airman's Attic. The storage unit is on his property at the Devonshire Inn, 2076 West Rosamond Boulevard in Rosamond. If you have any questions or would like to coordinate storage, please contact Pan Patel at (661) 256-3454.

We Need Volunteers...

At times, we get calls, with usually only a few days' notice, to pick up items being donated to the Airman's Attic. This generally involves loading a truck at a home or a storage facility and moving these donations to the Devonshire. If you would like to help us in this endeavor, please let us know and we will be glad to add your name to our volunteer list. We will call you, with as much advance notice as we get, when a pickup and delivery is being scheduled. The time you spend loading our (donated) truck will surely be appreciated by the young military men and women who really need these items.

Thanks in Advance!

Mission Statement

The purpose and general nature of the Edwards Air Force Base Civilian-Military Support Group is to establish a friendly, benevolent association of civic leaders and military personnel at Edwards Air Force Base, to act as a host group whenever needed and additionally, to consider an annual service project to benefit EAFB.

Board of Directors

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The EAFB Civ-Mil Newsletter

Editor: John A. Fergione

Designer: Bradley Smith

Printing: Bohn's Printing

Photography By:

Edward Cannon, Desert Wings

Linda KC Reynolds

If you are enjoying reading this Newsletter, and you are not a member of Civ-Mil, but would like more information on the organization, please contact:
Art Furtado at (661) 965-5452.

You may also submit your request in writing to:

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P.O. Box 812

Lancaster, CA 93584-0812

Attn: Membership Chairman

<http://www.eafbcivmil.org>