

The BOOM SIGNAL

2012

“Boom Operators Making Contact Worldwide”



33rd EDITION

THE 2012 BOOM SIGNAL IS DEDICATED TO:

all the Booms who have retired or will retire this year. Your service to this country and dedication to our career field is greatly appreciated, you will be sorely missed!

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(**Denotes no unit submission)

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2012 Prep for Contact

Welcome to the 33rd Annual 2012 Boom Signal. This is my second edition as editor and as expected I made a few rookie mistakes, like listing the 63rd ARS at MacDill as a Guard unit when they are in fact a Reserve unit, my apologies.

I would like to welcome several new units who have submitted to the Boom Signal this year. We have a few units making their first submission, some units from other tanker programs, and a few we haven't heard from in a while. Some of the new units include 33 SQN at RAAF Amberley Australia, CAASS/ADSI in Madrid, 730th AMTS at Altus, DRG at McConnell and Fairchild, and HQ ARPC at Buckley AFB, CO. I haven't made any drastic changes from last year's signal, however you may notice the class roster is no longer part of the boom signal, access to the roster has been restricted.

In case you haven't heard, we finally have a KC-135 Boom simulator! The first Boom Operator Weapons System Trainer (BOWST) became operational in Jan of this year at McConnell. The device is the first boom simulator of its kind able to log flying events. With flying hours soon drying up, this will be a major player for currencies. BOWST is not just for practicing EP's, it will dramatically speed up MCT by preparing new Booms for fighter cert quicker, completely certify Booms in MPRS, and give better training for IB upgrade. A1C Josh Garrett at McConnell AFB was the first Boom Operator to log a contact while in his MCT training. Immediately following, all Boom Operators at McConnell were able to update their MPRS currency among other things in BOWST. BOWST #2 was completed at Fairchild in Apr and is now ready for training as well. Take a look at the McConnell BOWST on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWeuNU4AjFQ>

AMC will install BOWST #3 and #4 at Altus and they will be ready for training by the end of this year. Baby booms in training at Altus will be able to refuel all receiver types, accurately accomplish BDA and MPRS, and experience emergency procedures well before they actually fly in the aircraft.

I would like to thank all the participating units for their 2012 Boom Signal inputs. We continue to be under manned and over tasked, yet you still managed to take time and contribute to 2012 Boom Signal- THANK YOU!

Burnsie

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READER DISCLAIMER:

Be advised the individual compiling the BOOM SIGNAL is not responsible for the content of any entry submitted for publication. The Unit's submissions were edited for format, spelling, and compiled in logical order. However the original content was left wholly intact.

The *spirit* of the BOOM SIGNAL is for the Units to express themselves in a manner befitting the family of Boom Operators (aka, anyway we see fit). To that end, please remember; "*nothing is too cruel if it's funny enough*".

The Boom Signal Editor

ALTUS AFB, OK
97 Operations Group



CMSgt Bruce Zahn: Chief Zahn is the one man that is literally dieing to get out of Altus. He seems to be over his minor heart “issue” now. Anyone that doesn’t believe it can come over to the gym and watch him pound out the miles on the treadmill. Chief has finally been offically pardoned from pergatory (upstairs OG office) and will join Capt Zahn and the girls this fall in Germany as he assumes OG Superintendent duty at Spandalem.

CMSgt Brian Buss AFRC Liason: Chief Buss has been in the seat for around six months but has already set the rcord for most parts lost from a KC-135R bfore being fully spun up as an FTU instructor. Brian’s job mainly focuses on the important duties of consoling students (wipping their eyes with soft tissue) after they taco their check rides. The FTU is glad to have Chief Buss in the seat. He’s been invaluable in “helping” the active duty instructors embrace TFI.

MSgt J.D. Harston (OGV) aka Santa Clause: Not sure what this guy does (other than drink allot of coffee and try to out hand gwesture the Chief) as he is always seen occupying “His” seat in Rueckert’s office. If someone is sitting in it, nothing is said but the seat is soon vacant so he can assume his position. He will be retiring in July and will be headed to Nebraska. We will miss you and good luck.

ALTUS AFB, OK

54 ARS

“Jesters”



2011 AMC RODEO's "Best KC-135 Wing" and "Best Tanker Wing" Trophies Winners...Again!

54th ARS Boom Leadership:

CMSgt Mike Morris: Chief loves Altus so much he refuses to leave. He volunteered for a remote to Korea and even that got denied. Maybe he will pick up an assignment this next go round...yep, good news. He will be moving to a higher elevation, unfortunately for him it is only 20 feet higher as he will be taking over for Chief Zahn upstairs as the OG Superintendent this summer. He is soooo excited.....

(S)MSgt Chris Rueckert: On pace to become CMSAF someday...maybe as soon as tomorrow. For now, he will settle with running the Squadron when Chief Morris moves to the Group. Hasn't even pinned on Senior yet, but is already studying to make Chief and outrank Docken. He will be PCSing to Fairchild and already has created an Excel flow chart for all the booms there. The rest of us here feel so sorry for them.

MSgt Fred Ramey aka Loc Ness Monster: When he's not seen flying he's...not seen at all. Sometimes we have to send a runner to his "trailer by the reservoir" to ensure he's still alive. Fred is still the 1st Sgt and manages to keep the buffoonery somewhat under control. It seems the booms in the squadron given him such a workout that he will be taking an early leave of absence by retiring this fall. Good luck and we'll see you down the road.

STM Flight: Probably the busiest flight as it conducts most of the training and oversight for student pilot and boom qualification and requalification courses. STM also is the largest flight with approximately 25 instructor pilots and booms assigned.

MSgt Andrea Inmon (Flight Chief): Andrea is 5 feet 2 inches of solid determination. She has the largest flight in the squadron and they're all too scared to walk down the wrong side of the hall. At first glance...well you might not see her (unless you are looking down), but if do, or you run into her you will quickly realize that she's no bull. She will be stepping up (literal term as we require her to carry a stool everywhere she goes) into the Operations Superintendent position this summer.

TSgt Bartek "Bach" Bachleda (Assistant Flt Chief): Doing great things, however can't seem to complete a full sortie without a maintenance problem. Maybe it's because of the magnetic pull his head creates because of its

massive size. Scientists are starting to take notice of the change in weather patterns in Altus over the last 2 years and are looking answers. We think we've found it.

TSgt Rory Wilcox (Flight Sup): About to get "re-blued" at NCOA. He's moving up a tax bracket now that Chica found a job with Google proofreading Japanese websites for \$15/hr. Moving upstairs to take over CFIC and "re-blue" the rest of the flight.

TSgt Titan Miller: Systematically paces the squadron trying to figure out how the human race has survived to this point as he probably has an IQ 150 points higher than the rest of us. Recently, he has created power point slides for student briefings that only a NASA astro physicist engineer could understand and has even proven a few wrong. We think he's secretly brainwashing all of us and we will soon be his mice in an experiment. For his other experiments check him out on youtube at: OISIAA.

SSgt Mike "Love Muscle" Russell: The resident "Gardner" who always corrects us that beans, meat, and cheese go with EVERYTHING! Recently became the resident expert in Airdropping from a KC-135; you can find his first airdropped telescoping tube being used as a flotation device for his family crossing the Rio Grande. Hey, thanks for the new Inner Limit! Nothing like keeping a C-17 on the boom in an even smaller envelope!

SSgt Chris Pedersen aka Game Face: Drill Sergeant Pedersen is instilling the fear on Honor Guard. Has the habit of reminding students that you can't remember the upper limit of a C-17 without reading the "Enlisted Force Structure" book and standing at Parade Rest when he enters the room. If you plan on keeping a meeting short and sweet, Chris is not the guy to invite...His goal for the upcoming year is to take the training wheels off of his motorcycle.

SSgt Ryan Clauss: Celebrated his first Animals with a visit from Emily Eastwood. She celebrated his first Animals with a ticket for driving off of the "maintained roads". Who knew a creek bed wasn't a good place to drive or park your truck for the night? He must be doing something right though,

SrA Jeremy Pretty: Getting his Ph.D. in "How to be retired as a Senior Airman". He has been unable to fly for some time now, but don't worry we keep him gainfully employed. Someone has to do all of the Airman's work in the Squadron.

TSgt Larry "Mayhem" Nahalea (Flight Sup): Wow, where to begin with Larry. Recently Larry completed his 12 steps to recovery for "how not to get naked every time I drink". His Hawaiian, Polack language has still yet to be deciphered by anyone but we did get the part about the COTtun fields on his drive to LOTton. The "mayhem" nickname comes from his ability to pop a wheelie on a Harley Sportster without using any hands (or any other body part for that matter); to fix the problem, he bought a lifted truck that requires a lift from Chelsea each time he gets in.

SSgt Jacob Jewell: Recently returned from a visit to the land of sand and sun in Baghdad. Found out the hard way, that locking your Evaluator in the bathroom is not acceptable...especially with an S-1 student watching you. If he's not keeping the squadron busy, his wife makes sure the First Sergeant has something to do every day.

SSgt Justice Coker: Everyone cheers for Justice when he walks in the room. He thinks it's because everyone likes him so much, but the truth is...we just want to hear how redneck he can be. He has written the syllabus on how to get your student a Q-3 and embraces it so much that he walks into checkride EPE's for his student by telling the Evaluator to Q-3 them. "Encountered Fuel spray and stopped offloading" is still the best bullet we have ever seen. Justice can be seen staring in the role of Billy Bob Jimbo Junior McCoy on History Channel's *Hatfield's & McCoys*.

SSgt Aaron Tessmann: Made a big impression on his first ANIMALS. Found out that he thinks his truck is the GENERAL LEE and "EMILIO" doesn't need a battery for big jumps. Also has a bigger arsenal then the Taliban

left in Afghanistan. Really enjoys his new house which provides the Gate Guards with a perfect Peep Show through his back door when he walks around in his banana hammock.

SSgt Alex McGuinness: The FNG...only thing we have on him is that he likes to wear Candy Cane striped socks to softball. Can we say “Metrosexual”?

TSgt Robert “Bob” Jenkins (Flight Sup): Only been at Altus for 6 months, we’ve seen him all of 6 days; but he has found a way out of the squadron already. When he isn’t at work, we can find him practicing his swing on the ole’ Windy Trails Golf Course. Who would have known the weight of picking up a golf ball could cause hernias?

SSgt Heather Barnes: Embracing the idea of living in a house finally. Of course, when her plumbing backs up and floods her floor; she wishes she could go back to the storage unit and just deploy again. She has voiced her time with the Air Force is done after this enlistment and we wish her the best in the future.

SSgt Lucas “Tasty” Treat: Stole the “Scooter’s Dance off Championship” and has yet to relinquish it since he got here. Has another baby on the way, hopefully the Keebler Elves don’t get too jealous that he is the only one getting action.

SSgt Brandon Holaday: J² just arrived to Altus and slid his way into an FTC AT ride. Apparently there are checklist steps between 2 and 5 of the preflight checklist. Don’t worry; he is making up his lack of flying skills with his softball prowess. Made us all proud when he came out to Animals after only being at Altus three days.

SSgt Marcus Barnes: On his way up I-35 to McConnell, hopefully he isn’t on his motorcycle because there might not be some big woman to pick it off him this time.

SSgt Michael Fagan: Can’t seem to grasp that a Softball is smaller than a Basketball, so he lets every ball past him when he’s playing third base. Now Mike’s a recognized expert in Tumbleweed CPR and enjoyed practicing his Mouth to mouth skills on a midget. He practiced so much, that he now has a girl on the way and still has trouble “acting” like he’s happy that it’s not a boy. On his way to CFIC, because we already have our Quota in STM.

CFIC Flight: AKA—“The Cool Kids Club”. The program *SOME* of you may dread coming to, but that’s only because you may suck; so don’t suck! We have stepped down the game playing and brain grenades a bit and are concentrating more on instructor knowledge and A/R skills. You will leave here very knowledgeable or you will leave as an MB. It seems A/R mishaps are rising bit, so I call on our instructor cadre to rise as well and have more hangar fly/Boom meetings and the like. We’ll see you when you get here.

MSgt Brian Quam Flight Sup: Still playing the fiddle and still at Altus. We all hope he retires soon because we’re sick of hearing about SAC and his endless knowledge of the AFIs. Seriously, if there was a Reg for breathing, he would make sure you knew it before you could breathe. His Bluegrass band even has a YouTube video that he watches every day in the office while he plays his work guitar. Every once in awhile he has some tidbit about the airplane that actually makes sense; good luck Quam we’ll see you at the Pax terminal.

TSgt Bruce Berglund: Bruce “the taco” Berglund; gives more Q-3s than an HQ AMC evaluator. As the second in charge of CFIC he does a great job making the candidates feel “special”. Just got off SSgt probation and puts all the extra money into his Beamer. Strangely enough, he added one more to the family when Nate Gibbs married his wife’s sister. It would behoove him to not introduce Mike Miranda to the last sister.

SSgt Heath Tuma: The “Tumanator”; been counting down his days at Altus since he had orders here. He brings his jeep to Animals just to work on it; that way his wife doesn’t distract him. His candidates routinely want to “punch him in the face” but no one knows why this phenomenon occurs. He does get a little emotional when

candidates are being “not so smart” or when people disagree with him. Tuma is a perfect fit for the shop and he does a great job.

SSgt Ben Davis: Leaving for Fairchild soon. Ben never gets to upset or emotional about anything except when his wife scolds him or when people don’t pay for Animals T-shirts. Since his third child, beer pong parties have dwindled and he’s replaced Dustin Foret as the seldom seen “Sasquatch”. His instructor skills and positive attitude will be sorely missed and hard to replace.

SSgt Mike Miranda: Living the bachelors dream in Altus! No paternity tests have come back positive yet, but he still has a few months. Mike loves his Corvette so much that his girlfriends are actually jealous of it. His apartment is called “Club 216” cause that’s where the after-party is. Mike is off to Fairchild as well, much to the disdain of fathers everywhere. Good luck Mike, we will miss you.

SSgt Cleigh Robbins: Cleigh is the classic underachiever, he avoids work like a senior Captain but when cornered gets it done right the first time. He has mad skills with a computer but avoids using them if at all possible. Cleigh is our resident comedian and is one funny SOB! He also is a Pyro especially when the adult beverages are flowing; make sure to chain down your lawn chair at Animals or it’s going in the fire! Cleigh is also headed to Fairchild to keep the “A” team intact. Best wishes to you and your family.

FTM

TSgt Pat Haney: His orders states he stationed in Altus but by 1500 on Friday he can be seen driving up I-35 back to McConnell. Hit his midlife crisis and decided to by a brand new charger. Is in a contest with Soule on who can keep his car cleaner.

TSgt Roderick “Putt” Taylor: Went to RODEO and took every trophy available to him except one (should have had that one also). Putt has done it all at Altus and will soon be on the way to Birmingham.

TSgt Chris Joyce: Was the “Unicorn” as we all thought it was a mythical creature but has recently shown his face so he’s more like a horse. Apparently bought some kitchen passes at the last squadron auction as he has been able to go hunting lately, but nowhere near Morris and Foret yet.

SSgt Nate Gibbs: Sorry ladies, Nate is off the bachelor’s list. Recently got married and now has a little munchkin. Nate is seldom seen and even more seldom heard.

Stan Eval Flight:

MSgt Ron “Donkey” MacMeeken: MSgt Ron MacMeeken - "Donkey" off the movie Shrek got here last August for the second time, and still doesn't know what to do. Recently promoted to OGV, which is actually a workload decrease since he won't supervise Soule anymore. Found out for some reason gymnastics is not part of softball.

(M)Sgt Ryan Soule: Ryan can’t seem to get his priorities in life in order...probably because he’s updating his Facebook 24/7. He would drive to Dallas at 3 a.m. just to ensure that his Mustang doesn’t get beat up from hail. You would also think that his wife would be with him but there isn’t room after he seatbelts his IPAD in the passenger seat even though it has a baboon case...really? Baboon? He also made MSgt this last go round and will so be taking over Stan Eval...lord have mercy!

TSgt Kurt Hinson: Banned from talking the 19 AF ASEV team, something about them being wrong and Kurt being 100% right. Went up a night before Animals with another "dude" to setup...

TSgt Dave Thoresen: The "Smile Destroyer" had a busy year this past one. Hooked his first CFIC candidate and asked the question which made four 54th IB's unqualified over lack of fighter contacts. Thankfully he's PCSing to the Stan Eval Office at Mildenhall. Good luck Dave!

Scheduling:

MSgt Jeff Stoermer: Jeff came in from McConnell ready to fly, fly, and fly some more. We put him in scheduling so he can direct the squadron to fly. Jeff will be assuming the STM Super's job here shortly where he will be further relegated to the exciting life of student folder and EPR review.

SSgt Dustan Foret: Not sure if he is bio-polar or has schizophrenia since he only actually speaks after a few adult beverages.

SSgt Auggie Marshall: Finally off the broke back boom list and able to fly some sorties, unfortunately he's in scheduling so he doesn't get that many.

Safety:

TSgt Dan Maas: Like a trooper, or former TACP, Dan endured the rigors and trials that is the life of a squadron scheduler. After his year in the penalty box, Dan was promoted to Safety where he constantly reminds us to put on our seat belts when climbing rocky cliffs, practice effective gun and explosives safety, and always wait 30 minutes after eating and drinking to jump naked into the lake at animals.

97 OSS Current Ops:

SrA Brandon Johnson: Finally got his wish and was able to get a job out of the squadron. He's working 27 different additional duties which prevent him from his primary duty of scheduling us something other than a C-17 to refuel! Will be departing the Air Force in the fall.

97 AMW Command Chief's Assistant:

SSgt Justin Thompson Well when he is allowed to come out from under the desk and instruct once a week he is a valuable asset to the squadron. Was handpicked to become the Command Chiefs Assistant and life was good but lately he seems to be going through a lot of chap stick and has a better understanding of why not to be in services.

ALTUS AFB, OK

97 TRS



SMSgt Troy Doane: Counting the days down of shaving and trying to pass a PT test, Troy will be retired by the time this hit's the press after 25 years of service and 1 year of skating in the TRS. Upon retirement he plans on moving to San Antonio and living the good life while his wife works at Brooks Army Medical Center. We wish him the best in his future endeavors.

SMSgt(S) Jeremiah Docken aka "Doc": Looking forward to taking the reins from Troy as Squadron Superintendent. Doc has continued his quest to win every award created by adding the USAF "Red Erwin" award to his repertoire. Doc and Chris continue their quest for greatness as they both made senior first time out....Lookout Fairchild as it looks as though they are both headed that way next spring to continue their battle. When not kicking out students or handing out Article 15's like candy, Doc spends his free time finding a new way to roll over his rock crawler without killing his passengers.

MSgt Phil "Mongrel" Landram: After joining the TRS Mongrel decided it was time to follow suit with the back surgeries of Altus and have his own back hacked up in an attempt to fix it.... not something most would want done by an Altus Doctor. After months of con leave, providing him ample time to build masses of RC airplanes, he has found his way back to the office to work half days, but seems confident he will get a waiver to fly again. If not flying RC planes, he can be found melting the tires off his "grocery getter", a 525 HP Dodge Mangum Wagon. It's now cool to go to the grocery store!

MSgt Ivan Rasmussen – "RAZ": Oh what to say about Razz.... After avoiding flying and playing the DNIF game it finally caught up to him and he was disqualified from flying due to medical issues. Unfortunately he was unable to ride the gravy train long enough to get to 20 years of service so now at 19 years he is searching for a new career and will be leaving us soon to cross-train. If we can keep him tucked away in his hole back in the pubs office and away from terrorizing the new students making them wish they never joined the Air Force, we consider it a good day.

TSgt Joe Blakely: Joe and Lamar are like 2 peas in a pod. They work together, ride motorcycles together, and recently took up cycling together....not sure about those bike shorts though. We think Joe is trying to talk Lamar into having 12 kids and creating their own compound on his 100 acres of land out in the middle of nowhere. Joe spends most of his days adding new chapters to his book titled *How Not to Influence and Make Friends (of AF training contractors)*.

SSgt Lamar Daniel: I think we'll just start calling him Lil Joe....Joe had a motorcycle so Lamar bought one, Joe got a bicycle so Lamar bought one, like stated previously you can't separate these guys. Now that I think about it, this all started about the same time as the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell", hmmm strange coincidence. Lamar finally succeeded in sending Shane Haney's \$14M AETC BOWST (paper weight) to the scrap yard so we can finally get one here that works.

ALTUS AFB, OK

730 AMTS

REBELS



I'm sure the first thing that came to mind when seeing this page under Altus AFB was "WTF?" Well, here we are. The first ever KC-135 Reserve Associate integrated FTU unit. However, the 730th goes back to 1943 and has been re-activated in Altus America. For the past 18 months, we have been working day in and day out at getting this squadron stood up and running on our own. We are a Fully Integrated (TFI) unit with the Active Duty, and, believe it or not, it is actually working better than I could have ever imagined. The Active duty folks are showing us the ropes, trying to figure out the 15 different ways we get paid, and what "status" we are in. I just have to keep reminding them that Friday night sorties and 0630 Saturday morning Active Duty retreats are "NOT RESERVE FRIENDLY". By the way, WERE HIRING!!!

MSgt Alvin "Koop" Kuper (ART): Program Manager: Within days of getting here one of the Active Duty booms started calling me "Old Man River". Boy was he right. This flying with BIQ students is for the young guys. Thank god I have a couch in my office to rest after each sortie. Trying to get the positions filled and still maintaining some sense of sanity is the goal for each day right now. The wife loves it here, oh wait, she and the kids stayed in OKC. Yes, the commute can be tough at times. 0615 Show times and 0230 Land times.....AWESOME!!!!

MSgt Sean Cain (ART): Ok, how can I explain Sean? Let's see, 16 year AGR in the Alaska Guard, resigns, then pays out of his pocket to move himself and his family to Altus OK to be an ART and fly students for a living? What in the world were you thinking? His response: "Dude, I just bought 20-years of employment and my wife and kids don't have to take vitamin supplements to maintain skin color". I guess I can't argue that. Sean is kicking ass as our first NCOIC of an integrated Scheduling shop. When I told him he would be writing EPR's on the Active duty guys, his response: "What's an EPR?" Lord help me.....

MSgt Kelly Witt (ART): Kelly is a long time ART coming to us from the OKIES at Tinker AFB (Sorry Bif). She has finally decided to hang up the deployment shoes for the easy life down here at Altus. I did say easy life right? HAHAAHAHAHAHA. As you read this she will be going through the FTC. Don't forget your motorcycle Kell, More to follow.....

TSgt Trevor Halpain (ART): Trevor arrived today as I was typing this. He was an ART at Macdill AFB and is joining our unit to bask in some student training. Isn't Macdill in Florida? You know that Altus is in Oklahoma

right? When I interview him, he asked if there were things to do here? I said “yes” (Cue the crickets).....See you soon Trevor.

TSgt ?????????? (ART): NOW HIRING!!!! PAID MOVES (Don’t tell Cain), SIGN-ON BONUSES (Don’t tell Cain).

TSgt ?????????? (ART): NOW HIRING!!!!!! FREE HAIRCUTS FOR LIFE, NO COVER CHARGE TO SCOOTERS.

ALTUS AFB, OK
HQ AMC/AOS DET 2



Greetings to all from HQ AMC Air Operations Squadron Detachment Two, home of the KC-135 SIMCERT program. Det 2's primary mission is to certify all KC-135 Operational Flight Trainers (OFTs), Boom Operator Part Task Trainers (BOPTTs) and the boom Cargo Load Trainer (CLT).

Currently the two BOPTTs at Altus are the primary trainers for the KC-135 Boom Operator qualification courses. The BOPTTs have been around for quite some time and will be replaced very soon by the AMC Boom Operator Weapon System Trainer (BOWST) that is currently being put together as I type this. The CLT continues to be the cargo training workhorse for BIQ initial checks and remains an excellent training device.

Air Mobility Command has certified the first two devices, McConnell and Fairchild. The next two will be here at Altus with five more to follow at various locations. This is a real exciting time for our career field and I think our community will really enjoy the new simulators, and the benefits to the crew force will be immense. Mission Certification, Qualification and Continuation training, plus systems abnormal/emergency procedures training can all be taught and future growth will include connectivity with the Pilot's OFT and receiver aircraft simulators.

The future of boom operator flight training will be dependent on the success of these devices and should save the tax payers money when all is said and done. The AMC BOWST will let you "experience" emergencies in a realistic yet safe environment so when things go wrong in-flight, you will have already experienced it on the ground and be better prepared to safely deal with any situation. Thanks to all you warriors out there patrolling blue skies, god speed and safe travels. BTW, if you're riding a motorcycle in Oklahoma, watch out for the tumbleweeds! I heard they can cause problems.

Fly Safe,

Buddy Lee

Lee J. Adkins, MSgt – lee.adkins@us.af.mil

ALTUS AFB, OK

KC-135 ATS BOOM INSTRUCTORS



Greetings from the Civilian Boom Association.

Updates:

In June 2011 we fell under Delaware Resource Group (DRG) who works as a sub contractor to CAE USA. Our manning has been further reduced to seven “full-time” boom instructors and three “part-time” instructors. However we did gain an additional part-time-on-call boom that runs consoles during the BOPTT’s. We are hoping with the increased missions for the AMC BOWST along with an additional preflight, we can get an increased number of full and part time boom instructors.

The two AETC BOWST devices have been disassembled and removed. Two new AMC BOWST devices will be taking their place shortly. Starting the first week of June, the AMC BOWST’s are being assembled in the bay and DET 2 says they will be operational by the end of July or mid August of this year. From what we hear they are awesome for continuation training. Hopefully without many changes in the way we teach the AMC BOWST can be a use full training device for FTU booms.

For those of you who paid for “lifetime” coffee, we apologize but we had no choice but to shut down the snack and coffee bar due to lack of manning.

Our Current Personnel Roster

“Full-Timers”

Terry Daffern –Being the “Lead Boom” keeps him busy working with the schedulers, teaching classes, console operator and instructor. In his spare time he attends meeting with the company staff and the Air Force. Terry puts in some long days but still finds time occasionally round of golf.

Marty Sabourin – Traded in his Vette and truck for a fancy new truck. He had the new truck a couple months before some lady backed into it. It’s a good thing Marty is so calm, cool and collected or somebody might get hurt. It’s fixed now and looks really nice especially since he had some pin striping and a Harley-Davidson decal added to improve the value of the truck.

Rick Raprager – Rick just became the head union steward for both the KC-135 and C-17 contracts. That should be a challenge in itself. Rick stays as busy as Terry teaching classes, instructing and console operator on the BOPTT and assisting with scheduling problems so we don’t see him much.

Roger Gossett – Roger **took some time off in May and went to** sunny Florida with his family celebrating his 30th wedding anniversary. Like the rest of us Roger stays busy teaching classes, instructing and operating the BOPTT console. Roger still has a new red Camaro convertible and still finds time to play some golf.

Chico Gallegos – His daughter just graduated from high school, now the cost of college comes into play. We suppose he won’t be able to get a new jeep for a few years now. His one remaining jeep (he sold the red one) still looks immaculate. He is still our weight and balance guru.

Lew Timbrook – Lew will finally take his Paramedic “practical” to become a full fledged Paramedic. He passed the written test awhile ago but I guess the “practical” is given infrequently and in only one location in Oklahoma. Lew puts in a full week in the boom office and does his paramedic on the weekend. He is always busy doing something.

Steve Tuttle – Still racing dirt bikes every other weekend and coming to work on Monday. Steve keeps busy in the office teaching classes, instructing and operating the BOPTT console. Steve like the rest of us enjoys our time off at the weekend.

“Part-Timers”

“Part-timers” work pretty consistently 39 hours a week (company policy).

Eddie Cole – Eddie was reduced to part time last fall. Eddie took it in stride and enjoys what little time off he has by ride his motorcycle when the weather is good. Eddie is still our CRM guru but teaches everything just like the rest of us.

Joe Surovy – Since Joe went to part time the office courseware doesn't disappear like it used to because Joe isn't in the office as much. He still stays busy doing BOPTT's and consoles and teaches class when the need arises. Joe just spent a week TDY to Little Rock working on the AMC BOWST and how we will integrate it into our syllabus.

Phil Blaisse – Phil works about 39 hours a week during BOPTT's so he's always coming and going like the rest of us. He's been spending more time on his Harley than he used to. Occasionally we have a week with only the instructor candidates are in class and Phil likes to teach all the IB academic classes .

Mike Conner – Mike is our newest hire and probably has the most active duty boom experience of any of us, 26 years . He currently runs consoles during the BOPTT cycle which is most of the time. We now have approval for Mike to sit in on the cargo class and in the near future he will be fully qualified to teach all classes instruct tint he simulator..

ALTUS AFB, OK
NORTHROP GRUMMAN
GTIMS SITE SUPPORT



Hello from the Altus GTIMS office! We've seen some changes since the last input to the Boom Signal. As of this writing, we have lost our token Loadmaster and replaced her with yet another Boom Operator, Chris Massey. Our GTIMS program continues to grow and change, though with the huge push into Air Mobility Command the changes are sure to be coming for quite some time. If you find yourself at Altus for training, then you'll most likely have to come by and see us... whether you want to or not. ☺ Regardless, our door is always open to all!

THOMAS GLOSSER SR, (TSgt, RETIRED – KC-135/KC-10) GTIMS SITE MANAGER

Since he became a grandfather last summer, Tom has taken to assaulting everyone with pictures and videos of his granddaughter. Beware! If he pulls out his cell phone... He's probably not going to make a call. Tom has turned into the most vocal Notre Dame Football fan we've ever seen. We're pretty sure that we'll walk in one day to find his office painted gold and blue. At any rate, he makes an easy target during NCAA football.

JAMES "JAWS" BAUTISTA, (TSgt, RETIRED – KC-135) GTIMS SITE SUPPORT

Jim has been receiving constant threats to have his Texas card revoked over the last year. First, he started routing for OU last Fall, then he chose the Oklahoma City Thunder over the Spurs during the NBA playoffs. What's next, Jaws? Taco Bell for lunch? Seriously, we all mourned with Jim and Melinda over the loss of their daughter, Sheridan, last year to Osteosarcoma. Since then, Jim has thrown the full force of his enthusiasm into the establishment of the Sheridan's Sunshine Foundation, hosting all manner of activities to raise awareness and money for cancer research.

CHRISTOPHER MASSEY (SSgt, SEPARATED – KC-135) GTIMS SITE SUPPORT

Chris came to us in the Fall of last year, and has been a hard worker, enjoying his new life as a service contractor. In a very short period of time, Chris has become our resident expert on syllabus design. In recent weeks, Chris has taken an intense interest in politics and imagines himself to be the next Mayor of the City of Altus. Now, he just needs to figure out a way around the "Cotton Mafia." When he's not plotting the takeover of the local government or building syllabi, Chris can be found working on his \$700 Eagle Talon that he bought from Jaws. Could it be that Chris has given up his love of Harleys for pocket street racers? Time will tell...

ANDREWS AFB, MD

NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

ANG Boom Functional Manager



The NGB did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal.

ANDREWS AFB, MD

756 ARS

“Liberators”



Good day from the Liberators. We have had a very busy year, with deployments to Turkey, Deid and wonderful Moron, add in an ASEV, ORI and NORI coming up, as you can see it never stops. Our booms have been troopers accomplishing all that we have done in the last year. Giving up there time to support our great nation. We have seen some changes here at Andrews, from our 3rd Wing Commander in a little over a year to having a few retirements and moves in the squadron. If your ever in town please come by and see us, we don't bite and actually have a cooler full of beer at all times, waiting for an excuse to have a couple. Look forward to seeing you all soon.

CMSgt Frankie “Rocky” Rollins: frankie.rollins@afncr.af.mil *Program Manager ART* – Being a star on the Speed Channel's Intersections show still didn't help him get any respect. He should have figured that out when making Chief didn't in the first place. He has a mean hero walk though. He is now trying to attain veneration by playing Command Chief in our upcoming ORI. We'll see if that does the trick.

SMSgt William “Big Poppi” Gray: william.gray@afncr.af.mil *TR* – Tying the knot is one way to spice things up, and that's just what he has done recently. Also adding to his collection of nice cars seems to be a theme of late. When a lunch trip is in order, his car is the ride of choice for many. As the senior TR he is still watching his back when he goes down the stairs though.

SMSgt Debbie “Mother Teresa” Merrill: debbie.merrill@afncr.af.mil *ART* – As she oversees the rollout of iPads for publications and flip, we are about to lose all our senior evaluators since they won't know how to use these new “digital devices.” Whenever Dad Rollins comes down on us, she's always there to make us feel better about ourselves.

SMSgt Kevin “The Mule” Beccard: kevin.beccard@afncr.af.mil *ART* – When he is not trying to sneak Kinder Eggs into the country (and for his trouble getting a contraband flag on his passport) he keeps busy making sure all the cogs are running smoothly (as possible) in the Andrews Boom section. He is counting down the days until he can retire in peace. We're not sure why since he will go crazy without something to do.

MSgt Daril “Dudley” Anthes: daril.anthes@afncr.af.mil *TR* – Recently returning to the traditional-reservist world, he now spends most of his time running around trying to scam the system for the best trips. We hope his new coworkers aren't too annoyed by his constant forwarding of emails. At least we don't get them anymore.

MSgt Willie “Kool-Aid” Cooper: willie.cooper@afncr.af.mil *ART* – Having drunk the cup of ARTdom to the dregs, our emergency flight and trip master extraordinaire has turned in his “bum” clothes for the position left in shambles by his predecessor. After sobbing at his desk every morning for a few weeks he has composed himself and seems to be getting into the swing of things.

MSgt Karim “Dallas, Houston, Etc...” Kronfli: karim.kronfli@afncr.af.mil ART – Always trying to test the waters that border “too much” time off (and usually falling in), when he is actually *in* the squadron he churns out the occasional line badge and JPAS report. Very paranoid about his cubicle space, he is always asking who touched his stapler and cleaning up the mess left by thousands of candy hearts falling from his overhead cabinet. No one has fessed up to that one yet.

TSgt Chris “Och” Ochoa: chris.ochoa@afncr.af.mil TR – Always upset when his A/R cancels and he is unable to “flex” or “workout” while flying the boom, he usually contents himself by sleeping on the couch in the boom pod. He is still in denial about the “his-and-hers” motorcycle he shares with Ken and Daril. Just between us, we’re still not sure who has the “hers” bike.

TSgt Ken “It’s go time” Clonts: kenneth.clonts@afncr.af.mil TR – Like a bear in hibernation, you see him once a season - usually on his Ochoa-cycle. If you do see him, ask him why he doesn’t wear white tennis shoes anymore.

TSgt Michelle “Really?” Spencer: michelle.spencer@afncr.af.mil TR – As a former crew chief she puts the “high” in high-maintenance. Our go-to girl for all our pop-up trips, TDY’s and getting out of speeding tickets (since she’s a police officer), she has recently been dividing her time between being a Boom and her real job of getting her Park Police supervisor to sign off on her mil-leave to fly instead.

SSgt Dana “Frenzy” Fernkas: dana.fernkas@afncr.af.mil TR – Now that Willie’s an ART, she is the only bum we have left. One hectic semester away from finishing school, she is getting ready to stop wearing her hot librarian glasses. Whenever she sees Willie, she starts yelling about a “continuum of harm” or something.

SSgt Jason “Wishy” Wesche: jason.wesche@afncr.af.mil TR – When he’s not down in the Vault goofing off, he’s usually found in Current Ops goofing off. He says he wants to be an ART, but his papers are stuck in the maze of changes that OPM seems to make with that hiring process every couple of months. Right now busies himself with flying the occasional trip, and trying to bribe the scheduler to put him on any flights with the “hot AE chick.” You can also call him Aladdin – it might take a couple seconds, but he’ll figure out what you mean.

SSgt Casey “Squirrel!” Hall: casey.hall@afncr.af.mil TR – Grateful that Wickert has replaced him as the FNG, he has manfully shouldered the obligation of passing on the Snack-o responsibilities and the wealth of information that accompanies that job. Once his replacement has been fully trained he will move on to the Friday grill-meister/coordinator position we just had open. If you see him, tell him to stop getting pulled over on the way home.

SSgt Matthew “Obi” Oberlin: matthew.oberlin@afncr.af.mil ART – Just before he could add another star device on the SrA for Life Ribbon he finally got promoted. He keeps busy with his Boom Scheduling duties and helping everyone in the Wing with their computer problems. A few credits away from his CCAF, he plans on finishing his degree soon (in the next twenty years).

SrA Daniel “Decay” King: daniel.king@afncr.af.mil TR – Occasionally heard to ask “is that ham?” Dan is busy working hard to finish his degree and relegate his enlisted wings to the ash-heap of history (for some reason he wants to be a pilot). On his last deployment he spent most of his time avoiding his shifty pilots and referring to them as “Mr.” Rumor has it he refused to salute them, but when asked he says “no comment” and refers us to Public Affairs for some reason.

A1C Christopher “Whitwicky” Wickert: chris.wickert@afncr.af.mil TR – The newest addition to our unit, Chris is busy mostly with flying and learning that as the Snack-o you should never let the Chief run out of Coke Zero, never let Kevin run out of Mountain Dew, and to never EVER buy a Jeep Liberty.

Gone

TSgt Steve “Gilligan” Gasper:

MSgt Karen “KL” Letourneau:

SSgt Geoff “geoff” Richardson:

SrA Corey “Sid” Thomas:

MSgt Erika “Whitey” Macias:
MSgt Anthony “ Master” Bates
MSgt Darryl “Goldtooth” Hines
SMSgt Kenvin “Crash” Warren
MSgt Frank Gilliard
SMSgt Paul “Boomhauser” Westbrook
TSgt Lee “where did he go” Dachman

BANGOR ANGB, ME

101 ARW/132 ARS

“THE MAINEiacs”



GREETINGS FROM THE MAINEiacs. Well we are staying busy keeping the skies safe for Democracy. It's been a busy year with Alpha's, Bravo's, Charlie's, deployments, and generally having a good time or as much fun we can get away with!!! It's a lot of work! If your in Bangor stop by the Boom Office and say Hi.....

The FULL TIMERS

CMSgt Robert Phair: (Slick) Is getting updated with technology with the Micro-Boss and Home Décor by redecorating the office.

CMSgt Jay Ellingsen: (Schmeg, Tattoo) Stan Eval. Always looking to make something go faster; car, motorbike, snowmobile or whatever. And is searching for an endless supply of wood pellets, just ask Robi.

SMSgt John Haney: (Steve-O) Tanker Task Force Boom. If you haven't run into John on the road as a mission planner, you haven't flown a Coronet mission in a while. His suitcases get worn out quite frequently.

SMSgt Gerry Martin: Current Operations, on his off time you'll find Gerry roaming the Northwoods, hunting down innocent young grouse. He often forgets what the daily bag limit is. General rule – hunt til the Whiskey is gone. Rinse, Repeat.

MSgt Dan Benner: (Dano, Minuteman, Pinky) Dan is our Training Flight guy and is busy. He is still convinced there is a place in the NASCAR Hall of Fame for Ricky Craven.

MSgt Jim Dickson: (Jimmy D'Vin) Jim is our SELO guy, and a devoted disciple of Ronald Reagan. We send him out at 0800 for noon coffee.

MSgt Fergus Kenny: (Boggy) Ferg is back in Scheduling.

MSgt Ray Rauscher: (Ray-Ray, Caveman) Current Ops/TTF. Ray's new motto; "I'm just a gigolo".

MSgt Ed Seymour: (Sped) Sped is back in the Boom Office as the Chief's Horse Holder.

TSgt Andy Robichaud: (Robi, Sandy, Metro) Scheduling. With two little ones Robi welcomes those Alpha tours. Just don't make him cry!

The PART-TIMERS

CMSgt Scott Hesseltine: (Hydro) One of our few tradionals. Round 2 at the local power company. Always willing to take one for the team.

MSgt Mark Doughty: (Stretch, Chuck) On a MPA Tour for the War on Terror. The man with the most toys wins. Hello, my name is Mark Doughty, "what can I do for you today?" Leans any further forward he'll fall over. Also goes by the moniker "Superboom". Instructor boom.

MSgt John Fidler: (J.J. Buzzsaw, Shocker) On a MPA Tour for the War on Terror. John learned how to whisper in a saw mill, Learning volume control. Instructor boom.

MSgt Asa Honey: (Miso) On a MPA Tour for the War on Terror. Works as a Special Investigator for OPM. His favorite beverage as he calls it, "delicious Bud Light". And is search of the elusive casual shot of Crown. Instructor boom.

TSgt Jessica Barry: (Giggle-Burp) Formerly Whitehouse married one of our Pilots, and is now back flying with us and finishing her nursing degree.

TSgt Ronald Martell: (Viet-Ron, Joe Peschi, My cousin Vinnie, Ricky-Poo) On a MPA Tour for the War on Terror. Straight from Vietnam to the Boom Pod. The only Active Boom Operator collecting both Social Security and Flight pay at the same time.

SSgt Melinda Metten: (Mel) Works as a local fire fighter and owns a Cross-Fit Gym... Do I need to say more Don't mess with this boom!

SSgt Nicole York: (Nikki) Nikki is a nurse at a local hospital.

SRA Chris Bishop: (Chris) On a MPA Tour for the War on Terror.

SRA Michael Newey: (Poof) On a MPA Tour for the War on Terror. Now you see him, now you don't... keep an eye on him or "Poof" he's gone.

BABY BOOMS

SSgt Matt Morneault: New hire from our Cop Shop. Getting ready to head off to Boom School.

RETIREES

CMSgt Joe Philippon (Good Time Charlie)

CMSgt Glenn Prewitt (Spider)

CMSgt Stan Hunter (C-Don)

CMSgt Chuc Halsted (Hostler)

CMSgt Sonny Reynolds (Hey-Boom)

CMSgt Ed St.Heart (Street)

CMSgt Bruce Geroux (Bruce)

SMSgt Jim Wood (Skybird)

SMSgt Cheryl Martin (Skid)

SMSgt Carla Cyr

MSgt Joe Gifford (Joe-Fred)

MSgt Arthur Stevens (Art)

MSgt Mike Purcell (Mike)

MSgt Chris Boucher (Bushy)

MSgt Laurie Karnes

TSgt Kympton Lovely (Plympton)

TSgt Bob Rice (Clem)

FORMER BOOMS doing us proud -- We hope anyways

Lt Col Tim Marquis (Timmay, Marathon Man) Navigator/Airbridge Scheduler

Lt Col Rick Thompson (Kid) Pilot/ Operations Support Flight Commander

Capt Andy Shuman (Shu) Command Post

Capt Derek Gilley (Shrek) Pilot

Capt Shawn Stroup (Stroupy, Stroupaloup) Moved on to the Clinc as an administrator,

Capt Mike Stevens (Little Shaver) T-1 Pilot

2nd Lt Paul Harriman: (Paul A. Moochie, Booze Bag, now Booze basket) Pilot Training

2nd Lt Josh Grant: Pilot Training

TSgt Jason Dupuy (Zippy) Moved on to somewhere at Scott.

FINAL BOOM STOWED

CMSgt Aubrey Morgan

CMSgt Jim Winchester (Winch)

MSgt Tom Jones (Jonesy)

MSgt Peter Lerette (Pete)

MSgt Roger Macleod

MSgt Tom Pound

BATTLE CREEK ANGB, MI
217 AIR MOBILITY SQUADRON
(formerly the 110th AMOS)



Battle Creek AMOS has gone through another change and is now re-designated the 217th Air Mobility Operation Squadron. Same work, different patch, and still a great mission. We've moved out of our double wide and now situated in a brand new state of the art building where everyone actually has a desk now.

SMSgt Jeffery Rooding: Back from his 10-month vacation in Afghanistan, he's still clinging on for another year with the unit.

MSgt Robert "Suds" Sudberry: Another Selfridge alumni who has trekked across state and joined the AMOS. "Have paydays will travel" is his motto.

BIRMINGHAM IAP, AL

117 ARW / 106 ARS

“HOME OF THE BAMA BOOMS”



Things are going smoother in Birmingham. As everyone else in the KC135 we are going and doing more with less. Although Chief Turner is now retired and moved to the coast we are still trying to find somebody that can fill his off base shoes. Come see us.

MSgt Rick Dillard (Training). Rick has taken over the training reins and is still busy with all of the TDY's and his fishing trips.

MSgt Caroline Bearden Caroline has retired and is enjoying raising kids and staying at home. We hope the best for her. She is a proud Grandmother and enjoys her time helping spoiling them daily. **BOOM STOWED**

MSgt Paul Hudson (Current Ops). Paul still continues to provide great guidance in the Current ops section.

MSgt A.J. Sharit (Traditional). True definition of guard bum and has been on the road so much that his dogs bark at him when he does go home. He is about to be one of our newest evaluator and by the time this goes to print will have already straighten up the boom force with his hammer check rides.

MSgt Steven Pickett (Traditional) Steven has decided to retire and by the time you read this he will officially be a retired bum. We will have a hard time replacing such a hard worker. Has more irons in the local airport than the airport manager. Flying for a local bottling company and running his own Flight School. So if you would like to take cheap flying lessons come to Birmingham and look him up. **BOOM STOWED**

MSgt Todd Murray (Current Ops) Todd continues to stay on the road and has been seen in all parts of the world with or without a clown mask (inside Joke).

MSgt Phillip Carroll (Stan-Eval) Pip has taken the Stan Eval position and continues to make great improvements in the shop. Has always worked well in any job on base, we are thinking about sending him to the Wing building to straighten out some areas up there.

MSgt Dan Graham (Training) Dan is still working out details with his new baby and stays on the road just as much as ever. He is starting to pull his hair out in the training office. He is doing a great job and is always coming up with new ways to spell training.

MSgt John Freeman (Traditional) John has retired from the trucking business and is back to a true Guard Bum with his bags packed and always ready to go somewhere.

TSgt Dominic Angeles (Traditional) Dominic decided last year to become a smart Intel guy and now is in tech school to learn about things he can't tell us or has to kill us. We have already missed him but he is doing what is best for his family and we understand.

BOOM STOWED

TSgt Jefferie Grayson (Boom Shop) Jeff was finally able to get the scheduling title off of his name but still gets sucked back into the shop ever time they have a question. Has spearheaded the simulator for the unit and is working on getting training events for the local booms.

TSgt Scott Slatton (Traditional) Is currently working part time in the scheduling shop making sure they know how to do their job. He will have the whole shop straighten out within a month. He planned a four ship for two weeks and almost saw it off the ground. He had to drink an adult beverage after #4 could not get airborne due to maintenance problem. Better luck next time.

TSgt Wayne Creel (Traditional) Wayne continues to figure out a way to keep two new born and his wife all in the same house without going crazy. Both are doing well and Wayne continues to work hard and fly more.

SSgt Mitchell Harwood (Traditional) Mitch has returned to doing what he is best known for – TDY's. He travels more to foreign countries and we are getting a little worried because his southern accent is starting to sound like a local in other languages. I wished I more ten more just like him.

SSgt Eric Glidewell (Traditional) Eric has hit the ground running. He still technically works for a local university and spends most of his time out here. He makes all of us look bad because he runs like 50 miles a day, rides a bike 100 miles and works out constantly. He has become a strong boom operator is giving everyone a run for their money with boom knowledge. CMSgt Len Naugher

117th Inflight Program Manager

5401 Eastlake Blvd

Birmingham, AL 35217

DSN 778-2409

205-714-2409

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BIRMINGHAM IAP, AL

99 ARS

(TFI ACTIVE DUTY SQUADRON)



MSgt David Keller (Boom Shop) When Mark Lett retired David took over as the Chief boom for the active squadron and is trying to keep people straight. He is finding out what I keep saying about trying to keep kittens in a box. Small cats and aircrews are about the same.

TSgt Jason Hammond (Training) Jason is new to the boom operator position but has done very well and will continue to grow as a boom operator.

SSgt Chelsey (Johnson) Thornhill (Scheduling) Chelsey is still working in scheduling and is about to move to the current operation section.

Tsgt David Tickle (Mobility) David is about to enjoy the good life and is almost retired. Plans on moving to Florida and have the retired life. Good Luck.

Tsgt Dustin Clark (Tactics) He stays behind the vault doors and only comes out to fly or deploy. He has spent most of the year gone and looks forward to being home for a while.

SSgt J. Nenneman (Training) Nemo is our newest edition to the active duty squadron. Came to us from England and is still learning to drive on the other side of the road.

You will notice a lot of booms retiring or moving on. We are in the process of sending more booms to school and hope to be full up in a year. Please come see us and call ahead to make sure someone is around to show you the heritage room and a local eating joint.

SEATTLE, WA

BOEING KC-46 BOOM OPERATOR TRAINING TEAM

FUELING THE FIGHT, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME



Welcome from, Seattle, WA, the Great Northwest and the home of the U.S. Air Force's newest Tanker! We have a training team that consists of sixteen motivated individuals. Our charter is to train the Boeing KC-46 Flight Test Team, U.S. Air Force (USAF) Test Team, and the Initial Operational Test and Evaluation aircrew for the first 18 aircraft through academic platform instruction and the Single Integrated Lab (SIL). Below is our Boom Operator training Team.

- Phil "The Real" Deal, Lead, KC-46 Boom Operator Training. Phil previously worked on the Italian and Japan KC-767 Flight Test Programs in Wichita, Kansas, and as a KC-767 Subject Matter Expert for courseware and academic platform instruction in Oklahoma City. OK. Phil had hardship tours going to Italy and Japan twice to teach the Boom Operators. Phil is constantly keeping the rest of us in line.....he has his hands full! On his off time, Phil loves to try to catch fish and drive my RV! Phil's flight background includes flight time in the KC-135A/R, KC-10, KC-767, and KC-767J. He was a flight instructor and evaluator.
- David "Capt" Craig, KC-46 Aircrew Training Subject Matter Expert. Dave comes from a varied flight background and includes military flight time in the KC-135A/R, and KC-10, as a Boom Operator, and Crew Chief. He was a Command evaluator in the KC-10. He has an in-depth courseware and academic platform instruction background. Dave's Commercial flight experience is as a Captain in the 767, 757, MD-80, King Air, and Beach 1900 aircraft and also a certified FAA A&P mechanic. As such Dave is out triple threat instructor, Pilot, Boom Operator and Maintenance go to guy. On his off time, Dave is an avid sailor and owns his own boat! It is Boom Operator certified!
- Don "Bubba" Cox, KC-46 Aircrew Training Subject Matter Expert. Don previously worked on the KC-767 Tanker program as the Lead, KC-46 Boom Operator Training, Oklahoma City, OK. Don comes from a varied flight background that also includes military flight time in the KC-135A/R, and KC-10, as a Boom Operator, and Crew Chief and certified FAA A&P mechanic. He was a flight instructor and evaluator in all aircraft flown. He has an in-depth courseware and academic platform instruction background. Between his Boeing jobs, Don worked as a Veterans Affairs Rater, for those who have disability questions and completed a second Masters Degree in Education, Aviation Curriculum Development. On his off time and work time he constantly reminds Phil that he was first hired by the Bubba! The biggest part of my off time is spent fishing and taking care of my off-road RV.....that's another story for later!
- Al "Yo Boom" Miller KC-46 Aircrew Training Subject Matter Expert. Al brings to the team an enormous wealth of experience as an aircraft electrician, and Boom Operator in the KC-135A/R, and KC-10. Al came to us from another aviation company, where he taught aircraft system classes for Air Force One. He was a Command level evaluator in the KC-10. He has an in-depth courseware and academic platform instruction background. Al's background as a Chief Master Sergeant in AETC at Altus is immeasurable and a critical asset. Al recently completed Boeing's 767 weight and balance class and cargo loading and he is still walking around mumbling something about "Frangible cargo" and "Indexes". Al spends most of his time mountain biking, motorcycle off road riding, and walking the numerous trails here in Washington State, so far no broken bones!

As you can see, we have assembled a group of Boom Operators who have over 100 years of combined experience at every level of the Boom Career field and job experiences that cross over to other aircraft specialties. It is our honor to help bring to the USAF the best training for the new KC-46 Tanker.....as always NKAWTG! Nobody! To all Boom's present and past, we salute you for your service to our country. Take care, and fly safe, Bubba. Donald.W.Cox@Boeing.com

WICHITA, KS

FLY BOEING TANKERS!



Greetings from the Boeing Boom Operators!

Huge and busy year for Boeing! We have delivered two more GTTA International KC-767's. Italy is now in possession of four aircraft and, both countries are flying the aircraft operationally. Currently, Italy has completed "Fueling The Fight", employing their KC-767's, as they say "the aircraft operated magnificently" throughout the Libyan Campaign. Additionally we provided flight training for 4 ITAF Booms and they are starting to establish their tanker/receiver compatibility. Unless you're a load master, you already know Boeing won the head to head competition for the replacement of the KC-135. We hit the ground running and can't see, to slow down... We have completed Firm System Design, USAF Preliminary Design Review and are charging towards our Comprehensive Design Review (CDR) with USAF, then we get to start bending medal!. We have hosted AF Boomers for the Crew Systems Working groups and are utilizing their expertise in designing the AROS (Air Refueling Operator Station) and are looking forward to more support in the future.

Rickey "Grand Poobah" Kahler – Boeing Chief Flight Test Boom Operator.. Rickey led the charge to qualify the Italian Boom Operators and complete the GTTA program, a job well done! The Grand Poobah continues to increase his contact lead on the rest of us here a Boeing and is still doing well despite his ever advancing age and number of grand children

Dennis Struve – Last fall Emily had twins, mom, Mikenah and Mason are all doing well. Emily is currently finished with all of her classes and started her year of residency at the Hutchinson Clinic for her doctorate of Audiology. The older two have moved up another grade and MacKenzie will officially be a middle schooler in 7th grade and Parker is now a 3rd grader. I retired from the air force in January over a year ago.

Sean Martin –. He has maintained his Boeing motto of "whatever the program needs" which resulted in him and Donna moving to Seattle for The KC-46 Program to accept the KC-46 Chief Air Refueling Operator (Boom Operator) position. Sean has decided to retire from AFRC and will officially "drop off the books" 1 October 2012. Ryan completed his third year of college at Wichita State University and hopes to complete his Bachelors degree...and be a pilot!

Larry Watson – Larry stowed the boom for the last time when the last Italy aircraft was delivered, Larry has retired for good....we'll see, he may need an engine overhaul or new septic system or something!

BUCKLEY AFB, CO

HQ ARPC



AFPC supports all Active Duty in the USAF. Air Reserve Personnel Center (ARPC) is an Active Duty Headquarters and a DRU to HQ AFRC that supports close to one million customers all over the world. We support the ANG, selected Reserve, the Individual Ready Reserve, retired Reserve, standby Reserve, and active duty retired. We are responsible for the entire lifecycle of personnel. I'm very proud to have been selected as the 1st ARPC/CCC...very proud.

CMSgt David "RED" Paullet – After just one year here in Colorado, I'm hanging up my hat. Finally going to enjoy life after the AF. This will be my last input to the signal. Cell is still the 478-919-6474 so call when you come to town. I'll retire in Warner Robins in August 2012. I will miss the people and flying the KC-135 and KC-10A. Wish I could have made it to fly the KC-46. Good luck and fly safe!!

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CREECH AFB, NV

18/RS

“THE HAWKS”



THE LINE UP

Greetings from the land where neon meets sand. For those unfamiliar with what the RPA community does, welcome to the club. The mission evolves before anyone has time to actually write it down. I suspect Our guys stay busier than you can imagine and “flying” here takes on a whole new meaning. We operate 24/7/365 and operate on a 3 shift rotation. Shift work and flying seems to be at odds, but it’s how we operate. Our crews fly 4-6 hours of their shift and build hours and air medal pretty quickly. Since we are deployed in place (although we do have folks physically deployed) we maintain that tempo continually. The base environment here is improving, but does have a very deployed feel. Off shift, however, it’s easier to recreate in Las Vegas than it is at glam spots like the Died.

This is a growing industry and those interested should definitely consider a move over. It’s a bit different way to fly but is a very interesting and different mission. For many booms, the world of ACC is less familiar than the Air Forces of foreign countries. It can be a bit of a culture shock, but in true boom fashion...folks are kicking a\$\$.

CMSgt Jeff Sidles (most recently KC-135) – Chief Sidles is the squadron superintendent and is qualified in a grand total of nothing. Currently filling an intel position as a boom, so you can imagine how productive that is. Life is spent reviewing EPRs and dealing with drama.

MSgt(S) Christian Leon (KC-10) – Flight Chief and Instructor Sensor Operator. Squadron’s NCO of the Year (and most other awards) and is currently deployed as Squadron Superintendent/First Sgt to a glamorous location in the Middle East. Chris is a superstar and smiles even more lately since he’s got orders back to Travis this fall. His business will be booming again in the near future.

SSgt John Ertle (KC-135) – One of the few guys with orders to McConnell that’s thrilled about it. John’s on-loan to OGV as the MQ-1B Evaluator Sensor. He’s another rock star that will be sorely missed. He departs 1 Jun. He’s also smiling a great deal now as well.

SrA Paul McIntyre (TBD) – Paul’s a sensor with a cross-training date to boom starting in July. Good dude and will be a good boom.

//Signed//
JEFFREY R. SIDLES, CMSgt, USAF
Superintendent

EDWARDS AFB, CA

AIR FORCE FLIGHT TEST CENTER

“BEST IN TEST”



Greeting from Edwards. I am pleased to introduce the Developmental Test and Evaluation Boom Operators. What an amazing place to be a boom. This year, like every year, Edwards Test Booms have had a front row seat to the world's greatest interactive airshow. To say we have been busy this last year would be an understatement. We have had almost a complete turnover of personnel with 6 new test booms on this year's roster. The new folks have done an amazing job of picking up where their predecessor left off. F-35 air refueling envelope testing continues with both the KC-135 and KC-10. We are playing with different configurations at all altitudes and airspeeds. We continue to work with the Australian KC-30 and also the Swedish AF Grippen programs. KC-135 Block 45 testing is ongoing and so is LARICM testing. We also find time to play with RPA (remotely piloted aircraft) and our legacy aircraft. Then there is the ever looming KC-46 program ... what was once a small dot on the horizon, it is now growing at an exponential rate and taking shape. In closing I would like to give a shout out to all the tanker crews who visit our little airpatch on weekly BEs. It is great to see friendly faces and Edwards could not execute the mission without your support. As always, the tanker mission is the lynchpin to mission success and boom operators lead the way.

//Signed//

Shawn M. Hughes, CMSgt, USAF
Superintendent, 412 Operations Group
“Test Booms Lead the Way”

412th OG

CMSgt Shawn “Too-Tall” Hughes: We see Chief every once in a while. He flies every now and then, but when he's not flying we assume he's shopping for more writing utensils to fill all the pen pockets of his beloved ABUs.

SSgt Leighann “L-Ray” Ray: When flying with L. Ray, we implement our modified lost comm plan. If we lose the radios, she is still loud enough to be heard by the tower.

SSgt Jake “Robin” Sarno: Jake recently learned the hard way that the civilians hold all the power at Edwards. He was recently put in check by the lead civvy, call-sign “Batman”. When not flying, he can be found washing the bat-mobile.

445th FLTS

MSgt Tom “Mr. Clean” Ireland: Since Tom made Senior, he can now afford to call up Bosley and have his situation rectified.

MSgt Dan “D-Ray” Ray: D-Ray went to be the superintendent at Test Pilot School this year. When he left we all assumed he was still at the gym.

TSgt Ryan “Chosen-One” Perry: When not flying the best test missions, in PME, memorizing the PDG, lifting cars over his head, working on his doctorate, reciting the Airman’s Creed, or just making the rest of us look bad in general, Ryan can be found driving a bus at your nearest convent. Even though he just made Master, we expect his step-promotion to Chief to come down any day now.

TSgt Rich “Witch” Craft: When he’s not flirting with our civilian schedulers or watching NASCAR, Rich makes it a point to tell us how cool the KC-10 is and reminisces of his demolition derby glory days.

TSgt Matty “OKAY?!” Werner: Matty decided to separate this year. After years of working as a dual-qualified test boom, he’s decided to move on to greener pastures and apply for the fry cook job at Mickey D’s. No joke. If any signal readers are hiring, give him a call. His colorful berating of test pilots will be missed.

SSgt Aaron “A-Ray” Ray: A-Ray is a God amongst men second only to Ryan Perry. He’s our resident Aussie and impression extraordinaire. Ask him to do an impression and he can pretty much nail it. This keeps us entertained on a daily basis. Make sure you never ask him about his dreams though....

SSgt Colin “Finicky” Wernecke: Colin is famous for complaining about never flying and has for some reason forgotten that he applied to go to a base that doesn’t even have his airplane. Favorite phrase: “This isn’t what I signed up for.”

370th FLTS

SMSgt Mike “Elf” Kibler: When not making delicious cookies in his magical hollowed out oak tree, Mike still performs his duties as King Test Boom. He intends to retire soon so he can concentrate on his baking.

SMSgt Mark “Oh, my back!” O’Connor: Mark has had a lot of back surgeries lately. Going back and forth between the Gucci seat and the center pallet was too much for him. We’re raising funds to get him a Life-Alert and a Hover-round.

MSgt John “John-Bob” Williams: After 53 years of faithful service, John-Bob decided to let another reservist be a Master. We’ll miss his KB-29 stories and his Okie wisdom.

TSgt Scotty “EDO” Scurlock: “Like I said”/“Here’s the deal”; he’s got the skinny on all Test Ops flying operations. He does a great job of propping up the ops desk. If we could make him the enlisted DO, we would.

AFOTEC Det 5

MSgt Scott “Let me check with my boss” Beasley: Scott has trouble knowing if he can fly or not. We’ve decided to stop asking him, but somehow he still ends up on the schedule.

EIELSON AFB, AK

168 ARS



Greetings from the Northern-Most Tanker Squadron. It has been another busy year for the 168th ARS. Along with our 24 hour Alpha alert line supporting air sovereignty, we performed AEFs to Guam and the 'deid. We still fly in support of Red Flag-Alaska, Northern Edge and support the 354th and 3rd Wings local training lines. A special thanks to our maintenance and ground folks who make flying tankers in Alaska possible.

Feel free to contact us anytime at firstname.lastname@ang.af.mil or call the boom pod DSN 317-377-8836, commercial (907) 377-8836.

Chief Paul “Nooner” Nunemann (AGR) – Chief Boom. He has sent three new booms to Altus for initial Qual in the last year, two off to CFIC, two NCOIC academy, multiple awards and decorations and now pushing CCAF degrees on us! Top 1% he always says, and won't settle for anything less! His kids will be graduating from college this year and next. Still dirt biking and throwing boom parties at his house.

SMSgt Steven “Forgooey” Forgue (AGR) – Steve loves the Tactics shop (he ran-off the OIC, so now he's the Chief of Tactics!) He hides back in the vault and tries to figure out how to get stingy copilots to throw more than \$2 in the donation jar at Tactics BBQ's. In August we will say farewell to Forgooey, he will stow the boom for the last time. He plans to attend school in the fall to become a nurse. Hmmmmm!

SMSgt Keith “One and half thumbs” Henrys (TRAD) – Stan Evil's boom advocate. He spends his days harassing pilots and igniting arguments just for fun. Keith is still assigned to S/E, however has moved to the DSG side. He is currently in training to work on the North Slope for CHM2 Hill. Good luck Keith.

MSgt Sean “Sugar” Cain (AGR) – Sean decided he was making too much money and went to the reserves at Altus. No doubt he will effect positive change at Mother ATC. The wife and kids do appreciate being able to go outside and not get freezer burn or molested by mosquitoes. The Cain family will be missed! I'm sure he won't miss paying 1K a month to heat his house 4 months out of the year. Thank goodness we're providing all this stabilization to the region, can't imagine what oil prices would be without us!

MSgt John “Doc” Duhaime (AGR) – John helps to hold down the Training fort. John and family are doing great. The two boys are keeping him busy, almost too busy. He's busy finishing his CCAF degree and single-handedly running training Flight.

TSgt Rich “Smitty” Smith (AGR) – Now that Sean has departed the fix, Smitty has the awesome duty of full-time boom scheduler and part-time pilot scheduler, shop chief, etc... He's doing a fine job. He just recently graduated from the NCO Academy and was nominated for the Leadership Award. Way to go, Smitty! He's also down to his

former Cage Fighting weight, so watch out! Additionally, both his boys are Tech school complete and assigned to the Wing. Congrats Smith Family!

A

TSgt Christian “Willey Cat” Willey (AGR) – Currently, assigned to Current OPS, and the only member in the shop who can produce a quality TDY binder. His wife joined the OPS gang and just graduated from Intel school.

MSgt Kendra “Mom” Halbert (TRAD) – Not unlike Cher’s farewell tour, Kendra says THIS is her last trip to Germany, “I promise”. And we still have Kendra... But we love her, she is the “Mom” of the pod.

MSgt Tanna “Queen B” Carter (TRAD) – Tanna-Banana has landed a job with Alyeska Pipeline... Congrats!!! She will no doubt take us all out and celebrate at her expense. The family is excited to move 400 miles south. No more -50 for the Carter family!

TSgt Keith “KROW” Rowan (TRAD) – Krow is now running S/E and recently earned Evaluator Status! He is doing a fine job. Still lifting, hiking, and being a Dad.

TSgt Tracy “Lil Devil” Purdy (TRAD) – Recently joined us from the McConnell Reserve. She has it all: educated, can play the piano, awesome aircraft systems knowledge, exceptional staff abilities. Don’t let the pistol-packing bear cat fool you, she’s tough and does not take crap, period. She’s also an expert Trap shooter.

SSgt Pete “Who?” Gardella (TRAD) – Next stop: CFIC. Pete lives in Hawai’i and visits occasionally to update his currency. Currently he’s in the ‘Deid for two months. Now that he has a child, he’s slowed way down on the ink, apparently diapers and baby food aren’t cheap on the Big Island.

A1C Joshua “Philip Michael” Hunt (TRAD) – Mike can be found at University of Alaska Fairbanks workin’ on his college degree. He occasionally finds the time to hop on a trip somewhere warm with sandy beaches. 4.0 GPA first year! Congrats... In 2011, Josh was Amn of the Year for the Wing, State, and YMCA. Nice job... And his grandparents are on a first name basis with General Schwartz. Nice, work it!

A1C Jonathan “Legs” Legan (TRAD) – Jon has been the clutch guy for the past 12 months. He has been everywhere and done everything we’ve asked and has done an exceptional job. Multiple IFE’s and has performed like a seasoned vet. Seriously - could not have made this year without his flexibility.

SSgt Audrey “1-900” Page/Walsh (TRAD) – Page gone Walsh, yep Audrey is off the market. She has departed the fix down to Spokane. Her husband is ADAF and recently stationed at Fairchild AFB. She is still very active, flying local and going to the Deid for two months. CFIC next stop!

TSgt James “HUD” Hudnall (TRAD) – Recently graduated from Boom School and just obtained MR status. Awesome addition! Former finance guy, we think that’s why the Chief hired him, he’s always doing his vouchers and DTS. He has a wife and two boys. His second child was born the same month he graduated from boom school.

SrA Kyle “Tri-athlete” Armour – Graduated from Boom School this month. Another fine addition! No doubt, this boom will Kick Ass passing tanker gas. Congrats Kyle!

SSgt Rachel “Dancing Machine” Knight – Another Finance hire, seeing the trend? Currently at boom school and loving it. Will return in September of this year.

168 Retired Booms

Ron Merbach*

Billy Malico*

Cheryl Helgerman*

Bob Edgett
Keith Bromley
Mark McGrath
Bridget Tamburino
Dick Hardy
Todd Cook
Bob Hauer
Lyle Kirgan
Samtha Dahl*
Mario McGee
Butch Stein
Dale Forrey*
Pat Kerber
Brett Ayres
Curt Gipson

*Booms that have passed on.

FAIRCHILD AFB, WA
92 OPERATIONS GROUP



The 92 OG did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal

FAIRCHILD AFB, WA

92 ARS

“BLACKHAWKS”



CMSgt Wells, Dan: Chief Wells is doing great, he is attached to us for flying in the 92nd and we love his passion and leadership! He works on the wing staff managing everyone in the vault and scaring everyone with SAC horror stories. Chief has been getting working us to bone preparing us for the upcoming NORI! He still loves us though and recently dropped his own dough to get the FAFB Boom Association going by paying for the molds for the coins!

MSgt Fitch, Bill: Your author and Superintendent for the mighty Blackhawks! Love this squadron! We have some of the hardest working and most dedicated booms in the Air Force. I love coming to work. I spent 6 months of the past year as the OG Sup for the 376 EOG out at Manas, really enjoyed the enlisted leaders there and had a great time!

MSgt Buit, Ted: Ted is attached as well; he runs OGV for Fairchild and does an amazing job! Ted is really good at ePEX and really bad at DTS! Good thing he only goes TDY about once every two weeks! We will have to start calling him “Conference Ted” or something. Ted is retiring in about a year and the Air Force will take a significant hit in boom awesomeness when he leaves, so get him on Facebook so you can keep in touch! He’s always posting amazing scenic shots with him and his Harley.

MSgt Cheney, Chris: Chris got to be Sq Sup while I was deployed; he did an AMAZING job...just glad I didn’t get fired! Chris has been battling the medical stuff for the past year and has decided to retire early next spring! We sent him up to the Group in the mean time to manage the readiness office; he is doing awesome work there holding people accountable so naturally all the lazy ones hate him! I can’t say enough about Chris, a phenomenal SNCO...we are lucky to have him and he will be missed!

MSgt Corder, Joe: Joe is the Operations Superintendent for the squadron now and is crushing it! His first full week in I handed him the deployment schedule and now he is bald like me! Joe spent 90 days at Manas this year as the Chief Boom, and he came home with about 10 letters from leaders saying what an awesome job he did! He celebrated his return by reproducing...yep another baby boom on the way!

MSgt Potter, Geoff: Geoff just jumped ship from the 93rd to come slumming over here! He is retiring at the end of the year and decided to make room. We are glad to have him here! He has one goal...to fly and teach baby booms every day until he departs the service! One month in, I can tell how awesome it is, he has some poor sucker on his couch getting grilled on boom questions...it’s awesome, when he is done with them it looks like they have been jumping rope in the attic for an hour or two. Geoff will be missed on the base, but he will be retiring and staying here in the local area, so we just will have to dodge him in the commissary isles!

MSgt Ulmer, Mike: Mike is retiring after 24yrs of service! He will be calling it quits next month and we will miss him! He runs our Group readiness office and is handing the reigns over to MSgt Cheney. Mike did an awesome job in the squadron leading Airmen before he departed for the group and we have missed out on the daily leadership. He deployed to Manas as a staff planner for a 90 day jewel and was the commander's right hand man; he managed the crew schedule and coordinated with everyone on base to get the mission done. He helped lead the 22 EARS to set all time monthly and daily refueling records! I am so happy for Mike he has an awesome young family and I know he can't wait to soak up that time.

TSgt Erdelac, Tony: Tony is our NCOIC of training and UDM, he loves training beans and folders...he reminds me of that every day! Tony has been spawning children like wildfire since he got here; I hope he knows how that works! Seriously he has been rocking training flight, he crushed the NCOA and pulled down an OG NCO of the Qtr award, we are lucky to have him!

TSgt McCrillis, Dan: Dan arrived here from Altus and hit the ground running; we immediately recognized his excellence and put him in as NCOIC of Stan/Eval. He has done a great job ensuring the integrity of aircrew standards! Dan won 19th AF Instructor of the Year honors it's been obvious since the get go that it was well deserved. He smoked through MCT and deployed in his first 3 months here. There is nothing better than having a school house guy on staff; he keeps us all fresh with the finer details!

TSgt Sanders, Greg: Greg moved up this past year to be our Wing XP boom, he runs all of the inbounds and outbounds for the Wing and has been doing an awesome job! I know his wife Daisy appreciates the fact that he is home and able to do more stuff around the house. I think he is starting to wish to deploy again soon, but don't tell Daisy!

TSgt Stinnett, Randy: 92d ARS NCO of the Year! Slim had a busy year; he built a home and got married! He then took a tour out at Manas as the Chief Boom and they are still singing his praises! We sent him up the road to run OST and put all of our newest student through the ringer...the Airmen are all better for it! Hope to see him wearing MSgt stripes next year he's already doing the work for it!

SSgt Balko, Brendan: Brendan went to work in OST full time last year instead of on loan. I think he is finally starting to get burnt out...starting to see training folders in his dreams or I guess nightmares! We will probably pull him back soon and have him start evaluating his own trainees!

SSgt Grant, Jason: Jason is fully vested into Wing Tactics! He loves it up there and rub's it in every time he sees's Geoff Junt! He shows up to the squadron about once a month to make an appearance and prove that he still exists. Jason will probably spend another year up there so Brandi and the kids will have to put up with him being home a little while longer!

SSgt Heerman, Ken: Ken entered the world of fatherhood this past year, so of course we immediately deployed him! He did a great job at Manas receiving several kudos from his deployed commanders. He recently received orders to McConnell, so this time next year he will be a square patcher! Best of Luck!

SSgt Junt, Geoff: Altus bound, Geoff got orders at 12:00L and was in my office at 12:00:01L trying to figure out how to get those changed! Just kidding...kind of...anyway he has come to terms with it. Geoff has been crushing souls in Stan/Eval here...we call him the dream crusher! He and Tony Erdelac got the Fairchild Boom Association's hear beating again, he designed the Fairchild Boom Coin and it is "Glorious"! It's six foot tall and shoots confetti out of the top! Nov 12 he hits the Altus shores...we will miss him without a doubt!

SSgt Matthews, Kevin: Kevin has had the unfortunate or fortunate roll as our A-Flight Super, he has been responsible for securing all inbound Airmen, enrolling them in FTAC, MCT, CDCs and STD's...just kidding scratch the last acronym! Seriously he's done an awesome job, we deployed his guts out and he never complained more than 2 or 3 times! He is Altus bound in November as well, and we will miss his leadership!

SSgt Miller, Dwight: Big Delicious! Dwight is a Blackhawk legend, he has about 10,000 hours and a gazillion combat missions. Dwight received orders to the CRG at Travis and he is really excited about a change in Scenery

and pace! We will miss Dwight, and so will clothing sales, he's got more ribbons and decorations than Audie Murphy! And for those of you having to Google that name, you're welcome!

SSgt Miller, Randy: Randy is on his way to Travis to the CRG in September, we will miss him dearly. Randy has been an all-star for us, he has led in every office here and will be a tremendous asset for Travis.

SrA Bright, Melanie: Melanie recently sewed on SrA and is one of the machines of the Squadron; she has deployed 3 times and is headed out the door on #4! She loves Manas and is actually eligible for dual citizenship...just kidding. Mel loves horses and spends every second she is here in the summer riding. Lookout she will be testing for SSgt next year!

SrA Cantu, Steven: Steve finished CFIC this year and has been doing an awesome job for us. Deployments galore continue for him...he and Candice are milking all the together time they can since she is deploying for Crew Comm. Steve will be up for SSgt this year and hopefully we get some good news soon!

SrA Childers, Mike: Mike came in from Kadena and hit the ground running, he recently raced through MCT and is out the door to Manas! Can't wait to get him back here to help run that Mobility Office!

SrA Holbrook, Justin: Justin is still rocking the Scheduling desk! He is also a Manas mainstay...he is heading back to Altus soon for a little CFIC action! Can't wait to have him back as an IB all grown up!

SrA Johnson, Tracy: Mother Hen Tracy is doing well, she's going to be a very good boss someday, she is finally healthy and deploying, we work her in Stan/Eval in a SELO capacity when she's not deploying or TDY. She doesn't mind deploying; we just have to match her up with her "love" interest across the street!

SrA Lopez, Andy: We hope to see SSgt stripes on Andy soon! He has completed CFIC and ALS and will be assuming some Flight Supervisory duties with his awesome leadership skills. Andy rocked ALS and came home with the Distinguished Graduate honors!

SrA Powell, Lauren: Lauren works in the office everyday as another exec, she also manages the awards and decoration and supports our booster club. She does everything that no one wants to do! Lauren recently re-enlisted and will be a future CMSgt muahahhaahh! She will get a hearty laugh when she reads this. She is officially re-qualified and up to flying for us locally...hopefully she can get back up on deployment status soon!

SrA Sigaoat, Ashley: SrA Below The Zone! Ashley is the poster child for the Air Force...she does everything right and by the book...no pressure! She made BTZ in the past year and went to CFIC and EQ'd her check ride! We sent her down to pick up the AMC IG team for our NORI and they were equally impressed by her. So when she gets back from this deployment, I'll probably send her up to OST to train baby booms on how to do it right...she was our **92d ARS Eagle Enlisted of the Year!**

SrA Stefaniak, Dave: Dave the machine is out of spare parts. Gave him some time off this summer from the deployment schedule to enjoy the young married life! Yup that's right ladies, famous Dave is off the market! After some much needed R & R, we will get him back in the rotation but hopefully a normal cycle! All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy :-D

SrA Warren, Ricky: Ricky Bobby came to us from Moldy Hole England...so we had a small reunion, finished his MCT in record time and deployed him! He will be with us here about a year and a half and will be punting for the civilian sector in Jan 13.

SrA Watson, Jeff: SrA Below The Zone! Jeff, I like to say, is a man among boys! Very steady...he's like a grandpa in a kids body...some would describe him as having a old soul...listens to Buddy Holly all of the time! Just kidding...Jeff is awesome and everywhere, deploying, running wing events, he got married and oh by the way was the **92d ARS Boom Operator of the Year!**

Amn Capra, Andy: (Dog Show) Andy is another awesome machine for us! He has deployed a couple of times already and is doing terrific work. We will deploy him a few more times this year and then we will sneak him into an office to do menial tasks!

A1C Halford, Shane: Shane has been working his butt off here, been gone more than he been around! He is part of last year's brat pack as well and will be looking to move into an office to do some work. Shane is one of our brightest Airmen and we look forward to having him to bigger and better things!

A1C Keepers, Drew: (Fireworks Drew) another machine...crushing deployments and traveling the globe, never DNIF and is always gone, has more overdue DTS vouchers than MSgt Buit! Drew will be TDY this 4th of July so the Airway Heights fire department gets a break!

A1C Knittel, Chris: SrA Below The Zone! Our most recent BTZ honoree, Chris was crushing it for us on the line and then went in to see the doctor and apparently is allergic to everything. We sent him to Honor Guard duties in the mean time and he did an outstanding job for the Wing. We then sent him up to work at the OG in the readiness office! Chris was the **92d ARS and 92d OG Airman of the Year!**

A1C Rowell, Mike: Mike was one of the reverse pipeline guys, he just finished Altus and is back to us...rocking MCT completion and will be in the deployment grinder before too long! He's awesome!

A1C Sieben, Caleb: Caleb has been doing great work here and at Manas he pulled down some quarterly award hardware at both locations! He was one of our NORI all stars and we can't wait to get him prepped and ready for CFIC in the coming year.

The 2012 Brat Pack!

A1C Ong, Erin: Just finished MCT and is on her first deployment!

A1C Ortega, Josh: (don't call me Jesse) still in MCT...the jury is in...he will be a good one!

A1C Thaler, Whitney: (Thaler 274) MCT...whiplash...no big deal! She will be a star soon enough!

Amn Fernandez, Amn Gamboa, Amn Proctor, Amn Hays...all just arrived in the last month from Altus and are getting spun into FTAC and MCT...the Jury is still out! **BTW...Blackhawks RULE!**

FAIRCHILD AFB, WA

93 ARS

“HORSE AND A BIRD...93rd!”



MSgt Geoff Potter (Squadron Superintendent)- “One year to go, one year to go...”

MSgt Mike O’Connor (Operations Superintendent)- Hit the ground running...hopefully takes the reins here soon.

TSgt Mark McCaughtry (Readiness Flt Super)- CE trained him well, hoping to get back to Scott for EFMP.

TSgt Justin Dixon (Stan Eval Flt Super)- Fantastic Instructor/Evaluator that will keep us in line for the next few years

TSgt Will Perdew (Outgoing Stan-Eval Flt Super/OST)- His body’s broke, but he didn’t blink at \$49K for a new rig!

SSgt Alan Champagne (NCOIC Scheduling)- He’s keeping our head above water with the loss of Sweaty (scheduler).

(S)Sgt Michael Culver (Asst NCOIC Training)- New NCO, quickly learning there’s a lot more work with the new rank.

(S)Sgt Nicholas Inzana (Asst NCOIC Scheduling)- Insert comment from above...also having Sweaty withdrawal’s.

SSgt Robert Prince- Cross trained into the Boom Field and got to stay at FAFB...glad to have him on board.

SrA Jeremy “JTB” Culliton- There’s never a dull moment or lack of smiles when “Jeremy the Boom” is around.

SrA Kelly Brooks – Kelly keeps Awards and Decs running no matter how hard the O’s try to mess it up...IB soon.

SrA Tazmin Urata- Taz is still doing great things...we’ll try to upgrade him this year too.

SrA Patrick Booth- Patrick has done a great job for us, we’ll miss him if/when he separates this year.

SrA Derik Melson- Great Boom...We have no doubt that he will be a fine Officer or a great Chief some day.

SrA Cameron Bilyeu, BTZ Winner!- Fine young Boom...we’re keeping him busy on the road.

SrA Ryan Kiser, BTZ Winner!- Another great young Boom...also keeping him busy on the road.

SrA Joe Miklja- Working his way back to health after an extended DNIF, has kept a great attitude.

SrA Jon Allesie- Recent addition from Kadena, energetic and eager to get to work so far.

SrA Jacob Aufderheid- Another Kadena Boom relocated, already has a deployment under his belt.

A1C Jon Mellon- Hard working Boom, we're going to upgrade him as early as possible.

A1C Janet Yi- Janet has started to progress and is pulling her share of the deployment schedule so far.

A1C Anthonie Owens- Another deployment machine...we expect good stuff from him.

A1C Kevin Satberry- Kevin is on track to crush it this year, he has lots of potential.

A1C Frank Pappalardo- Another young Boom with a great attitude...future All Star.

A1C Travis Pierce- Broken record, but these youngsters are doing great things every day and Travis is no exception.

A1C Richard Bailey- Brand new Baby Boom...we'll get him through MCT and put him to work soon!

Inbound 2012/2013: Snyder, Roney, Davis, Wrightkurtz, Weidman, McClosky, Robbins, Mackey, Gomez, Bussey, Gese, Lee, Bloomkelly, and a few to be named later!

Departures:

SSgt Mike Russell, PCS

SSgt Aaron Tessman, PCS

SSgt Sam Converse, WIC

SSgt Andrew Valance, PCS

SrA Ben Girtz, Separated/Palace Chase

SrA Lainey Light, Separated

SrA Lawrence Hamel, Separated

SrA Kyle White, Separated

SrA Ken Fitzgerald, Separated

SrA Ashley Windley, Separated

In the Area: Mike "Sweaty" McPhee

FAIRCHILD AFB, WA

509 WEAPONS SQUADRON



MSgt Nixon, David : Active Duty (David.Nixon.3@us.af.mil)

“Squirrel” came over from the 93rd ARS early last fall and was promoted to MSgt earlier this year. He replaced MSgt (Ret) Daron Talsma as the squadron superintendent...RIP (Retire in Peace) Tazz. Although Nixon lacks the traditional Tom Selleck mustache worn by his predecessor and required by AFI for all members holding the title of superintendent and has fit right into place with the rest of the squadron go-getters.

SSgt Ragone, Dan: Active Duty (Daniel.Ragone@us.af.mil)

“Rags” as been at the WIC for 3 years and will be leaving next fall. He has been doing an average job maintaining the squadron’s Scheduling shop and safety program. He had recently applied for cross training but was swiftly denied to do manning. It seems he will live out his days as a Boom Operator.

SSgt Welch, Jeremy: Active Duty (Jeremy.Welch@us.af.mil)

“Juice” has been in at the WIC since May of ’09 and will be departing next spring and is hoping for a PCA to the local wing. For those who don’t already know Juice was diagnosed with leukemia earlier this year and is on the road to recovery. We wish him a speedy recover because we are strung thin!

SSgt Converse, Sam: Active Duty (Samantha.Converse@us.af.mil)

Sam is our newest cadre member, coming over from the 93rd ARS replacing Jamie “FOCR” Almquist and taking over our Stan/Eval shop. I think she is finally getting used to the idea that our schedule is planned out 6 months in advance. The nice thing about Sam is that she doesn’t dust the squadron with rancid poop particles like FOCR did, thus the squadron smells of a crisp autumn morning. She does however scare easily so we make it a point to hide around corners or sit in her office with the lights out to scare the poop particles out of her, this has brought us great enjoyment. Welcome to the 509th!

SMSgt (Ret) Zarkos, James : Civilian (James.Zarkos@us.af.mil)

“Z” has been retired since ’98 and has been a civilian in the Weapons School since 2000 and is our greatest asset for continuity, but that continuity comes with a great price. Like many of the other WWI veterans he is stuck in his ways and complains when his “new fangled” computing machine doesn’t work properly. When he starts spinning up around lunch time (0800) I found it best to put on classical music and put him down for a nap after his tummy is full, this makes the office environment more relaxing.

FAIRCHILD AFB, WA

116 ARS/141 ARW

WASHINGTON AIR NATIONAL GUARD



X-Flight

CMSgt Monica “Chief” Gile (IB): (Traditional) Chief continues to be very busy downtown as an RN and at the guard. She did a couple rotes to Guam and is now looking for an opportunity to sport the brown flight suit for old times' sake. When Chief is not fixing water pumps or trying to burn down the forest, she is on her dirt bike, or panning for gold in the creek. Good times.

MSgt Steve “Wad” Waddell (EB): (Technician) Program Manager- Wad has had one busy year between the guard and home. He was the Chief Boom at Al Udeid earlier this year and came back with a TDY moustache to prove it. Really Wad...what were you thinking??? In his spare time Wad is an avid hockey player and comes to work with the bruises to prove it. He hasn't broke any new bones this year so the plastic surgeons and ortho docs in town are all getting second jobs. There is always next year!

A-Flight “Aces”

MSgt Walt “Night Train” Hinton (EB): (Technician) A- Flight Lead Boom- Walt is a full time technician in the Stan/Eval shop. While deployed to sunny Guam, he was forward deployed to Kadena AB for 20 days experiencing clouds, rain, and perpetual “Bravo”. Walt has had a busy year with two deployments and trying to keep A-Flight “Flying Like Champions. “ As always with whatever situation, the Night Train keeps rollin!

TSgt Rob “Uncle Ricco” Mitchell (IB): (Technician) Uncle Ricco has recently been bestowed the honor of becoming the boom scheduler, where is he quickly finding out the importance of One Body. Rob is still on cloud nine after our weekend together in Pittsburg where we went to a Penns game and had the pleasure of gripping the hand of Mario Lemieux!! Rob is living up to the technician life well, and is happy to be here.....right?

SSgt Scott “Scooter” Smith (MB): (Traditional) it has truly been a busy year for Scooter. The guy has been on the road for us constantly. Scooter has learned a lot this year as one of our new booms. As all guardsmen learn, it can be tough to find the right balance between the Air Guard and his demanding civilian job, but Scooter has it figured out. It truly is.....all about you Bro!!

SSgt Thomas “Flight Physical” Nance (MB): (Traditional) Yes Thomas is finally flying for us. His first deployment with us was a tough one to Guam! While in Guam he dragged his sweaty flight lead to the top of Mt Lam Lam. Thomas is truly an outdoor enthusiast. When he wasn't outside he was in his room playing video games,

but he would never invite his flight lead to come play.....Hey, I like video games too Bro!! In all seriousness the Guard fits well with Thomas, and he fits well in the Guard!

B Flight "Killer Bees"

SMSgt Eric "Skog" Apelskog (EB): (Technician) Former B-Flight Lead Boom and Long Range Scheduler. Skog spent the last 6 months TDY at Scott AFB doing an HHQ's staff tour in combat operations. He has just recently accepted a position at Andrews AFB working at NGB HQ's as the Chief, Flight Safety. Good luck and we will miss you!

MSgt David "Panda" McDowell (EB) - (AGR) The New B-Flight Lead Boom- Dave has had a really big year. He was promoted to MSgt, was selected as an evaluator, and had the distinct pleasure of a 60 day rote to the desert as staff. Dave is currently DNIF and we are anxiously awaiting him coming back on status. He likes to shoot guns, camp, never goes anywhere without his Nalgene bottle, loves the color blue and his zodiac sign is Scorpio.

TSgt Marty "Rehab" Martin (MB): (BUM) Rehab is still the same shy, quiet person he has always been. He comes with two versions available, the older 1.0 version and the new and improved 2.0. At the time of this writing, Rehab was on his way back to the desert after a long hiatus out of his brown flight suits. He was looking for the opportunity to stay longer so he could wear his favorite brown duds for more than 30 days so time will tell if he gets his wish.

TSgt Jennifer "Jenn" Ventress (MB): (Traditional) Jenn has just been accepted to WSU's Nursing School and will start classes in January with the end goal of being a Registered Nurse. About 500 applicants apply and 90 get selected so we are pretty proud of her. She continues to work at one of the regions busiest Emergency Departments as and ER tech, goes to school full time, fly's nights and is busy raising her young son. Jenn.... it will slow down someday. ☺

SSgt Steven "Wayne" Kerr (student): (Traditional) Steven comes to us from the maintenance community and is following in "Flight Physical Nance's" shoes as possibly the longest flight physical process known to man. When Steven is not calling the Chief to check the status of his flight physical, he works downtown at Red Lobster. Hang in there Steven, it can't take much longer..well no promises.

C-Flight "Cupcakes"

SMSgt Dane "Dane" Porter- RETIRED- Dane has finally found the job of his dreams. He gets paid good money to talk about flying without having to write another TAPR. Don't worry Dane didn't go too far...he just moved down the street to be the new BOWST Lead Boom Operator. Enjoy retirement Dane and see ya in the SIM!!

MSgt Bob "Bobby G" Gibson (IB): (Technician) C-Flight Lead Boom- Bobby G is our newest Training Boom Operator and the newly minted leader of the C-Flight booms. Bobby G has big shoes to fill as Dane ran a tight ship in C-Flight but we know he can do it. Bobby G is getting ready to sport his brand new reflective belt for a short time and is counting the days until he actually can wear it. He has been very busy burning slash piles at his property, traveling the world and keeping all the booms trained. You're the best!

MSgt Sheri "Sheri" Shaw (IB): (Traditional) Sheri finally got her wish...green light from her husband to retire from the guard this September. Deploy or raise kids ????? we get it ☺ She also recently gave up the technician life to become a full time instructor running the new BOWST down the street with Dane. Long range will never be the same without you cracking the whip but we know where to find you in case we need you!

TSgt Kevin "No Show" Grubb (MB): (Traditional) What can we say about Kevin??? He is still working hard at the sewer plant (somebody has to do it), raising a bunch kids, keeping his wife in line (we know that's not true) and for the most part staying out trouble playing the role as a Boom Operator. What more can you ask of a guy?

TSgt Shaun "Multiple Nicknames" Bopp (IB): (Traditional) Shaun has been busy working as a DOD civilian for JPRA. He recently built a killer chicken coop and is now working at getting the baby chicks big enough to move

into their new home. Shaun is married with two kids and expecting another in December. Shaun, Boop, Sling Blade??? Whatever your nickname is...keep up the good work.

SSgt Joel "Fudge" Munro (MB): (BUM) Fudge is the epitome of a true Guard Bum, if he can get a pay check he'll take the trip. He is getting ready to become a dad for the first time later this year and this will certainly make him even busier for the foreseeable future. Fudge just got his motorcycle out and has been riding as much as he can. He is a summer lover and will more than likely be at the lake quite a bit in the months to come. Enjoy it while you can!

D Flight "DOGS"

SMSgt Ian "Lance" Dahl (EB): (Traditional) D-Flight Lead Boom-Lance works with Walt in the Stan/Eval shop. When he is not out here flying and giving check rides he is a Fire Fighter with the city of Spokane. Lance has been busy this year with his rental, and working at the unit when he is not at the fire department. Lance finally got a ride in an F-15 this year and loved it. We are still trying to figure out how he fit in the backseat being as tall as he. Photos???

TSgt Curt "Curt" Smith (MB): (Technician) Curt is our newest technician working in the Current Ops Shop. Curt has his private pilot's license so he does fly around the local area whenever he can for lunch or a day at the lake. As always Curt has the pull with the ladies, if we had a squadron poster boy, he would be on it!! Curt leaves in September for instructor school and we cannot wait to utilize his talents. We hope that when he returns he isn't sporting another TDY moustache. Really Curt????

SSgt Nathan "Nate" Leitz (MB): (Traditional / Alpha Alert) Nate is one of our Alpha Bums, Awards & Decs POC, and our "Professional Boom NORI Player"...anytime we need a fill in for the spot, he is our line of site guy. Nate is also the proud father of three beautiful girls, which is requiring him to build a bigger house with more bathrooms. Good thing the VFW is just down the street so he can have guy bonding time.

SSgt Clint "Shue" Schumacher (MB): (Traditional) Shue is finally getting re-qualified after coming off of a long term DNIF. He is looking forward to deploying and getting back on the road and may give Rehab a run for his money when it comes for competing for the coveted desert rotations. When Shue is not at the unit he continues his civilian employment as a Realtor here in the local area.

FAIRCHILD AFB, WA

KC-135 ATS BOOM INSTRUCTORS



Greetings from the Fairchild DRG Boom Operators,

We have just recently got the BOWST up and running here at Fairchild and are looking forward to putting our USAF and ANG brethren through their paces! The graphics and the ability to introduce multiple malfunctions (like the real airplane doesn't have enough) are pretty amazing. Many thanks to Mikey and the CAE team down at McConnell for their support and ideas on getting us up and running in a short period. We look forward to seeing old friends and if you're in the neighborhood....stop by and say hello.

Here is our current lineup.....

DANE PORTER- dane.porter@kc135ats.net Retired in April. Left an ANG technician job on a Friday and started with DRG the following Monday. Some retirement!

SHERI SHAW- sheri.shaw@kc135ats.net Found out she was hired on a Thursday afternoon...resigned her technician job on Friday....started with DRG on Monday! Sheri will remain in the Guard as a traditional until June and then retire.

Again...we look forward to seeing you and are proud we are still Boom Operators!

FORBES FIELD ANG, KS

117 ARS



The 117 ARS did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal.

GEN BILLY MITCHELL ANGB, WI

128ARW/126ARS

“Brew City Tankers”



The trough is so full here in Milwaukee the Guard Bums are actually turning down work. We survived our no notice NORI last fall, pounded out our AEF from Jan-April. We've got LTMPA, local training, TDY's and an extra AEF bucket coming up along with ASEV and UCI. Of course our leadership continues to execute Operation Bird Colonel and Operation One Star so volunteered for a heavier package for OUP. That was fun. All of this makes many of us think.... "Maybe I should have gone the way of my active duty brethren. I'd be retired by now." Of course I know were preaching to the choir here so I'll just end this rant with....

NKAWTG!

Just retired

CMSgt. Steve Schweiss- The outgoing Chief tried to take 6 last trips plus dictate a weekly and weekend dedicated for his going away party. NICE!

SMSgt Jerome Schiessl- The Penguin has left the building and although we miss him our IT assets are now safe

Fulltime

CMSgt Marlin Mosley-- Da New Program Manager – Guess he won't be eating lunch with the peasants anymore.

SMSgt Patrick Sosinski-STAN/EVAL – Shhhh. He might be sleeping.

MSgt Michael Weimer- STAN/EVAL - “Werm” Where dat lunch at?

MSgt Donald Strickland- Training - Perpetually TDY, probably not what you want from your Training NCOIC.

MSgt Kurt Ignasiak- Training - Knows the easiest way to deal with Don being gone is to go TDY himself or take leave.

MSgt Peter Gauerke-Scheduling- Living the dream one Tanker/Aircrew scheduling day at a time!

TSgt Anthony Walter-Wing Plans/Tactics/Mission Planning Cell- Maybe we could find some additional duties as A-Train is only assigned to 3 primary positions at this time.

TSgt Bryan Storbeck-UDM/Training- If Bryan could only say two words they would be. Let's eat! Or Let's Drink!

TSgt Lynda Matthews- Scheduling –Keeping Pete from getting fired from Tanker/Aircrew scheduling one day at a time.

Traditionals

SMSgt Mark Lipinski-Fireman – Still the Master of Ceremonies. Don't even think about taking his chair.

MSgt John Magnus-Fireman – Holding on and doing it his way, and then letting you know about it.

MSgt Tony White-Fireman- Tony is pulling the plug and may move on to an exciting career in nursing. Hopefully there will be no plug pulling there.

MSgt William Echevarria-Paramedic- Our new club manager Partner! That's right, we still have a club
MSgt Amanda Look- Guardbum – Amanda decided to stick around Milwaukee. Somewhere.
MSgt William Mattered-State Investigator - One of our new EB's Will continues to investigate.
TSgt Christopher Winchell- Guardbum Chris continues to give, give, give, wherever it is needed.
TSgt Mat Gryzb-Fireman – Not seen too often with the new addition to the family, but he can fly on Drill.
TSgt Ryan Peters-Engineer – Has a job, is changing jobs, we're not that sure anymore.
TSgt Troy Johnson-Corrections Officer – Arguably the best FaceSpace poster in the squadron. YouTube SCST90. Need I say more?
TSgt Jordan Jungwirth-State Trooper - Normally you'd beat someone for being so happy but Jordan is too big to mess with.
TSgt Karley Holtz-Guardbum/Student - Karley recently married and strangely gets all of our trips headed to CA
TSgt Thomas Orosco- Guardbum/Student - Just about done with school what will Tom move on too. FaceBook will tell us.
SSgt Brad Love-Guardbum – Congratulations to our Squadron ginger on his new baby girl.
SSgt Benjamin Casper- Guardbum - Ben also made an addition to the family, now it's time to lose the sympathy weight he put on. Ginger babies everywhere!
SSgt Andrew Kueffler - Guardbum - Just in from McConnell and says he can go to the Died the whole summer. Not sure he gets "The Guard".
Sra Natalie Belongie- Guardbum - "I can go" Natalie's standard answer when asked if she can go TDY.
Sra Tyson Krug- Guardbum - Got him from the states fighter wing but he's reforming quite nicely.
A1C Nick Illich- Newbie - Possibly too smart for us but we'll beat him down if he ever starts to realize it.
A1C Elvis Alvarado- Newbie - Yes we're getting a guy named Elvis, and yes, there are A1C Booms in the Guard.

Defectors

Maj. Lauri (Hrovatin) Sergeant – Still running around the squadron talking babies.
Capt. Paul Matthews – Just upgraded to IP via the Altus hazing process and planning on celebrating with a family addition in June.
Lt. Christine "Cajones" Kjornes – Christy is settling in fine with the pilots and still knows where her wallet is on TDYs

Stowed and Latched

The list here can get pretty long and I'm sure I've missed a few so I apologize in advance. A few of these last names may look familiar, gotta love legacies.

Dick Harvey	Earl Gauerke	Chuck Schweiss
Dean Dachenbach	Don Harvey	Herb Kiefendorf
Lee Cornell	Teckla Thorn	Robert Derrick
Gerry Nelson	John Famularo	Julie Van Eart
Dave Eddy	Roger Steckhan	Floyd Polzin
George Snamiske	George Sweet	Chris "Pops" Johnson
Ron Puzia	Ray Fassett	Terry Sands
Dave Eddy	Jenny Wieland	Ray Bazen
Tom Breier	Ralph Ellis	Robert Kowalski
Tom Sroka	Dan Schmidt	Bruce Rintlemann
Jerome "Penguin" Schiessl	Steven Schweiss	

Honoraries and retired FE's (KC-97 Flight Engineers)

Yes, we have been in the tanker business a long time. Here are our distinguished honorees...

LtCol Peter Hoffmann (Pilot)	Lt Col. Gary Tenney (retired pilot)
SMSgt Balinda Kostuch (Finance)	Don Paddock (retired Pilot)
LtCol. George Bacik (Pilot)	Moe Storbeck (retired CMD Post)
Norm Pobereznz (retired FE)	Allen Hobbs (retired FE)
Col. Murry Mitten (retired Pilot)	Lon Hansen (retired NAV)
Rod Langford (retired NAV)	John Lessila (retired FE)
Dan Pagel (retired pilot)	

GRISSOM ARB, IN

72 ARS

“The Dark Side”



Greetings from the Dark Side! It's been another busy year here trying to convince the local farmers that Grissom ARB is actually still open and those lights in the sky on final are not, in fact, UFO's. With our schedule full of SAVs, ASEVs, CIs, OIs, all of the other I's, and logistics exercises, you can find us all down in the boom shop with some refreshing beverages taking it easy and saying things like "Thank God it's another 4 years till..." and "If I hear one more thing about MICT checklists I'm going to...". We've kept our heads up though, ready for a little rest and relaxation until next year's AEF. If any of you are in the area, come on down to the 72nd Boom Shop and we'd be happy to fire up the jalapeño popcorn and provide you with some good ole' fashioned Midwest hospitality!

***CMSgt Jeffery “Buck” Henry (ART):** Thank you Sparkles, Great job. One good thing about being the Chief is that you get the last look and can edit anything said about you.

I am a very appreciative to each of these great boom operators below that work very hard for me!

***TSgt Jerry “JerBear” Cummings (TR):** Jerry has spent his year deploying and attempting to modify his hand built aircraft to be air-refueling capable. He also has a full dance card of flights and is often requested by pilots for his easy-bake-oven v.KC135 skills. Look for Jerry in this upcoming year at the vacation oasis of Altus when he goes for instructor school.

***SSgt Clayton “George” Duncan (TR):** Clayton is a fully qualified boom now and still married to the hottest SARC in the USAF (can we say that Allison?). You know he's in the building by the smell of “The Spiciest Jalapeno Popcorn This Side of the Mississippi” wafting down the hall and the subsequent coughing and eye watering.

***MSgt Ken “Magnum” Knight (TR):** Still our resident crime scene investigator and Best in Show for Freddie Mercury Mustache imitation, he's been spending the year convincing himself to take the plunge again into married life. We weren't sure if there was going to be a wedding or a homicide after his bride to be shredded his medical records because she thought they were “just a bunch of papers” – true story – however after the therapy sessions the wedding went off without a hitch. Congratulations Ken!

***MSgt Anthony “Ponch” Krisher (ART):** Keeping with his usual low profile, Anthony has spent the year deploying, mowing his lawn, and playing dad. You can now find him back in Scheduling spending most of his time on the phone trying to keep us all busy with statements like “Hey, how about another one of those Aeromed trips to Curacao? Lets get one of those on the schedule...”.

***TSgt Zuriel “Zee” Lund (ART):** It’s been a big year for Zee Man, who not only had his first child *and* pinned on TSgt, but is also our newest ART boom taking over UDM. When he’s not reading bedtime stories from *Advanced Particle Physics* to his infant daughter or redesigning his 540 step “beginner level” puzzle box, he’s probably on his way over to Logistics Readiness. Strangely enough they always seem to be busy when he calls to discuss the importance of reengineering LOGMOD...

***SSgt Erich “Maul” Maul (TR):** Achieving the goals of a getting a girlfriend with his “Will Tap Dance for Hot Chicks” sign *and* getting his bachelors from Valparaiso, Erich now thinks being a boom operator is a bit too much work for him and is considering defecting to the pilot career field. According to his old instructor “it might be better that way”.

***SMSgt Laura “Gunny” McKee (TR):** Laura got herself a new job working for the airlines as a supervisor of the supervisors of baggage handlers. With all that knowledge we’ve designated her permanent cargo boom status.

***MSgt Mike “Leonard” Morgan (ART):** Following a consensus of the schedulers, Mike was “promoted” to Ground Training, where he can now terrorize ARTs and TR’s alike with his pungent talent for flatulence on demand in the boom shop (thanks guys). He has spent the year learning Italian for his upcoming destination wedding and has also successfully advocated for his golf clubs to become a permanent listing on the Chart C for his TDY’s.

***SSgt Crystal “Stevie” Nix (TR):** When Crystal got her shiny new Purdue Bachelors degree, she decided it needed a nicer casing than the standard Wal-Mart frame and bought herself a house instead. With no more school to get in the way. She spends her time troughing and taking flying lessons with aspirations to become a pilot...maybe.

***MSgt Kym “Agent” Orange (ART):** Agent’s motto for 2012 so far has been “*No, I am not UDM anymore, go see Zee...*”. Now the Boom Shop Scheduler, he’s been able to take it easy and enjoy his time orchestrating a constant supply of pistachio’s, club soda and various other foodstuffs from those traveling on deployments or TDY.

***TSgt Jessie “Tomato Cage” Rood (TR):** It’s been a busy year for Tomato Cage. Deploying twice, she has made enough cash to finally purchase that second generator for her apocalypse bunker and keep that underground garden going. Just don’t ask her to make you any popcorn, she still hasn’t figured out that 3 cups of salt is not in fact a good ratio...

***MSgt Paul “Piper” Sherrod (TR):** Paul distinguished himself this year by getting himself into an actual aircraft mishap and crashing a small prop-job on his off time. Unscathed, he was able to rescue his bagpipes and was found safely 200 feet off the nose watching out for responding emergency vehicles. Making a rally, Paul still deployed to the desert, although he’s developed a nervous twitch on take-off.

***SrA Courtney “Sparkles” Storey (TR):** If any of you happen to call the boom shop and are answered by Nina from *Office Space*, chances are you’ve just encountered Courtney. Our newest boom, when she’s not disguising those blonde roots we all know are there, she’s advocating the finer points of “perfectly conservative for me” eye shadow, and what the meaning of “fadish” is in the 36-2903.

***TSgt “Trooper Joe” Swisher (TR):** You can usually find Joe walking around once a week in the squadron, dressed in full state trooper gear (apparently you do not take the hat off indoors) ~~collecting bribes for speeding tickets~~ accepting perfectly legal and tax free “gifts” of cash. Still as friendly as ever-especially when fed donuts-you can find Joe enjoying his occasional local sortie or TDY.

***MSgt Kerry “Gump” Vanausdall (ART):** Due to his mastery of “tactically” never being able to find in the Tactics office, Kerry was moved to Current Ops where he and another of our most computer proficient pilots attempt to do things like read email. He spends the other half of his day either trying to figure out how his iPhone works or practicing for one of his various marathons. When he’s asked about why he wants to run, he responds “I just felt like running...”

***MSgt Scottie “EWO-Mode” Ward (ART):** Still as focused as ever, Scottie took up the position in Training, where he is our official gateway into the boom world. We figured anyone that could withstand 150% full force Ewo-Mode during the interview process would have no problems with boom school or checkrides.

New Additions:

***SSgt Josh “That Finance Guy” Sanford (TR):** Josh is coming to us from Finance. We are hoping this strategic procurement will help us ~~circum~~ navigate the pay system! Look for him next year.

GRISSOM ARB, IN

74 ARS

“Fighting Red Tags”



CMSgt Jeff “Heffe” Maier (*ART/Evaluator*) – Throat punching TRs, crushing dreams, and 5 things we need to discuss. Chief Maier was out of the office for months last year waiting on his new titanium hip to heal up. We all missed him of course. It’s almost as if nothing gets done when he’s not here to “motivate” us. What we did not miss was the endless hours of Willies Place, or what he calls “TR Repellant.” All because it’s old, does not mean it’s a classic.

SMSgt Bryan “Dork” Hettinghouse (*ART/Evaluator/OGV*) – Still manning the Stand/Eval office, Dork has been busy getting our paperless pubs online. Once he finds someone under 30 to show him how to use an iPad, he’ll be able to give a class to the over 30 crowd. He went to Turkey this year where he flew more than 1 times per week.

SMSgt Jim “Booger” Maxwell (*TR*) – That’ll be “Deputy Maxwell” to you. Booger joined the La Porte County Sherriff’s department, and has been given a license to kill. He got married to Vicky Cummings, a State Trooper here in our boom shop. He may outrank her here in the shop, but what happens at home? Does he have to make the coffee and run out for the donuts?

MSgt Jerry “Shoe” Schumacher (*ART/Evaluator*) – Shoe is sending all of his kids off to fight the fight. One of his boys is going to be a Crew Chief here at Grissom. I’m guessing this was all Shoe’s idea, so he would have his own maintainer to gas up and tie down the Piper Cherokee he bought last year. Let’s see if a boom can keep his plane out of the corn.

MSgt Tim “Otis/Monkey/C5A” Stibbe (*ART/Senior Evaluator/Flight Commander*) – Stibbe went to the desert this year, and came back a hardened war veteran. Last year, we reported on Stibbe’s struggle with ARCNET, there have been no changes. What is due for a change is his truck. I think it’s pushing 2 years old now. It is not like Stibbe to drive such an aging vehicle.

MSgt Doug “Mud Vein” Preece (*ART/Group Tactics*) – Last year some time, Mud became a victim of the ART shuffle, and ended up in the Vault. You wouldn’t know it though, because he is still logging 40 hours/week in the boom shop. The first step is acceptance. He is now the proud parent of a handful of ducks. He’ll tell you he bought them for survival, as they lay eggs, and eventually become stew, but he got too close. I think he carries pictures of them in his wallet.

MSgt John English (*TR/Instructor*) – John is still working up in Michigan with the Army. Word is, he is going to depart the service here in a couple months. We see less and less of him every month. I think he's probably ready for his finny flight, as long he stays current until then.

MSgt Drennen Gaffney (*TR/Instructor/Flight Commander*) –Drennen started this year off with a vacation to The Deid. I call it a vacation because being at home with 5 kids, ranging from 1 to 18, makes any deployment seem like a vacation. Back to work you go. We don't know how you do it.

MSgt Debbie “Yoko” Melton (*ART/Instructor*) – Since everyone else is doing it, Debbie decided she should get married this year. The big day is June 16, and she is so excited to start collecting married rate BAH, and to be married of course. As long as her husband doesn't ever ask her to drive a manual transmission, they should be fine. That's right Brian, she can't operate a stick.

TSgt Chris “Nick” Nack (*TR*) – Apparently, Chris Nack still works for us. You'll never see him around the office though. He is either deployed or TDY. It's almost as if he wants the war to go on forever so he doesn't have to come home to the real world. Come back Chris.

TSgt Joshua “J-1/Wicket Hawt” Welch (*ART/Instructor*) – After his previous “deployment” to Curacao, Josh decided to take a well needed break from fighting the good fight, so he volunteered to man the fort during this AEF cycle. And as a reward for his hard work, he received an all expenses paid trip to Altus, OK for IB School. Learn good Josh.

TSgt Joshua “J-2/Lloyd Christmas” Fagerburg (*TR/Instructor*) – Josh finished instructor school, and is now one step closer to becoming chief boom. He held down the lazy boy in the alert room for 4 months while our unit was deployed. We thank you for your meritorious service, medals to follow.

TSgt Caleb “Roadhouse” Daulton (*TR*) – Daulton is back on flying status and is still our newest operational boom. Between making us all look bad at the gym, and moving in on our alert tours, he's breaking his own records with words spoken per day. Yesterday, I heard him say 17 words. Keep up the great work, and we hope that someday he may even crack a smile.

TSgt Brandon “Warren” Toth (*TR*) – Has not had much of a year. He was promoted to TSgt, became a new dad (cute baby girl), and was selected to attend OTS/UPT. He obtained his private pilot's license, and he went to the sand box this year. You know those car/rv trader magazines? We take them out of his hands because he can't buy grown up toys any more, and this hurts him.

SSgt Vicki “Icky” Maxwell (*TR*) – Vicky Cummings married our very own Jim Maxwell and they took a late honeymoon to The Deid this year. He promised her sun and sand right? She's still cruising Northern Indiana as a state trooper, and now has someone to tell her stories of semi-truck sideswipes to.

SSgt McKayla “I don't know” Dick (*TR*) – McKayla is at Purdue working on becoming a vet. She only has about 11 years to go before she'll be giving mouth to mouth to alpacas and chinchillas. In the meantime, she's been maintaining her personal zoo. Her “kids” as she calls them, are the most spoiled I've ever seen, but somehow still well behaved. Tranquilizers maybe?

New Booms:

TSgt Nick Obusek (*Still in ACUs*) – Nick (However you pronounce his last name) comes to us from the 434AMXS sheet metal shop, hear at Grissom. His previous experience will come in handy when we send him to receiver units the fix the jets that he'll be practicing on. And this is all we know about him. Seriously, he talks less than Daulton. He shall be D-2

Losses:

SMSgt Paul ‘Doogie’ Houser (*ART/Evaluator*) – Doogie went “Boom Stowed” last August, though if you look around, you will still find signs of his presence, whether it’s the closet in the training room full of his junk he never took home, or the “Doogie Chair” in the boom shop that has not been used since he left. He is missed around here, though the extra alert tours that we are all receiving are not so bad. Thanks for your service SMSgt Houser.

ANDERSEN AFB, GUAM
36 MOBILITY RESPONSE SQUADRON

“ABOVE THE REST”



MSgt Rissabute, Saksen (saksen.rissabute@us.af.mil) Active Duty McGuire KC-10 non flying

** Just got non vol'd back in Oct. Life is not bad though; who can complain about the year round 87* F weather or as much golf & water sports as possible. Getting scuba qualified soon!! It's a small Unit, but we "definitely get er done" .

TSgt Gavin, Bradley (Bradley.Gavin@us.af.mil) Active Duty Travis KC-10 non flying

** The only boom to voluntarily extend his time in the CRG. Being three hours from the Philippines has nothing to do with that.

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, HI

203 ARS

Hawaii Air National Guard



The 203 ARS did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal.

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, HI

15 WG/96 ARS

“SCREAMIN EAGLES”



Aloha from the great state of Hawaii! A lot has happened in the past year for the 96th, and ever since reaching FOC it has been full steam ahead, especially for the Booms. We underwent a UCI and ASEV this past February achieving an Excellent rating in both categories. On top of the UCI prep we had two crews out on the road somewhere in the Pacific and were trying to keep the C-17's and F-22's happy flying locals against them Monday through Friday. Only having seven flyable boom operators available made filling lines a struggle to say the least. With people on leave, going DNIF, or being TDY, having such a great TFI relationship with the 203rd helped tremendously as they occasionally filled our lines when we were unable. When passing through do not hesitate to give one of us a call, the weather is always beautiful and the beer will always be cold.

SMSgt Dicky Hunt-EB (Sq Superintendent)-“If you got a problem, you better bring a solution with it.” Dicky is the 96th bullet buster. He has to listen to all of the booms gripes and complaints on a regular basis (every day). He didn't realize when he moved to Hickam he'd be getting eight more kids as the 96th superintendent and be filling in as the OG superintendent for roughly six months. Dicky has done a great job the past year keeping the booms in line and has a lot more grey hairs because of it.

TSgt Joe Royer-IB (1st Sgt)-Still playing Disk Golf. Joe is the squadrons go to guy when you have no idea what to do in a situation. What sucks is 90 percent of the time you'll get a right upper lip raise with a shoulders raise in sync and an “I dunno”. Joe had a lot of responsibilities this past year in being the 1st Sergeant and taking care of about four additional duties and knocking out NCOA. He'll be moving to A Flight next.

TSgt Rob Miller-IB (Training Flight) – Rob has logged more time playing games on his I-phone this year than he has in the jet and he was on the road the most out of any boom this past year, so what's that tell you??? He still has nine hundred kids, a live in babysitter (mother-in-law), two dogs, a truck, van, jet-ski, Harley, lizards and any other toy you can think of. Rob did a lot of great work in training in prep for the UCI, along with maintaining his three additional duties. His hard work studying for Tech this year finally paid off, congrats! His next work area will be the front office.

SSgt Jerome (JJ) Jefferson -EB (Tactics/Training Flight) - JJ still claims to be a boss but that's basically the same ole story we've heard for...well since we have known him. The only love of his life is still Megan (his dog) god bless her. JJ worked in Training and Tactics this past year and was also the Vehicle Control NCO. Jerome

spent most of his time on the road and taught a couple Pre-CFIC candidates. Altus is calling next?!?! JJ is moving to Stan/Eval next and is our newest evaluator.

SSgt Nic (Raymond) Robles -EB (Stan/Eval) – Nic still loves Minnesota and Grand Forks. He has high hopes of the new tanker going back to Grand Forks but we all know those chances are as slim as Nic's ability to spell.....anything. He is the only person on this earth with a Bachelors degree that needs a dictionary in front of him to type an email. Nic had a great year in Stan Eval. He worked hard to pull out an Excellent rating on the ASEV and received a solid Q1 on his ASEV checkride. Nic is moving to Training next, so for all of our inbounds...LOOK OUT.

SSgt Nick (Mad Dog) Madsen - IB (Scheduling) - I've got the black lung pop! Nick has been stuck in the cave known as scheduling since he arrived at Hickam. Midway through last year he got diagnosed with asthma and is just waiting on the MEB process to finalize. His household also grew by one this past April, three girls look out!! He's gotten really good at drinking room temperature bud light with all his free time and has picked up bowling for the squadron team. Is an 81 handicap bad?

SSgt Shane Williams -IB (Mobility) - CROSSSSFFFFIITTTTT!!!! That's all there is to say about Shane...well maybe there's been a little more to the past year than that. In between collapsing lungs and not updating his checklist, Shane has been the squadron's workhorse for TDY's, made SSgt and completed ALS. When he's not on the road, you can find him in mobility or working towards his degree....I'm joking he'll probably be mesmerized by the days "WOD". Shane will be moving to scheduling next where were sure he'll do a great job.

SSgt Greg Bush -IB (Scheduling) - Greg has finally got his pardon from scheduling and is heading to mobility soon. It has been a great year for him; he made SSgt and got through ALS. Greg also had an addition to the family this year, his baby girl Kahlea. We are still trying to figure out why he flies every Tuesday and Thursday? We figured it is because he doesn't like to do squadron PT. He is always looking for a way to skip PT so he doesn't get injured again; Greg pulls a muscle just walking to the track! If you are looking for good entertainment ask him what his latest mind-blowing idea is...the last one was saving money by buying a cow to get his milk, cheese and butter...AMISH I guess?!?!

A1C Keith "Shasta" Prochaska (A-Flight) - The new kid on the block! Showed up here weighing 200lbs with a 170lb flight suit, it looked like 3 lbs of shit in a 2lb bag. All the IBs are having fun training him and the plan is to get him on the road as soon as possible. We just need to keep him away from his girlfriend at Fairchild...or maybe we can get a join spouse and up our manning (To Be Continued)! All kidding aside, he has shown great potential and got off to a great start by receiving an EQ on his checkride out of Altus!

INBOUNDS- God help all of these kids, Nic Robles is the NCOIC of training now!!

A1C Scott Willard – RNLTD 31 Oct 2012

A1C Kenneth Stricker – RNLTD 10 Jan 2013

HURLBURT FIELD, FL
MOBILITY OPERATION SCHOOL DETACHMENT 1
MOS DET 1



ACTIVE DUTY:

MSgt, Hargett, Christopher G. Christopher.Hargett@hurlburt.af.mil

Still unable to spell AOC.

RETIRED:

CIV USAF, Geraci, Richard S. Richard.Geraci@hurlburt.af.mil

Still stirring the pot...Thinks he's Bill Gates Jr...ANOTHER Beemer, Rich...Really?

CIV(= Lt Col / Maj) USAF, Debarr, Devan S. Devan.Debarr@hurlburt.af.mil

Still a full time fisherman and basketball ref...part time AOC instructor...Soon to be fishin boat Captain.

KADENA AB, JAPAN

909 ARS

“THE YOUNG TIGERS”



MSgt Mike Webster (Superintendent) – Took over with the departure of SMSgt Steinkraus, well for now at least, eagerly awaiting the arrival of SMSgt Wolfe in Aug so he can get on another fishing trip to Diego, or any TDY for that matter.

MSgt Matt Calisi (Chief Boom) – Moved up to the Chief Boom office and decided to tackle everything at once. Has been doing a great job trying to get our younger guys smarter by promoting PME courses. Most of his waking hours lately are spent at his desk pulling his hair out over planning the AF Ball.

TSgt Gabe Ourso (Stan/Eval) – The Ragin Cajun, still fired up and ready for anything, especially if it involves going to Diego. Can usually be found posted up at Sidelines doing his best Japanese impressions and asking people how his belly button looks. Always does a great job around here.

TSgt Roger Braun (Flight Supervisor) – Our resident dirty old man and coinsure of fine smut. We never know what is coming out of Roger’s mouth next; he could even make Hefner blush with some of his colorful stories.

TSgt Jason Wallace (Safety) – Decided hanging out in the Safety office was a little boring so he volunteered to deploy to the Philippines for 6 months. He probably figured they needed to be introduced to Jimmy Buffet and the “Jack Man Dew”. Remember Jason, penicillin doesn’t get rid of everything.

TSgt James Nilsen (OSS Scheduling) – Looking forward to getting James back in the squadron from the OSS, it’s been awful quiet around here with him gone.

TSgt Shonna Calisi (OSS) – Haven’t really seen much of her since she went to the OSS vault, except for the occasional flight or AE alert. We all figure she is busy doing something important, or just can’t remember how to get to the squadron any more.

TSgt Angus Burns III (Scheduling) – Came to us from Fairchild saying he deployed a lot but didn’t get to go TDY. So we stuck him in scheduling where he barely gets to fly and then deployed him to the Died soon after. Sorry Gus, we will get you a TDY sometime soon.

SSgt Chris Holloway (Scheduling) – Pretty much following in Angus’s footsteps. Chad spends most of his time on the weekends checking out the local scene and practicing his head spins. He’s also taken up surfing and plans to join the Billabong “Pro” tour this summer. Good luck man, we know you’re going to come in first in the youth division.

SSgt Joshua Butts (Mobility) – Our Buddy Holly look alike, are those BCG's? Spends his time back in the mobility shop trying to figure out SORTS or hanging out in scheduling begging to score a TDY. Just sent off to IB upgrade, not sure why....

SSgt Chris Huber (Readiness) – Chris has been busy trying to straightening out the readiness shop to get us ready for the ORI this fall and going through instructor upgrade. On his way to the OSS to replace Nilsen this summer, better work on your laugh.

SSgt Brian Porter (Training Flight) – Works hard at all his additional duties and when he finds the time some training stuff too. Went out and ran the Okinawa marathon this spring, didn't win but placed pretty well. Also a newlywed, got married to a local girl recently, never met her so we take his word for it.

SSgt Zach Donarski (Awards and Decs/DTS) – Zach has been doing a good job trying to keep our Boom Association afloat and figure out how to stay out of trouble with DTS approvals. Thinks climbing trees for coconuts in Diego is fun, except when it comes to the best way to get down.

SSgt Don Johnson (Stan/Eval) – Our resident Tech geek, if it's the latest thing out there he definitely has it. Got married right before he got here and now his wife is training to be a kick boxer. Better get used to saying the words "yes dear" allot.

SrA David Ballmer (Stan/Eval) – AFPC finally caught up with Dave and is making him PCS in Aug to Fairchild, we thought he was going to set a record for most consecutive in-place tours. Finally someone else will get those trips to Thailand. Well Dave, I'm sure you and "Chris" will keep in touch through email.

SrA Jason Duckett (Tactics) – Still working out all the time, heard he even does cross fit during AR. He went to work in the vault recently and started talking like a fighter guy and making airplanes in formation with his hands. We better get him out of there soon before he really loses his mind.

SrA Brandon Williams (Training) – Brandon spends an awful lot of time at the tanning booths and getting bikini waxes. Not sure what's going on there, DADT I guess.

SrA Derek Green (Training) – "Too Tall" has been doing a great job in training, usually the only guy in the office cause the others are off flying or TDY. Will be heading out of here in Dec, don't know where yet but my guess is Fairchild.

SrA Matt Nelson (Awards and Decs/DTS) – Matt went to the Decs shop to help out Zach and figure out where our money goes. He had a great experience with Kunsan F-16's recently, decided they are definitely not his favorite receivers!

SrA Dan Childress (Readiness) – The quiet talker/ sidler is another recent addition to the IB ranks. After the repeal of don't ask don't tell, he got a place downtown with Greene and Price (a.k.a Precious), I'm still not going to ask.

SrA Eric Cheney (Readiness) – Eric has a really high opinion of himself, just ask him. Decided he didn't like the color of his hamster car so took some spray paint and brushes to it, now it looks soooo much better. One thing we can always count on is him doing something we can shake our heads at.

SrA Anthony Price (Mobility) – Precious finally figured out how to take a PT test successfully, has been credited with the creation of a wing policy for failures. Now we can deploy him at least once before he leaves for Fairchild this November. You're welcome 92 ARW!

A1C Robert Pitts (Mobility) – Still getting mistaken for the pilot Capt Pitts and being put on flights as the AC. Expecting kid number two this summer, and several more additions to the in-house animal farm. We aren't sure if he's opening his own pet store soon or just idolizes Richard Gere.

A1C Arthur Rouse (Resident MQT student, Mobility, Crew Comm., SP augmentor, Janitor, toilet paper stocker, snack-o, Sq under water welding rep, NASA advisor, logger, NASCAR driver, rock climber, skydiver, etc...) – YEP!!!

A1C Tiffanie Ellerbe – Our one and only female Boom, completed MCT now thinks she is ready to become an instructor with just over 100 hrs. Not much to say about her so I'll give her the benefit of the doubt and say she's motivated and smart.

A1C Matt O'Daniel – Newest Boom, lobbying to become the CTM guru after finishing MCT, just doesn't know what that means yet.

Departed

SMSgt Mike Steinkraus – Retiring this June to become officer Steinkraus in Virginia, guess he figured the Air Force wasn't letting him shoot at anybody so he better change jobs. He did a lot for the 909th and definitely will be missed. "Calling car RAMROD"

MSgt Julian Joseph – Retired in May and headed back to Florida to join a shuffle board club, at least I think that's what he said?? He decided it was time to go on a quest for his first ex-wife, "well at least she won't get any of this retirement".

TSgt Kenney Harwood – Had orders to Fairchild then overnight everything changed and he went off to Travis to become a Gucci Boy. We really miss his emotional "I love you man" conversations.

SrA Mike Weidman – Headed off to Fairchild in June, still talking about how great Texas is even though I'm pretty sure he is from Oklahoma.

Inbounds

SMSgt Wolfe – Arriving in Aug from McConnell

A1C David Long – FNG from Altus in the fall

KELLY FIELD, TX

313/FLTF

“PROVE IT FIT FOR FLIGHT”



Hola from San Antonio! Home of flight test for every GATM (Block 40) KC-135 ever modified, and hopefully around 15% of all Program Depot Maintenance for the KC-135 fleet. The GATM program is now finished which has reduced our workload significantly. To sustain our currencies, we are now picking up and delivering nearly all of the depot birds to and from your base, except maybe Altus! Boeing lets us live next to their paint hanger and function as canaries for their paint fume ventilation system. We try hard to make sure the airplanes go back out to the units in great shape, but don't blame us for the seat cushions...they're not in the contract!

SMSgt Gordo “Gordeaux” Ringler – gordon.ringler@us.af.mil, Reserve (AGR): Gordo's in the final month's leading to retirement, not that he, or apparently the rest of AFRC, is counting. “Past the Pinnacle of his Career”, Gordo is looking forward to the prospects of home-ownership, more wine making, and reversing the roles of dependency within his household of current and future Aggie graduates. Retirement can't come soon enough for this 2nd Generation Boom!

MSgt Amanda “Squawk” Stift – amanda.stift@us.af.mil, Reserve (AGR): No snowboarding mishaps this year...thank you Mother Nature for the lack of snow! Amanda's still practicing for pregnancy, but Jeff and her lab, Willie, don't seem to mind. Amanda is still our fitness poster girl, and does a great job getting all of us through that abomination called the Fit Test. But now as our new First Shirt, not only do we hear “run faster”, but also “get your crap done”. Lord help us!

MSgt Michael “Plato” Kissire – michael.kissire@us.af.mil, Reserve (AGR): Now one- year head injury free, Mike has “finally” adjusted to the pace around here. Still hasn't figured out that in AFMC, just because you're a boom, doesn't mean you actually have to AR. Still is disguising his vacations to his hometown as AR Currency TDY's to McConnell. But be warned, as a new RV owner, Mike has increased his ability to spread P-3 stories!

MSgt Dave “ATIS” French – dave.french@us.af.mil, Reserve (TR): Dave works nights at Boeing as a new B-747 QA, and is personally ensuring that no process is left undone...and no manager is left stress-free! Dave still visit's us occasionally to reset his currency, and fill out pay paperwork! Oh, and in case you missed the 2010 through 2011 Boom Signals...Dave likes to talk. Dave does this a lot. Year now is 2012, Information Golf is now current. Digital ATIS still unavailable.

Remember Rat Bastards, nothing is too cruel if it's funny. Lots of retired booms in San Antonio. The list looks like the phone book, so Google it.

LACKLAND AFB, TX

344 TRS

“SPARTANS”



TSgt Shawn Lightner: NCOIC of BBOC Shawn has been working very hard making sure that things here run as smoothly as possible. He has taken up Cross Fit during his lunch time trying to be the best work out buddy as described by Dom Mazzetti. Yeah he cries when he works out. With only a year left here with us Shawn is doing his best to complete his degree and only has one class to go.

TSgt Deboris “D” Leonard: Since D couldn’t make TSgt on active Duty he took the easier route and went to the reserves where they just gave it to him. After breaking up with his boyfriend Chardo, D banished himself back to Aircrew Fundamentals where he remains as an Instructor Supervisor. SSgt Scott likes to remind him that he has now been talking about flying longer than he has been actively flying. Blue owes D big time for assisting him in his win in fantasy football by giving him all his good players. TRADE RAPE ah hem... Everyone enjoys having D around and we are sure that the next group of booms that replace us will like him too since he’ll still be here. FUNDIES 4 LIFE!

TSgt Gerald “G” James: G just arrived here from McGuire AFB and was lucky that he didn’t have to endure the 6 weeks of hell at BIC. He is working hard to learn how to be an AETC Instructor and is finding out it’s a lot more involved than expected. G enjoys riding his motorcycle when the weather cooperates and is motivating everyone in bettering their fitness by starting the 100 Burpee Challenge. Keep up the good work G and fear not, you’ll get out of Fundies soon.

SSgt Jerimiah “Blue” Ibarra: Blue pulled a Brady and schemed his way into the BBOC course ahead of SSgt Scott while he was out after surgery. Self proclaimed “Fantasy Football God” he proudly displays the all coveted “Hope Solo Cup” which most would agree is tainted seeing is how Blue likes to trade rape everyone. Continuing his education he only has like 50 classes until he receives his Bachelors. Blue has also invented his own work out program properly named “Blue Fit” in which he eats a lot and doesn’t work out at all. Luckily for him he always has his retard strength and he can beat anyone in an arm wrestling contest. BLUE YOU’RE MY BOY!

SSgt Sean Scott: Sean is slowly making his escape from Aircrew Fundamentals over to the Booms. Had a rough fantasy football season and is convinced that Blue cursed him explaining his dismal 3-14 record. He loves to rub it in Blues face that he never lost to him. Advice for Sean, Hines Ward is a HORRIBLE first round pick. Sean fell victim to the treacherous 1.5mi running track this past year and ended up having surgery and is slowly on the road to recovery. During that 12 weeks of con leave he became a PDG/CDC master and hopes to make TSgt this go around.

DEPARTED:

TSgt Justin Konicke: Justin betrayed his own and became a KC-135 guy out at Mac Dill AFB. We will miss having our token “Naked Guy” at all of our functions.

SSgt Chardo Richardson: Chardo decided he had enough of Big Blue and all its glory and left us to pursue his dream of becoming a lawyer. He is currently going to Law School up in Michigan. We will miss having Chardos' bubbly personality around here.

RETIRED:

MSgt David "Stu" Decou: Stu went on terminal leave and never came back. He has since retired and will be missed down in the CDC writers' area.

INBOUND:

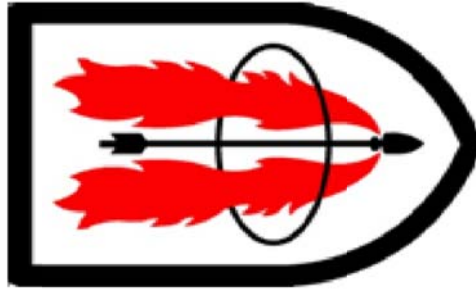
SSgt Garrett Machon: Joining the Aircrew Fundamentals crew this June from McGuire AFB. "10" guys are taking over, time to start teaching the real Form F.

MSgt Jason C. Resler: Replacing "Stu" as our new CDC writer; hopefully he likes golf or something equivalent. He's joining us from 15 AMOS/DOO. And Yes, he's a "10" guy too!

LINCOLN ANGB, NE

155 ARW/173 ARS

“Home of the Hustlin’ Huskers”



TSgt Isaac (Ike) Cepek- Guard Bum

Ike is another guard bum, who spends most of his days working in the Scheduling office, and getting taller. Isaac recently set the Nebraska record for most deer shot, in 1 hour while in church clothes and never leaving your front porch. If you are curious the record now stands at 4. Isacc.Cepek@ang.af.mil

MSgt Mat (Rainman) Ellison- Guard Bum, (C Flight NCOIC)

Has been living off the LTMPA line for 20 months now and is hoping to break Mike Mayfield's record of 22 months. Currently work in Combat Crew Comm, and only comes out of the vault to get some sun. Mathew.Ellison@ang.af.mil

MSgt Gene (Old Balls) Ernst- Guard Bum

Gene lately discovered Facebook n along W txtN hs bn fyin 2 stay off DNIF status coz of thum injurEs. curNtly wurkn n Stan/Eval getN ReD 4 r ASEV. n hs spare tym Gene hs Bcum a fulltime “Cheer Dad” dressin ^ n funE costumes, yl drivN ll ovr d country 2 woch cheerleading comps. Gene.Ernst@ang.af.mil

CMSgt Mark (Chief) Forster- Fulltime (Chief Boom)

Mark is about 3 years into his sentence as Chief. Mark finished his bachelor's degree last year and decided to start on his masters, finish his basement and teach concealed carry classes. Is it a coincidence he took on all these hobbies right after his wife retired from her job? Mark.Forster@ang.af.mil

SMSgt Mark (Joey) Fusco-traditional (B Flight NCOIC)

Mark works for Windstream was married last year and has discovered the joy that comes from owning a 30 year old house that was added onto by an amateur plumber. Guess this plumber did not know you actually had to connect the drains to something. After an hour with a sledge hammer his basement bathroom looks a lot like one of those toilets in the middle of a Turkish street. Mark.Fusco@ang.af.mil

TSgt Brian (Angry Boom) Gayer-traditional

Brian works for Omaha Public Power District fulltime and is our newest Instructor Boom. Those of you who know Brian will be surprised to hear that he saw no real value in the CFIC program, and dared to ask the question, why. Brian.Gayer@ang.af.mil

TSgt Mike (Hammy) Hamernik – traditional (A Flight NCOIC)

Works fulltime in his family's trees and shrub business. Except for invasive deer and angry squirrels the nursery business seems to be working out. He is back from IB school, and now is in the process of forgetting everything so he

can teach people how to actually fly an airplane. He is spending his free time acting as an actual CFI trying to keep students from killing him in a C-152. Michael.Hamernik@ang.af.mil

SRA Adam (The Amazin Asian) Krotz – traditional Adam is currently living the life of a college student/slum lord and flying in his spare time. Now that the Krotz mafia in Ops is down to two he is once again out of his older brother's shadow and taking all the abuse from his mom. Adam.Krotz@ang.af.mil

MSgt Mike (Silverback) Mayfield -traditional

After 22 months on the LTMPA line, Mike went back to working for Lincoln Fire and Rescue only to find out that the civilian world is for chumps. Spends most of his day on the phone setting up wrestling meets for his son, and trying to convince Tri-care that he really is on orders. Michael.Mayfield@ang.af.mil

MSgt Michael (Raisin Bag) Minnick-fulltime flight scheduler

Biking Mike, still manages to ride to work when the weather is passable (not often in Nebraska). It's been 3 whole years since Mike has "happened across" a dead body on his early morning commute, but with the nicer weather coming I'm sure the homeless population will be rising along with the temperatures. Michael.Minnick1@ang.af.mil

MSMgt Leighton (Layto) Michaelson, fulltime flight scheduler

Layto is back in Lincoln for good now, and with this being an election year Layto holds his daily lunch lectures in the scheduling office with all the young pilots and booms. Recently he showed up to work in his vintage Reagan/Bush 84' shirt holding a copy of Atlas Shrugged. Leighton.Michaelson@ang.af.mil

TSgt Bradley(Two Star) Musick-fulltime Current Operations

Brad currently works in Current Ops as the only fulltimer in the shop. The boss is on terminal leave, and since our unit refuses to hire any new fulltimers he is kind of screwed. But on the bright side he is the DTS expert for the Operations group, so he has that going for him. Bradley.Musick@ang.af.mil

TSgt Cassie (Pinky) Sabatka-traditional

Cassie finished her master degree, and after 25 years of school finally scored a real job. Cassie is headed to Meridian Public Schools as an elementary school teacher. If you have never heard of Meridian public schools, don't feel bad, none of us have either. I have a feeling Cassie is making the whole thing up. Cassie.Sabatka@ang.af.mil

TSgt Bryan Schuka-traditional

Another firefighter/boom operator. After being last year's Mr. July in the Omaha Fire Department calendar, Schuka's modeling career has taken off. Unfortunately for him the whole DADT rule has prevented him from taking most of the work that his agent has found for him. Bryan.schuka@ang.af.mil

SMSgt Russ (Muscle) Sladky- fulltime Stan/Eval

Russ is still working in Stan/Eval where he has a group of minions doing his ASEV dirty work for him. Finally after hitting his 15th deer Russ was honored as a triple ace by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and had his truck put on display at the state fair. Russell.Sladky@ang.af.mil

MSgt Mark (Scuba Stock) Stocking – fulltime

Lincoln's only technician boom and a Union Steward as well. Mark works in training where he somehow manages to never be overdue for any training. He has made a living out of only taking trips to warm water locations close to a dive shop. Recently broke down and bought a black 1968 Camaro, and was last seen sporting a mullet wig while flying down O" Street jamming to his KISS 8 tracks. Mark.Stocking@ang.af.mil

SRA Jeff (TLAM) Tlamka – Guard Bum

Jeff is currently on the LTMPA line, working in ARMS and scheduling. He is using his background as a math teacher to help the pilots count past 10 without taking their shoes off. After coming off a long term DNIF the squadron has turned him into a permanent resident of the Died. Jeffrey.Tlamka@ang.af.mil

MSgt Jeff (VanNO) VanNortwick-fulltime

Jeff is still in the training office and has earned his nickname of VanNO. I guess it's just easier to say no instead of actually letting people log flying beans. Jeffery.Vannortwick@ang.af.mil

TSgt Brian (Toddler) Wood-traditional

Brian works as a Lincoln City Fire Fighter. He spent most of the year DNIF after having a piece of glass try to slice his foot off. Luckily for him he got back on flying status in time to avoid having to requal and is now back on the deployment list.

Brian.Wood@ang.af.mil

Moved to the front seat**2Lt Erica Fisher**

Erica is currently living the UPT student life down in Enid USA. She is living with a couple of 22 year old academy grads who affectionately call her “the mean mom”. She is still trying to convince her classmates that they can actually take off their newly acquired flight suits before they go out on the town.

Major Randy Douglas

Randy gave up his gig flying a Beechjet for some rich rancher and now is back to guard bumming on the LTMPA line. In his spare time he has taken up the hobby of brewing kegs of beer, with his first offering called “Snowman sweat” packing a heck of a punch, coming in around 10% alcohol.

Capt. Joe Remmenga

Joe spent the majority of last year on the road, that and fixing the lemon of a truck he bought from one of our pilots. He tried his hand at raising ducks in the pond behind his house, but forgot that coyotes are faster than ducks.

Capt. Caleb Ramsey,

Living in Madison Wisconsin, flying the RC-26 for the Wisconsin ANG.

Capt. Matt Siensen Matt still works for the base fire department on the side. His wife got a job in Omaha, so he is moving to Papillion. If anybody wants to buy a house in Lincoln, or maybe a lot in Lincoln in one of the highest price areas of town call Matt, he has both to sell, and as the saying goes “he is a motivated seller”

Retired**SMSgt Melvin Kauk-retired.**

Mel hit the wall. At age 60 they forced Dancing Mel to retire then he retired from NCR. Mel and his wife are now living on an acreage West of Lincoln. We still have Mel sightings now and then, usually when there is free beer being served.

SMSgt Steve Minnick-retired

Steve is alive and well working on computers at Offutt, the easiest way to get a hold of Steve is to walk around the Offutt AFB BX around lunchtime, he is usually there.

MSgt Gordon Anderson passed away May 21st 2001 and is remembered every year when the Booms meet at his gravesite for a Cigar and a shot of Scotch. We have named the yearly award for outstanding pilot, boom operator and support person in his honor. For the folks who knew Gordon this award continues to be a great way to continue the legacy that Gordo left behind.

SMSgt Lang Anderson- turned 60 and was forced into retirement. Lang is usually spotted with camera in hand at every AFA function. You would think with all the dues the AFA collects they could hire a real photographer.

CMSgt Gary Bornemeier- retired upon reaching his 60th Birthday. He makes an appearance in the building every once in a blue moon, usually when there is free beer. I think I see a trend.

MSgt Chris Hatley - is still working for Burlington Northern, Santa Fe Railroad in Kansas City, and going through a long term conversion process that will make him a clone of a 1980's Hulk Hogan.

TSgt Kerry Gulzow -Lives in Lincoln, we think.

TSgt Dan Kirwan – retired living in Lincoln and working at Duncan Aviation in their avionics repair facility.

MSgt Bob Buck is retired, living in Papillion NE.

MSgt Sandy Reynolds retired from the Guard and is currently no-joy but presumed to be “occupying” a tent and singing the ills of capitalism.

TSgt Randy Millwood retired from the Guard and is currently playing Mr. Mom with his three children in Lincoln. In his spare time he walks around the neighborhood with the kids flirting with the other stay at home moms.

MSgt Mark Heithoff Mark left the Nebraska guard in 2010 but was picked up by the McConnell Reserve unit who must have been hard up for bodies. Last we heard he was getting ready to retire for good this summer.

Left the Boom Shop

MSgt Mary (Bundy) Baker-

Not really sure what the story with Mary is, she left her position in security, but is still a 1st shift for someone.

Capt. Andy Thimgan- “Walleye” left the Air National Guard to take a position 2 miles from his home in Rapid City, which sounds great until you hear that position is as a logistics officer in the Army Guard. I mean what are the chances they need a supply guy in Afghanistan for a year.

TSgt Kevin Block, he and his wife both left the Guard this to devote more time to their 3 children and civilian careers. Kevin has moved to Kearney and is an outage dispatcher for Nebraska Public Power District.

Agent John Gleisberg John is a field agent with the FBI. Called once wanting his government passport but we sold it to pay for the kegerator in the breakroom.

SSgt Kodi (Steckelberg) Ingle-traditional

Kodi and her husband Justin both transferred to the Sioux Falls ANG, Kodi is now a weather guesser. She still makes her way to Lincoln on occasion for parties, and to get away from the fighter guys in Sioux Falls.

SSgt Bill Scheele- whereabouts unknown but last time I bought underwear the tag said inspected by B. Scheele.

CMSgt Dwight Morehead- retired

Dwight is still working on finishing his house and drives a Bus for Pawnee County Public Schools. He thought it might be a nice change to only be responsible for 15 children instead of the boom corps.

SSgt Kelley Reese – active duty

Kelley returned to Active Duty and is a recruiter in Lincoln, then left for some unknown reason. We have many confirmed Kelly sightings at the Von Maur makeup counter.

Capt. Ben Navratil- in an effort to “Go Green” Ben left the Air Guard for a commission in the Army Guard, currently in charge of a Chemical unit out of Seward, and getting huge from all the weight lifting.

1Lt Joe Rodriguez-After” leaving” the Boom Shop for Greener pastures in the Army Guard rumors had it he was coming crawling back to the Air Guard after “forgetting to go to OTS” (evidently a prerequisite) caught up to him. No longer satisfied being all he could be, he is now an army of one.

MSgt Mike Hommen

Mike is still at Offutt as the head ASE in the backend of the RC-135.

MACDILL AFB, FL

91 ARS/ 6 OG/ 6 OSS



CMSgt Nathan Peachey – Chief Peachey is still the OG Superintendent here at Madill. Same ole Chief though when taking his last open book reminded us that some of the questions were still bad... then went to his library and showed us his IC-2001 Vol 3... Really, who has one of those still... Walt is on those corrections Chief!

CMSgt Todd Daniels – Chief Daniels has decided he has had enough of us and is moving to McConnell. Was great having in the Squadron Chief! See you in the Deid!

SMSgt Ed Penton – Squadron Superintendent. If Ed isn't in his office he's either trying to run his sailboat aground or jumping toolboxes on his motorcycle. Ed spends his week forwarding emails that have already been sent to everyone and his weekends up in panhandle working on his ranch and business. If he hasn't told you he retires next summer. But I am pretty sure he has...

MSgt Nate Hackney - Chief boom recently put on master. He enjoys long walks on the beach, staring at the deployment tracker and reminding everyone that he's a Master Sergeant now. "Why did you send your leave to TSgt Hackney, he doesn't work here anymore."

SrA Brittany Bahner - Brittany is new to the flying world, crossed over from supply. It's been said she can out drink any male boom in the sq. To make sure it was fair to the boys she's currently deployed to Manas to reduce her tolerance. Welcome to Madill.

SrA Fred Beacham – Superman wears Fred pajamas... Arrived in the last 8 months and has hit the ground running.. no literally I think he runs everywhere.... BTZ winner!! Ben Cobb asked if he wanted to do some Cross Fit with him, Fred's reply I don't do Cross Fit I do Fred Fit.. It must be working since he just beat 3 Navy SEALs in a pull-up contest at Manas. Ladies he is also a professional chef.... He cooks all the fish Sadler brings back from his weekend fishing trips.

MSgt Randy Bishop – Even though he is an Alabama fan this has to be one of the best SNCOs I have ever met. He has decided to stow the boom and will be retiring at the end of the year. It was great having him here for the second time; he has provided outstanding mentorship and leadership to all of us. You will be missed Randy! War Eagle Buddy!

SSgt John Brooks- Currently Broken.... John gives Boomhauer a run for his money in the mumbling department. He is so stealthy on a regular basis the Mx schedulers christened him 'Ninja'. A cowbell for his flight suit is on backorder.

A1C Travis Burnett – Gally's partner in crime. Has a permanent membership to the Redneck Yacht Club. Yeah I don't know what this is either.... Loves to take CDC tests so much so he did it twice! Cannot take him anywhere though still trying to figure out how he and Cobb spilled beer all over the WG/CCs kitchen.....

SrA Chris Cannon – No Chris, I don't want to do SABC tomorrow or teach it. The Kung Fu Panda just recently moved out of the dorms and is enjoying not having room inspections, and a bigger place to practice his Kung Fu.....

SrA Steven Caron: Caron likes his video games, especially World of Warcraft and Call of Duty. And don't forget the Dew please. If you ever run into Caron ask him to show you his sweet 80's dance moves. They've been known to clear dance floors. Caron is getting married in May, best of luck! Be worried folks Steven has been testing out new Skinny Pants for blues day..... He is hoping to get it added next uniform change.

SrA Bobby Cash - Used Match.com to find a girlfriend. Unfortunately he typed in the wrong zip code and found a girl in Washington State. He's matured a lot over the past year. Once he stopped taking pictures of himself in the bathroom mirror and posting them on Facebook we felt it was time to make him an instructor.

TSgt Benjamin Cobb - Fresh from Altus and a wealth of knowledge. Frightens the baby booms when he walks in the room. Run young ones! You will learn something about your job if you stay. He's fitting in nicely down here in Florida. Beware though...Sign at Angry Bear's Cave says Hibernating till 1 July...

SrA Nate Coburn - The funniest boom in the squadron, just ask him. Competed as the anchor on a 3 person CrossFit Challenge...Literally the anchor...Has a firm belief that the entire top of a B-52 is in fact a slipway. A recent addition to the Stan/Eval office. He enjoys numerous TDYs and getting picked up by his former high school classmates mothers in Vegas.

SrA Shaun Connors – Good news Girls... Shaun is finally out of the dorms so you can come out of hiding... He also a member of the I'm surprised they can still afford to put gas in their car club. When out and about, he can be found shamelessly hitting on every single girl at the bar.

A1C Leslie Davis – Kai's partner in crime, Leslie has been with us for just over a year and spent a decent amount of time on the road. When she's not TDY you can find her in the RA shop. I need a new headset. Has a knack for saying unintentional things at the worst time... At least she is finally adding "that's what she said" to everything.

SSgt Desire Dell – Finally been caught by the assignment people and is off to the CRG after hiding out in Florida for 6 years. Drives a truck bigger than Gally and every other guy on base, even knows how to park it. Enjoy the cold.. I mean your time at McGuire, Des.

SSgt Corey Dufresne - Escaped making omelets in the FSS to pass gas then go eat omelets. Has been seen yelling at DFAC Bread Ham Bread.... Not Ham Bread Ham.... Jeez do I need to come back there and make it? Been deploying and enjoying the job.

A1C Mike Dunn – Gave up a career as a ninja to do some boom operating. No clue where the heck he is half the time but somehow still manages to get everything done.

A1C Ryan Dyes - Ryan has been here for a little over a year now. If you've talked to him for longer than 5 minutes then you already know he's from Maryland and they have the best crabs. He enjoys explaining why everything from Maryland is the best and burning up the clutch in his new Jeep.

A1C Josh Eidson – Commonly confused with Standridge. Until you get to the softball field, he's the best player on the opposing side's team! He also enjoys long walks on the beach and hitting on the waitress at Wings Gone Wild, A/S/L?

TSgt Mike Fatone- Taught Pugsley everything he knew about Tactics, (aka how to hide) and then gets chained to his desk at Wing Scheduling. Now he sits around telling old timers' stories with Mr. Sawyers and Mr. Nelson when he isn't trying to get out of Sq PT. Just got orders to Travis! But hey at least you don't have to do ground training! Have Fun Mike, I know you will enjoy the AMOS!

SSgt Mark Fioritto – Hey, who let that raccoon in here?! Part of the “exactly would you say you do around here” Crowd. Mark, is assigned to the RA shop but it seems like a pretty easy job (insert response about not having any money here.) Just got orders to Altus so he can reunite with his buddy Marcus... Be ready to fly DNIF cover boom.

A1C Shawn Gallagher –Burnett's partner in crime always has a smile on his face and gets stuff done. Now if he would only learn how to park that big truck of his. Watch out he steals souls.....

SSgt Thomas January – Tom recently completed ALS and kicked ass with the John L. Levitow Award. He is a new evaluator and he seems like he enjoys it... maybe too much. His commitment is up in December but I'm holding out hope we get to keep him. UPDATE: decided to stay for a while re-enlisting!!! AF: 1 / Unemployment: 0

SrA Bobby Jones – Bobby already has a line number for CMSgt that is until he shaves his mustache and everyone sees how young he is. Bobby continues to raise the bar; he was recently the Sq/Gp Airman of the Year and just got selected to go on a Pentagon visit with the Wg/CCC. Bobby is also an assistant in Stan Eval, he really is running the show just doesn't really know it.

SrA Josh Kirkland - Has anyone seen Josh? Josh just got back from Altus and doing good things in the training shop. Call him if you need an apartment, he needs a new roommate. Hey dude, you want to go get some coffee?

MSgt Justin Konicke - Former Gucci boy came our way via teaching EAUC in San Antonio. Great dude! Justin just put on Master and working in the readiness shop. Already has this SNCO thing down if he is not standing by the coffee pot, he can be found down at Barista's Drive thru coffee joint on Gandy with Steve...

SrA Jaymee Logan - Tried to convince us that polar bears didn't live in Alaska. Selected BTZ and is passing gas and taking names. If Kentucky is playing you'll most likely find her glued to a television, but really who cares about Kentucky sports... Definite go to airman. Gets things done right the first time.

SMSgt Walt Markwas: Walt came to us from USAFE Stan/Eval at Ramstein. Was supposed to go to Semour but after ATA he found out he was headed to Macdill.... To Quote Kevin Garnett: “Anything is possible”... if you have knee pads. Walt loves it here so much so he volunteered for a deployment right after MCT! OGV is waiting for Walt to return so he can do some work towards us passing our ASEV in Nov.

SrA Patrick Muckey - A cat lady and future NASCAR mechanic. Quit smoking and seeing dollar signs. Just ask him how much he's saved, he has an app for that. My go to boom in training when I need something done... Eventually.

SrA Sean Mullaney – What's that red thing in the mobility shop? Oh that's just Sean's face. Another broken one who can't wait to be fixed. He's got to be ambidextrous, or maybe that's why his face is so red.

SSgt Dan Newcombe – Fearless NCOIC of the mobility shop. What's a folder review? He's been camped out here for a long time and finally got orders to Altus for the second time. He is excited for a change of scenery. Yay Applebee's! One piece of advice use the Drive thru at Pick Up Taco... you will thank me later!

SrA John Peña – Recent addition from the UK.. Looking to send him back.. I kid. Well maybe... Founder of the airmen with cars I'm surprised they can afford to still put gas in club. You'll find him sitting behind a computer in scheduling. Had a baby girl not long ago.

MSgt Nancy Primm - Nancy is our Resident Noah. Must ensure all her species are in proper homes before going TDY/Deployment. Nancy just moved over to OGT from Current Ops. Make sure you are ready to answer these questions when she calls... Okay, what's going on here? Well are they ready? Okay give me a call as soon as possible. What do you mean you don't want to fly with a student, Nancy?

SSgt Jose Prado - The strong silent type, you know, you can't find him at work because he's at the gym. Has been here forever like Desiree and by the time this is posted, will most likely have orders to Altus.

SSgt Chris Ramey - It's really true, third time is a charm. Chris became an instructor this year and is the A Flight NCOIC. Still not 100% sure he's actually stationed here though. Has anyone seen Chris? Chris found the key to his chastity belt while at Altus and is now ready to mingle ladies...Guys?

SSgt Andrew Reichard – President of the “What would you say you do around here?” club. Looking for a job if you have any leads hit him up.

SSgt Brandon Roberts – He doesn't look a day over 30. Good luck understanding what he's saying, he's what he refers to as a “Good ole country boy.” Hates sushi so much he left Kadena for Florida. Stuck in the abyss that is the mobility shop. On his time off he enjoys long walks on the beach and journeys through the world of Skyrim.

A1C Matt Sadler - New guy shows up in a different vehicle every week. How he convinces the young booms to let him watch their cars is beyond me... He spends his weekends back in West Palm, fishing and hanging out at the high-school. Keeps Beacham stocked with fresh fish to cook.

SrA Matt Scott - How do you string a guitar? I don't know how did you make it through Altus? Matt is a very special boom operator. A country boy from Tennessee you can't understand half the things he says. So we put him in safety.. His go to statement is “hey watch this” instead of using YouTube for funny safety videos he just acts them out himself..

A1C Jake Seibert - Just moved from self named “awesome” flight to readiness. Jake is a great guy, hard worker and source of entertainment. Go Jughead! He will be allowing all the other booms to use his hard earned leave if he screws up the leave book again... Simple things Jake!!!

A1C Zach Standridge – One of the broken ones. Much better than his brother Eidson at softball, but isn't that a girls sport anyways? Sad news we will be losing this outstanding Airman to medical retirement this year. It has been a pleasure having him in the 91st!!!!

A1C Kainoa Stevens - Kai has been busy on the road. Seems like moving someone to the scheduling shop is the easiest way to get them to take a deployment. She is the only one in the squadron who can properly pronounce Hawaii. Just wish she would stop calling us all “Haoles”

SSgt Phil “Frenchy” St Pierre-finally escaped the gravitational pull of the 91st only to join the Dark Side (Wing Scheduling) of the Force. Let his Geek Flag fly within days and had all of Current Ops AND Mx rocking out to a paperless process. His girlfriend is still the much better cook than he and he's semi-man enough to admit it.

SSgt Stephen Swann - The most handsome boom ever, next to Dave Thoresen. So handsome that he got selected for promotion to civilian! Off to become one of those accountant people. Give him a call if you need help finding tax loopholes in a few years. (This is what happens when you allow Steve to help you write this)

SSgt Ryan”Pugsley” Thomas- Had no trouble convincing the 91st they were better off letting him go to Tactics. He’s so good, we haven’t seen him since. We’ve had an APB on him since last Fall and the face on the milk carton isn’t too far behind.

A1C Alex VanBuren - Came in the Air Force with his bachelors already completed. Somehow the recruiter got him to join enlisted anyways. Waiting to hear back about an OTS packet he submitted. With how fast he goes through rotary engines and his wife about to give birth I’m sure he could use the extra money.

A1C Danielle Warren – DWOW is a Jersey girl that’s fresh out of Altus. Her hobbies include Jersey Shore, Fist Pumping, learning how to pump her own gas, and GTL. Hopefully she gets an FTAC date sometime this year so we can get her completed with MCT and out the door. Welcome to Florida!

A1C Maria Wilson - Has the same kind of Jeep as Dyes but knows how to drive it! Maria has stayed on the a fair amount since her arrival about a year ago.

TSgt Aaron Widener – Aaron disappeared to the wing building and is working as the command chief’s assistant. Won’t be surprised if he when he comes back to the squadron he has a southern accent. I asked Aaron when he could fly his response was “LIKE.A.BOSS” still trying to figure that one out. By the way thanks for deploying last year to Curacao...

Mr. Booms:

SrA Greg Appleton – Recently selected for promotion to civilian. Greg is moving out to Arizona. Best of luck in the civilian world dude! By the way if you see him tell him he still owes “the man” some money....

MSgt Bob Boettcher – NASCAR Bob retired earlier this year. We weren’t sure if he actually had retired though since he could be spotted checking his email while his CAC card was still active. Even though he was only here for a short time it was great having Bob in the Squadron, kind of like that uncle that told stories all day! You will be missed Bob! Have a good retirement.

MSgt Bert Fristad – After retiring last summer, Bert, just like Lebron took his talents and tight shirts to South Beach... South Beach AI UDeid that is... Rocking it out there as a contractor, tell him “Hi” for us if you see him!

MACDILL AFB, FL

63 ARS

ARRG! (Air Refueling Reserve Guys)



Greetings all,

Another busy year has passed and no end in sight. Missed last year's boom signal because of a busy deployment schedule, were busy shopping for rugs and shotguns with a brief redeploy "downrange" to Bulgaria. We have disposed of our old "temporary" trailers we used as our squadron ops and have moved into our new building. A very nice improvement from the DRMO furniture and the intermittent sewage system we were accustomed to. We can't wait for things to slow down but I don't see that happening anytime soon, more AEF stuff in our future.

ASSIGNED BOOMS

MSgt Thomas "Crack-A-Lackin" Black – (TR) Thomas was PEP'ed to MSgt this year! Spends the majority of his time running his aviation school. We hope no ladies take lessons with T Black Aviation... giggity, giggity!

MSgt Bruce Clemmer – (ART) Bruce is considered the smartest aviator on base. Now in mission development, he spends the majority of his time looking up Oregon Duck football stats online.

TSgt Phillip Costine – (ART) Phil was hired on as an ART and got promoted this year. Single handedly runs the UDM shop for the wing. Has been on long term DNIF for a shoulder injury. He really enjoys his time with his male physical therapist.

SrA Andy Deck – (TR) Andy gave the Reserves a valiant try, but has decided to move on to take advantage of some great opportunities offered to him. He will be going IRR and becoming a full time student.

SSgt Omar Ellis – (TR) We think his party days might be behind him now that he has graduated with his BFA, but most likely he will always find a way to surprise us. Only boom that the Wing CC knows by name... that can't be good!

SrA Chris Fallon – (TR) Chris did the proverbial Touch-N-Go here and has now moved on to be a full time firefighter.

CMSgt John Fill – (ART) Chief Boom Operator. While not at work he is usually staying safe "inside the wire" of the gated community where he lives. Recently found out he was going to be a father. Time to sell his airplane.

TSgt Trevor Halpain – (ART) Trevor is the NCOIC of Training. He is still ~~bitching and moaning about everything~~...I mean, he informs us of process improvement ideas. He has been offered a position at Altus and looks like a PCS is in his near future.

SSgt Nate Hooper – (TR) Hoop is still a full time student but manages to help us out flying during the week or taking a trip when he can fit it in. He shows up on time at least 50% of the time. Spends his weekends racing his BMW.

TSgt Matthew Janson (TR/ART wannabe) – “Mattie J” just graduated college with his marketing degree. Trying to become an ART to pay for his sailboat. Obviously he learned nothing in college. Is the squadron comedian and can impersonate anyone.

MSgt John “Hot Meal” Mercer – (TR) – John is doing great things here and at HQ. They are always asking him to come up there and help dust off the cob webs of some old program that has been sitting on a shelf. He recently got engaged to a beautiful South African girl. Hopefully she never learns English so she stays married to him.

MSgt Johnny Pullen – (ART) He is in wing scheduling now. He is always looking to go on a trip to escape the office craziness. He still fly’s on every mission we can’t fill. Married his long term love Aon, who cooks up all the local cats and dogs for the spicy Thai concoctions Johnny loves so much.

CMSgt Bob Renn – (ART) 927 OG/OGV – Bob spends most of his time at work enlightening the rest of the booms about how dumb the majority of the world is.

SMSgt Greg Ringel – (TR) Greg is a former ART and is sticking it out with us as a traditional reservist, riding the UTA shuttle down from Michigan and going on a trip here and there. I think he spends more time traveling for his civilian job with the Army. Will empty the squadron of beer in a single UTA weekend.

MSgt Pete “Stu-y” Stulginski – (ART) Pete is our current body scheduler. We recently upgraded him to instructor. He and his wife recently had their second child, a baby girl. Hardest worker in the squadron... doesn’t realize he is in the reserves!

TSgt Lance “Juice” Welch – (TR) Leaving the boom career field to become the first boom-to-pilot in 63rd history. We are excited for him to come back to us. Hope the extra cash he will be making will pay for all the hair products he uses. Voted best looking boom by himself.

SSgt Robert “Poncho Villa” Willis – (TR) Robert is our newest addition. He stumbled a little with requalification, but he was busy with his lawn mowing business. He has since proven that with a little incentive, 2 pesos a week, he is one of the most dedicated booms we have!

That’s it from the “Premier Associate Wing in the Air Force Reserve Command” here at MacDill AFB. Until next year, may you all have smooth and precise contacts!!

MADRID, SPAIN

CASS/ADSI MADRID TEAM

“Aliquam quocumque loco, magna eros”



ADSI has completed 3 years of training development, and flight test activities supporting the newest and most advanced Tanker on the market the A330-MRTT (including the RAAF KC-30A <http://www.airforce.gov.au/aircraft/kc30a.aspx>). This project which is covered under a U.S State Department approved Technical Assistance Agreement (TAA) has been very challenging and rewarding. I can tell you it's very cool to fly a brand new airplane, some of which are loaded with every possible commercially available option. I know the KC-10 boys were called the "Gucci Boys", but there is a new gang on the block called the "Armani Boys". We have to date graduated 2 RAAF ARO classes (12 ARO) and one RSAF class (3 ARO's). There are 9 additional ARO students currently in the pipeline. We reached a mile stone last year by fully qualifying the 1st 3 MRTT ARO's from the RSAF! Business is booming and not showing sign of slowing down, in fact it's picking up. If you find yourself in Madrid and want to share some war stories and a few cold ones drop me a line.

Cheers

Pete Abraldes

Madrid Site Manager and Instructor/Flight Test Boom Operator

aabraldes@cass.aero

Here is our Cadre

Jake Benscoter, Executive VP and Project Manager (Retired, KC-10/KC-135A Boomer)

This is the second Job Jake has gotten me; Jake is the man to contact if you're interested in a possible future position.

Pete Abraldes, Madrid MRTT Site Manager, Team Leader (Retired, KC10/KC135 Boomer)

Arrived in Jan 2009, was supposed to be here 6 months.....oh well at least the wine is excellent and the sights are spectacular!!

Gary Plain goes by G (Retired, KC10/KC135 Boomer)

Arrived in Jan 2009, has been having fun learning Spanish from a nice Spanish teacher☺. He is our resident Apple IT support section.

John Reiglesberger, (Retired, KC10/KC135 Boomer) Goes by Cosmo, Slow Draw, Big Mex, pick the one you like and he will answer to it.

Arrived Jan 2010, was great boost for us to help complete the Initial Qualification Course.

He is our walking calendar and Lunch monitor. Please ask him about the old days in the 135.

John Brannen, (Retired, KC10/KC135 Boomer) goes by Bravo, students named him Shadow

Arrived May 2011, Hit the ground running with our faculty training course and has not stopped.

Bravo has been doing a bang up job. He is our resident bouncer.

Keith Van Camp, (Retired, KC10/KC135 Boomer) goes by Jiffy

Arrived May 2011, Like Bravo, he hit the ground running with our faculty training course and has not stopped. Jiffy has been doing a great job with the students. Has been having a lot of fun with his new mountain bike, if he could only learn to stay on it.



//Signed//

Jacob “Jake” Benscoter
Executive VP and Chief Boom
CASS/ADSI
www.cass.aero

MARCH ARB, CA
336 ARS
“FIRST AND THE FINEST”
HOME OF THE RRATS: RIVERSIDE REFUELING AND TRANSPORT
SQUADRON



Greetings to all the boom operators around the world. As I write this email for the 2012 edition of the Boom Signal, it is Memorial Day and myself and a handful of merry men and women from March are handily winning the war from the land of “Chicken Tava.” Quick update: this location has a couple of new downtown menu additions in the form of “Cat Tava” and “Frog Tava.” Yum.Yum.

Additionally, some of my folks are truly fighting the war in the land of 12 hour sorties and two beers a night. My hats off to them! Miss you guys.

Generally speaking, I could probably take the introductory paragraphs from the last 15 years of Boom Signals, and the message would be the same: busy, busy, busy. So busy, we had to borrow a boom from the McConnell folks to help cover our stuff back at home. Thanks Kathy and Troy! So busy, that between the comings and goings of our deployments – I forget what some of my boom operators look like. As matter of fact.....we are so busy – (insert “how busy Deb?”) that I haven’t been able to have a boom meeting on a UTA with all the boom operators in attendance. I hate that part the most!

Luckily for us, we have our active duty brothers (still no sisters yet) from the 912 ARS to help with the hectic goings-on at home. We love these guys to pieces. Sometimes, when SMSgt Jacobs isn’t looking, I try to coax his booms into coming over to the dark side. I thought I had one of them convinced until he did the Southern California formula of trougher + apartment + college calculation. Now he’s scared. That’s okay; living in California is not for the squeamish! I am pretty sure though, that I have the “ladies” (I use that term loosely of course) of the 336th talked in to hiring Pat Martin, JP and Dan Beecher – if for nothing else then just to make the 336 ARS boom shop prettier. Wait... did I just say that?

All kidding aside, I am still amazed that I get paid to do what I do. I am the MFWIC (see Urban Dictionary for definition) for the **BEST** bunch of boom operators in this great Air Force. Plus, just when I thought I had all I could ever want, I get the pleasure of working with SMSgt Paul Jacobs and his splendid collection of folks.

I live and serve in the land of the free and I am so thankful.

Thank you to MSgt Erin Brotsch for authoring the 2012 Boom Signal. A fine job as usual.

Thanks to MSgt Burns at Scott AFB for putting the Boom Signals together for all us. Most definitely a labor of love.

To all of the past and present booms reading this – thank you for everything you do and for upholding our proud and unique traditions of aerial refueling.

Deb McGuane

CMSgt McGuane, Deb “Hey, Did You Sign Off the 1800?” – Deborah.McGuane@us.af.mil. (ART/Chief Boom) *Finally*, our Chief is as they say “livin the dream” since the clock struck midnight on September 17, 2011. As always, she manages to balance her Chiefly duties with being the sh*t screen for her boom operators and a boom herself. We think it’s probably the wine....Oh and the best Chief EVER! (No really!)

SMSgt Canada, Nicole “No One Look at My Hair after the NORI” – Nicole.Canada@us.af.mil. (Traditional) SMSgt Canada unselfishly stayed behind this rotation to ensure that our alert money would still be there when the rest of us got home. Recently kicked some boy booty by “sweeping” the Squadron Sweet 16 College Basketball Bracket\$. In her words “Girls Rule.”

SMSgt Horner, Ken “Hey, You Sign Up on DTS Yet?” – Kenneth.Horner@us.af.mil (ART/Pay/Soon to be UDM). With SMSgt Sammons coming back to Ops Stan/Eval, Ken has had to slum it back in the squadron. Has taken on the DTS beast and learning the UDM noose, err, ropes. Pretty sure when he figures out the hypnosis thing we are all screwed or at least walking around like chickens and barking like dogs.

SMSgt Sammons, Brian “Boomerang” – Brian.Sammons.1@us.af.mil. (ART/Ops Stan Evil). After many months of hard work and empty promises, Brian has made it back to the trenches with the rest of us. We hope that his stint in Logistics (or whatever secret squirrel stuff) will not leave any lasting damage. Glad to have him back with us.

SMSgt Scott, Aaron “That’s Mr. Scott to You” – Aaron.Scott.7@us.af.mil. (Traditional). When he is not keeping the friendly skies friendly, Aaron can be found doing administrative things round the squadron. Volunteered to work staff duty the entire deployment rotation, smart move - the C-17s in Turkey are dangerous.

SMSgt Stidham, Phillip “Hot Legs and Fast Cars” – Phillip.Stidham@us.af.mil. (ART/Sq Stan/Evil). Phil continues to make the girls in the office weak in the knees with his sexy gym shorts. His favorite past time is driving around in his sports car looking down on the rest of us. He is like a shark, always ready to kill but if you can flip him upside down you may see a softer side.

MSgt Allen, Michael “Speed Savage” – Michael.Allen.17@us.af.mil. (ART/UDM). After MANY, MANY successful deployments and exercises, the authorities are giving Mike a reprieve from UDM duties and going to let Mike try some other duties. This gets him back to doing what he does best and loves to do – being a boom.

MSgt Brotsch, Erin “Liz Taylor Ain’t Got Sh*t On Me” – Erin.Brotsch.1@us.af.mil. (ART/Flightline Driver’s License/an Misc. Duties). One of the trios that has joined the “Boom Getting Hitched Club” club (again!!). Since finishing her Master’s and IB school, she has been trying to adjust to not having to write papers and studying. Don’t worry, that lack of stress you miss will be replaced by going to work in the UDM shop.

MSgt Irish, John “Where the Fk are my Flight Meals”** – John.Irish@us.af.mil. (Traditional). One of the hardest working booms in the unit and rarely without a sunny disposition. Just please remember to feed him, you will not like him when he is hungry.

MSgt Johnson, Dorian “That Guy” –Dorian.Johnson.3@us.af.mil. (Traditional). One of those guys that has a REAL job on the outside. Has probably been TDY to Hawaii more times than you.

MSgt Preston, Tim “On the Road” – Timothy.Preston.1@us.af.mil. (Traditional). Keeps the squadron in the digital age despite the Comm folk’s best effort. Tim is one of our go to guys when it comes to, well, just about everything.

MSgt Ramirez, Robert “No, it’s Not Like That” – Robert.Ramirez.8@us.af.mil (Traditional) Same old Rob...living the vida loca with wine, women, and songs or was it work, traffic, and Wednesday night flights?

MSgt Sell, Yvonne “Bling” – Yvonne.Sell.1@us.af.mil. (ART/Training) Recently transitioned from body scheduling duties to training flight duties. Spends her days making sure we are trained and ready to fly.

TSgt Bradbury, John “Blackberry” – John.Bradbury@us.af.mil. (Traditional). Still making the ladies blush and the men envious.

TSgt Castro, Osvaldo “Mad Skills” – Osvaldo.Castro@us.af.mil. (ART/Scheduling). Another of the “gettin’ hitched” trio. When he is not making the schedule on an Etch-a-Sketch, he is studying PME or getting prepared to get his MBA. Oh, and his basketball skills are on fire! Really, they evacuate the whole gym when he plays. Luckily, he is good at basketball, because he sure isn’t winning any awards in the Fit to Fight category.

TSgt Long, Bob “Sir Hops A Lot” – Robert.Long.18@us.af.mil. (Traditional). One tough cookie. Took a co-pilot seat to the knee during take-off and flew the mission with nothing but a semi-cold “Coke a Cola compress” for the pain.

TSgt Parker, Joe “Still The Next Big Thing to Happen” – William.Parker.23@us.af.mil. (Traditional). Despite the regulations and the Chief, Joe has taken it upon himself to make faux hawks an acceptable way to wear your hair in uniform. Wait... did I just hear him ask the Chief to borrow her curling iron....?

SSgt Haymond, Bob “Cool Hand” – Robert.Haymond.1@us.af.mil. (Traditional). Looking at the greener pastures of civilian life. Look for the great big smile as he places you under arrest in the near future.

SSgt Kline, Apphia “Momma Phi” – Apphia.Kline.1@us.af.mil. (Traditional). Celebrating her first Mother’s Day this year (probably on alert). When she is not taking care of one of the cutest kids on the planet, she can be found flying, pulling alert, and helping in pay.

SSgt Mossbarger, Terry “I Didn’t Go Through Instructor School to be Called MB” – Terry.Mossbarger.1@us.af.mil. (Traditional). TJ is still trying to get the Altus stench off of him but still insists that everyone call him IB.

SrA Beverly, Corin “Baby Boom” – Corin.Beverly@us.af.mil. (ALCF). Even though she technically doesn’t belong to us, we are glad to have her with us. She is probably the only boom to make Phil’s eyes water (tears of joy) during a cargo eval.

Former RRATS

CMSgt Dunning, Bob – chiefdun@hotmail.com. (Retired) Aircrew Training System Specialist at the March SIM.

CMSgt Hamer, Steve – s.hamer@verizon.net or chiefboomer@yahoo.com. (Retired).

CMSgt Massey, Curt – clmassey135@roadrunner.com. (Retired)

SMSgt Walker, Maurice – batman2608@aol.com. (Retired)

MSgt Baxter, Robert “Beans” – Rbaxter336@gmail.com. (Retired)

MSgt Evans, Maggie – beamsac@aol.com. (Retired) One of many Boom Operators in her family. Living the good life with her handsome husband Lee, and her beautiful kids and grandkids.

MSgt O’Rourke, B.J. – flyfish4goldens@yahoo.com (Retired)

MSgt Siemer, Ralph – (Retired) Since retiring, Ralph has gotten married and spends his days making fun of the rest of us for having to participate in UTAs, exercises, and other “not-so-fun” parts of being a boom. We miss you Ralph!

SSgt Casey, Andrew – (separated). Rumor has it he is coming back to being a boom...

SSgt Imaizumi, Roberto “Bwoosh” – (Separated). What can you say about Zumi that won’t be censored? Since getting out, Zumi has had the world wrapped around his little finger. We miss him terribly and wish him (even greater) success!

SSgt (maybe SrA) Sprague (Evans), Patsy – Patschris@yahoo.com (Separated) – Daughter of Maggie and Lee Evans. Did just a touch and go with the RRATS. Moved on to marry a Boom Operator and raise two great kids! Even though we selfishly hated to lose her – I am sure she will say she made the right choice. And sorry Patsy – I couldn’t remember what rank you were when you got out – so I put them both. ☺

MARCH ARB, CA
912 ARS
“HOLLYWOOD TANKERS”



Greetings from the 912 Air Refueling Squadron! We are affectionately known as the “Hollywood Tankers”, yes, it is due to our proximity to Hollywood. We have been fully operational for nearly one year. The ops tempo is high but the morale is higher. The 336 ARS has been a blast to work with as well. Virtually all of the local flying and ground training has both active and reserve crewmembers represented. They have made this past year a very enjoyable experience. If anyone is in town, swing by and we will have a beverage of your choice.

SMSgt Paul Jacobs – Superintendent, Chief Boom

Paul is on top of the world and living the American dream. He bought a little slice of heaven in Murrieta where he’s known to host wild all-nighters. Just don’t tell his wife...When he’s not racing down road on one of his infamous motorcycle rides, he’s racing half marathons. Everyone admires Paul’s common sense approach. He’s doing a great job keeping the booms in line and moving in the right direction.

MSgt Dan Beecher, NCOIC OGV

Dan is the best Boom Operator in the AF! I’m writing this so I can say whatever I want about myself... I work with an outstanding group of active/reserve booms and pilots and I’m enjoying every day. Fortunately, sunny SoCal isn’t half bad either.

TSgt Jon Brown, NCOIC Scheduling

Jon is guiding our booms with his knowledge from his last deployment experience...5 years ago! His enthusiasm for squadron booster clubs and maximizing office redundancy are among his greatest attributes. Sgt Brown is a people first supervisor: "Hey Sgt Brown, I have a doctor apt. tomorrow morning." Jon says, "I don't care." "Okay, I just wanted to let you know in case someone came looking for me." "If someone comes looking for you...how would that affect me?"

TSgt Pat Martin – NCOIC Training

Pat is a hard charger who gets the job done and is definitely our most intense boom. I'm not quite sure where he finds all his time and energy. Between deployments, training for Mr. Olympia and hooking up with our CSS girl, he stays busy. He's roommates with JP and they have been known to argue over drape colors and candle scents and such.

(T)Sgt JonPierre "JP" aka "Frenchy" Castech – NCOIC DOV

JP is currently "deployed" to a little island in the Caribbean. He does great things on and off duty. He has even offered up his yard as a toilet bowl for all the neighborhood dogs. JP recently "deployed" to Nellis AFB where he tested the durability of his manhood and limited edition Yamaha R1 by allowing a limo to crash into him. JP walked away laughing.

SSgt Levi Knepper – Scheduling

When he's not defending his sideburns, he's schooling pilots on show time regulations. Levi works hard in scheduling to finish his work before lunch, just to have it undone by a pilot named "ridiculous". Levi is the only boom who rides a puny 600, I guess he likes the rear view, so to speak.

SSgt Jon Fleming- NCOIC Mobility

Jon has been valiantly trying to make it to the top of every "dumb-ass" list in the Wing. In astounding feet of buffoonery, he finally achieved it in April 2012 when the Ops Sup attempted to send him a congratulatory email. It came back "This user's inbox is full and is not accepting any more emails". Congratulations, Jon! You should start updating your resume. If only hosting a Minecraft Server paid a living wage...

SSgt Steven Felger - Scheduling

Steven has managed to blow off a majority of his boom duties in order to attempt to become a black belt in Air Force efficacy...efficiency...elegancy...whatever! After that failed, he started his own company, "Living Ruff L.L.C." This company sells Steven's Salty Fruity Balls. So much work with so little time....It's a lot for one man to handle but Steven has found some creative ways to combat all this stress...

SSgt Shawn Racchini – Training Flight

Shawn does great things in Training Flt while getting workout tips from Pat. I think Pat rubbed off on him... Shawn is losing a family member (Jon) in June and gaining a new one at the end of summer. Congrats to Shawn and his wife Jess! The loss of sleep and lack of money will be good for Shawn, it will build character.

SrA Bruce "Batman" Freed – Mobility Flight

Bruce has risen to the ranks from "Boom Master" to "Brew Master". He brewed one of the best damn beers I've ever tasted. When he's not brewing beer he's testing the operational limitations of the boom. The theory that the boom will crunch like an accordion, well, Bruce laid that theory to rest. Bruce and Jon will be renting a house together fully equipped with a video game room.

INBOUND

A1C Justin Davis – He is scheduled to arrive in June and is our first boom straight out of Altus.

MCCONNELL AFB, KS

22 ARW

Ducemus- “We Lead”



Greetings from the “Sunflower” state and home to the 22nd Air Refueling Wing, the USAF’s largest KC-135 Wing! Like the rest of the 135 community, 2011 was an incredible year for the booms at McConnell. This past year our community has experienced the highest ops tempo in the KC-135’s history while establishing a record 46k hour flight year, 5,800 missions flown with the average crewmember being deployed a 184 days. The 22 OG had the honor and privilege of “fueling the fight” for 3 separate AORs this past year. We helped open/close the 1st ever 135 FOB while concluding our Iraqi Freedom/New Dawn mission. Our “Enduring” mission over the skies of Afghanistan continues with hundreds EKIA’d while supporting a like wise numbers of TICs. The 22 ARW’s boom force also helped depose a brutal dictator while supporting our coalition forces over the desert of Libya during Operation Unified Protector. Through hard work and dedication to duty, our booms secured numerous accolades to include the General Carl A. Spaatz trophy to the 384 ARS and the SMSgt Albert E. Evans Award to the 344 ARS for 2011.

On a sad, but joyous note, CMSgt Michael Adams retired this year, after 26 years of service to his country and Air Force. His dedication and love for his craft have been charged to the next generation of boom operators and Airman.

We’ll that’s about it for this year. If you are ever passing through the area, dropping in for a tail swap, or diverting into here from your flight at Altus “by the sea”, drop in and say Hi. The boom operators of the “Fighting” 22 ARW are always ready and willing. Fly Safe! We’ll “keep the light on” and a cold one in the fridge.

Lonny A. Hall, CMSgt, USAF
Operations Group Superintendent

CMSgt (Ret) Michael "Mikey" Adams- (CCM) Our fearless "OG Tribal Leader" returned to us from his yearlong assignment to the ROK to help us pass our ORI and then retire from AD. Fortunately for McConnell and the boom career field he will continue to serve training current and future boom operators as a CAE BOWST Instructor. Best wishes & good luck...your leadership and inspiration will be sorely missed.

MSgt Cliff Bond- (OGV) Left his happy home as the 349th Ops Supt and now is the man in OGV. "How many steps are there to put out an FCIF?" "How many aircraft configs do we have?"

MSgt(s) Ralph "Hoff-brau" Hoffmann - (OGV) Sending more emails each day on new FCIF's with R.K. Ward and trying not to go bonkers. "It's 92 damned steps to put out a FCIF! We need to go back to stone tablets. What EFBs, we don't need technology; we still have a whiskey compass"

Mr. Rodney "RK Hotrod" Ward- (OGV) Retired from the active duty boom world a couple of years back, but missed it so much he decided to come back for more. Currently our GS OGV Chief "Know it all". RK is the lynchpin of OGV, too bad he burned up all his leave for this year playing the Space-A gig by getting stuck in Hawaii.

MSgt(s) Drew "Old Salty" Sottovia- (XPO) Recently left the squadron to take over Dot Com's job at XP. It's good to see that he's holding a position that harkens back to the Ol' SAC Days, even if he denies that he's THAT old. Also, he recently had another boy and challenged Chadwick (350th) again; check back in a year for more news of the baby battle royal between the two.

MSgt(s) Robert Hansen – (XPO) A few months in the 349th and was then sent out to help another section, keeping the nuke mission going from XP. Has an IQ like Einstein proving that you can study the PDG TOC and make MSgt.

Mr. Stephen "The Yav" Yavornitzki- (XPO) Still the "Coach" of XP, when properly tied to his chair he's capable of giving at least 10 commands a minute. He daily manages 100 different tasks and has moved beyond the post-it note stage and has become completely omniscient. Walks around at a 6-minute mile pace and has been known to have a full on conversation with you as he walks by your office door. Yav's fast pace is offset by occasionally treating the shop to breakfast and continuous classic rock streaming from his stereo.

MSgt Jesse "Hahvahd Yahd" Meagher- (OST) Currently attached to OST. He's the one that makes sure that new Booms know that it's possible to say "Breakaway" without any "r's". Has a really nice Dodge Station Wagon, which used to have new black rims. But he thought they needed some chrome so he fixed that while pulling up to get his I.D. checked.

TSgt Charles Adams – (Tactics) Continues to kill the Karaoke and has another girlfriend for this year. The 349th tries not to mix them up during squadron events. Landed a mythical Tactics gig in the Vault.

SSgt Patrick Murray – (OG Mobility) Was the 349th NCOIC of training and the instructor harassing everyone to get their training done. Just got picked up to be the NCOIC OG Mobility, easy job title when he is the only enlisted.

Mr. Aaron "Smitty" Smith- (OG Mobility) Separated from the Air Force only to continue fighting the good fight as a temp GS employee in OG Mobility. Due to win the lottery any day now and when he does he plans to distribute his winnings amongst his boom brethren...and buy a boat.

22 OGS



SOAR:

TSgt Joseph Cofield- Joe has been in the shop for over a year now and starts twitching whenever cargo is mentioned. We fear he may never be a proper boom operator again. He goes completely catatonic when we mention CRW is looking for bodies. In his free time, he enjoys his man cave and semi bachelorhood, because his sugar momma wife still always seems to be deployed.

TSgt Aaron Meadows- Went from OST to SOAR, how the frick did he do that? Now carries the Donarski whoopin' stick. He has fit in well here (we're all a little strange) and is having a good time. He was a little upset when we told him he would still have to babysit booms and mx now. When he's not partying on MLAT's he spends time with his fiancé. Congratulations Aaron!

SSgt Jesse Wright- Comes to us from the Dirty Birds (aka 344th ARS). He found out during an extended deployment and started dancing a jig. Mental health probed him for awhile then sent him our way. In his off time he plays bus driver for his kiddos and tackling the mile long honey do list he has avoided for the last year. Earns extra cash by working part time selling Girl Scout Cookies (don't ask)....He has requested to deploy ASAP.

Mr. Ken Crowe (IB retired)- Ken is the gate keeper for SOAR building and must be a distant relation to Gandolf the Grey. Nobody and I mean nobody gets past Ken. He has even jacked up the Wing CC. He loves regaling the Lt's with his "back in my day" stories. In his off time he is preparing for a bike across Kansas event. We will sure miss the old guy.

Mr. Mike Sage (IB retired)- Backbone of the SOAR shop. He spends his days planning all of our local SOAR missions and trying to keep the Captains in the shop in line. Key word, trying. Crew's still haven't learned not to be late for one of his mission briefs and often receive lecture and story about "5 minutes early is on time here in the Strategic Air Command"....don't tell him we're AMC now.

MCCONNELL AFB, KS

344 ARS

“RAVENS”

2011 SMSgt Albert L. Evans

“Most Outstanding Air Refueling Section of the Year “



Squadron Superintendent- SMSgt Wolfe, John- That's right he's a SMSgt. now. He has been keeping the booms in the squadron running like a well-oiled machine. His leadership led the 344th Booms to earning the SMSgt. Albert Evans Award. He was cut to deploy, but rather the Air Force decided to send him to Kadena. Well I guess our loss is their gain. Best of luck!!

Operations Superintendent- MSgt Hoornstra, Olivia- Yep the one and only is now back here at McConnell and choose the right squadron to go to this time. She and her family left Edwards and made the trip to McConnell this year. She has been a great addition to the squadron and has tackled just about everything but the commander.

Readiness Superintendent- MSgt Hardesty, Anthony- He put on MSgt. this year and also went to Altus for CFIC. He is just about as sharp as an IB as you can get, and really stepping up and working some new programs. His CDC program has really turned the airman into CDC masters.

TSgt Toney, Kevin- Toney is doing great and is hitting up some CFIC. He put on Tech this year and got selected for a CFIC slot. Still working in Mobility and leading young booms, while keeping us in a constant state of readiness.

TSgt. Haas, Jonathan- New to McConnell and fresh out of being re-blued in his recruiting gig, he is getting his feet wet in Training. Although still learning the job he is putting his best foot forward. The best is yet to come from Haas, and after running the BOWST burn in we are looking for the best from him.

SSgt. Titworth, Christopher (Tits)- Has been tackling the scheduling shop. He is working hard on keeping folks on the road and flying all while running like Forest Gump. He works out about 4-5 days a week and is ready for any zombie attack that may come his way.

SSgt. Hunsinger, Matthew- Matt has come to us from the 384th/OST world.. He is now in charge of our Stan/Eval program and is getting that nice and tight. We are looking for great things out of him and some good evals to come.

SSgt. Brister, Cody- Cody is looking hard at getting to Altus. He was running the Safety shop for a while but is moving up in life and heading out of the squadron to an attached job. If he could just click his heels and get him out of Kansas and to Oklahoma he would be a happy guy.

SSgt. Gidaly, Nicholas- Brand new here and already hard at work in scheduling. He just completed ALS and pinned on Staff. And is ready to hit road and see the world. Don't worry we will have him on the road in no time. We are glad to have him and to have another NCO in the squadron.

SSgt. Bahr, Nathan (Nate)- Nate got a little tired of being a square patch'er so he made the move over to the A-team. After moving from the 384th, he has been working in training flight and getting some fools current and qualified in the BOWST. Nate has been a great addition to the squadron, even though he tried to drop the Al Evans Trophy.

SSgt. Masiak, Blazej - Masiak is done with working in finance and ready to be a boom. Although it took us almost 2 months to get him night fighters, he is now fully qualified. Working in Mobility has been keeping him busy. The hardest part about having him in the squadron is trying to figure out how to pronounce his name correctly.

SrA Hudson, Marcus- Marcus has just returned from his CFIC learn on. Went on a 90 day "TDY" to OST getting the "newbies" up to speed. Worked long hours over there and not being able to go TDY, was driving him a little crazy.

SrA Confer, Dustin "Pinecone"- Dustin is just back from CFIC. He is working hard in training and getting spun up on what to do. We will be losing him soon to OST for a short period of time but will get him back and in the swing of things. Recently informed that you cannot get a PHA while you're TDY at Altus for CFIC.

SrA Ermel, Lorane- She put on SrA this year and also got married. She no longer goes by Porter. Even though a lot of us call her "Pormel", she does take it in stride. About to hit the road again, she has been working hard in Mobility. A SrA with a bright future.

SrA Joachim, Adam- Adam has not been around the squadron much. Seems like he loves being on the road, or at least we seem to keep him on the road. Found a 2nd home at the gym getting his biceps bigger and working hard in scheduling when not deployed.

SrA Mertens, Steve- Mertens is working hard for the commander in the exec shop. I know it sounds crazy, but he actually enjoys it.. He has been keeping on the road and working hard to keep Sqd EPR's on schedule.

SrA Monahan, L.J- Monahan is also another exec shop guru, although it's not clinging to him like the "Mert". He has been on the road just like the rest of us and has been seeing the world. We are hoping he makes Staff so that we can upgrade him to run the exec shop.

SrA White, Robert- Rob was for a little while the lone wolf in Stan/Eval. Currently has some help now and is still working on keeping up. It seems that when he so badly wanted to the FOB, that he didn't want to leave, cause he got left behind after the last jet.

SrA Childs, Liahna- She is the newest addition from Kadena. We are glad to have her working in training flight. She is fitting right in and working hard.

A1C Reed, Christopher- Reed is not much for tail support stands. He was putting one in and decided to drop it on his head. After some blood, a couple staples and a brain exam he seems to be doing fine. We just don't let him touch the tail stand without wearing his helmet. Currently lighting up training flight and doing a great job.

A1C Targos, Corey- Lil' Targos is doing well. He is fully qualified and destroyed his CDC tests. Has been constantly on the road and seeing the world. Another training flight guru on the rise.

A1C Italiano, Chris- Italiano is a busy bee. He has been on the road more than a race car driver and doing a great job at it. He is working in Mobility. Another TDY road warrior.

A1C Roames, Ashley- Where to begin with her. After it has taken her half of her enlistment to get her security clearance, we got her qualified and ready to deploy. Oh, but then she had a sore throat that turned into a tonsillectomy. Maybe one day we will be able to get her on the road, till then I guess she will have to keep the mobility going.

A1C Burton, Jacob- He is our youngest boom. We got him qualified and booted him out the door.. He has been a great addition to the squadron. He was assigned to scheduling, but seems the only person he can schedule is himself for out processing.

Departed-

SSgt. McGinness, Alexander- PCS'ed to Altus,

SSgt. Holaday, Brandon- PCS'ed to Altus AFB

MSgt. Witt, Christopher- PCS'ed to Scott AFB

MSgt. Baughman, John- PCA'ed to the 349th

MSgt. Derrick Grant- PCS'ed to Scott AFB - Congrats on the line number to SMSgt!

SrA Correa, Chris- Separated

MCCONNELL AFB, KS

349 ARS

“BANDITS”



Superintendent:

SMSgt Justin “JoJo” Johansen – Still at McConnell, 10 years between 2 assignments, can’t get out here. Still needs that last squadron to complete the OG tour. By the time he gets a chance to get to another squadron I’m not sure he will have any hair left.

Operations Supt:

MSgt Jeff Hollaway – The new man with the credit card to get your stuff. Without him, we would be working bootless! Recently came to us from XP staff.

STAN EVAL:

MSgt John Baughman – Came to us from the 344th in September, haven’t seen him due to his 179 day trip to paradise as the EOGV Boom. Wait, just saw him and he is alive!

SSgt Brandon McAnally – The big “BRAIN” of Stan/Eval and even when he thinks he has moved to another section, the black hole keeps bringing him back to the shop. High time SSgt on base, uh oh! Heard Altus is hiring.

SSgt Justin Miller – Fought like hell to make his missing Air Medals count and got his SSgt stripe. Following in 2nd place with less hair on his head.

Safety: (SSgt Barnes inbound from Altus has got a new job and he isn’t even here yet)

Training Flight:

(S)Sgt Mark Waski – Loved ALS so much he wanted to do it again, we’ll see if “twice around” is the charm. Think he did it so he could be around McConnell for summer barbeques.

SrA John Hadden – “Pork chop” at home but “Sirloin” when deployed. Sir, yes sir!!! He carried the squadron during the AMC SAV; expect great things from him in the future.

SrA Barbara Epperly – Cross trainee on the rise with flight hours. Just got back and ready for more.

Scheduling:

TSgt Justin Hunter – Just returned to flying and getting spun up after 4 yrs of playing the PS3 game RPA SO all day/night long, can't wait to get on the road again.

SSgt Sherwin Carino – Was running scheduling and going crazy with all the last minute changes. Somehow he is still able to keep instructing and keep GK up to date!

SrA Derek Lyles – The instructor with the most jokes. Likes to put his finger in the fish tank to upset the Safety office, scorpions they don't bite. Why is my finger so sore?

A1C Michael Thurman – The new guy on the block finally got him deployed to somewhere worse than Moron.

Readiness:

MSgt(s) Casey Southern – When he is not pumping iron he is punching the airmen to get the job done, hide his water bottle and see how fast tempers flare. Will get his turn at CFIC this year.

SSgt Donald "Double D" Dedon – Has some big shoes to fill in when the NCOIC is not in the office. Likes to ride his dirt bike (Do I need to take MSF class to ride on dirt?) and just keeps to himself.

SSgt Samuel Martinez – Cross trainee ready to take the boom career by the horns.

SrA Catherine Norcom – So ready to go to CFIC it is silly and every Guard unit wants to hire her, just ask.

SrA Bryan Lee – Wants everyone to call him "Black Magic" yet he knows no tricks to entertain. Paired up with Yow for BIQ and now he is going to CFIC with him.

SrA Justin Yow – A few deployments under his belt and ready to go Reserve to be a pilot. Going to try not to carry SrA Lee through CFIC.

A1C Michael Voorhees – A special VCO who doesn't know how to check the oil and fluids in vehicles. Socially awkward guy who is sarcasm "deficient" and we have to break it down for him. Also finally bought a vehicle, about time Scrooge McDuck!

A1C Michael Buchanan – Soft spoken and shy at times, but lately he's been a big art enthusiast. Always asking for trips to repair the transmission in his car.

Amn Joe Amador – Quiet at first and barely makes a sound, he's like a stealth mouse! Top notch boom that you can count on.

Support Flight: (Newbie holding pen)

SSgt Malcom Lee – Tries to intimidate with a long stare/blank look on his face. Another cross trainee bringing it and trying to find his spot.

SrA Andrew Cohea – Cross trainee going thru MCT.

A1C Alexis Mitchell – The second in command as the scorpion keeper, out on her 1st of many deployments.

A1C Zachary Rambo – Ready to tackle the mission whether it's refueling or taking care of the scorpions, another newbie on his 1st deployment.

A1C Codey Gerlach – New guy on the block.

A1C Vanya Cook-Letaud – Another newbie.

A1C Ronald Fallows- Guess what? Another newbie!

Inbounds:

SSgt Marcus Barnes from Altus (we have a nice safety position with your name on it)

Amn Dylan Montgomery

Amn Spencer Anderson

Amn Mark Porretta

Amn Bria White

...and probably a few dozen more.

Outbounds:

MSgt Stephen Bishop (ret)- Recently departed the boom career field and retired to flock a different pasture.

Currently completing his seminar studies and settling down in Wichita as a local pastor.

SSgt Martin "LiL Papi" Rodriguez – Keeping it safe even though he tries to cut you and warn you at the same time to do things safe. Medically back in the TMO/LRS world. Best wishes to "LiL Papi".

SrA Renee Miller – (not related to SSgt J. Miller) Baby on the way, tired and ready to leave the active duty for a more relaxing civilian life. MEB approved, good luck!

MCCONNELL AFB, KS

350 ARS

“RED FALCONS”



SMSgt Rod “Too Tall” Targos (Ret)- Recently retired, Rod was our Superintendent and left some big shoes to fill. He was always making sure that the Booms were taken care of. He is still the only object taller than the cargo door that can legally be loaded into the aircraft. He still lives in Wichita, so you may still see him around...No matter where in Kansas you’re standing.

MSgt Jason “Devil” Hall- Back from OGV, he retired his pitchfork to take over as the new Superintendent of the 350th. The only guy you’ll see walking around when it’s 100 degrees out wearing his leather jacket. Also, when he’s not jumping out from behind the bushes around the squadron to hammer an unsuspecting boom on Systems questions, he’s the star goalie on the McConnell Intramural “Good Game” Team. Please don’t cup.

MSgt Jerod “Nordo” Norden- He is our Operations Superintendent and does a great job, when he’s around. He’s gone TDY enough to make Chief Hall chomp at the bit. Currently heading to the Deid as a Staff Boom and has yet to tell his family.

SrA Landon “MacGuyverson” Iverson - Give him a beer, duct tape, and a hammer and he’ll make you anything you want. We also hear he’s building a compound in Texas from spare parts off of Cherokee Rose. Seriously, Landon is the type of boom you can always depend on and the career field will miss him once he is out and working towards his ATC career as a civilian.

A1C Joshua “Where’s My Bra and Skirt” Garret – One of the newer Booms in the squadron, he strives to impress. On one of his first coronets he decided to entertain some passengers. Since there were no Hula girls, he put his coconut bra and grass skirt on and welcomed the Marines to the tanker. They were so pleased; they gave him his own Equator Party... Still trying to figure out what a Pollywog is.

A1C James “Bed Head” aka “Trigger” aka “Emo” Shaffer- The only boom ever to get called out by the Academy baseball coach in front of his Wing Commander while ferrying them to a game. Good news though... he learned his lesson. The next time he ferried them he shaved his head beforehand. Also, while in support of Libya someone couldn’t remember how to get the system to advance during Probe-and-Drogue. The pilot was yelling at him the entire time to use the trigger ... 10 minutes later, “Ohh... *that* trigger!” We’re still not sure which other trigger he was pulling....

A1C Justin “Mustang Sally” Shultz - If his Mustang isn’t in the shop getting new performance parts, you’ll see him zooming down the road at high subsonic speeds. Not long after, you’ll also see him on the side of the road with the

Red and Blue lights behind him; if not for speeding, then for a noise violation. Already prepping to claim disability for loss of hearing.

SrA Jeff “I’m Going to Blow This Place Up” Wall- Don’t get caught taking training folders out of the shop and don’t get in his way when he’s on a mission or you WILL be pegged by a whiteout bottle. In between building, closing, and maintaining all of the 350th’s training folders he’s also been secretly working on a pre-CFIC program. He’s also almost got Drew and Brain beat for length of time DNIF.

SrA Steven “I’m Steve Bowdich!” Bowdich- Forward deployed: while deployed and trying to pick up his laundry, Steve almost caused an international incident and/or got himself shot by a Ugandan. The details aren’t exactly clear (it’s Bowdich, after all). The man behind the counter: “Sir, can I have your receipt **thick accent**?” Steve: “I’M STEVE BOWDICH!” The man again: “Sir, I need your ticket.” Steve: “I’M STEVE BOWDICH!” The Ugandan in the corner starts to look over, confused as to why this man is yelling his name at the gentleman behind the counter. The Pilot comes in and rescues Steve from a very rough day (again). BTW, Why is your Velcro blue on your desert flight suits?? I’m sure the laundry guys know.

A1C McHarry “Mack Daddy” Michel- Or is it Michel McHarry? We always get it confused, so we just call him Mack. While supporting operations in Libya, Mack was sick but sucked it up and flew the mission. During the flight, he decided that instead of throwing up in the bathroom he would grab his pilots’ boxed lunch and throw up in that. Mack had also eaten all his food and the Co-Pilot’s food prior to throwing up in the Pilot’s uneaten lunchbox. Box nasty, anyone?

A1C Travis “100 Questions” Moore - He is hardworking and a great boom. We know this because none of the pilots have said anything. If you ask him to do something, he’ll reply “done and done”... that’s of course if he remembers. He has recently been assigned to Training and is realizing why Jeff is always so angry. However, he assures us his hair won’t pull out as easily as Jeff’s, although Jeff’s new razor mysteriously has Moore’s name inscribed on it.

SrA Hunter “Arsenal” LaRousse- We have to keep little kids away from him for fear of them beating him up.... Recently visited his family overseas and his 2 year-old niece broke his pinky toe. Which DNIF’d him for almost a month after he returned. What I needed to see a see a doc? He is now deathly afraid to be around the Sottovia/Doran clans.

A1C Cory “Broke Beck Mountain” Beck - This guy has really bad luck. So much so, that he picked up this call sign while still in MCT. While being assigned to the 350th for over a year, he has been non-DNIF just long enough to deploy, due to being on “broken”-status. From pulling back muscles with the honey-do list or having knee surgery, we’re not only waiting to see what happens next, but kindly pooling our money together to get him a custom wheelchair.

A1C Waino “Y+9” Yjanainen- Even after all this time, we have yet to find a translator to follow Waino wherever he goes for when people ask how to pronounce his name. After sending his wife back to Wisconsin, Waino bought Bill Gates’ personal laptop prior to his deployment. After getting all set up at his new deployed location, it broke and was unusable for the entire time, so instead of fighting the galaxy’s enemies he had to G.T.L. everyday... it didn’t work.

TSgt Lorrie-Lynn “MIA” Froehlich- Recently upgraded to instructor and not long after that deployed for a double line. Last we heard; she was house sitting Killian’s Doha compound. Hopefully she’ll still remember how to instruct by the time she gets back... if she gets back (apparently Killian has a full brewery in the kitchen of her Doha compound).

TSgt Jason “Brain” Burianek- While on convo leave from his ankle surgery he had an accident. His crutches caught something while going down the stairs and he fell and broke his other ankle. We’re pretty sure it’s due to his

neighbor's teen daughter walking by. On top of that his wound got infected and had to have even more surgery. He's very proud that his new "hole" gets stuffed everyday.

SSgt Theo "CFIC EQ" Dinwiddie- True Red Falcon at heart. Although not authorized to, he does wear his Friday Patch and also he has a matching watch AND shades so that everyone can see his "shine." He also recently upgraded to father right before he headed to Altus.

SSgt Logan "Root Beer" Berry- While he was deployed he got his star, he was so excited that he had the secretary rush out his new name tag. Once it arrived he noticed his name was a little off. "SSgt Bogan Lerry" is what it said, but he wore it so proudly throughout the rest of the deployment. His new sasaparilla recipe is called the "Bogan Larry Beer".

MSgt Warren "Dot Com" Weldon - New to the squadron and taking over Stan-Evil from the formidable Drew. We're still trying to get that 344th stink off of him. Luckily, the younger Booms are still hearing "Back in my day"—stories, so we all think he's a fitting replacement for Drew. He is currently saving up for his own personal aircraft; also he does a great Boris voice.

SSgt Ryan "BOHICA" Cornell - New to the squadron. Finally arriving here after being attached and in training for over a year, currently still in MCT. He's formally from the medical supply career field, and all the Booms were at first excited...until he told all of us that he had more to do with rubber gloves than Ambien.

SSgt Killian "Beer Me" Lange – Lange has finally returned back to KIAB to become the squadron's newest Evaluator Boom. She doesn't know what to do with herself; being at home station for more than a month. Discovery Channel is striking a deal to produce a special on this rare occasion. Now that our newest evaluator is on lock down from deployments, she can be seen killing time logging her beers, er... beans at Old Chicago.

SrA Aaron "Ninja" Davis – Because of the infrequency of seeing him in the squadron, we have all decided that we have been mistaking Corey for Aaron anytime Corey has been without his crutches. Aaron supposedly came from Public Health, so the 350th may start using him as our Outprocessing Guru... when we can find him.

SSgt Cody "The Beave" Beverly – As a Japanese import, Cody is baffled by the Vol 1 and AMC as a whole. After much convincing, Cody has finally conceded that there is such a thing as a weekend without gas masks. From our understanding, there were very awkward moments with Homeland Security around Wichita for a few months.

1 Lt Neil "The Goob" Godwin- Boom-turned-Nav since 2010 and DOT still goes to him for Boom training questions. When he's not answering questions about Vol 1 requirements, he's glued to the TV watching "Toddlers and Tiaras" with hopes of seeing a Japanese contestant.

Recently Departed:

SrA Eric "I'm Outtie" Laksonen- He has been on the road more than home since being assigned to the 350th—BY REQUEST—since deciding to get out and go back to the U.P. of Michigan. He said he needed to save money up for his log cabin and start getting his lumberjack outfit together (surprisingly flannel shirts and daisy duke shorts aren't that cheap). Serious note, awesome guy and boom, squadron and career field will miss him (somewhat).

SrA Chadwick "The 12th Man" Doran- He and Drew are planning on fielding a football team with their boys. Some seriousness, the career and squadron is losing another great asset as well as the back-up booms that reside in his house. We'll be wishing him the best of luck when gets out and moves back to Michigan.

MCCONNELL AFB, KS

384 ARS

“Squarepatchers”

2011 General Carl A. Spaatz
“Most Outstanding AMC Air Refueling Squadron”



Chief Boom:

SMSgt Charles "Jet" Jetton- “You gotta shoot ‘em, before you save them!!!” Preparing to retire so is nowhere to be found. If you do find him, be prepared for an hour long conversation about the circumference of a moose.

Superintendent:

MSgt Cesar "No Name" Flores- The Forest Gump of the booms, currently preparing for the Marine Corps Marathon. He just keeps running and running and running. You may see Airmen run away from him scared he will steal their soul.

NCOIC of Boom Flight:

SSgt Dustin "Appointment Man" Page- Uncle Fester’s twin brother; he’s the only person to have failed 5 consecutive smoking cessation courses. Make sure your beans are done unless you want massive emails from this Hawk.

Executive:

A1C Roslyn "Stank Eye/ Longy" Longmire – Only the third Enlisted Exec in our Squadron’s history. Constantly looks at you like she is irritated, yet behind those beautiful green eyes of anger she will be explaining to you that she isn't angry, she's just hungry!

Mobility:

TSgt Doug "Singing Machine" Boren - Finally done with Tops and Blues and still hasn't touched a boom. Currently attending the NCO Academy, the squadron is looking forward to having his wealth of knowledge back in the squadron....until he JUST got orders back to Altus..... 384 ARS/CC to Doug: “What is it you say... you DO here????”

SSgt Stephen "Joel/Boner" Bowman - Things are looking up for him. He hasn't made a change in the T.O this year. No more falling out the cargo door for this guy. And no, we aren't explaining how he got his nickname.

SrA Lee "Lee-Ann" Hart - Currently on a 200+ day deployment, not just anyone would volunteer for 3 back to back deployments. Also, blonde with a sense of humor "Glad I brought a Genius with me."

A1C David "Office Pop/Gangles" Avery - Most you're going to hear from him is "contact, boom stowed and latched". Look for his signature down at the range.

A1C James "Kevin Hart" Walker: He is our new addition, look just like Kevin Hart. Why would you throw a pin at it if..if..if we don't know what it is.

Safety:

SrA Royce "MCT" Bluford – The Carlton Banks of flying squadrons; besides A1C Roames, he has been in MCT the LOOOONNNNNGGGEESSTTTT!!! Hopefully almost done and deploying soon.

SrA Ky "Lurch" Larkins - The only boom to get a EQ on a no notice pattern only flight.

Scheduling:

TSgt Davie "Loud Mouth" Hobbs - Your name does not have to be Jeff to get good deals. This guy has been rocking and rolling since he's gotten here. His stories and laugh can be heard thorough out the squadron at any point of the day.

SSgt Colin "The New Twin" Gregory – Looks just like Kim Kardashian's ex-husband.....only a foot shorter and 60 lbs lighter (crystal meth is a hell of a drug). Watch out Sam Johnson will be close by. Currently TDY on his first deployment as a Boom.

SSgt Grant "I'M A STAFF SERGEANT" Ringenberg - Cross trainee and out on his first deployment. Did I mention he's a STAFF SERGEANT. He recently completed ALS as a STAFF SERGEANT. Congrats on being an ALS grad and a STAFF SERGEANT.

SrA Sam "Silky" Johnson - Since Kueffler left, he actually talks. However, he is on the road again (without his bro), we are convinced he owns property in the Dirty Deid.

SrA Adam "Tent Leader" Clark – Unanimously voted as the "Teacher's Pet" of the Squadron. The only '40' year old, married man in the dorms. He's a BTZ winner, the SrA Scheduling Chief, and master of all.

A1C Samantha "Grande/Corn Fed" Large - This Nebraska native, you will probably see her doing AR with a corn hat on or carrying her bobble head "bobby" every where she goes.

A1C Sean "Out of deployment" McAliney - Father to be. He's currently in the Honor Guard, although I'm sure he's still trying to figure out how to march.

Stan Eval/SELO:

SSgt Clinton "Lawdog" Laughman - If you want to start a farm he's your guy. Just block yourself out in G2 for a good 2-3 hours.

SSgt Parker "Grumpy/Raging Goblin" McElroy - Finally home to enjoy the fine base we call McConnell.

A1C James "Yoda" Michel - Level 28 LARPER...If you doubt his power of the force he will slay the SH!T out of you.

Training:

TSgt Jeffery "Sparky" Sparks - Not to be confused with Marky Mark. Group Instructor Boom of the Year and now at the NCOA.

SrA Jonathan "MPRS" Britton - A brand new Instructor. Has been what we like to call the "BOWST B!t*h", just for the time being. Next up for ALS.

SrA Andrew "Golden Boy" Willard - A Fast burner. He went from an AB to A1C to SrA and Instructor boom all in one year. AMC Red Erwin Award Winner... dreams of being a helicopter pilot for the Coast Guard.

A1C Kyle "Muscle Head" Engasser – Looks like Guile from Street Fighter. There is never going to be a good enough TDY for him. If you want someone to complain for you, he's perfected this skill.

BOOMS GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN:

MSgt Jeff Hollaway, SSgt Matthew Hunsinger, and SSgt Nathan Bahr - TRAITORS!!!!!!!!!!

MSgt Jeff Stoermer – Bowman asked him, “How long will it take for me to heal?” At Altus keeping everyone inline and helping out the Squares we send there for CFIC.

SSgt Charles "Big Head" Roberson - Guess the guard is hurting. Not only is he going guard, but he is also in pilot training!!!!

SSgt JC Haas – Back to the old job at Finance. Enjoy the time at home with the Wife!

SrA Andrew Kueffler - Left his Bro-mance behind to go to the Guard in his hometown.

SrA Kristin Bailey – Now at Command Post, and STILL at McConnell after cross training. Post Flight Doc visit mishap.

INCOMING BOOMS:

A1C Alex "Mort" Ortiz - Waiting on his arrival from Altus any day.

A1C Adrian Snelson - Should be on his Check Ride in Altus.

MCCONNELL AFB, KS

18 ARS

“NO SCAB IS TOO SMALL”



Greetings and salutations from the First KC-135 associate Reserve unit. We currently have 28 booms and hoping for some expansion soon. The current rumor is that we may become a wing in the near future...for 17 years running now! That has about as much truth as when MX says “the jet is crew ready” or ATOC says “you have no passengers.” We are soon to be hot and heavy in our four month rolling activations. Of course we get to start out in the Deid. But Turkey isn’t so bad. If you are ever in the area, stop in and say hello. The boom shop has a beer machine that is always running and stocked with good, cold beer. And if you’re lucky enough, Kathy has cooked something good for lunch.

MSgt John “Tex” Austin (ART) – Tex is actually lifting anchor and moving to Robbins to be the Enlisted Aircrew Force Development Manager for AFRC. Congrats! Tex (and his kickass salsa) will be missed. Anyone interested in being the new building custodian?

MSgt Warren “Bear” Bearup (ART) – Bear has been running long range and has been getting us some killer trips. He still drives the Big Blue Michigan truck and is in negotiations with AMC on how to get the “M” put on the side of a tanker and paint the fleet Maize and Blue all while avoiding to land in or even overfly that four letter word state. GO BLUE!!

SMSgt Brad Bever (TR) – Recently promoted!! He is still tethered to the 22ARW as their long range scheduler. He says that he loves his job but we all know that he just wants to sit and ogle his wife who works two cubicles over...which has led to their second chitlin. Maybe we should separate their cubicles?!?! Congrats Brad!!

SSgt Brandon Blodgett (TR) – Brandon came to us from our CE folks. He figured it would be easier to join us than to hate us. He’s studying to go to the dark side and actually FLY the airplane. Good luck Brandon.

TSgt Kevin Bouchard (TR) – He never ceases to amaze us. He is still a conductor for BNSF working the trains way up in Casper, WY. Never misses a UTA and still manages to make it back to work on Monday.

SSgt John “Baba” Bui (TR) – We finally got John up and running as a boom. He goes home to Topeka one night and walks in on a burglar in his house, catches the dude and gets him convicted. We’re all scared of John. For some reason, he seems to be good at electronics.

TSgt Jacob Cross (TR) – Recently promoted!! Our resident Texas native, Jacob bristles every time he comes up because he has to drive through God’s country (Oklahoma) to get here.

A1C SaraJo Danis (Trougher) – SaraJo is our resident Derby High School grad. And our very own squadron tree hugger.

SMSgt Darren “The Wedge” Demel (ART) – Recently promoted!! AND, he officially signed his life away and become part of the cult known as ART. Congrats on the promotion and congrats on becoming an ART...we think!?!

A1C Sierra “Nevada” Dopfel (Trougher)– Sierra is our star high school athlete. LOVES playing volleyball. We’re expecting big things from Sierra.

TSgt Clay “Chemo” Dotson (Trougher) – Kathy threw a rock at him and he actually deployed! He recently finished helping out the 22ARW process the backlog of travel vouchers for over a year. We appreciated Clay helping out over there but it’s good to have him back in the squadron flying more often.

MSgt Jay Guldjord (ART) – Jay is another one of our dedicated and highly motivated boom operators, always dependable and ready for any task. So much so that he fooled everyone and got Enlisted Aircrew of the Year for AFRC! Great job Jay. Kathy felt she had no choice at that point but to hire him as an ART. If not at work you can find Jay at the gym working toward his next career as a Chippendale’s model.

MSgt Tonva “Dangdo” Halenka (ART) – She gave up being our UDM and is now working mission development again. She’s recently recovered from back surgery and rediscovered how much she likes to fly.

MSgt Mark Heithoff (TR) – Comes to us from the NE GUARD and continues to “play boom” on his days off from the fire dept. He’s considering retirement this summer.

SMSgt Ray “Glare” Lewis (ART) – Ray is Kathy’s “special projects” bitch. Whatever she needs, Ray does. Training flight guy...check. Scheduler...check. Tactics guy...check. TDY...check. But it keeps him flying and he’s very happy with that. He’s heard mumbling much of the time, “death before a desk or staff job”. He’s currently doing a second stint in Stan/Eval after a year and a half away from it.

CMSgt Kathy “Sheba” Lowman (ART) – Has been running the “short bus” for a few years now and is promoting folks and giving awards left and right!! Even if we don’t deserve it! If you need something she knows exactly where to get it or who to call in Oklahoma for the answer. We think her truck could drive itself from Wichita to OKC. She recently acquired a new roommate in her dog Pumpkin-butt. The Boom shop is always open for a cold beer and Kathy is always there with a smile.

TSgt John McIlvoy (TR) – Recent DG of the NCOA. Way to go John!! He recently got married. Poor SOB. Now he and the family live in Wichita he is a great addition to the 18ARS. He reflects great credit upon himself and the USAF.

MSgt Mark “Mac Daddy” McIntosh (TR) – Recently promoted!! Msgt (he REALLY likes hearing that) Mark is living happily in Dyess, Texas and is our “inside” guy to scheduling A/R’s with the B-1’s there. We never see the guy (literally...eat a cheeseburger Mark) but he always current and bean complete.

TSgt Chris “Gump” Norris (Trougher) – Chris is happily married and just had his first chitlin. Congrats! When he’s not flying or TDY he is playing rugby, wanting to talk about rugby or wanting you to come watch him play rugby. If he could, he’d wear a rugby uniform instead of a flight suit.

TSgt Brian Olson (TR) – He is still working as a fireman/EMT in Missouri. He is our go to guy if we need a fill in for any trip heading east. He is working hard at completing his Bachelors degree so that he can tell them city boys a thing or two.

TSgt Mike Stahl (TR) – Married and recently moved to Hesston, KS. Works as an engineer for AGCO and is gone now more than ever.

SSgt Matt Tener (the Wener) – Matt comes to us from the messed up world of the T-tail. He was a load on the C-5 and in spite of that, we still like the guy. He's been a great addition to the unit and is always good for a laugh. His only problem is that he keeps trying to tie stuff down walking back to the boom pod and then falls asleep as soon as we takeoff. And don't even THINK about getting close to his box nasty. Old habits I guess...

SSgt James "JD" Utash (TR) – JD is our ghost boom. You "think" you see him on the UTA but aren't sure. Recently engaged and soon to be married. Congrats JD.

SMSgt John Wallman (ART) – John recently moved back into Training Flt. We still find him at his old desk talking to Yokom more than his new desk. You can usually find him plowing the fields at his family farm in Syracuse Nebraska.

SSgt Tom Wicks (Trougher) – We know Tom is part of the unit because he's always current but he's TDY so much we're not REALLY sure he belongs to us. Thanks for all the hard work Tom.

TSgt Jim "Jimmy" Yokom (ART) – Jimmy has been working in body scheduling and does a great job keeping people flying and paid. We're not sure they're all legal ways so we don't ask! He tells us the new Duty Boom program will be ready "anytime" now...for 2 years running. If you need a fresh cup of coffee...or a speech in quantum physics...go see Jimmy!

TSgt Matt "Ziggy" Ziegelbein (TR) – Matt is our resident airline pilot. Shows how much wisdom the AF has huh? Can fly for the airlines but not the AF. He just recently had another chitlin with the new wife. That makes 5!!!! Uhm, Matt, they know what causes that now...

On Short Final (Inbound Booms)

SSgt Gabe Miller – Currently at the lovely location of Altus, America trying to pass boom school and not knock up any of the local lovelies.

SrA Jake King – Bryan King's youngster. We'll be gaining him from Tinker anytime now.

SSgt William Baker – Yup, this is Bill Baker's boy and in spite of that we still hired the guy. PROMISED in the interview that he wasn't like his dad and then promptly went into a "so there I was..." story. The apple doesn't fall far huh?

Go-Around (Quitters)

TSgt Mike Kissire (TR) – Mike took the test boom job down in San Antonio. He still comes up here to stay current and flies with us. Always has something new to share about the jet that only a test boom would know...or care about!

TSgt Tracy Purdy (Trougher) – Tracy was our resident EPR/awards decorations person. If anyone has received an award in the last year, it's been looked at by Tracy. Also, repainted the boom shop and anyone's house that will offer her beer! She recently followed her husband up to Alaska where she has joined the Guard. Best of luck Tracy.

TSgt Kenny "Gazer" Stewart (ART) – Kenny left us in August as he got a job working for the FAA in Memphis. Be afraid...be very afraid! Also...there was a mini-Kenny last July! Congrats!!

SSgt Jason Wesche (TR) – Jason moved out to DC to take an ART job and be closer to Madelyn. Rumor has it he's their new Tactics boom. Can anyone tell us what a tactics boom does?

Full Stop (Retired Booms)

MSgt Debbie "Deb" Lee – Deb finally retired after years of threatening to. She is still working with "Sherman" Williams paints as a HR rep.

TSgt Morris "MO" Loncon – Mo lives in Kansas City with his wife Kerry. We miss you MO.

TSgt Greg Carron – We had a Greg sighting awhile back and he's got a full beard going. You have to double take to make sure it's actually Greg.

SMSgt Gary "Cookie" Cook – Finally retired and is living in Colorado with the Mrs. He says if you're ever in Colorado Springs to look him up...although he won't be there. He's always on vacation somewhere.

MSgt Eddie Estagin – Eddie retired last fall and is still in Florida working with Northrop Grumman. Rumor has it he's moving back to Wichita.

SMSgt Ken Girty – Our newest retiree as of last May 2011. Ken is living in Enid, Oklahoma working on T-6's at Vance.

MSgt Joe "V Check" Halenka – Tonya's ex retired in Dec 10 and has been working in McPherson at a pharmacy company. When not working, he can be found at the gym walking around but not working out. We've asked around and no one has actually EVER seen him working out...hmmmm.

MSgt Darren "D-HO" Horton – Darren retired in Dec 2010 and never looked back. He moved back to Cali and we think he's already forgotten how to spell Kansas.

SMSgt Dennis Struve – Recently a new dad to twins. Still working as a flight test boom with Boeing.

CMSgt Don Askren – Still a fairer, moving the operation 30 miles north of Topeka.

MSgt Brian King – Still lives in Derby, KS. Both of his kids are in the AF Reserve with his youngest joining the unit as a boom.

MSgt Kathy Pett – Still lives in Wichita, married with two daughters and works for Cessna on the Citation jet as the branch manager.

(Scuba) Steve Sirois – Retired and now resides in Kansas City. Works as Stan/Eval for the railroad.

MSgt Tatia Krueger – Still lives in Germany. When in Ramstein, look her up for a beer.

SMSgt Troy Lawson – “Big Time” is living in Denver selling airplanes and enjoying the good life. He travels now more than ever before.

The Dark Side (Prior Booms)

Maj Travis Clark (ART) – Travis is doing well and is our Safety officer but is soon to be the 18ARS ADO.

Maj Mark Villacis (Trougher) – Mark is the squadron’s go-to guy. If we need a pilot to go TDY or to the desert, go to Mark. We’re pretty sure he has an apartment somewhere in the Died! He’s currently at ACSC causing trouble. Some things never change...

Capt Dave Seeman (Trougher) – Dave left us this last year. He went back to his roots to fly with the WA ANG. But it’s getting him back to Spokane and close to home...so he’s happy as can be. Great job Dave! We miss you man.

Maj Trey Forrest (Traditional) – Married with two kids. We love Trey a lot because he hates Barry Jones as much as the rest of us!!!

Lt Greg Brashier (Trougher) – Our newest Lt. Greg is married with a son. He went to the dark side to show our pilots how it’s really done and is now at UPT in Vance, America. We should see him back here this time next year. Best of luck to you Greg.

MCCONNELL AFB, KS
KC-135 ATS INSTRUCTORS



Greetings from the CAE McConnell Boom Operators,

The Air Force, AMC and CAE were proud to bring the first KC-135 Boom Operator Weapon System Trainer, BOWST, online in January 2012 at McConnell. The BOWST is the first to attain the Air Refueling Airplane Simulator Qualification (ARASQ) certification. The BOWST is an all aspect training device with state of the art visuals. As the KC-135 BOWSTs are delivered to additional KC-135 training locations, CAE USA will incorporate the training devices into the overall boom operator training program as part of the KC-135 ATS. Not only will it save money, but it will also enable the Air Force to train boom operators in a much safer and more controlled environments. The BOWST offer expanded opportunities to train in simulated emergency situations and irregularities to ensure that boom operators will be prepared for anything.

We are proud and excited to be the first to have the BOWST and look forward to the training we/it can provide.

The current lineup of CAE booms here are:

Mike Adams: micheal.adams@kc135ats.net retired in February, thought his days of TDY were over, surprise they are not.

Jim Morman james.morman@kc135ats.net still living in the country, hunting and fishing every chance he gets. The rest of the time spent spoiling his two grand-daughters.

Glen Stallard glen.stallard@kc135ats.net paroled from taping sweaty Airmen at the fitness center. Now back to boom operating and loving it.

MCGHEE TYSON ANGB, TN

134 ARW / 151 ARS

“Home of the Tennessee Volunteers”



Greetings from the 151st ARS / 134th ARW located at McGhee Tyson AB Knoxville, TN. We made it through our first of what I am sure are many ORE's getting ready for our ORI. We moved into our new Operations building this past winter. Many of your Chief Booms, Stan-Evil, and Training reps were just here for the ANG Enlisted Aviator conference in April. We enjoyed having you all and as always please stop by if you are in town for a school or a graduation. We love to talk shop, drink beer, and tell lies.

Jim Quagliana: The Chief is retiring this December after an illustrious career (about 50 years I think). I'm not sure, but (O.k. I'm sure) there are a few SMSgts around here just chomping at the bit to move into his nice new office with the flight line view. As for the rest of us, we are just happy the old man is finally leaving.

Jeff Dyer: The mayor just finished buying his house for the third time. He is still single (we think) and is one of the above mentioned guys counting down the days to Jimmy's departure.

Bo Sunderland: Like the Chief, Bo is retiring soon. He is unfortunately not going to be around for the post-Jimmy era and is trying his best to find a way to hang on. While he is putting up a good fight, thus far he is losing.

Mark Allen: Mark is still our senior traditional. We have been told he is retiring for about ten years now but he keeps hanging on somehow. Maybe he will finally relinquish that senior stripe sometime this decade. Thanks Mark!

Wayne Atkins: Pops shows his face around here occasionally when he isn't on the road or sucking up active duty days somewhere else. He is getting really close to being able to wear a 1 year patch.

Ronnie "Crash" Dixon: Crash is somehow still the UDM. I am still unclear about how he gets his job done in between all his gripe sessions about being the UDM and walking around asking when the next Alaska trip is.

Randy Keener: Randy recently moved into the training shop with Blue.....anyways, on a recent TDY, Keener announced his intent to run for President in this fall's election. The campaign slogan is another Keener classic. "Ya'll can just write my F***in name down!"

Brian "Trigger" Thomas: Trigger is turning into the squadron "Hanz and Franz" You will find him walking around the squadron daily with a protein shake and his gym clothes on. He occasionally drags one of our traditional's to workout with him then we have to hear them complain about hurting for a week.

Lennie Tipton: Lennie finally has some competition around here to see who can break the most stuff. While Sponge Boom (see below) is giving him a run for his money, I'm betting on Lennie to remain our resident destroyer.

Eric Jones: EJ is still sitting in our scheduling office (occasionally) where he has been for a long time it seems. It is really hard to get dirt on a guy that is always gone working out. In fact, he is off running a marathon right now!

Bo Rogers: Bo can't decide if he is a Guard Bum with a Firefighter job or a Firefighter with a part-time Guard job. I am sure all the guard bums wish he would go back to the fire hall.

Brent Seymour: Brent is a bigwig at the fire department, but still finds time to come out and fly at least twice a year.

Tyler "Tater" Ott: Our newest fulltimer in Scheduling. He got hired away from the phone company where he says he used to be a pole climber.....

Shannon "Blue" Price: Went to the Deid.....Came home to a brand new Harley!

Jared Morgan: "Beef".....Need I say more?

Melvin Brandenburg: I have recently discovered that not only are conversations with Melvin long and painful, he can't even have a short text conversation either. His responses are always so long that I lose interest and forget what I asked him to begin with.....He's a traveling fool. Can't get enough.

Jody McKee: Even with Jody's new job downtown, he still finds time to sneak in here without anyone's knowledge and fly a lot. Seriously, this guy is so quiet I sometimes get scared thinking about what is really going on in his head.

Tommy Cole: I think Tommy is taking lessons from Bo Rogers. He's yet another firefighter "stealing" all the trips from the bums.

Terry "Rev" Mull: The Rev recently finished his bachelor's degree in some type of engineering. It is scary how smart the guy actually is, however you wouldn't know it most of the time.

John "Abe" Whaley: This guy needs to write a book on Guard Bumming. He finds more ways to get paid than anyone I have ever seen. Most of them have nothing to do with being a boom but I guess you can't fault a guy for trying to get paid. Well most of us don't at least.

Andrew Burress: "Burress County" So many stories to tell I don't know where to begin. Rumor around here is he is going for a pilot demotion soon. Not sure if this is true or not but he hasn't started any fights with any 13 year olds lately. Well, actually, maybe he has.

Nick Pierce: "Hollywood" has evidently taken some lessons from Abe about guard bumming except he is actually doing it as a boom. This guy has had more trips in his first quarter of flying than most guys do in a year.

Josh Lane: Another one of those downtown firefighters got hired around here. WTF!!!! How does this keep happening?

Anthony Flores: Don't really have any dirt on Flores yet but thanks to the wonderful world of Facebook, we have discovered that he has three really hot sisters.

Chris O'Donnell: Chris is the first person to join the squadron that had so many nicknames develop in his first three months that we had to finally circulate a ballot and allow everyone to vote on what we were going to call him. After a very long and heated debate the winner was.....**Sponge Boom Square Pants**

Demoted to Pilot

Lt Col. Kelvin Kuwik: Kelvin went thru Castle in 1976 at the tender age of 17, and was commissioned in 1982. He retired a few months ago...I think.

Maj. Liz Matthews: Liz came to us from Forbes a few years ago. She was an engine shop troop until 1993 when she went to Castle. She was commissioned in 1996.

Maj. Jeremy Taylor: Jeremy was a crew chief from 1988 to 1995, went thru Altus as a Boom in 1995 and was commissioned in 1997. He has left the technician world for Delta.

Maj. Hiram Williamson: Hiram was a crew chief from 1991 to 1995, went thru Altus in 1995 and was commissioned in 1999. Hiram is now fulltime in Stan Evil and is currently enjoying a trip back to Altus for instructor school.

Capt. Jason Reed: Jason went thru Altus in 2000, and was commissioned in 2005. He is one of our fool time pilots in Current Operations.

Capt. Erik Swanson: Erik, like Liz, came to us from Kansas a few years ago.

Capt. Chad Cheatwood: Chad went thru Altus in 1998 and was commissioned in 2002. He is recently came HOME from flying C-17's in the Charleston Reserve Unit. He is one of our "new" guys now.

Moved On

J.J. Davenport: J.J left us to go live in a cave.....He took an AGR job in the command post, so he didn't go far.

1st Lt. Richard Alan Potts: R.A. took an "O" spot in the 119th Command and Control Squadron here on base. He's going from wings to spwings.

TSgt. Dennis Greenwood: Dennis always has a home in Knoxville at the 134th but for now we have loaned him out to the active duty AWACers at Tinker as a flight engineer. No more four hour FTPs for Dennis.

1st Lt. Bryan Rollins: Peabody left us in 2010 and is now a true space weenie with Richard Alan in the 119th.

Retired in the Local Area

Nancy Martinek, Greg Waters, Todd Derrick, Joel Lewis, J.J. Mehall, Karen Jansen, Wes Beaver, Jerry Roberts, Robert Hampton, John Miller, Ronald McKinnon, Robert Brown, Marty Everett, Ted Wright, Ben Long, John Sumpter, Clinton Haley, Bill Witt, Ed Hatton, Ralph Chambers, Chester Harper, Durell Howard, Lloyd Costner, Dean Gambill, Denny Buchanan, Steve Sampson.

Final Fly By

MSgt Sonny Murrin (1985), CMSgt Billy C. Lindsay (1995), SMSgt Jimmy "Flash" Harris (2007), MSgt D.W. Harris (2009), MSgt Harold Bishop (2010), SMSgt Mike "Buck" Buckner (2011), and TSgt Ted Wright (2012)

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, NJ

2 ARS

“Second to *NONE!*”



Greetings from JBMDL (the AFB formerly known as McGuire). It's been a crazy year for us with consistent deployments, daily flights and constant TDY's. Not to mention the always convenient drop downs from TACC and others. The "Can Do" wing is truly can do. As with most unit's these days it's been a challenge herding all the cats, but we've been getting it done in stellar fashion. Lots of changes coming our way with newbies from FTU and getting some of our old heads back from their cushy staff jobs around the Air Force. The 2d ARS has a lot of great folks doing great things. And always (ok mostly) with a smile on their face. I couldn't be prouder of this group. If any Booms (including -135 guys) are ever in town, be sure to drop by the squadron for a cold beverage.

Here's the current lineup of the **Ducer** Booms:

CMSgt Mark Redden – Getting back in the boom seat after a lengthy time away from flying. Although he's from the West Coast, we're very excited to have him here. We haven't heard "Well back at Travis..." yet but I'm sure it's coming.

(S)MSgt Jeremiah "Doc" Love – Came back to McGuire after a tour at TACC. Even though he spent some number of years here before he left, this is his first time in the "Duce". See we all move up in life. We might have our work cut out for us.

MSgt Dan Phillips – Came back from a cushy staff job at TACC last year. Has been doing a great job as the Chief Boom, at least that's what his EPR says. Headed to OGV as part of a 3 player, 3 team trade with the 305OG and HQ AMC. His first fix to the flying schedule is always to cancel the mission. Hey Dan, this isn't TACC, you can't do that. Holds the record for the longest upgrade training program in AF history...are you an IB yet???

MSgt Leroy "Lee" Robinson – Looking to take over Training Flight and has retirement on the horizon next year.

MSgt Dan Rando – It's bitter-sweet story. Good news for Rando is that he's retiring, but that's bad news for us. MSgt Phillips is going to miss our resident instigator.

MSgt Luis "L-Rod" Rodriguez Asad – The most interesting Boom in the World. If you have vino you have a friend in L-Rod. Recently upgraded to IB and moving on to bigger and better things within the squadron.

MSgt Todd Patsel - Returning to the squadron from a Current Ops tour. Little one on the way then headed out the door for the big waterless beach. Welcome back and grab your mobility bags!

(M)Sgt James Sullivan – Just about done with IB upgrade and a MSgt select...look out everyone!

(Lt-sel) TSgt Dan Gaiser - Got picked up for OTS and will be leaving us this fall. Another great one departing the boom community...best wishes "Lt Dan"!

TSgt John Rickenback – Coming to us from the dark side (aka -135s) after he completed his tour at the CRW. Just started training at Flight Safety.

TSgt Heath Hampton – Another gain from the -135 world. Came from the Sunshine State (MacDill) to the Garden State. Sorry about your luck. Don't know who he pissed off to leave Florida but at least he got a KC-10 slot. Explaining the difference between a beach and a shore has been a challenge.

TSgt Jett Klextan – Yet another loss for the boom community, he's heading off to live with the Army as one of the Air Force's finest TACP's in Ft. Bliss, TX. Not sure where that is but doesn't sound like fun.

(T)Sgt Michael "Mike" Smith – Continues to work hard in Stan/Eval and was rewarded with a line for TSgt. Looking to be a TI in the future, he heard there are some job openings at Lackland. Hopefully for the AF that happens although we will miss him if it does.

SSgt Lawrence "Larry" Scott – On-loan to the FTU, but has been a penguin for a few months. Should be back up flying and doing great things again soon!

SSgt Chad Piel – Will be heading down to teach at the Aircrew Center of Excellence late this fall. One of our 2 IB's in the squadron who has been working his tail off. Now if only he could get the paperwork caught up.... Good luck Chad!

SSgt Marcus Mitchell – New cross trainee...we think. Have only seen him once but we are assured he is in FTU at this time.

SSgt Michael Marquez – Another cross trainee. Must be hanging out with Mitchell because we haven't seen him either.

SSgt Javier Mendoza – Another workhorse taking on greater responsibilities as a flight supervisor. Currently deployed, as is the case most of the time.

SSgt Adam Ingan –Hard worker who flies his tail off. Hey Adam, pipe down no one can get a word in edge wise.

SSgt Daniel Flenniken – Recent addition to Stan/Eval and SSgt. Been doing great things and taking care of (fixing) MSgt Rando's Form-8's.

SSgt John Darby – Our resident supervised status expert. Had a bit of a tough time in the jet recently but worked hard and pulled through. If you have any questions about cargo checklist, he's the one to ask.

SSgt Jeffrey Benson – Recently pinned on SSgt and has been running the Boom section ever since. He even orders the Chief Boom to report to him. Still seems to think he's in the military. Been doing awesome work as UTM, Chief Scheduling, and anything else no one is willing to do. Resident NRA and CDC expert.

(S)Sgt Trevor Jennings – Benson's brother from another mother. Our most recent IB upgrade and SSgt. Looking to put him in Training Flight. Were pretty sure that's going to work out for us....

(S)Sgt Melissa King – Recently selected for SSgt and heading to Current Ops where we know she will continue to do great things. Very humble to a fault. First person in ALS history to turn down the Commandant Award.

SrA Clay Wonders – Moved into mobility office and hasn't been seen since. Currently deployed....we think.

SrA Joseph Sorensendeltoro – Winner of the the Boom with the longest name award. SDT has been flying and deploying for us a lot lately. Good kid with a great attitude.

SrA Rodney Kale – True linchpin to ops. Without him we think the war effort would stop. Being a boom is not exciting enough (hey your doing it wrong Kale) so he's looking to cross train into TACP...damn you Jett.

SrA Matthew Giles – Resident Boom Beer Brewer. New proud papa of a beautiful baby girl. Welcome to many sleepless many. Keeping busy and working hard.

SrA Christopher Foley – Who? This man has been a hard charger taking a beating with the deployments. He's the only Boom we know who comes TDY to his assigned unit. Finally able to get in some leave for some much needed R&R. Heard he's hanging out with the Jersey Shore crew but that's not been confirmed. Holds the record for longest CDC upgrade (2 years, 11 months).

SrA Curtis Clawson – Currently in IB upgrade. One of our bright shiny pennies also doing great stuff.

SrA Joshua Chrisman – Our CRM expert. Getting great reports from the AC's about his cockpit awareness. I think they are just impressed that he pretends to listen to their approach briefs. IB upgrade on the horizon.

SSgt Larry Cawley – Big year for Larry. Got engaged, expecting a little one and trading one square box for another. Going to cross train to Sensor Operator soon. The call of Vegas was much stronger than another year of deployments.

A1C Thomas Krohn – Currently in the process of relocating outside the Air Force. Seems the PT burden was more than he could handle.

A1C Patrick Reynolds – Who? Oh yeah that guy. Flies and deploys a lot. We are blessed with his presence every once and a while.

A1C Julia Rivera – Came to us and immediately got on the deployment band wagon. Been thru a rough year but still has a smile on her face.

SrA Jeremy Robinson – Another big time deployer and flier. Always smiling...sometimes that scares us.

A1C Samantha Rogers – New girl in town and then we shipped her to the desert. Working hard and breaking hearts across the Air Force.

A1C Kellie Garvey (Johnson) – New addition to the squadron. Currently working on her own new addition to her family. Recently married to a flying crew chief. I know we tried to warn her. Our resident semi-permanent scheduler. Always found at the desk practicing her arts & crafts skills.

A1C Jeremiah Sims – Brand new to the squadron. Very quiet but we'll work that out of him.

A1C Turner Foote – Another recent addition from FTU.

A1C Brian Doane – Recent Q-1 and coming to the squadron. Heard great things about him.

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, NJ

32 ARS

“LINKING THE CONTINENTS”



CMSgt Ralph “Jim” Snyder: Retired! Chief saw the light and hung it up just shy of 30 years. We lost a huge amount of experience when Jim left us, but we’re quickly gaining it back with all of the brand new Airmen that AFPC is sending. Best of luck for all life has to offer, Chief!

CMSgt Christopher Hunter: Hunter...Australian for Boom! With two deployments under his belt, Chief has been fully integrated into the family. The “down under” perspective is one that we all appreciate and enjoy. Surprisingly, the squadron mascot has not yet been changed to a kangaroo.

SMSgt Gary Evans: Now qualified in the -10 with a deployment under his belt, nearly all the Kool-Aid is gone and the -135 is a thing of the past. When not cracking the whip and making booms wear ABUs, the squadron keeps him on the road. Not only is he honing his skills, he’s avoiding a sun burn by not being home to use his new pool.

MSgt Douglas Palmisano: Doug just bought a new house to let his daughter (who’s walking now) have some room to grow. As busy as he’s been, he still finds time to host the occasional poker game. You have to pay for diapers somehow, and his newly earned instructor pay hasn’t shown up on his LES yet!

MSgt Blaise Rohan: Still running boom stan/eval and giving his 14 kids no-notice “room cleaning” check-rides quarterly. It’s good to see that not only is he a great dad to all the baby booms, but he’s a great evaluator at home.

MSgt Robert “Pete” King: Retiring from Active Duty, Pete’s headed back to Indiana to work on his father’s beef cattle farm. In the event of a stampede, don’t worry...his wife is a RN and will surely patch up any injuries.

MSgt Jason Prosser: Heading to AMC/IG in August. Actually, he’s heading to Scott AFB just to give his brother a place to live. Seems the Prosser boys have this whole grand scheme worked out. Look for them in the White House soon.

TSgt Timothy Land: What doesn’t Tim do? His latest feat is earning his skydiving certification. Being out of the jet for a while at the Expeditionary Center must have created an itch that he just had to scratch. His tip...”pack your own chute!”

TSgt Daniel “Psycho” Cykewick: Dan’s leaner, meaner, and fit. As a brand new grandfather...wait, that’s his kid! Congrats to Dan on the birth of his daughter. He might be over the hill, but with age comes wisdom. It’s always an adventure on the road with his outlandish stories.

TSgt Jennifer Gray: Jen's still here since her re-training to Flight Attendant didn't go through due to manning levels. Still working at the OSS and keeping us tactically proficient.

TSgt Steven Porter: Steve's been so busy getting the mission done in the desert that he's not racking up the instructor hours. However, his MX background, and arsenal of MX T.O.s, allows him to teach the ins and outs of the KC-10 to all who get the privilege of being his student.

TSgt Darrell Barnard: Darrell's in the works of getting requalified after a long Current Ops stint. Everyone is anxiously awaiting his return to racking up desert hours.

TSgt Justin Taydus: As an FTU instructor, Justin is sending the squadron some baby booms with a great foundation. This unofficial cargo expert has improved the cargo training program for the new guys and continues to share his wealth of knowledge with all. If you want to learn something from him, you better be ready to get picked on for what you don't know though.

TSgt Jacob Dieter: Another convert from the KC-135, but few of us have met him yet. Since getting qualified, Jake has been to the desert, NCOA, and on a few TDY's. We should start to see more of him since he'll be closing out the year as an RA. Now he'll get to spend a little time in his new house.

SSgt Garrett Machon: While ping pong might not be his best game (just ask Kenneth Essick), he was a valuable FTU instructor that had a sarcastic, yet effective, approach to bringing up the new booms. He's recently PCS'd to the COE.

SSgt Charles Taylor: Chuck is the most feared FTU instructor by the baby booms. Every schoolhouse needs the "by the book" instructor that holds feet to the fire. TSgt Select!!

SSgt Lonnie Moon: Lonnie is staying busy as a new stan/eval bubba. Before long he'll be out of here and setting up shop at Edwards as a Test Boom. TSgt select!!

SSgt Kenneth Pryor: Ken finally got rid of the RA program and graduated to stan/eval. This guy keeps all of our weight and balance computers up and running. Next challenge: bring iPads online for ePubs.

SSgt Debbie Marks: When not on the road schoolin' the baby booms with her vast expertise, Debbie spends her time looking for Litho signatures and wiping out wallets for Booster Club dues.

SSgt Ryan McFadden: Ryan's enjoying his new life as an instructor. If not flying the combat mission, he's busy in training reviewing endless training folders. Nothing gets past him.

SSgt Alex Pugh: When he's not instructing or working in training, Alex spends his time making a little side cash being a Hold 'em shark. If you stop through Atlantic City, be sure to stay away from the no-limit tournaments. He'll take you for all you have.

SSgt Adam Delabar: He found the sky, built some hours, and now he's one of the newest IBs in the squadron. When not trying to woo the ladies, he accompanies Alex Pugh to the casino...although, we're not convinced he isn't there for the cocktail waitresses.

SSgt Trevor VanTimmeren: Van T is our next stellar instructor. Currently in FTU going through upgrade, he's anxiously awaiting his return to the squadron so he can see what this instructor thing is all about. If you ever need a Call of Duty tutorial, he's your guy.

SSgt Steven Nelson: Steven, who goes by the more attractive name of Alex, is a tanker pro. After tackling the scheduling desk, he's now one of the go-to guys in Mobility.

SSgt Michael Rowland: Recovering from a serious car accident and hoping to get back on flight status soon. When he's not at the clinic, he makes sure we all get good trips so he can live vicariously through us. Get well soon Mike!

SSgt Joshua Houston: A new arrival still waiting on night fighters to become mission ready. Josh crossed from C-130s as a GAC troop to the "other side." Even though he's from the south, he's a pretty sharp dude.

SSgt Jeremy Becnel: Jeremy recently left JBMDL for bigger and better things at Scott AFB. We're counting the days when he's back in our instructor ranks and giving unsolicited advice about the 2nd Amendment.

SrA Jeremy Cathey: Jeremy's been on the road a lot. The crews don't mind having him though. He came in with a culinary degree and can whip up some incredible meals at the galley. Maybe we'll sign him up for Hell's Kitchen next season.

SrA Hannah Greco: Hannah does it all. If not scheduling, she's constantly on the road doing the mission. Jeremy Cathey has a competitor in in-flight cooking skills.

SrA Darryl Johnston: Darryl's yet another road warrior. If he's at McGuire for more than a week, then something's wrong.

SrA Keith McLaughlin: What can be said about Keith that he hasn't already told everyone? He's our most recently qualified instructor and already doing good things schoolin' his desert crew on the ways of the Boom.

SrA Victoria Shermer: Victoria's a gold star member of the Frequent Combat Flyers' club. If not deployed, she's busily working on everyone's mobility requirements.

SrA Aaron Siegler: Impressing us from day one, Aaron is our next up and coming instructor.

SrA Jeremiah Shipman: Jeremiah is the man when it comes to Mobility. After hours you can probably find him in front of his computer looking for a new game to conquer.

A1C Ryan Calvin: Ryan's a sharp Airman that's already impressing people in the squadron when he's here. Already pushing 1,000 hours in about a year and a half of flying.

A1C Terryl Fenton: Terryl came to us with some life experience under his belt. He's another new boom that's earning hours quickly. With two deployments under his belt already, he's realizing that McGuire is more like a TDY location than a home station.

A1C Christopher "Reggie" Register: Youngest qualified boom fresh out of FTU but with desert experience already. As a new daddy, Reggie's learning quickly how to balance a hectic TDY schedule with diaper 'doodie.'

A1C Adam Sochia: Just finished FTU with an EQ AR check and is mission ready. Time to deploy! But wait, he's having surgery that's keeping him down for three months. Look for him on the scheduling desk while he recovers.

A1C Philip Gordon: New arrival going through FTU.

A1C Patrick Donovan: New arrival going through FTU.

A1C Derek Fredrick: New arrival going through FTU.

A1C Arthur Levan: New arrival going through FTU.

A1C Alyxander Revell: New arrival going through FTU.

A1C Joshua Krueger: New arrival going through FTU.

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, NJ

76 ARS

“Freedom’s Spirit”



The 76 ARS did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal.

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, NJ

78 ARS

“FIRST AND FINEST!”



The 78 ARS did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal.

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, NJ

141 ARS

“TIGERS”



Marvin “The Great and Powerful Oz” Nichols- (Insert your own witty and hilarious remarks here). Sorry, we want to keep our jobs. On a serious and professional note, Marv is still holding down the fort as our Chief Boom. Just remember that when you go to talk to him he most likely already knows why you are there.

Brian “Killer” Kilpatrick- Office changes have been made around the squadron. The official word hadn’t even come down when Killer started packing up his things to move from the “crazy”-ness of being the OSF’s NCOIC to being the new guy in Current Ops. When he is not building flight plans he can be found vigorously campaigning for the 15 year retirement.

“Scott-radamus” Brown- Well, it’s official. Come 01 Oct 2012 Scott will be a civilian. YES! It has finally arrived. He is always walking around with a permanent grin on his face. Instead of molding young boom operators he will now be molding Jr. ROTC members. Scott is looking to fill a position as an instructor at a local high school. For the time being however, he is holding down the much sought after and envied position as OSF/NCOIC. It’s weird though, it took him a lot longer to move in than it did for Killer to move out...

“Good Deal” Dave Falkowski- I don’t think there is a scuba certification that Dave doesn’t have yet but I don’t think he’ll have as much time for diving now that he is all alone in training. Don’t ask him what the long, hard, plastic things around his desk that you blow are. You’ll get an hour long tutorial on duck calls. And be sure to stand back when he is talking to you. His last name may not sound Italian but the hands fly like he is. Guess that’s how he got all the wine stains on his shirts.

Mike “Sly” Sylvester- If you don’t see Sly on a Monday with a self-inflicted injury, it just wasn’t a productive weekend. Not only is there a reserved parking spot at the local ER but there is also a reserved spot for him on our


DNIF list. Come to think of it, I'm not even sure if he still works here. Mike is still our resident comedic artist and remember, it's **always** funnier when ONE person is not laughing. NOM NOM NOM

Tom "Tron" Miller- Not for nothing, but Twinkle Toes Tom was the squadron's Enlisted Tiger of the Year. He is also our newest boom evaluator and Tactics guy. I'm just saying, someone had to finally step up and show us the way how you never mind it.

Jose "Hose B" Rodriguez- Though he is gainfully employed with the State on the outside, Jose still does a great job of filling holes and picking up some Bravo tours when needed. It is still hard to understand him. The new booms are just told to nod and smile. It makes it easier for everyone.

Samantha "Curly" Gerofsky- The squadron's newest boom instructor. With an EQ out of Altus the squadron decided to reward her with a two month trip to beautiful, sunny and sandy Qatar. As if that wasn't enough, when she returned from there they wanted to test out those instructor skills, so they gave her the squadron's newest boom. Sam, just remember to tell your students about those pesky B-1's.

Marilia "Larry" Rodriguez- One of our best professional guard bums. Marilia is suffering through Pease withdrawals since the Bravo line has returned to McGuire after our runway opened back up. She will be hitting up the NCOA this summer so if you hear a loud female laugh, it's her. But be careful, she has been known to try and

start a mosh pit no matter where she is. Check your FCIF, this has just been released.  Do not allow Marilia outside when excessive winds or other conditions that would cause her to be swept away.

Jennifer "Jen-Only" Bowen- AKA- "Moe." Jen has been moved out of squadron scheduling and is now busy getting A/R's in Wing Scheduling. She was, however, the inspiration for the movie "The 5 Year Engagement." At this rate, marriage just doesn't seem to be in her future and if you ask she'll tell you it's just a piece of paper.

Marshall "Minute" Rice- Altus beware, Marshall will be visiting in August as he will become the squadron's newest instructor. Marshall is so good at his job in scheduling that he was one of the few people who didn't move offices. He has however been filling some trip holes and if you ever see him on the road don't offer him a cheeseburger while wearing spandex. Supposedly it makes him want to fight.

Miguel "Billy" Badillo- Miguel has moved into squadron scheduling with Marshall. Bet he misses scheduling receivers! He is still our VCO and let me tell you those tires have never been so shiny. Miguel is also very good at walking around really fast with papers in his hand to make himself look busy. What he doesn't realize is that we all know he's not.

Don "I can't find my glasses" Smith- Don left the squadron to be in the CRG. Don has left the CRG and is back in the squadron. On the outside he is still fighting crime but has been promoted to Supervisor. No more MRE's for him. He's trying to quit. The flight kitchen is still trying to figure out what the heck they are going to do with all of those extra MRE's now.

Patrick "O Canada" Ogle- Apparently Pat really like the Deid 'cause he has been there several times this year. Maybe he's just a glutton for punishment. When he is not deployed he is busy filling our Bravo line. Come to think of it, I'm not sure when this guy is ever home. I hope his family still remembers him! Patrick is pretty quiet but always gets the job done.

Shawn Foren- Our former Command Post controller turned boom is almost done with all of his local training. His innocent enthusiasm has not been beaten out of him yet. Check back next year. I'm sure it will have changed.

Ken Stoddard- Who? Not long after getting qualified Ken went indefinitely DNIF. Since he wasn't busy flying he decided he would find something else to occupy his time. So, he got married. Bet he wishes he has picked up a different hobby! He is literally just getting back to flying again and is working to get in as many flights as possible to become fully qualified. Just watch out for those TACAN antennas, Ken, they tend to pop out at you from nowhere.

Brad "Seriously" Caruso- When not DNIF with staples in his head from being assaulted by a 3 year old with a hockey stick because he wouldn't let her win at Candyland, Brad is busy flying locals, Bravo or trips. If you are going to tell us a story about what happened to you, at least come up with one that doesn't make you look so bad. It's almost sad how easy he makes it to be picked on.

Joe "Lambchop" Lamantia- (CRG) Lambchop is the CRG's NCOIC. In his free time he does not enjoy zip lining but does enjoy hanging on to trees for dear life. He can also be found as a Roady for the Japanese Beatles. Joe is a RC Plane connoisseur. His models are so intricate that it takes him just as long as it takes the Air Force to make one. By the way, where the heck is our -135?

Otto "Pigman" Petersen- (CRG) CRS NCOIC- Otto is still working 27 jobs. Ok maybe not 27 but seems like it. On the civilian side he is a CE Contractor specializing in plumbing. Why does everything with him revolve around laying pipe?! And they don't call him the "Pigman" for nothing. If its 50-200 lbs he'll stick it and spin it!

Ed "King of the Midgets" Montalvo- (CRG) Ed takes care of the CRG booms. For some reason even if he doesn't go looking for trouble, it seems to find him.

Augustin "Gus Gus" Alvarado- (CRG) The CRG's baby boom. Gus Gus is a police officer on the outside and actually came to us from the Security Forces squadron in the wing. All complete with his training now and is free to fly by himself. Watch out though, his instructor was Ed.

COMING SOON

Vincent Stokes Jr.- Still at school. Made it past basic training and trust me for us that's a huge deal. So far so good (knock on wood). Hopefully this kid breaks the trend for non-priors by making it all the way through.

Brian Kelly- Other than his name and the fact that he will be back sometime this year, we know nothing else about him.

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, NJ

305 OSS/FTU

“SUPPORT FOR GLOBAL REACH”



MSgt Jason Prosser: FTU Chief Boom. Recovering from knee surgery due to old age and enjoying 130 degree heat as the 908 EARS Supt, thanks to his brother. He recently received an assignment to AMC IG at Scott. Aircrews across the command shudder at the thought of Chris...I mean Jason...evaluating their ability to drink water in MOPP 4 from a canteen.

TSgt David Lang: Not sure if he's allowed back in Spain yet.

TSgt Justin Taydus: Actually stayed in his room to study while in Vegas.

SSgt Charles Taylor: Don't bother arguing with him. He's always right...so he says.

SSgt Kenneth Essick: Next Pop Warner Hall of Famer.

SSgt Lawrence Scott: (On-loan) - Pimped out a Dodge Neon. That's right, I said NEON.

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, NJ

621 CRW

“DEVIL RAIDERS”



WARNING: Applying for duty in the Contingency Response Forces (CRF) is not for the weak at heart! You must assume an expeditionary posture at all times, be highly skilled in your craft and be prepared to adapt and overcome all obstacles. Your fears will be faced: sleeping in tents, eating MRE's, yelling Hoorah with the Army, and worst of all working with loadmasters. But if you are not a “Cake Eater” and dare to be different then becoming a Devil Raider may be for you. You will learn to fight, and you will learn to lead and you will become a “Mobility Master.”

The CRW's continue to face challenges. With the Code 50 changes, some have gotten orders sooner than they expected. And by the time this goes to print, there will be only one CRW. Still not sure how things will shake out and what we will look like by the time the dust settles (or the asbestos if you are at McGuire). But one thing remains the same...we will continue to Deploy versatile mobility Airmen, Disciplined to solve problems in complex environments...Mobilize the Fight, Provide Relief, Advance the Peace.



MSgt David Megill – (KC-10) 621 CRW/DOV

Proof, that if you beg long enough you get your wish. Somehow he worked an assignment to Travis. By the time this is published he should be starting re-qual at Travis AFB.

MSgt Leslie Yarbough – (KC-135) 621 CRW/DOT

Yarbough has been checking vMPF for orders almost every day since his arrival into the CRW, even between Affiliation trips. Also, we have seen an increase in data rates on all his CRT trips. Hope is near Code 50 has changed.

TSgt Kevin Wilson – (KC-135) 621 CRW/XO

Kevin has come in and moved up the chain very quickly, bypassed a few steps getting there. We call him the “Little Dirksen” since he is always following our Affiliation manager around like a lost puppy dog. Wait he is the Affiliation Manager..... Keep up the good work!



SMSgt Stacey Tansits – (KC-10) 21st AMOS Superintendent

Spent most of last year deployed. The Italy trip at \$135 a day, staying in an apartment, was very nice! She is on the prowl looking for new recruits for the CRW, balancing the force and saving PCS monies at the same time. Latest trick is to take all the KC-135 Booms and make them KC-10 Booms at McGuire. Can you say, “Cost savings?”

MSgt Reggie Hammond – (KC-10) 21st AMOS Readiness

Yes, he is still on active duty orders. Rumor is he will retire in June. We wish you the best Reggie, just because you are short does not mean you get to slide out the door without saying goodbye!

TSgt Kevin Hill – (KC-10) 21st AMOS Plans

Kevin is here doing his thing, he is the CRW NCO of the YEAR!! Not an easy task here in a wing where bag wearers are outnumbered... Great Job Kevin! He spent most of last year deployed standing up initial tanker planning ops for Libya and doing a CAOC rotation. He is also the CRW nominee for Cheney and Red Erwin Awards.

TSgt Bobby Ryan – (KC-135) 21st AMOS Training

Bobby has been here in the CRW for a while, not sure where Bobby will land with the Code 50 change. Back to the -135's or to the -10's? But rest assured he will still be making left turns and thanking Tom Cruise and the Little Baby Jesus!!!

TSgt Chris Maleski – (KC-10) 21st AMOS

Chris just moved to the CRW from the 32d ARS at McGuire. Currently on a one month vacation to Florida to learn how to be a tanker planner. At some point soon, he will be “that CAOC guy” that all the deployed tanker crews will be complaining about.



MSgt James Dudgeon – (KC-10) 817th GMS

Jim has been pretty much low key. Guess if you had a Loadmaster carry you through CRT upgrade, you would be quiet too. But for real, Jim has been doing good things, CRT and Affiliation instructor.



TSgt John Richenbach (KC-135) 818th GMS

John aka “**Johnny Black**” CRT Master, bleeds CRW!! Yep he drank the cool aid, turned down orders to return back to Kadena AB to stay in the CRW. Soon John, like SMSgt Kay will take his talents over to the KC-10. But John won’t have to go far, just walk across the street. John you should have taken the Blue Pill!!! Good Luck and show them how -135 Booms do it!

TSgt Mike Thomas (KC-10) 818th GMS

Newest TSgt SELO extraordinaire...is trying to fill the shoes of Johnny Black. Mike is currently in CRT upgrade. Always has a smile on his face when you see him.



SMSgt David Coggin – (KC-135) 819th GSS Superintendent

SMSgt Coggin is the man, running from pillar to post. Upgraded to CRT Chief, not sure he will ever get away from the SQ/CC grips to go back out on the road. He’s like Norm from Cheers, every time he walks in the office the CC is calling his name!!

TSgt Robert Poole - (KC-10) 819th GSS/SELO

Rob is a boom of few words. Someone put a freaking bell on him.....

SSgt Lucas Mailander - (KC-135) 819th GSS/UFPM

Luke showed up and became the Group Secretary, said he could not do sit ups for his PT Test due to his a C-Section. Luke’s all better now, taking the reins of the squadron UFPM all while upgrading to Affiliation instructor.

SSgt Adam Mosier - (KC-135) 819th GSS/DOT

Adam is an Affiliation warrior, doing back to back trips to support his 3 packs a day smoking habit. “Almost out of smokes, any trips coming up?”

SSgt Casanova Geary - (KC-10) 819th GSS/RAMPCO

Cas is a cool guy when he is not doing his Chicken Little impression. “The Sky is Falling!” Casanova qualified as a RAMPCO and still aiming to be a CRT, loadmaster, whatever gets him back to flying. Keep up the good work Cas.

SSgt Jeff Gordy - (KC-10) 819th GSS/RAMPCO

Jeff is married with two kids and has taken a break from the flying gig. Of course he has been MIA for most of his first year in the CRW. We think he works in training, but have only seen flashes and doctored photos of him. Hmmm.... Red Hair, never really seen, and photos? Gordy may be the infamous JERSEY DEVIL!!!!

SSgt Eric Flanders - (KC-135) 819th GSS

Eric found time to upgrade to RAMPCO after 3 months of trying to get an IPO in the market for his iPhone 4/S repair business. If you know someone with a broken iPhone or just want to make it stand out contact Eric the iPhone Guru.

Moved On:

SMSgt Randy Kay: SMSgt Kay has taken his talents to Travis leaving the KC-135 and CRW to become a KC-10 Gucci Boy/Superintendent. Good Luck Randy, but nothings like laying down passing GAS!!

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, NJ

KC-10 ATS BOOM INSTRUCTORS



Greetings to all Refuelers around the world!

We are still here operating under rules set for us by Flight Safety Services Corporation. But for administrative and personnel purposes we are employed by DRG – Delaware Resource Group. We have two management systems; the one here on site isn't entirely responsible for us and the ones responsible for us? They're off-site. Sound confusing? It is for us, too. Still, our collective sense of humor is intact...has to be, wouldn't you say?

Can you say "Pre-contact?"

Our boom instructor staff looks like this:

Steve Fromm* (Version 8.5) Ask him about that sometime. Illness has had him sidelined for 2 months.

Andy Miller* Says this is the year he retires...Uh-huh.

Greg Heffron* Rounds out "The 'Top Three'..." They're also known as, "The Triumvirate" and "The Tripod"

Then, there's **Steve Smith***...Top Three Emeritus - Most Disabled American Veteran in New Jersey

Mike Cardina

JC Coleman

Mark Schumann

Steve Custis

Eric 'ET' Thomas

John Page* Writer and one who notes all.

(*) Denotes members of the Sexagenarian Club

It's been a busy year for us here at McGuire AFB or to be more politically correct – Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst. We are training initial qual classes, instructor upgrades, equals, as well as refreshers and Foreign Military Sales (Dutch, Italian, Aussies, whoever else has the coin of the realm). We're cheap, but we're not free.

We're still loving our jobs and the people we work with. Talk about a great place for us to be: we teach the young and not-so-young, refuelers around the world, and are in touch with the future tanker resources (KC-767, KC-46). If you think it can't get better, we also have the C-54 aircraft on base that brought Elvis back to the States for his discharge!

Not sure how to portray this observation...our Travis counterparts now have a painted outline of the KC-10 cargo floor in a building that will enhance training. This is apparently much better to work with than, say, an entire DC-10 cargo aircraft. Not a fault of our friends at Travis...they're on the end of the tail as we are. And our alleged property next door for our cargo training facility? It now has a Security Forces building being constructed because...well, because.

We now have a noise canceling headset in our BOT (Boom Operator Trainer) to make it quieter for us training instructors. This after we put sound into the trainer years ago to make it more realistic. I like the quieter environment wearing the new headset but it does seem odd, doesn't it? And it makes it quieter so that now Steve Smith has to turn up his hearing aid really loud to hear anything.

I know you've heard this before, but really – we're here for you. We salute our refueling partners throughout this ever-shrinking world and hope you'll stop by if you're on the ground for a few hours.

John R. Page
KC-10 ATS Instructor and Ghost Writer

OSAN AB, ROK

607 Air Operations Center

SABRES
“Fight Tonight”



The 607 AOC did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal

PEASE ANGB NH

157ARW/133 ARS

“Wildcats”



Another year behind us and we are still trucking along. We just completed our ASEV and now look forward to our ORI and more trips to the sandbox. This year we had one retirement and one separation and hired on two new baby booms. We also look forward to getting into our new Operations building next year and just hope there is some money left over for new furniture.

CMSgt Tony Casella: anthony.casella@ang.af.mil: Chief was selected to be the ANG CEA Council representative and somehow still hasn't shed any of those other duties that he still has. However, he still finds time to fly in the airplane and teach booms new tricks. He keeps harping about people getting their PME done because you just never know what will happen!

SMSgt Glen Starkweather glen.starkweather@ang.af.mil: We finally told Glen that his fun is over in TTF and he had to come back to reality. We set him up with a sweet gig in our newly formed readiness flight along with our TFI squadron. What he doesn't know is the other additional duties we are going to give him during his time there.

SMSgt Michael George michael.george@ang.af.mil: Mike lucked out and was able to be promoted again to Senior. He is one of the few booms that we know of that we think has worn every stripe at least twice. He is still hanging out in Training and has a couple new office bosses to break in.

MSgt Gary Howard gary.howard.2@ang.af.mil: Gary is still in Stan/Eval. We think every person in the office will transition out to another office but fortunately we will keep Gary there. At least his desk will be there, He still spends most of his time on the road or on alert.

MSgt Michael Girouard michael.girouard@ang.af.mil: G-Rod has adopted a kid and now has another one of his own kids. He is now moving from long range scheduling to TTF. He holds the record on the amount of maternity leave taken in a four year period on base. He has a tendency to email people in the middle of the night from his OWA account making them think he is still at work doing something.

MSgt Alan Beaulieu alan.beaulieu@ang.af.mil: Al has just moved from the front office in scheduling to long range scheduling. With his French-Canadian back ground he signs his emails with "longe" range scheduler. Now that his wife has a new job outside of finance he has to keep track of his own 105 cards.

MSgt John Lennon john.lennon@ang.af.mil: John keeps himself very busy with his full time civilian job and his guard commitments. We can always count on him to be there on Thursday night no matter what. Well, except when

he was DNIF for six months for scrambling his noggin. Now, if we can only get him to get us a great deal on gas for winter heating!

MSgt Dan Luter daniel.luter@ang.af.mil: Dan is still flying his Thursday night RODD 99's faithfully. If you are ever flying in the Boston area and hear a familiar voice you know its Dan!

MSgt Jim Doyle james.doyle@ang.af.mil: Jim has a new wife and I think a few new job sites to work on. At least that's during his spare time when he is not flying on the Airbridge.

TSgt Christie Rouleau christie.rouleau@ang.af.mil: Airbridge life hasn't taken a toll on Christie yet, but maybe that's why she deploys to the AOR so much. She is our newest 100+ Combat sortie patch wearers. Where's you're Secrets?

TSgt Mark Brophy mark.brophy@ang.af.mil: Mark was able to survive the ASEV and now is back into scheduling. Now that the ASEV is over, I think he is going to spend most of his summer sailing up and down the coast.

TSgt Eric Diaz eric.diaz@ang.af.mil: It is hard to keep track of Eric. We never know where he is or what he is doing if he's not on our schedule. He is still juggling multiple jobs and does it better than most do one. When Eric catches a break he spends time with the family.

TSgt Jamie Marier james.marier@ang.af.mil: Jamie been doing a great job tracking everyone's ground training and expects to attend instructor school this summer.

TSgt Daryl McPhee daryl.mcphee@ang.af.mil: Daryl is one of our new booms for this year. Daryl was hired from our own AFE shop and is living the dream after applying three times (third time's a charm!). He really loved Altus and I think holds the record for number of sorties before getting his first contact in flight.

SSgt Kevin Johnson kevin.johnson@ang.af.mil: Kevin is also another one of our new booms for this year. He left his technician job in maintenance for a better life on the other side of the fence. He is fitting in well and relies on his better half to bring in the fulltime paycheck.

SSgt Brett Peterson brett.peterson@ang.af.mil: Brett is one of our newest hires and is currently going through the wickets at the COE. He recently gave up an AGR position in SFS to become a boom because he heard that being inside the airplane on a generation is much more comfortable than being on the corner of the ramp trying to guard it.

SSgt Samantha Yeanish samantha.yeanish@ang.af.mil: Sam finished the end of last year with a broken foot and then shortly after recovery found out she was going to have a baby. Now she has a beautiful new son and both mom and son are doing great. She spends a lot of time going back and forth between home and Alabama where hubby is learning to become a rotor head.

SrA Matt Pongrace matthew.pongrace@ang.af.mil: Matt is living the traditional guard bum dream by flying here and there and helping his buddy out catching lobsters. Every once in a while he catches a great deal TDY only because we have no one else to go!

A1C Chris Storm chris.storm@ang.af.mil: Chris is our other new hire this year and he so lucky to be at Lackland for basic training during hottest months of the year! Chris has a fulltime job on the outside as one of New Hampshire's finest State Law Enforcement members and can be seen cruising up and down the highway just outside the gate looking for speeding pilots.

Recently Separated:

MSgt Sam Blackwell sameul.blackwell@ang.af.mil: Sam retired this year with 23 active duty years of service. He has a great consulting gig with TYBRIN working on the replacement for ACFP and AWE software for BLK 45.

TSgt Dan Leonard daniel.leonard@ang.af.mil: Dan is enjoying his new job on the outside and because of his work location he decided to take the IMA route at Scott on the TACC floor.

PEASE ANGB, NH

157ARW/64 ARS

“Rising Phoenix”



Greetings from New Hampshire and the first AD/ANG associate unit! Congratulations to all my Booms, they truly shined capturing EQ's and achieving perfect test scores during our integrated ASEV this year. Two 64th Booms have been quite busy logging Contacts at home and will soon add to their list of dependents. We all wish MSgt John Lennon (133rd Boom/brother) a speedy recovery...I need you on my deployment roster!

SMSgt Jauss, Keith A. keith.jauss@ang.af.mil : Sq Superintendent/EB: Nellis AFB twice in one year is surely testing the limits of this old man. Keith's position as Sq Sup was replaced by a CMSgt, he wasn't fired but was asked to pack his shit up and move into his car for an indefinite period of time.

MSgt Ingram, Patrick L. patrick.ingram@ang.af.mil: NCOIC, Stan/Eval/EB: Pat is kicking ass capturing an EQ during an ASEV check ride. Pat is also a Tree hugger with his earth-friendly hybrid Ford.

TSgt Poteet, Justin R. justin.poteet@ang.af.mil : NCOIC, Training/IB: Justin is lives for pissing off AMC/A3V, he not only uses the ANG MicroBoss trainer, he also wrote the courseware and got the entire ANG to sign off on it. Don't Mess with this Texan!

TSgt McKinney, Ronald R. ronald.mckinney@ang.af.mil: NCOIC, Tactics/IB: Ron recently had his fill of Probe and Drogue at MacDill, the experience was traumatic causing him to leave work early once he got home....Oh wait, he always leaves early!

SSgt Kawasaki, Robert Y. robert.kawasaki@ang.af.mil: NCOIC, EPUBS/IPAD Development/MB: Rob is hard at work developing an AMC approved Jailbreak for the new IPAD....ok he really doesn't care if AMC approves of it.

SSgt Schultz, Geoffrey R. geoffrey.schultz@ang.af.mil: NCOIC, Scheduling/MB: When Geoff isn't deployed or in school no one really knows what the hell he does. Somehow he always gets his choice of ANG Guardlift missions.

SSgt Marshall, Silas J. silas.marshall@ang.af.mil: Scheduling/MB: Silas is preparing to leave the Air Force but not before he snags a little more tax free dollars. Silas is a great Boom Operator and will surely be missed.

PHOENIX ANGB (SKY HARBOR), AZ

197 ARS



The 197 ARS did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal

PITTSBURG ANGB, PA

171 ARW



Greetings to yinz guys out there from “The Burgh”. Busy as hell here like the rest of you guys, but we persevere. We went through a huge transformation not only in hair color and volume, but also in experience. Literally turned our boom wings upside down. 25K hours of experience taken off the books in the last 6 months, replaced by 6 IQTs and more to follow. Budget cuts 2013 cancelled. 2014 on the horizon. Do I hire now or wait? Tanker X. A lot of questions for us as a boom community on the horizon. Hopefully we remain the strongest aircrew union out there.

Fulltimers

SMSgt Gerry “Senor Chief” Levato- Assumed command of the 171st boom union and immediately spawned a moustache craze here at the Burgh. The boom shop now resembles the cast of a bad 70’s porn film.

SMSgt Ken Teyssier – Kenny recently quit smoking (at home). Expensive to be around (at work). Running the Deployment Hub (Colonel created).

MSgt Yale “Percules” Perkins – Yale owns a Jeep with a hard top he refuses to use. He put an insurance claim in for hail damage to the inside of the thing?

MSgt Ryan Conley – Ryan converted to AGR and bought a 40K \$\$ Harley built for two. Why didn’t I put in for that job? Hey Ryan, don’t come see me when you want to take your use or lose leave

MSgt Johnny “Bitch Alot” Gift – John has a lot of tattoos, everywhere. Strangely enough, we’ve all seen them at the Boomfest. WTF John?? Gazers??

MSgt Bo “Weezy” Winovich – Bo is sporting a mustache until I get promoted. Or was it because I told him his wife likes them.

MSgt Marc “Barney” Barna – Marc builds trips in Current Ops. From cordwood to Nav Chart, production line to rental car, Marc builds that trip. You may need a chain saw or jaws of life to RTB, but it’s built.

MSgt Mike “Worthless” Worthington – Mike is the ex-writer of our Boom Signal. How do you get to be the ex-writer? By not realizing there was deadline for these things.

MSgt Pat Sharkey – Veteran AGR of long range scheduling, Pat just took over the International Garbage chore. Honestly, do you guys really pay to have that stuff removed?

MSgt Scott “Spank” Trowbridge – Scooter just returned to light duty in long range. Just in time I might add, Bacardi was running outta sugar cane. As I am typing this he is working on his next trip to Puerto Rico.

Guard Bums

SMSgt Steve Grindle – Retired cop turned guard bum. Spelling is not his forte. He recently insulted the *hole* animal kingdom when wrote up the “ox pump was week”?

MSgt Casey “Pie” Oconnor – AKA the Guardfather. Lifelong guard bum. Recently returned with red hair from a “Hangover” soiree out west. There will be concrete under his finger nails when he leaves.

TSgt Bill “Baby Whooy” Paull – Bill’s wife just gave birth. Now he knows how we’ve felt for the past 3 years with him. Feed them (guard bums) and they still whine.

TSgt Kirk “O-ring” Boring – Now sporting a Levato-esque moustache in hopes of boosting his chances for a spot in CFIC and/or the full time workforce. Sits next to Bill Paull in scheduling and for that I am grateful.

TSgt Tim Tyler – Tim just sent me an email wishing me happy birthday, again. This is the 6th one this year from him. I get it Tim, but don’t reply to all when doing it.

SSgt Andy Neely – (Ex-cop) He just went on his first TDY with me (Levato). Andy uses GMT for everything, including show times. “Andy, are you awake or dreaming of fishing in Alaska, it’s show time!”

SSgt Erik Larson – Always has that shit eating grin on his face. You know the one where a SSgt is on a Bravo tour and he’s making more than you and he knows it.

SSgt Dominique “Neek” Clerkley – Just returned from Altus. Was appointed as the “Mayor of Applebees” out there. I was surprised that Altus has an Applebees? Thank god for Dom no strip clubs!

SSgt Justin Blinky – Still in school. We just received his wish list for the AEF next year and he only asked for Guam during the cool months. Did I mention he wants to be a guard bum? Justin, at this rate, you may end up a bum. See Morretti above.

SSgt Myke McAfoose – Recent boom school graduate. He’ll do anything thing we ask of him, as long as his wife approves it. Recently learned (showtime of departure) that tan flight suits are required for the desert.

TSgt Dan “The Cool” Morretti – 1st day on Bravo alert he asked for 2 weeks off. Gives new meaning to the term “Generation X”, as in ex-Bravo guy.

Traditional

CMSgt Randy Miller – Randy retired but insisted on no fini flight. Who would’ve known he’d be back in 6 months later begging for Charlies? One guess (Randy).

SMSgt Joe Morris – Fills in the holes of his one day a week schedule at the fire house by flying with us.

MSgt Jeff Morris – See above

MSgt George Meszaros – Takes time away from his job as an engineer for Bombardier to fly with the intellectual little people as a traditional guardsman.

MSgt Mike “Crank” Schank – Another traditional guardsman holding dual status in the firefighter and boom unions.

MSgt Jim Perrott – Jim is retiring this December because he’s sick of the BS. He didn’t know we were going to non-retain him anyway. Gotcha Jim!

TSgt Brandon Kehr – Please report to Ops if you read this. Brandon drinks Muscle Milk Light. It’s working!!

TSgt Tom Armour – Tom is a guard bum, but forgot to tell his employer (state cops) or his wife or his ex-employer or ex-wife.

SSgt Scott Amorose – This guy had brass balls when he got back from Altus. One trip to the vet took care of those.

TSgt/2Lt/TSgt Daniel Zickefoose- Recently married. Recently returned from UPT. Soon to be a boom again. In the immortal words of Meatloaf, “2 out of 3 ain’t bad”.

Retired

CMSgt Nick Lucyk – Retired to Phoenix only to find that all the warm weather and sunshine made him uncomfortably happy. Recent alleged sightings have placed him back in the Burgh.

CMSgt Pat “Mumbles” Plonski – Pat retired technician for a Bravo tour. Took one look at his first Active Duty LES and started talking legibly. Completely retired this Sept.

SMSgt Tony Trenga – Tony retired with 11K+ hours, 7K+ points and 50K+ frequent flyer miles and 4 houses. Where did I go wrong?

Other Category

CMSgt Craig Smith – Lucky man in many ways. Never owned a tan flight suit and still made Chief. I’m doing something wrong here.

SMSgt John Buckwalter – Many of you know John. Nicest guy I’ve known who was in tactics, rides a unicycle, ties balloons, makes oragamis, blah, blah, blah! This guy could put Joe Mace to shame.

TSgt/2LT Josh Wood – Not the tallest fella in the world. Josh’s UPT dates were delayed pending the development of the booster ejection seat.

TSgt/2LT Kelman Khersonsky- The Uzbek Train wreck. In another example of reverse evolution, Kelman underwent the lobotomy and headed off to pilot training.

Honestly, this is the finest group of booms out there. They make my job easy. Take my joking lightly and realize I’m proud to serve with them, even with some of these issues. LOL.

Sidenote: Our Boomfest is September 7. All former (to include officers) or current Active, Guard and Reserve booms are invited. We’ll supply the food, beer, booze and entertainment. If there are any booms looking for a traditional slot, give me a call.

**Jerry Levato
Chief Boom, Pittsburgh**

RAAF BASE AMBERLEY, AUSTRALIA

33 SQN

“ENDURING”



TSgt Lindsay S. Moon: Training & Standardizations - Started a hardship tour as the first Boom Exchange stood up last year in Brisbane, Australia. Finally completed his 10 year CCAF (attention to detail) and a majority of his undergrad in between vegemite flight meals served by young RAAF Flight Attendants. Implementation of the RAAF's new \$280M KC-30A has been slow and laborious, but definitely the chance of a lifetime, as our allies become more a part of the fight! lindsaymoon@gmail.com

RAF MILDENHALL, UK

100 ARW, 100 OG, 351 ARS, 100 OSS

“THE BLOODY BOOM ASSOCIATION”

(Current as of 1 June 2012)



100th Air Refueling Wing

CMSgt Christopher Powell (100 ARW/CCC) – Still serving Team Mildenhall as the Wing Command Chief. Dreaming of retirement and life as a helicopter pilot. While playing on the CE basketball team he often waves to the OG while walking off the court for a cold Metamucil. Once a boom, always a boom.

100th Operations Group

CMSgt Gregory Warren (OG Superintendent) – Chief recently arrived from McChord and has hit the ground running. Hasn't flown on the real tanker since it had steam engines, but we're excited to have him nonetheless.

MSgt Max Morkin (OGV Boom) – Still working in OGV, but life is lonely now that Walt Markwas has departed USAFE Stan/Eval. He does have a framed picture of Walt sitting proudly on his desk to keep him company. Still old and grumpy; has more time poopin' in the flare than Coffey has in the Air Force.

MSgt Pat “Dentures” Denson (OGT Boom) – Currently in OGT keeping a sharp eye on boom training and trying to get USAFE to produce us some night fighters for our MCT booms. When he's not deep frying his body parts at fundraisers you can find him feeding jalapeno sunflower seeds to birds in the park, and building a model airplane.

351st Air Refueling Squadron

SMSgt Paul Wallace (Squadron Superintendent) – Recently returned to the squadron after a vacation as OG Superintendent. He is 0 for 2 in marathons signed up for and marathons run...he was unable to make height requirements. Still takes him 3 hours to give a 3 second answer.

MSgt Clint Slick (First Sergeant) – Recently took the reigns as the sq shirt. He's looking forward to walking around base correcting everyone whether they're doing something wrong or not. Still hurt from Danilowski's mom not returning his phone calls. When he's not busy keeping us in line he's busy as a basketball and soccer coach.

MSgt Mike “Roddy” Rodriguez (Operations Superintendent) – Roddy recently took over as the Chief Boom after a stint as Stan/Eval supt. When he’s doesn’t pull out the MTI hat to drop the hammer he likes to return to his roots and inspect all the AGE on the flightline.

Stan/Eval

TSgt Mike Russell (NCOIC) – The ultimate tree hugger...Currently building a resume’ for Greenpeace career. Standby for new season of “Whale Wars.” Twig ‘n Berries is heading to Altus and has a baby on the way. He’s done an outstanding job and will be missed.

SSgt Everett L. Marshall – The “L” stands for Lindsey. Morkin’s Protégé. Everett is working on his 18th Air Medal and kicking ass as an EB. Hide ya wives, hide ya kids, and hide ya donuts.

SrA Amanda Ampey (SELO) – We think she’s the best even though the CMSAF ignored her as she held the door for him. Continues to blaze a path as a SELO and boom extraordinaire.

Training Flight

TSgt Michael Ingram (NCOIC) – MSgt Select! Mike puts out more smoke in a day than Eastern China. Doing a great job in training flight despite stepping off the set of “Deliverance”. SQUEEEEEAAAAAALLLLLLLLLL!!!!!!

TSgt Roger Vula – Woger wecently weinwisted fo anotha foh yeas. Doing great work in Training. He’s a new dad still working off the baby weight. He’ll sweat it off in Altus when he gets non-vol’d!

SrA Jason Coffey – Still looking for a new dance partner and stopped using Nair after LeMessurier left a couple years ago...There’s nobody special to inspect the hard to reach areas. We let him reenlist after he finally figured out where the Generator CB panel is.

SrA Kenny Arcibal – Our newest IB, Kenny did a great job in Safety and is now in Training ready to keep us smart on all things boom. Just don’t ask him to sing the Air Force Song. Kenny and his wife are expecting a baby girl soon.

A Flight

SSgt Tom Vesser (NCOIC) – Tom’s still our mom. Recently moved back to flight supervisor to shoot lightning bolts at young booms with his level 23 mage. He’s almost as bad as Koch and Russell with his rabbit food.

SrA Leigh-Ann “GTL” Schuster – Just watch Jersey Shore. Just returned from another deployment. PCSing to Birmingham this summer. Our loss, ‘Bama’s gain.

A1C Damon “Tuna” Tunender – We actually heard him speak a few days ago. Slowly coming out of his shell. Got done with MCT and we hammered him with coronets. Turkey is known for carpets and guns, not life size Elvis rugs and beanbag love seats.

A1C Tristan Henthorne – New arrival that blazed through MCT. Just returned from his maiden deployment. Car smells like a French “Lady of Pleasure” but doesn’t have a girlfriend.

Amn Anthony Ellsworth – Brand new baby boom (FNG) going through MCT. Priorities (?): Cell phone \$50, Car \$1000, Reporting to work on your first day in civilian clothes, Priceless! Been on the wagon for two months and going strong.

B Flight

SSgt Kris Echols (NCOIC) – The baggage bin master. Recently arrived from MacDill and is a new flight super. We look forward to him teaching us his various techniques on building baggage bins.

SSgt Eric Sonnenberg – Former MX Fuels Tank Rat. Just completed MCT and hit the road at full sprint. Looking forward to great things from him in B-Flight. He's a solid guy so we don't have any dirt on him....yet.

A1C Nathaniel Hammond – Currently deployed with Coffey...we'll probably have to fix all of his bad habits when he returns. So far he's doing a great job, just needs help finding his dorm room on occasion.

A1C Gabe King – He knows more than all of us combined, just ask him. Recently scored a 99% on his CDC test. Would have gotten a 100% but he spelled his name wrong. Been here less than year and we've kept him busy...three deployments and he's currently on another coronet.

A1C Drew Parsons – Newly arrived from the pipeline. Completed MCT just fine. Russell says he like to "beat the skins." We're not exactly sure what that means.

Safety

SrA Michael "D-Low" Danilowski – Getting ready for CFIC. Mike did a great job in Mobility and will soon be paroled to work in Safety. Expectant father; not quite sure how it happened.

Mobility

SSgt Neil Patras – One of our newest instructors, Neil is currently dominating mobility by flying as much as possible. Luckily, he trained D-Low to cover for him. He still thinks he can land better than most of our pilots.

SrA Jessica "Jinks" Hinkle – MPRS guru...Currently holds the record for most probes brought back during a single deployment. Those foreign pilots can't stay focused when they hear her talking on the radio. Looking forward to great things from her in Mobility.

100th Operations Support Squadron

Tactics

TSgt Jonathan Taylor – Another MSgt Select! After seven months on the job, Jon is now certified as our new tactics guru. Still making sweet passionate 10-second love to Austin Arnold's sister.

Current Operations

TSgt Joe Koch (NCOIC) – (Pronounced "Cook" not "Kawk" or "Kotch") – Joe recently returned from the NCOA as a DG and we don't mean Done Graduated. If you can find a girl that's not stalking Joe, let us know. When he's not busy arguing with AMD, Joe competes with Russell for a job on Whale Wars.

SSgt Austin "Double-A" Arnold – Calvin is the Air Force's lowest ranking Chief. He did a great job as the Boom Association president and even developed our cool new boom patch. He was a great asset and will be missed when he leaves us for the Travis CRW.

SSgt Pete “P-Rod” Rodriguez – Working in the mission planning shop. He spent last summer teaching NATO how to schedule tankers and run a war. Pete recently became engaged to his longtime girlfriend. We’re not quite sure who proposed to who.

USAFE Stan/Eval

MSgt Greg Patterson – Greg recently arrived at Ramstein from Fairchild. He’s done more in 6 months than Walt did in 4 years! (Just kidding Walt). We don’t know much about Greg but so far he’s anxious to fly with us and we’re happy to have him...and he doesn’t run ATA for USAFE.

Departed

CMSgt Steven “Opie” Flax – Chief got his dream assignment and moved back to Spokane.

MSgt Walt Markwas – PCS’d to MacDill in January. Already deployed to the Deid.

TSgt Terrell “Digger” Frideger – The Diggs left us for the McGuire CRW in May.

TSgt Bob Jenkins – Departed for Altus last September.

SSgt Jorge “J-Rod” Rodriguez – PCS’d to Travis CRW in May.

SrA Steve Barry – Promoted to civilian. Became a body builder, just didn’t lift any “weight”.

SrA Sarah (Logan) Shaffer – Separated and is now a fulltime mom and civilian.

A1C Ricky “Ricky Bobby” Warren – Departed for Fairchild. Going through withdrawals since is not going to Souda Bay every other week.

A1C Michael Wichterman Could not handle the pressure of air refueling or ordering flight lunches...no longer a boom and separated from the Air Force. Thanks again, Altus!

Inbound

TSgt Dave “Schoolhouse Stan/Eval” Thoresen – Inbound from Altus

SSgt Andrew Valence – Inbound from Fairchild

SSgt Michael Eiland – Cross-trainee

SSgt Serjey Ficeli – Cross-trainee

SSgt Matthew Ohle – Cross-trainee

A1C Eric Dashner – Pipeline

A1C Devaughn Granger – Pipeline

A1C Michael Robinson – Pipeline

A1C Kyle Cleis – Pipeline

Amn Kayla Whorley – Pipeline

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, GERMANY

HQ USAFE/A3TV

STAN/EVAL



MSgt Patterson Greg: G Master P, Clark W. Griswold (Big Ben Parliament), Sea Bass, Paddy Patt, Daddy Patt, GEG, Greg “The Shopping Cart” Patterson, Greggles, Base Man, Grease Monkey, Monkey G, Mung, Baby B, Snuggy, and Twiggy Buns? (it was a high school thing...”This one time at band camp...” ‘nuff said!); he thought he was moving up in the world with a cushy HHQ Stan Eval gig at the Stein... what could be better right? Well...with not a single Butter Bar or AMN in sight, being the FNG and low man on the totem pole, yep you guessed it....He’s the SNaC’O....Again!

Other Ramsteinians:

Sequestered away in a Hobbit Hole in the Shire where regular folk are forbidden to go...

MSgt Andrew Upchurch – 603 AOC/AMD
TSgt Devin Kay – 603 AOC/ARCT

Prior Booms ‘kickin it’ at the RAB:

SMSgt Robert ‘Spike’ Spsychalski – HQ USAFE/A4MA (The Maintainers Maintainer)
TSgt David ‘Monkey Boy’ Brandt – 86 AW/SEG (Safety)
TSgt Donald ‘I don’t think he had a nickname I can repeat’ Killian – 21 OWS/WXA (Weather)

RANDOLPH AFB, TX

HQ AETC/A3VM



Greetings from Randolph AFB! If you did not know, 19 AF will officially deactivate in Jul 2012. Most of the 19 AF staff has already transitioned into the AETC world with a few bugs to work out. We are making every effort to assist the FTU with our new transition and make everything as clear as mud. We have lots of things to look forward to including the new BOWST, student PFT, and upcoming KC-46 program. It should be an interesting and busy year.

My daughter Ashley was recently approved Palace Chase and has recently moved back to Texas where she will begin the fall semester at Stephen F. Austin, as well as complete her reserve duty at Barksdale AFB, LA. "She finally made it out of Minot". Our son Peyton graduated this year and will also attend Stephen F. Austin in the fall. Heidi is still working for the Army Medical Lab and harping on me to do more things with her now that we are going to be "empty nesters". I keep telling her I will take her fishing anytime she wants but I don't think that is what she meant.

As usual if you happen to pass through San Antonio, give us a shout.

Cheers
L3

//Signed//
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RANDOLPH AFB, TX

HQ AETC/A3ZM



Tejas is still hot! Roseann and I arrived last May and we've been sprinting ever since. San Antonio is home for me, so this assignment was a blessing. My family lives here: Mom, Sisters, one of my Brothers, and my two sons, Braxton and Riley. Braxton is now a Sous-Chef and Riley is entering his second year at Texas State.

I've re-learned a few things since checking in at Randolph. One, It's great to be working with the elite FTU and Center of Excellence teams again, and two, staff work can be as challenging as an "Afghan laundry knot." It's all good though because no matter what the day brings, I know that our outstanding AETC instructors, producing the next generation of Boomers, are without question "The Best in the Air Force!"

I'd like to say I've gotten a lot done lately, but that's just not the case. All that credit goes to the old 19th AF/new HQ A3V Boomer, SMSgt Larry Lewis and my Loadmaster counterpart, SMSgt Justin Strain, who sits about three feet from me in the Non-Combat Mobility Cubicle of Excellence. They are doing it all while I'm vacationing at Bagram with the MC-12 "Liberty" program (Google it)...and although I'm away, I've found that no matter where I go, tankers are always there and it makes me proud. I was on a mission last week, enjoying the view as my crew was heading home, and I noticed we were passing a familiar track. I silently thought to myself...

NKAWTG!

When you're in town, stop by for some great Texas BBQ and a cold one! Roseann says, "they gotta roof stomp before I'll let 'em in!"

I'll be back in the fall. Until then, fly safe.

"Gumby"

//Signed//

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RICKENBACKER IAP, OH

121 ARW/145 ARS

“TAZZ”



Greetings from the “Tazz”manian Devils! Well, it’s been a pretty busy year for us and we’ve gone through quite a few changes, especially in the Personnel Department. But, we’re still having fun doing the best enlisted job ever! And now, without further ado, here are the Main players with a fine supporting cast.

The Technicians:

SMSgt Emler, Paul EB “Angry Elmo” is in charge our Training program which he rules with an iron fist! When he’s not molding young Boomers into his image, he’s out touring the roads on his Harley.

MSgt Cartwright, Kevin IB “Hoss” handles all the scheduling needs of our section: daily flying, alerts, TDY and Deployments, you name it he schedules it. He used to be a home builder and has been the recipient of many home project inquiries. He’s also been known to mud wrestle with power tools.

SMSgt Toskin, Daniel IB We got Danny in a Boom swap with the 166th and he has done us good ever since. With his god-like computer skills, he keeps our video games in good running order.

The AGRs:

MSgt Foster, Matt IB Matt is still here. First contact was in 1979, when they burned water as fuel. But really, he keeps telling us he is not that old. Seems his main job as an AGR is to keep Shoe in line and watch where his golf ball goes. Always talks to “Hoss” about fixing up and building houses, decks, kitchens, Trojan Horses and such.

Traditionals:

Chief Guard, Tom EB The Chief retired as a full-timer back at the beginning of March, but, plans to torment us and stay on as a traditional. At least he will still be able to keep The Gargoyle full of chocolate in his office.

Hamilton , Mark MB When Mark isn’t wreaking havoc at the Information Technology department at Franklin University, he’s cherry picking the good trips or whining about not getting even alert tours, or acting like Cliff Clavin with little known factoids

MSgt Keller, Scott IB Scott works at DFAS in Columbus, close to “Scooby Doo” but, doesn’t act anything like Stu. He’s also an avid runner and likes to sit in cloth covered chairs in his sweaty clothes.

MSgt Rempe, Heidi MB Our “Boomer Goddess” flies as an attendant for NetJets then turns around and does it here for us on deployments and Guardlifts.

MSgt Davis, Steven MB “Stavis/Reverend Booty” is a smooth operator who likes to take his show on the road. In fact, he spends so much time going TDY for us we forget what he looks like.

TSgt Gentry, Stewart MB “Scooby-Doo” where are you? When he’s not hunting receivers for Scooby snacks, Stu works at DFAS Columbus as a Financial Systems Specialist (no, he cannot increase your check!). Passing gas is what he loves to do! NKAWTG!

TSgt Sorrell, David IB Dave is in an odd situation as he works for two Guards. Chief Tom Guard is his supervisor here in the Boom Section and at his civilian job at Ohio Corrections, John Guard, the Chief’s brother, is his boss at the prison. “It’s totally weird!” says Dave. To soothe his jangled nerves he loves candle light dinners and takes long walks on the beach.

TSgt Perkins, Mark MB A Policeman from Mt. Vernon, Mark loves to pass gas in a tanker more than cruise in a patrol car. We supply him donuts so, he doesn’t miss it much.

TSgt Evans, Matt MB Matt is one of our new Booms who loves to do it all for us: LTMPA, Alert and especially, TDY’s. Like Davis, we keep a picture of him around to recall what he looks like when he returns from one of his desert sojourns.

SSgt Karshner, Adam MB Adam is another one of our Booms that does a lot for us. Fly, go TDY, drink our beer and wear our pajamas. Adam is a peculiar fellow but enjoys everything he does for the unit. If you are having trouble figuring out somewhere to eat he will never steer you wrong.

SSgt Daranikone, Vanlath MB Another one of our new Booms, Van earned the name “Van-tenna” on one of his F-16 refuelings and is looking to de-throne Hamilton as the F-16 Antenna Ace.

SSgt Treneff, Alex MB Alex has a tendency to leave his PDA, on the plane after his sorties. We warned him if he did it again, he would have to do his Form F’s with the Chief’s abacus.

MSgt Thompson, Marq IB “Q” is our Inspector Gadget. Any new electronic toys that arrives on the scene, he has it in his possession wringing it out. He’s also into guns and taking urban combat classes. It’s nice to have a hobby.

TSGT Gilbert, William IB “Willy G” manhandles our Cargo Loading Program which he does with amazing aplomb. He took over Billy Mac’s desk and is still cleaning stuff out of it. He calls them “historical artifacts” and wants to send them to the Unit’s Historian for cataloging.

The Retired and Gone:

Tab Bursk Retired after a nice long run and is now helping his dad run the family business. His brother, Mike, is a Boom Operator with Jack Bishop’s 166th Boom Section, just down the hall.

Bob Reffitt Retired as a Chief, thanks to our State’s Exceptional Promotion Program. He’s also retired from the Columbus Police Department this year.

Delmar McGee Delmar got his 20 in and is off and running to other adventures. He comes in once and awhile to see if he left any belongings behind and to show off his beard.

William McIver Another old 160th ARG mainstay has left the building. “Billy Mac” retired and pulled up stakes to return to Kansas to help take care of his dad.

SMSgt Berg, Allen Retired October 2010.

MSgt McKinnon, Michael IB “Budrow”(so-named by Angry Elmo) went to the 166th Boom Section due to the new evil manning document. He’s been back and forth between the two squadrons so many times that he wears both unit patches together and feels like a ping pong ball.

Atkins, Victor W. Young Victor fulfilled his enlistment obligation to us and now serves as an EMT in Toledo. Now he can wear his hair like Zak Bagans of “Ghost Adventures” whenever he wants.

MSgt Shoemaker, Eric EB “Shoe” left the Unit as a Boom in June of 2011 and now is a Sensor Operator on Predators with the 178th at Springfield, Ohio. And we thought that he didn’t like video games!

RICKENBACKER ANGB, OH

166 ARS



There is still a lot going on out here in Ohio. We've settled into the AEF and are still supporting TACC and all their tasking, along with a full set of Guardlifts, Business Efforts, and any other trips that anyone will send our way.

End of an Era

CMSgt Jack Bishop – Jack has led the 166 Booms for the past 20 years, been a chief for over 20, and been in since well... those records are in stone and too hard to read, however the time to retire has come. He is currently found guard bumming as he finishes out the rest of the year as a traditional before he completely retires.

Technicians

SMSgt Todd Devoe ~~"Baby Huey"~~ "Caveman" – The 166 Scheduler and our new resident Caveman, he is the leader of the Paleo Clan.

SMSgt Sam Given "Samdusky" – He is up in OGV spitting out 5-6 Readfiles a day sometimes, trying to get us all to head on upstairs and pickup our new paperweights... umm Ipads.

SMSgt Jason Krupa "The Polish Plumber" – Used to be a Load, then an FE, now occupying some space doing everything possible to find a way to be productive.

MSgt Lib Malbon "Hello this is Liberache, no I can't play the piano, but I can tell you a story" – Lib is still the source of hours of entertainment in the squadrons with classic lines such as:

"Lib, Why were you late today?"

"Uhh Well, I woke up too early"

"Lib, Can you Fly tomorrow"

"Uhh, No I ate too much cheese"

MSgt Michael McKinnon "Budrow" – Hes is our Ohio redneck, which if you've been to some areas of Ohio that is saying a lot. Mike is somehow always around when they are looking for a boom to go on a rescue jet to Puerto Rico

MSgt Robert “DB” Derryberry “Flying Hawaiian” – He is living in current ops, His first RV had a serious situation with a Crystal Meth infestation, we’re hoping the one he just bought for his dad is “clean”. When not at work he can be found on the lake in his boat, rowing with his thumbs.

AGR

MSgt Kevin J. Black “J is for Jenius” – Kevin has finished up some degree he was working on all the time, just in time for retirement. To fill his job we are thinking Thunderdome “Two booms enter one AGR leaves”

Traditionals

MSgt Barry Anderson “You don’t hear that at Nationwide” – Barry comes around every week or so to actually fly. That’s right he quit canceling sorties and now has to log hours. He constantly reminds us our conversations might not be appropriate for the Big Corporate World with his quote.

MSgt Michael Bursk – “Sniper” Staying busy shooting raccoons out of trees at DB’s with a 22, from 300 yards away. He is finally doing his PME because he realized he has been in so long he only needs to hold SMSgt for 1 day to retire as it. With the rank reduction guard wide that’s all he might get.

MSgt Chris Hasty “Cheeto” – OHP Officer Hasty is flying around in the states new shiney Helicopter, busting druggies and chasing people.

MSgt Dale Ryan “Facists” – Guard bumming running his business on the side. Dale stays busy with long walks on the beach and explosive relationship discussions on a cruise ship in the middle of the Med.

TSgt Bob Cox “Square Object and Many Roosters” – Just got back from the Deid and either he got skinny or his head got fat. Bob avoids “real work” at FedEx like the plague, so much so he actually ran out of pay days, somehow we found some more in a different pocket.

TSgt Ryan Dunn “Techno Viking” – Dunn likes to dance in the streets during his free time (Youtube it). Staying busy being a guard bum and loving every second of it.

TSgt Jon Groleau “Gorilla” – Went out and got a “real job” as a loadmaster on 767’s and DC-8’s then realized that working for a living sucks. He is back temp tech’ing finding ways to get paid here at base. Funny enough if you ask him about his civilian job, he will say he quit, but he still goes back time to time and they pay him... ..

TSgt James McNellis – “Jim” Jim has had a rough road getting up to speed and every time he falls down the stairs (literally). He has a little one on the way and also has had a couple promotions at his job, he officially has no time in the day left”

TSgt Brian Mott ”Dexter” – Brian is staying busy in the Forensics Department downtown, or at least that’s what we think. He used to be in co-ed Kickball league until his tooth ended up in a girls skull.

TSgt Jason Vinson ”V3” – Jason in the resident “young” and “fit” one. He was disappointed this year when his run time was over 8 minutes. We know he’s young because as everyone was sitting around testing annoying decibel tones on their phone saying “Nope cant hear that one” his quote was “Will you guys stop playing all those stupid tones!” (edited for language).

SALT LAKE CITY IAP, UT

191 ARS

“SLARCO”



CMSgt Doug Cline This will be Chief Cline's last year at the helm of the USS SLARCO. Due to force rejuvenation he is one of 3 senior technicians who will be non-retained in the next couple of years. No worries though, none of the pilots will face the same fate. We wish the Chief well in his future as the Scottsdale, AZ dog catcher.

SMSgt Jim Zaelit Jimmy is our Pubs/Stn Eval boom and is leading us into the future with the iPads. It will be a success if he can figure out how to outfox the comm Nazis and get the wireless to work. He has also led the charge to bring the 191st into the AMCAR age.

SMSgt Joe Mace Joe works in the current operations office and spends most of his time trying to figure out where he will work after they non-retain him next year. We hear he's a whore for mandays so maybe the AMC booms can help him out. He still holds the record in the guard for being promoted and demoted.

SMSgt Ben Williams Benny is our section NCOIC so he's basically the vice principal and gets to take care of all the crap that the Chief doesn't want to deal with. He and Lucy recently opened a Rhino Lining business and giving us all the family and friends deal. (Retail + 10%)

MSgt Kurt Armstrong We're pretty sure that Kurt is still in the section. We only see him at night and on drill weekend. Rumor has it he recently purchased a tractor trailer to pull all of his toys. When asked why a pick-up wouldn't do he mentioned he was compensating for something.

MSgt Jason Blood "Smile Jason". "I am smiling, shut up!" That's our Jason in a nutshell. He has taken recently to stealing little baby birds from their mothers right out of the nest. Then when they get big he takes them out and lets them kill other little animals. He calls it falconry, I call it barbarism.

MSgt Jarvis Brown Jarvis is in second place to Joe Mace on the number of time being promoted then demoted. He has been our long range scheduler for years but was recently promoted to Jim Zaelit's exec. Word on the street is that they run a Chinese laundry in town. That would explain the detergent all over the carpool van.

MSgt Eric Henderson Eric is also getting ready to call it a career, not his choice. The worst part of it is that now those of us who are left will have to go on all the crappy trips that he always takes. He's the rare guy who continues to have a love of flying regardless of where in the world it takes him.

MSgt Dave Hudson “Hudnut” is our boom scheduler so now he has lots of friends around time to pick the trips. An avid Orioles fan he’s still holding out for the birds to finish 3rd place or higher in the AL East. He’s a patient man!

MSgt Brian Jensen The nickname “Grumpy” has really been true since he has been returned to the scheduling shop. It’s quite entertaining however to watch him as he lumbers his way through G2 with the single finger key pecking style. GDSS is now officially “G. D. GDSS!” here in Salt Lake.

MSgt Brian Lawson The Utah Air National Guard is enjoying its second generation of Lawson’s and we’re happy to report that the tradition lives on! Loud and proud man-scaping will live on! Pride in the package, need we say more?

MSgt Tim Molder Tim has been in Stan Eval now for almost 2 years and is doing a fine job. Still no Q-3’s to his credit. Thinking of sending him to the Bricker Martin School on how to administer the bust. Tim tells us he really enjoys working for Jim Zaelit.

TSgt Santiago “Jay” Avila Jay was recently hired as our one and only AGR boom and works in the training office. He’s our go to instructor for all of our FNG’s we’ve recently hired.

TSgt Tony Kalakis Locally known as “Tony George” he recently became world famous for his version of the passenger briefing. You know you’ve arrived when you have an AMC FCIF named for you!

TSgt Derek Larson D Rock is one of our traditional booms but works in the ops building as the Tybrin rep so he’s the highest paid boom in the building. He is also our local 2nd Amendment expert.

TSgt Vince Littlejohn “Vinny” has taken up dual citizenship at the Deed. We can’t keep him away from the place. Apparently he enjoys going there to mentor younger airmen.

SSgt Sean Price Sean was our baby boom until the afore mentioned FNG’s arrived on station. He’s enjoying his status as a big boy now.

SSgt Patricia Rich Trish is one of our FNG’s. She came to us from the Senior Scout program and is excited to fly on a real airplane. She can’t figure out why one of our instructors cancels every time he’s scheduled to fly with her.

A1C Brandon Molder We’re training our second generation of Molders here at SLARCO. Brandon isn’t as smart as Uncle Tim but we’re all hoping for good things.

SCOTT AFB, IL
HQ AIR MOBILITY COMMAND
BOOM OPERATOR CFM



Fellow Booms,

Hello from Scott. This last year has really flown by however I have thoroughly enjoyed being back around fellow booms. Unfortunately this will be my last year as the Boom functional as my retirement ceremony will be 10 Jan 2013. As of today it looks like my replacement will be CMSgt Todd Cole who is currently the Group Sup at Seymour Johnson (ACC). I am sure he will be up to the task at hand and will do a great job.

The next thing I would like to do is thank the Altus Boom Association for the awesome symposium that they put on this year. This was my first on since the 25th that was held at Castle and I think we all had a great time. A special thanks to MSgt Andrea Inmon and her team for their efforts!

Overall manning has gotten much better over this last year and I expect that by the end of the calendar year we will be at a level that will allow folks to pursue other interests outside of the career field if they so choose.

Again, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time back here at Scott and as always will be more than happy to hear from any of you that have questions or need help with anything within my purview. Feel free to call for whatever reason. My DSN is 779-3588 and email is billie.black@us.af.mil. I look forward to hearing from you!

\\signed\\

BILLIE J. BLACK JR., CMSGT, USAF
AMC CEA Functional Manager
Scott AFB, IL
DSN 779-3588

SCOTT AFB, IL

HQ AMC/IG

“BUZZARDS”



The most hated, or feared guys, next to A3V. We are always looking for booms to be associate inspectors with us on ORI's and NORI's. Give us a call and come on out to some beer, and inspect a little too.

SMSgt (select) Jeff “Bish” Bishop: Still the local NORI planner, or as he'll tell you, “Expert”. Between actively working to find his replacement and complaining about work, he actually gets things done around here. Recently earned the nickname “Zulu”, but you'll have to ask him about that.

MSgt Chris “Otto” Ottenwess: Our resident KC-10 “Gucci Boy” and Hockey coach. Heading back to the McGuire this fall for some actual flying before they get their inspection.

TSgt Justine “P²” Pescetello-Parr: Recently joined the team, then instantly wanted back in the KC-135. Quick to pull the trigger during inspections, so everyone be warned. She is slowly working on adjusting to the life of a desk jockey.

SCOTT AFB, IL
HQ AMC/A3TK
“Tanker Training”



It's a clean sweep for the Booms in A3TK!

KC-10

CMSgt Mark “The Deputy” Redden: Mark FINALLY made Chief. He spent the majority of his 6 month + deployment this year dreaming of returning to Travis, sorry Mark, 15 years was enough. He departed for McGuire in June as the 2 ARS Superintendent. Best of luck to you and the family.

KC-46

MSgt Ernest “Burnsie” Burns: Burnsie is technically stationed here but has spent most of this year in Dayton, OH. Like all of the non-flying Code 50 Booms at Scott, his 4-5 year tour was unexpectedly cut short to 3. Probably not a wise idea to buy that house, was it? He will be leaving us in Nov for Edwards AFB, CA. Just remember Burnsie, it's a dry heat!

KC-135

MSgt Shane “Shaney” Haney: If you have any questions about UTC's, Shane is your man! He still hasn't figured out how to make a signature block in his e-mail though. He keeps signing his official HQ e-mail as “Shaney”. Most people who call aren't really sure who to ask for, Shaney or Shane? Shane couldn't hack it in training anymore so he decided to move to Stan/Eval and “fix” their problems with some South Carolina class.

SCOTT AFB, IL
HQ AMC/A3N
A3NR STRATEGIC OPS & POLICY



MSgt Quenga, Lance E. lance.quenga@us.af.mil Resident "Boom 1" Time has come for him to retire, officially 1 Feb 13. Made the mistake of buying his wife a Harley last year, so every time he upgrades his Harley has to upgrade her Harley too! Still has no idea of what he wants to be when he grows up! Looking for a job, so if you have one let him know.

MSgt Grant, Derrick W. derrick.grant@us.af.mil SMSgt select Congrats! Also known as "Boom 3" or "Black Entertainer of the Year" in the A3N Vault. Tried to max out his PT test this year, came close 97, injured his hammy in the process. Not as young as he used to be, but still wears his pimp boots like he is. Keep on working out with the AMC Command Chief!

A3NS STRATEGIC RESPONSE

MSgt Blackburn, Tim timothy.blackburn.1@us.af.mil Our resident Gucci boom. Not sure how he even got the job since Gucci's don't know anything about 8010 thanks to Gen Lichte. Sitting in the TF-294 vault pretending to work, allegedly. Tim has orders back to McGuire in July, but has been out of the jet for so long that even the receivers are scared.



SCOTT AFB, IL

HQ AMC/A3VK



Greetings to all that read this and hope all is well. It is a time of change for the booms on the third floor and with it brings a renewed sense unity and camaraderie to keep the boom union strong and full of knowledge. Though we are losing strong willed and experienced booms we will continue where they left off and fill the responsibility of being a Head Quarters Stan/Eval Boom Operator.

KC-10A

SMSgt Todd McPeak: Todd is passing his Thor Hammer and Reaper axe on to a next. He has been cleared to “pre-contact” back to McGuire where he will reign as Chief Boom of the mighty Duce Squadron. I’m sure he will use his skills he has learned from HQ AMC and use them for good not evil. His shoes will be hard to fill and will be missed.

MSgt Scotty O’Neil: What can we say about Scotty that other boom signals have not captured! Well, we do have a few things to add! First, we rescued Scotty from the depths of 18th AF and got him trained faster than the current Chief Boom stationed at McGuire—how does that happen? Second, once again Scott has decided to increase the power or just get some power to GTO. Too bad it is still up on blocks until TBD. Lastly, Scotty has found the pacific again a nearly created a financial emergency funding when he did his voucher, but at least he came back qualified!

SMSgt Jeff Russell: Jeff rapidly departed Scott due to differences of opinion. All we heard when leaving the building was “REALLY!”, “You Got To Be SH@@ing me!” and “Catch you later heading to flight Doc to get a knife removed!” Jeff’s witty comments will be greatly missed, but still heard while the OGV boom in the 60th. Good luck in your new endeavors!

KC-135A/Q/R/TRT/

CMSgt Dan Smith: 10 years ago when Chief moved in to Stan/Eval he made a promise to get out of the building and return to a flying squadron. So here we are 3 to 4 stripes later, a little less hair than before, and trying to avoid an assignment to Altus. He is still a Chief without a home. When not representing his entire subdivision as their tribal leader Chief keeps busy on the ice playing his favorite sport, and hoping ND doesn’t drop the term “Fighting Sioux.” You’ve got to respect Chief, he is not afraid to eat deer sausage in front of his peers. (Try and picture that

one!!) If you want a life changing experience, hold his feet for a set of sit ups. You'll never be the same! If you want a good story ask him if he likes pushing his bike or riding it! Best of luck to you and your family Chief. Thank you for all the hard work and dedication.

SMSgt Craig Eyre: Craig PCA'd from the 906th, and deployed 72 hours later for 6 months. We're looking forward to getting him back and thru RQ as soon as possible...Craig's lucky, for this episode of the signal there's just not enough to quantify. Stay tuned for next year's addition.

MSgt "Don't Call Jamie" J.L. Smith: Jamie—err I mean J.L.—really enjoys staff work. He has volunteered for many jobs, but has only gets jobs that he hasn't volunteered for. These include soaking up sun rays at MacDill, concocting A3V's award winning chili, and cheering on the Texas Longhorns, who only lost to Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Missouri, Kansas State... in 2011 as opposed to the previous mentioned plus Texas A&M... in 2010. When J.L. is not in the office or TDY he is at home taking care of the new little lady. He is the new ATP-56 rep, so send him an e-mail with everything you don't like—jamie.smith.3@us.af.mil—he would love to hear from you!

MSgt Rafael "The Prez" Cruz Oyola: The next Ninja Turtle came up to A3V, it didn't take long for him to step-up and become the A3 booster club president! His first act as president was to have a fundraiser. What a better fundraiser to have in the healthy conscious Air Force then a Krispy Kreme fundraiser—he is loved by all! When not sending out e-mails about booster club happening we actually do get some work out of Rafael—of course that is also when he is not TDY or in the office.

Inbound

MSgt Shane Haney: Where can you possibly begin with Shane? There's just not a lot to put out there but we will do our best. A3T kicked Shane to the curve and he somehow landed on Stan/Eval's doorstep. As to the timeline of his arrival, don't hold your breath, the budget might be passed first.

//Signed//

HQ AMC STAN/EVAL BOOMS

SCOTT AFB, IL
HQ AMC/A5QX
“Tanker Requirements Branch”



SMSgt Sean Rix - Loving Scott when I am there. Missing flying and the operational world....21 months and I am paroled. If you are ever in the area, stop on by. The beer light comes on at 1500L on Fridays.....

SCOTT AFB, IL

HQ AMC/A6

GDSS PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE



From the Directorate of Communications and Information

Assigned Booms: (including myself)... 1. MSgt (retired) Hctor, Christopher J. B.

Recently the Department of the Air Force notified me that I will be paroled from this oxygen free environment of geeks. They are not bad people, but operate a lot different than Ops. Looking back I am glad to say GDSS is functioning better, the burdensome legacy system is shut down, C2IPS and IMT are gone. Looking forward, somewhere in A3, the specific position not identified yet, but I'll be on the Global Address List. Another opportunity... as the military offers all of us every few years.

We still can vote (they haven't taken that away from us yet), so I know you'll join me this year in selecting a President that defends the Constitution like you and I do. 'Nuf said.

Capping off this Signal input as usual; Thank you and God bless all of you for another safe year of flying in training and combat, day and night, in the silk and in the soup.

//Signed//

Christopher J B Hctor, DAFC
Cubicle Wizard

SCOTT AFB, IL

USTRANSCOM



USTRANSCOM did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal.

SCOTT AFB, IL

18 AF



TSgt Travis Jones: Travis PCA'd from the 906th ARS to the 18th Air Force and immediately got loaned out to the 618th AOC where he kicked @\$\$ and took names. He spent about a year working the "floor" in the tanker execution branch. Travis was selected for and attended AMC's Phoenix Stripe conference. Travis is on the move and will be successful no matter where he is.

SMSgt Paul A. Piazza: Paul works at the 18th Air Force as the Superintendent of the Operations Directorate. He's getting ready to move over to AMC/A3TK when he returns from Central Asia. He enjoys Scott AFB and has a Travis reunion nearly every weekend. Any Boom can feel free to look him up if they are in the area, he knows all the best restaurants and local watering holes.

SCOTT AFB, IL

618 AOC (TACC)



XOB – Barrel

SMSgt(S) Love, Jeremiah “Doc”: jeremiah.love@us.af.mil After spending his first two years in XOBK “The Tanker Barrel,” Doc left for the Tanker Current Ops (XOOK), and about a year later he came back to XOB as the Superintendent. Obviously the man can't keep a job. So the Air Force might as well send him back to flying which is exactly what happened. He even got his base of preference: McGuire. Ever hear of the Peter Principle? Good thing he kept his house here; no doubt he'll be back as a Chief.

XOBA – C17 Barrel

Mr. Hudnut, Larry: larry.hudnut@us.af.mil After a 5 year break working as a contractor and consulting on the KC-X, Larry returned to the friendly confines of TACC/XOB as a C-17 Strategic Airlift Director. If you ever find yourself passing through the cornfields of Illinois, stop by for a cold one.

XOBK – Tanker Barrel

MSgt Lambert, Donnie: donnie.lambert@us.af.mil Under direct supervision of Sherry (his new wife who calls often) and Doug; Donnie takes care of CORONETs, the Thunderbirds, AE missions, Business Efforts and the 18th AF Service Mission Schedule. Donnie also spends a large part of each day taunting the SB (See Mr. Garrett for SB definition). When donutable offences occur in XOB, Donnie has the additional duty of bringing in donuts from the hometown bakery strategically located near his home in New Baden, IL. Of course donuts are bought by the offenders at their expense.

MSgt Schaub, Jason: jason.schaub.1@us.af.mil It took almost 2 years to get the Jerseyisms to finally stop coming out in his everyday job. “Just sayin.” He will finish his last year at Scott working in the Commanders Action Group (CAG). Jason has done a great job as a Tanker Barrel Master and his talents will be missed. He and Kim want a follow on assignment to back to McGuire. Look for him to be terrorizing the KC-10 flying community sometime in 2013.

MSgt(S) Hopp, Ben: benjamin.hopp@us.af.mil Left the Boom carrier field some time ago to become a Flight Engineer, but we don't hold it against him, just every day. Once the ink was dry on his Tanker Barrel training folder; Ben took charge of bake sales, chili cook-offs, Christmas parties, Toys for tots, helping all the children in the world and saving old ladies. His organizational talents and inter personal skills were recognized by many of the SNCO here at 618 AOC (TACC) and now he is the executive NCO to the Command Chief at USTC. He supposedly will be coming back to the Tanker Barrel in about a year. We'll see.

Mr. Norris, Jim: james.norris@us.af.mil With the basement now finished, Jim needed a new project so Scotty is now a deckhand on Jims new (new to Jim) boat. He allows Booms to take it out whenever they want but for some reason the boat spends more time in the shop than on the water. Can anyone tell us why that is??? At the last Boom Campout he slept in T-Nick's RV and now he wants one. He keeps hoping his wife will pin on Lt Col soon so he can start to live in the life style that he plans to be accustomed too.

Mr. Garrett, Doug: douglas.garrett@us.af.mil Aside from keeping up with the new CAAP numbers from A3 and doing all the detail work for the CORONET Shop; Doug also takes care of all long range coordination for the Thunderbirds, AE missions, Business Efforts and the 18th AF Service Mission Schedule. And let's not forget, Doug also has the additional duty, to train yet another XOB slide bitch (SB) all the while making the young officer (latest SB) feel important.

XOCG – The Floor

SSgt Chenosky, Michael: michael.chenosky@us.af.mil Is new to AOC (TACC) this year working the MOG desk. He gets the joy of putting a puzzle together and watches it as it fall apart every day. He is married to a Jersey Girl and she was kicking and screaming as they were leaving NJ and complaining that there was no shore in IL. It's going to be a long very long 3 years for Mike.

XOCM – Flight Manager

Mr. Gedman, Joseph: joseph.gedman@us.af.mil He fixes all those missions that other TACC planners plan and files the flight plan for the pilots. If it wasn't for him, the mission would never get off the ground.

XOCZF – Flight Plans

Mr. Linscott, Jerry “Spanky”: jerry.linscott@us.af.mil Back from another tour in Germany missing the Snitzel, German beer and flying. Can be heard talking about days gone by. (Back in the day...)

Mr. Baxter, Brad “Cowboy”: bradley.baxter.2@us.af.mil Also known by the Ramstein Flight manager's as "Backstabber Baxter" finally completed a 3 year eating/drinking stint in Germany, limping his way back in to flight plan shop. All settled in and loving life.

Mr. Murphy, Jeff: jeffery.murphy@us.af.mil Still hanging out in flight plans developing new fuel saving routes for comp time. He is still working on getting his first comp time.

XOND – Data Division

Tanker data collection and analysis experts. Collect, organize and report on all tanker activity for Air Mobility Command. Compile analyzed data into daily reports and slides used by Air Mobility Command (AMC) and United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) senior leadership to make critical tanker decisions.

CMSgt Winter, Oliver (Retired): oliver.winter.ctr@us.af.mil Lead tanker analyst. Lee recently received his knowledge management certification. Yes, Lee and knowledge management in the same sentence is an oxymoron. He has become an avid Cardinals fan. He has season tickets and only plans to make half of the games. Tickets for sale at scalper prices.

Mr. Taylor, Joseph “Tony”: joseph.taylor.7.ctr@us.af.mil Data Analyst/Consultant. Since the AMC Fuel Tracker replaced TKACTION life has become more interesting. Don't miss the chance to come by and see Tony's prowess using EXCEL. I had the pleasure of watching him use the mouse wheel to scroll through 36,000 lines of mission data to find the one he needed. Truly painful to watch! On a serious note, Tony requests assistance in accurately inputting receiver and offload information in both AMCART and the AMC Fuel Tracker.

XOOKP – Coronets

MSgt Pascoe, Justin: justin.pascoe@us.af.mil Has taken over the Coronet shop; he thought it was going to be an easy job being the boss of a KC135 Boom and a bunch of ex-McGuire KC10 guys but that has been proven wrong. He is happy that his 4 year tour has been cut down to 3 years.

MSgt(S) Dorsey, Rick: rick.dorsey@us.af.mil Has taken his new 4X4 Ram truck off pavement and is blaming I-Dot for dumping some asphalt on the shoulder and bending two rims and spilling the wife's Ice Coffee.

TSgt Cox, Eric “Woody”: eric.cox.6@us.af.mil Just before his 40th birthday he ran his first Half Marathon, we were all told he couldn't walk after wards. Just turned 40...Holy Shit!!! How many more years until you get to retire? Vicki is happy that Woody will be finishing out his last 5 years back at McGuire.

SSgt Montani, Tony: anthony.montani@us.af.mil Spends more time playing basketball and coordinating sport activities than he does working. Tony will smoke up a brisket or a pork shoulder, how many times a week...we don't know. About once a month he will bring pulled pork in to work; now you know why he plays basketball every day. When Tony is at work he can clear the office with the best of them.

SSgt Smith, Dan: daniel.smith.62@us.af.mil Got a new puppy to keep his older dog company who hopefully won't try to commit suicide again. Dan just moved into his 2nd St Louis apartment, KING size bed in the living room and the couch is in the bedroom??? His peanut butter bill went through the roof... he has been quoted saying “What? My dogs like peanut butter”.

Mr. Reuter, Mark: mark.reuter.1@us.af.mil Is slowly becoming an empty nester, 4 down 2 to go. He still enjoys riding his motorcycle to work when the Chief of Safety lets him.

XOOKT – Homeland Defense

CMSgt Glast, Erskin (Retired): erskin.glat@us.af.mil Talks with more acronyms than anyone in the military/DOD. When you have a meet with Erskin you are given a book of acronyms so you know what was discussed at the meeting. You know it's him on the other end of the phone when you go to hang up and he says “Give me a disconnect.”

Mr. Placide, Laroche: laroche.placide@us.af.mil Is our “Hay can you fix my computer” go to guy. Once Larry has your computer is fixed it will take another 30 minutes for Larry to go back to work and that's when Erskin has Larry under control.

XOOON – Executive Travel

Mr. Anderson, Scott: scott.anderson.8@us.af.mil Is the one that puts all those silly requests into G2 when you are on a DV trip. We very seldom see Scott but when we do he is a man of few words and only wants to talk on a secure phone even though he is only on the other side of the thin wall from the tanker branch.

XOPC – Airlift Plans

TSgt Leal, Aaron: arron.leal@us.af.mil Has been known to make his own firecrackers/fireworks. His neighbors are scared when the 4th of July comes around. They all know not to have an open flame near the garage if they want

to see tomorrow. He does spend his free time in Missouri playing with various explosives and teaching others how to handle them in a safe manner.

SSgt Becnel, Jeremy: jeremy.becnel@us.af.mil Is new to TACC this year and got an apartment in St Louis for the sole reason to hook up his HAM Radio...how old are you??? He also got a 1992 LIMITED Mustang; it has limited power, limited handling, and limited capabilities all the way around. When the Mustang is running he goes cruising around looking for middle-aged women asking "Do you like my ride?"

SSgt Wentz, Stephen: stephen.wentz@us.af.mil Works in Airlift Plans but is on loan to TRANSCOM to validate airlift missions. Who is better for this tasking? A KC10 Boom, KC135 Boom, or C17 Loadmaster...and yet they wonder why validations still get messed up. He does do better job than the last KC135 Boom that was on loan.

Mr./SMSgt Ward, James: james.ward.6@us.af.mil James civilian job is working in the airlift plans shop when he is there and not at the gym working out. Every now and then he gets the itching to put the uniform back on. When he does we kick him over to XOOKS Short Notice shop to boss them around, we don't need him to tell us how to do our job when we fix all of his mistakes. Ever since the 2011 World Series, James work area has turned red with Cardinal garb.

Contractor in TACC

Miss. Wallace, Tina: tina.wallace.ctr@us.af.mil She is still assigned to the CAMPS contract but now with a new company, Tapestry Solutions. Soon she'll be an empty nester with both kids off to college in the fall. Tina can't wait to figure out what she really wants to do in life, now that the kids will be gone.

Retired

Mr. Jake Benscoter – jbenscoter@aol.com

Miss Patricia Brown-Davis

Mr. Gary "Cookie" Cook – gary.cook.7@us.af.mil

Mr. Randy Crittendon – critter0101@hotmail.com

Mr. Jim Eden – Wingnut135@charter.net

Mr. John Felisky – john.g.felisky@boeing.com

Mr. Chuck Gurkin

Mr. Scott Harris – harris2404@hotmail.com

Mr. Wayne Keiser – wayne.keiser.1.ctr@us.af.mil

Mr. Scott Konieczka – scottkonieczka@charter.net

Mr. Alton Lundin – alton.c.lundin@boeing

Mr. Bricker Martin – bmarti12@charter.net

Mr. Les McPeak – mcpeak@charter.net

Mr. Dan Mongeon – mongeondj@charter.net

Mr. John Oglesby – johnoglesby53@gmail.com

Mr. Paul Pillar – paul.s.pillar@boeing.com

Mr. John Reigelsberger – reigelsj@yahoo.com

Mr. Jeff Rooding

Mr. Mark Sletten – marknlisa@hometel.com

SCOTT AFB, IL

108ARS

“HOME OF THE MID AMERICA MILITIA”



Hello again from the 108th ARS at Scott AFB, IL. Another busy year like everyone else. Next up, A visit from ASEV. 2013 promises to be another busy year, though with some changes to our regular line up. We will start to see some new faces, and say good bye to others.

SMSgt Bill Buckwalter: “Bucky” continues on at NGA in St. Louis. “The Quiet Man” does a lot of ONE and week end trips for the unit.

MSgt Steve Butler: Steve is back in training flight and continues to work to complete his college degree online. Steve thinks he’s big man on campus.

TSgt Mark Buzenski: Lots of changes this year. “Buzz” retired from the FAA this year, got married, and moved from the big city to Southern IL.

TSgt Jamie Castillo: Jamie has spent a lot of time on the road with the unit this year. Been on just about every deployment and continues with Enterprise.

MSgt Doug Doeding: Another one of our busy part timers. Doug has been TDY constantly this year. Similar to previous years, he does not seem to tire.

MSgt Paul Fusek: “Fusebox” is still a computer geek with one of the contractors across the street. He recently drove in the NATO summit, held in Chicago this summer. He drove a head of state from one of the “Stans”. Not sure how to spell or pronounce it, but he got his guy to the summit on time.

CMSgt Sammy Gerros: “Chief” is digging city life in St. Louis. Enjoying the restaurant and martini lifestyle.

SMSgt Arie Latimer: “Shonn” is our scheduler and newest evaluator.

SSgt Jameson Liggett: Still our youngest boom, though the years are starting to show. That should change this year with some new blood likely to arrive. Jameson looking to do some bullying.

TSgt Patrick McCauley: It took Martin Sheen to get him back (that's an *Apocalypse Now* reference for you younger troops- see the movie) in the fold after a lengthy disappearance. Pat is back. Looking to see him at drill weekends again.

MSgt Chris Meinken: Excited to see the Stooges movie finally released! Chris is rumored to be retiring 1n 2013. Not sure. This guy has more legs than the mens 2012 US Olympic track team!

TSgt Nate Moore: The "Tank" is a new father yet again! Nate is also our UDM and newest instructor.

MSgt John Reed: John worked extensively on his golf game in Guam this year and recently broke 80 for the first time.

SMSgt Robert Rizzo: Hard to believe, but "Riz retired this year and headed over to NGA in St. Louis. Thanks for all your hard work over the years. We will miss your presence and expertise, as well as your disturbing laugh echoing through the halls. Farewell "Riz"!

TSgt Kate Shoemake: Kate also drove this summer at the Chicago NATO summit and has been on numerous TDY's, and kindly reminded us that we were woefully behind in getting the Boom Signal inputs to Sergeant Burns – thanks Kate (from the Chief!!!).

TSgt Chris Slater: "C turtle" Spent so much time in the Desert the last few years he can now speak the language.

SMSgt Keith Wagner: Also a NATO driver this summer, "Wags" also worked extensively this summer on his golf game in Guam. Projected to break 100 in 2013.

MSgt Chris Zahner: Chris is working hard at Boeing and his wife recently gave birth to their first child!

SCOTT AFB, IL

906 ARS



MSgt Richard Martin – Our new Chief Boom, he just came over to the 906th from TACC and is going thru the joys of getting mission ready all over again. Spends all his free time on his Harley's or restoring his Classic Mini. He still can't make a good cup of coffee even after all that mentoring he got at Altus. However, if you need a 1206 wrote... he's your man.

SSgt Othello Harris – SSgt Harris just got back from a 60 day tropical vacation overseas and is already back into the mix at work. He is getting ready for CFIC. Told him to start looking for houses in Altus on his down time. It's good to get a head start!

SSgt Jamie Almquist – SSgt Almquist just came to the 906th from Fairchild and is also going thru the joys of becoming mission ready all over again. To the ones that know SSgt Almquist they have not had the privilege of discovering his hidden talent but they soon will. He even got to wear the big boy pants for three weeks acting as the Chief Boom until MSgt Martin arrived to the squadron. SSgt Almquist now rides to work on his "Noble Steed" aka a Honda Ruckus with a whopping 49cc of pure power. It is a good thing he is already married.

SrA Jarrett Crawford - Between defying the laws of physics on his motorcycle and finally hitting puberty SrA Crawford is out to break Wilt Chamberlain's record. (Not 100 points in a game) He has been DNIF for three weeks now because he finally had the dentist take out the last of his baby teeth and has done nothing but complain about the pain and emotional stress they have caused him. Even though he claims that his street bike is the greatest thing since sliced bread we all know that deep down he is quite jealous of SSgt Almquist's hell on two wheels.

SrA Richard Bradford – Still trying to figure out how these baby booms are getting such a great deal out of the gate. Not much to say about Bradford. He is like that quiet creepy guy in the corner. Just kind of lurks around the squadron and keeps to himself. He is considered one of the Ford brothers down here because we get him and Crawford mixed up all of the time.

A1C Nathan Smart – A1C Smart somehow pulled out a TFI unit for his first assignment out of Altus and he will forever be tainted when he goes to an actual active duty unit. I am pretty sure that he will Palace Chase towards the end of this assignment. Smart is finally getting to be a real boy as soon as he finishes up his mission qualification training and his dreaded CDC's. I guess you no longer have to get your five level before you receive your leather jacket. They are just giving them away now.

SELFREDGE ANGB, MICHIGAN

171 ARS

“SIX PACK”



The 171 ARS did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal

SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB, NC

77 ARS

"Home of the Totin' Tigers"



A big "Hey Y'all" from the booms here at the 77th, "Home of the Totin' Tigers". We are right around the corner from our next Deployment. Our sister Squadron the 911th ARS & us play well together, we fly 60+% of our sorties as mixed crews & typically both squadron have crewmembers on each others deployments. We have discovered that the active duty gets a lot of time off, although they typically deploy more. We are making more changes to our new combined Squadron building, adding square footage to the 911th side & a new addition for a BOWST. If you're in town, stop by & we'll give you a tour. If you brave enough we'll take you out for some Carolina barbeque & sweet tea! So if you're thinking about leaving active duty or want to come to a real Reserve unit, want to go to school and still want to be a Boom Operator, consider giving us a call. Keep this in mind also. We've got some great schools like NC State, UNC, Wake Forrest, East Carolina, Campbell University, Duke, and Meredith all within an hour and a half of the unit.

Blue Skies,
SMSgt Barry Bradley
77th ARS / 916 OGV Superintendent

TSgt Sena Alfaro- Apr 09 - Present

She's a Reserve Bum & enjoying the sweeeeet life here at Shady Reserve resort. She's about to pop-out another baby girl Boom, yes #2, it's in the water here! She's still the foundation of her family reminding her Marine husband that the Air Force is #1. More Family time is a great thing.

SrA Jeremy "Tin Man" Bennett- Apr 07-Present

Still keeping the tin on those Helo's straight at Cherry Point Depot. Still Not a Jar Head and not looking for a career change! He comes up about once a week and a few trips here & there. Doesn't want to be a bum, he still can't get enough of us but the sweeeeet life on the beach will keep him there for now. YES still the SENIOR Airman.

SMSgt Barry "Stan Evil" Bradley- Nov 93-Present

Barry is our Stan/Evil "The Hammer" boom. No more teaching technique for him anymore! Barry is still racking up mileage & new places on his Harley, this year added Altus & Boom Symposium to the list. He spends most of his time going to conferences & evaluating he's finding it hard to stay current. Took a deployment to the Deid & became a real Boomer again!

MSgt Rich "Bowl O' Chili" Bonicelli- Oct 04-Present

He's still our favorite "Master Story Teller of Your" in the break room. He's assisting the Boom Scheduler running down booms to fly. He is still our veteran building manager trying to get people to stop taping everything to the walls & windows in the building. **"Stop Taping Things To The Wall!"**

MSgt Jorge "Habi" Brewer- Jan 04-Present

Jorge is working with the North Carolina State Highway Patrol Hispanic Affairs in Raleigh. He comes in from time to time to fly & wants to write tickets to the pilots for speeding. Don't get him excited unless you speak his language "Spanglish and Troopereze". If you see NC Blue Lights behind you RUN!

MSgt Keny "Dammit" Fallin- Aug 06-Present

Keny is in Scheduling STILL (feels like 150 years now), he has gone mad & he thinks the shop will not let him go since he is "The Boss"! He still believes that Budweiser is the only beer in the World & everyone else is wrong! If you know any trailer trash that needs a place to live Keny has his Real-estate trailer empire ready.

MSgt Kevin "Ticket" Hughes- Jan 03-Present

He spends most of his time at his 40,000 square foot Palace & estate fighting off spiders & Sasquatch. Don't ask unless you have a beer or twelve. He still has his big Coca Cola 600 tail gate party, give him a call and "Let's Go Racing". Need insurance? If it's Big he'll insure it!

MSgt Mark "Beerman" McElmurry- Apr 97-Present

Mark is the Acting Chief Boom he just wanted a personal parking spot. The Feds are still trying to find his beer still so he's only making enough for himself. Once he goes public with his stock he'll sell you some.

SrA Mitchell "Miller Lite" Miller- Mar 10-Present

Stanton's new go to Boom for everything now that he is the Trougher King (must work to get paid). He's now the official "King of Delayed Disconnects"; if you haven't had one he's had yours. He's also a new Daddy to a baby girl.

MSgt Lori "TDY" O'Connell- Sep 04-Present

She's a new ART (Air Reserve Technician) what was she thinking. Now she goes TDY a third as much & Jim (aka The Husband) no longer has a sugar TDY momma for his Harley. Welcome to the ART world. Lori is our "New" Training Flight Boom & still the UDM.

CMSgt Tony "Frank the Tank" Parris- Nov 93- Apr 08-Present

Chief Parris is still in the "paper work pattern" as the OG Superintendent paving new sky ways. Latest update Chief is now newly married, & spent 6 months in the Dessert. (No connection) Chief is now the new car test GURU; he has had 2 Volvos, 2 Jeeps, 1 Prius, & now a VW Jetta, can't wait to see what's next. Stay tune for future car info. We still have hopes that he will find two wheels some day.

MSgt Jeremy "GE" Reynolds- Apr 08-Present-

Yes he has put on another Strip, but then told he has to deploy. Fortunately GE thinks he's already saved the company a few times (or at least that's what he told them) so they will let him deploy (telework Jeremy telework). He's enjoying the extra time with the family & he always has a smile on his face.

SMSgt Billy "Mr. Thursday Night" Somerville- Dec 00-Present

B.J. is our regular Thursday night flyer (hence the nickname). He's the senior Boom in the Boom shop by rank & age. Rides his Harley in all weather (except snow) occasionally dragging a bad boom behind! Bj still goes on every deployment & fights the rest of use for the Good TDY's.

MSgt Steven "Butter-bean, aka Loverboy" Stanton- Jan 06-Present

Steve was PEP'ed to MSgt & is our Body Scheduler, our fight line drivers license guy & ground safety rep. Steve is also a new 2009 Harley Davidson owner when the sun is shining we think he has 4 miles on his bike now! Steve is still our Squadron chef making us all work harder on our PT test, but the food is just too good to pass up.

SrA Andrew “Ricky Jug’s” Steuart- Nov 07-Present

He’s one of our brightest Booms just ask him. He is no longer the “Ask Drew He will do Anything” guy. He still trying to keep up with some of the Booms while on the road, not a good idea! We still encourage him “Stop While Your Still Standing”. He’s now a full time student working on his degree, hoping to become dumber & become a Pilot.

TSgt Travis “Swine King” Swinson- May 11-Present

He’s our newest accusation from active duty, & is one of the rare Booms who received an ART position right away. Can we say 12 day stretch! He has not been fully inducted as an ART yet but in time. He’s working in Current OP’s accomplishing all of our mission planning for both squadrons. His off time he’s starting a pig farm hoping to star in his own reality show “Swine Kingdom”.

Booms That are moving on but not gone YET!

TSgt Tara “Scratch ‘n Dent” (formally known as Hopewell) Kirkpatrick- Sep 00 – TBD might be back

Tara has her own business “Herbal Life Club” in Asheville and will soon be on the cover of Fortune 500 Magazine. Need to lose weight or look good for your PT test call Tara. Tara has traded in her Boom Operator Card & is now working at Family Readiness. WHAT!! Yes it’s true, it’s just a phase.

Booms of Yore & the date they were here
Listed by departure Date:

2012

2011

SSgt J.R. Bravo – Jun 08 – Jul 11 - He was one of our new Booms that cross trained from the Sky Cop world. He has officially lost his mind & all common sense; he has gone to the ARMY Guard & will become a Helo Pilot. GOD help us all!!

2010

MSgt William “Grandpa” Norris- Dec 85-Dec 87 & Oct 91-Jun 10 - Retired - Now an ROTC Instructor. O-Boy look out baby O’s.

SSgt Bill Frazer – Mar 07 – Sep 10 - He’s back at work with his civilian employer has gone IRR (Inactive Ready Reserve) to work on his civilian career for awhile.

2009

SrA David “Chando” Chandonnet- Aug 99-Apr 09 – Last rank MSgt - Dave is now IRR (In active ready reserve) going to be a pharmacist.

Sgt Sean “Bimmer” Martin – Sep 91-Jun 09- Now a **CMSgt** - is at McConnell & will be officially retired this October. He is “The KC-46 tankers Boom Extraordinar” & still training Booms but as Mister for Boeing. If you want to buy one give him a call.

2008

SSgt Rodney “Rowdy” Smith – Apr 97-Oct 08 – Now a **MSGT** - is at “TWISTER AFB” (Tinker) as a Test Boom. Wishing for better weather to ride his HD.

SrA Brice “Surfer” Hayden- Mar 86-Dec 08 - last we heard is in the Savannah National Guard as C-130 pilot. I mean Navigator...

2007

2006

CMSgt Jerry Snyder – Jun 90-Aug 06 – Retired - is retired and riding one of his Harley's as much as possible.
TSgt Don Templeton – Jan 96-Nov 06 – Retired – Retired as a SMSgt, now working / living in the Raleigh area as a Computer Guru.

2005

2004

2003

SSgt Tony Parris – Oct 93 – Dec 03 – Went to Andrews AFB to become the Chief Boom. Returned to SJ in 2008.
MSgt Randy Palumbo – Nov 96-Jul 03 - Retired - Done retired.
SMSgt Rick Powell – Apr 95-Oct 03- Still at Tinker AFB, OK doing the depot thing. Now a proud owner of a Harley Davidson.
TSgt Al Rigdon – May 00 – Jul 03 – Now a C-5 engineer at Martinsburg WV.

2002

SMSgt Brad Baxter – Apr 90-Aug 02 - Retired - Rumor has it he is somewhere in Europe.

2001

TSgt Betty Matthews – Feb 87 – Oct 01 – Retired – living in NC
SSgt Mike Harston – Jun 98-Jun 01 - is pilot Capt Mike Harston up at McGuire and will be back to SJ.

2000

SMSgt Ronnie Wade – Oct 85-Mar 2000 - Retired - moved back to Kansas.
TSgt Kerry Vanausdall – Nov 87 – Nov 00 – Left as a SMSgt moved to Grissom AFB
SSgt Jamie Ward – Jun 88-Dec 00 - now **SMSgt** is at Scott AFB, IL
SSgt Carl Sisco – Apr 93 – Oct 00 – Retired as a MSgt

1999

SSgt Tom Glosser – Dec 97 – Apr 99 – Retired – Civilian work at Altus AFB.

1998

1997

1996

SrA Corey Brown- Dec 91 – Jan 06 – had a lobotomy & became a pilot and now the 916 OSS Vice Commander
TSgt Jon Calcote – Mar 93 – Jan 96

1995

SMSgt Andy “Virgil” Anderson – Oct 85-Mar 95 – Retired
MSgt Don Askren – Jan 86-Jun 95 – Retired – Went to McConnell as the Chief Boom.
SMSgt Tim Holt – Jul 86-Jun 95 –
MSgt Randy Rinehart – Jul 87 – Aug 95

SSgt Mike Boozer – Retired Chief at Robbins AFB – **Sep 89 – May 95**
TSgt Donna Dobbins – **Oct 91 – Jun 95 – Deceased** – Went to McGuire
SrA Steve Dolan – **Aug 92 – Sep 95**

1994

SrA Felicia Anderson – **Jul 91 – Jan 94**– Went to McGuire
MSgt John Young – **Apr 86-Jul 94**
TSgt Ricky Helt – **Sept. 86 – Jul 94**
SSgt Jeff Garland – **Jan 87 – Jun 94**
SSgt Anthony “TACO” Cleaver – **Oct 91 – Sep 94**
MSgt Bobby Drinnen – **Jun 87 – Oct 94**
TSgt Rand Sanders – **Dec 88 – Nov 94** – Went IRR
Sgt Paul Dube – **Feb 90 – May 94**– Went IRR
TSgt Dave Brock – **Jun 91 – Oct 94**
SrA Jim Harris – **Jan 92 – Oct 94**– Went to McGuire
SSgt Duane Slusher – **Sept 92 – Jan 94**
SrA John Mercer – **Sep 93 – Oct 94**– Went to McGuire – Now at McDill, still a Bum
SrA Gary Towles – **Sept 93 – Oct 94** – Went to McGuire

1993

MSgt Paul Jorden – **Feb 86 – Jul 93**
Sgt Greg Keeter – **May 86 – May 93**
MSgt Dale Wilner – **Dec 86 – Sep 93**
SSgt Jeff Carter – **Feb 89 – Mar 93**
SSgt Mike Block – **Feb 89 – Feb 93** – Became a KC-10 Pilot

1992

TSgt Larry “Lighting” Brown – **Mar 86-Jan 92**
TSgt Phil Crain – **Jun 86-Jun 92** – **Retired** – Lives in the local area
TSgt Randy Norris – **Sep 86 – Sep 92**
SMSgt John Powell – **Oct 86 – Mar 92**
SrA Jon Rion – **Oct 90 – Mar 92**

1991

MSgt Ed McGowan – **Jun 86-Jan 91**
SSgt Eric Lomascolo – **May 89 – Oct 91**
SSgt Bonzie Wherry – **Sep 90 – Aug 91**

1990

CMSgt Steve Fromm – **Jul 85-Oct 90** –**Retired** - KC-10 Boom SIM Instructor at McGuire AFB
TSgt Don Gwinn – **Apr 87 – Mar 90**
TSgt Craig Shackelford – **Feb 88 – Jul 90**
TSgt James Dean – **Feb 88 – Aug 90**
TSgt Mike Kramer – **Apr 88 – Mar 90**

1989

TSgt Kevin Holmgren – Jul 86 – May 89
TSgt Mike Kibler – Oct 88 – Apr 89

1988

SMSgt Andy Miller – Nov 85-Jul 88 – Retired
MSgt Chris Burkhart – Jul 86 – Sep 88
MSgt Dave Brock – Dec 86 – Jul 88
TSgt Mike Wetzel – Apr 88 – Aug 88

1987

MSgt William “Grandpa” Norris- Dec 85-Dec 87 & Oct 91-Jun 10 - Retired - Now an ROTC Instructor. O-Boy look out baby O's.

SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB, NC

911 ARS

“RED EAGLES”



SMSgt Jeff “Mud Bug” LeDoux: Came to us from AMC last year and step into the newly created Operations Superintendent Job. He spent his first eight months trying to explain that he wasn’t the Chief Boom. Now he spends most of his time on the war path or fixing EPR’s, either way he’s been a much needed addition to our team. However he’s developed an unusual, borderline unhealthy obsession with an Alabama garden gnome...he won’t let that thing out of his sight.

MSgt William “Lightning” McQueen: Moved from OGV to take the Chief Boom reigns. Lightning fell out of the jet last November and has been a penguin ever since. Rumor has it that he’ll be back flying just in time for his deployment to the Caribbean.

(M)Sgt Jayson “J-Dawg” Chatham: JC is our resident Stan-Eval hammer, or is he in OGV? Jay didn’t celebrate Passover this year, he made Master! His reward...orders to Altus. We expect to lose him and all his expertise sometime in February.

TSgt Jessica “Jesserella” Elmore: Jess finally popped that kid out and is back to flying and toting the deployment line. Jess is NCOIC of our very busy Readiness Flight and spends her days trying explaining scheduling and training issues to McQueen.

TSgt Raymond “Ray-Jay” Johnson: Has been pretty busy in OGT getting the first round of baby Booms mission ready. No easy task considering they refuse to give him a desk or computer to work from. Ray-Jay is waiting for orders to Scott...you got love nepotism.

SSgt Earl “OPSEC” Mayhew: A true live decorated Hero! When Earl’s not taking pictures of documents with his iPhone, he’s putting out raging trailer fires in the Deid. In between his busy deployment schedule, he does his best to make sure the rest of us get the training we need...so we can swap him out.

SSgt Adam “Face Shot” Craft: Our resident flight scheduler. Adam seems to spend more time deployed then in the office, so much for scheduling perks. He’s trying to win the deployment trifecta this year with three deployments to three separate locations. Face Shot...you’ll have to ask him, but it’s exactly what it sounds like!

SSgt Chris “Arafat” Yontz: Our only Flight Supervisor. Chris is doing a great job getting our babies qualified and keeping them out of trouble. Can you believe it, Chris is all grown up and responsible...he even willed his beer pong table to D-Frost.

SSgt Andrew “Hea-Who” Heacock: Andrew has perfected the art of the office ninja. Working in long range scheduling must keep him busy, but who knows for sure. If it wasn't for his morning trip to the snack bar I don't think we'd ever see him. Andrew made SSgt this year and pinned it on a record three times in two weeks, maybe we should call him “Stripes”

A1C Kevin “Stinky” Morrison: The first baby Boom we've smelled in years. Kevin blew out his knee the second day of his MCT training and is projected to be down for six months. When he's not meeting bearded women on the internet, Yontz has him in the books like a CFIC student. Piece of advice, go easy on the pine tree air freshener kid.

A1C Daniel “D-Frost” Frost: Arrived here already a Super Star with an EQ on his very first check-ride out of Altus. D-Frost pulled a Tonya Harding on Morrison, just to be able to say he was mission ready first. He won't get a gold medal for that, but he does get to take his spot on the deployment schedule!

A1C Kijuan “Kiwi” Amey: Kijuan hit the ground running, getting mission ready even quicker than D-Frost. Kiwi joined the Air Force to see the world, so he moved from Durham to Goldsboro...don't worry we'll show you the beaches of the Arabian Peninsula (over and over and over again). If you want to get on Kiwi's good side offer him M&M cookies, they're his favorite.

DEPARTED THE FIX

MSgt Gary “Izzy” Isbell: Izzy retired and decided to stay in Goldsboro's.

TSgt William (Neal) “Hopsing” Husong: Neal was medically retired and is moving to PA.

SSgt Sean “Nemo” Gilson: Sean left active duty for the reserves in Tinker.

SrA Ashly “Ashcash” Peek: Ashly is no longer flying and is working in the Mx tool room.

SIoux CITY ANGB, IA

174 ARS / 185 ARW

“THE BATS”



Greetings from KSUX! Another year on the road for “The Bats” of Sioux City! We have been running the dirty Deid and Guam along with all the usual TDYs. When’s Curacao coming back???

Unit history and nickname: Unit stood up shortly after WWII. We have a proud tradition in military aviation flying the P-51,

F-80, F-84, F-100, A-7, F-16, & KC-135E&R. The unit’s nickname was adopted during the 185th Fighter Group’s deployment of F-100s to Viet Nam. The missions the unit was tasked to fly were almost exclusively at night, leading to “The Bats” nickname.

All contact info:

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Email – first.last@ang.af.mil

Sq. Admin. – DSN 585-0202

CHIEF BOOM

CMSgt Phil Frank, AGR – ext. 0205 - The all seeing, all knowing master of his domain! Phil has such a well oiled machine operating here in Siouxland that he spends most of his time running the fitness program and destroying pilots at ping pong. I still question our leadership for making Phil our Fitness Guru? Seems to me, a sneaky lazy type person would be the way to go, not a run like a deer athlete like the Chief. Phil took his turn as the Chief Boom in the Deid and I am convinced he did it simply to remind himself why he came over to the dark side. Phil’s youngest daughter graduated from high school this year and will be joining the mighty Briar Cliff University volleyball program with her sister. This has Phil a little nervous having them on the same team; oddly enough he seems to think there may be a You Tube “College Volleyball Chick Fight” video going viral in the near future.

STAN/EVAL

SMSgt Al Mast, OGV Boom, AGR – ext. 0244 – Our man “Angry” Al just returned from his turn as the Chief Boom in the Deid, I personally was surprised he didn’t start smoking again. The Mast family has had another enjoyable year camping and fishing at the lake. His bride was recently promoted to Senior, so I foresee a new world class camper in his future. Al’s favorite saying this year is “there’s no crying in air refueling”.

MSgt Chuck Heald, EB, Technician – ext. 0235 – “Carlos” is still rocking Stan/Eval and currently trying to get IPADs up and running. I believe he added another Mustang to the stable this year for his wife. Chuck’s son is getting bigger every day, it won’t be long and the” young-gun” will be on the range becoming a marksman like his dad. Chuck did pretty well with the Huskers transitioning into the Big10. When it comes to football, Chuck can hold his own. Too bad it doesn’t work with his fantasy football team. Personally, I think drafting mostly Huskers in the NFL might be the problem.

TRAINING

MSgt Dave Dietrich, IB, AGR, – ext 0259 – Rumor has it “Deetch” still works here he has gone all stealthy quiet. Dave has been rolling along in Training trying as hard as he can to get some work out of Stoos. He eats 3 meals a day (not counting breakfast or dinner). If you need a snack, just check his credenza. Dave still has an iron fisted grip on aircraft configurations. He is more than happy to hang out with the wife and kids and enjoys the small town country life.

TSgt Jason Stoos, IB, AGR, – ext 0262 “Lucy” used to be a TDY Warrior, but after he was taken out in the volleyball pit by Angie; he had extensive down time for knee surgery. Fortunately, he is back in the game. Rumor has it, Lucy was all ball hog and Angie was being the team player when the collision occurred & the knee imploded. When he isn’t ducking “Deetch”, he is busy shopping for his next TDY. He was put in charge of the new micro boss or whatever that thing is called and it hasn’t been seen since!

CURRENT OPERATIONS

MSgt Lee Phelps, IB, AGR, – ext 0234 – “Buddy Lee” is still holding down the Current Operations position. He is still a TDY monster, if you ever need to know down to the exact penny how much money you will receive on a TDY, Buddy is your go to man. Some of the other guys use the term “slam click” as a term for Buddy going bunker mode. I think that’s what you hear when he goes into bunker mode in his hotel room. I am convinced this is how he acquires all of his toys for him and his boys.

SCHEDULING

SMSgt Jay Doran, IB, AGR, – ext 0261 – “Jaybird” is still in scheduling. I am convinced that much like being a staff boom, if you dork it up horribly, you will never have to be in scheduling or a staff position again. Unfortunately I learned this lesson much too late. As proof, somehow I was rolled into pulling my turn as Chief Boom in the Deid. Do you realize how hard it is to drive around and ignore your cell phone for that long? I primarily spent that time trying to figure out how to make three beers into six. My oldest daughter was selected for the varsity show choir and then named drum major. So I will be getting a part time job to cover the cost of all the competitions. I am coaching my youngest daughter in softball this year, didn’t take long to figure out you can’t talk to eleven year old girls like you can eleven year old boys in baseball.

TSgt Misty McNamara, MB, AGR – ext 0249 – The “Gnome” is trying her best to keep me from pawning all the work in Scheduling off on her. She is still a road warrior doing the Deid and any other TDY that she can get her hands on. She just put a new liner in her pool so more summer fun at the Gnome’s house. Her father recently had a bad accident on his motorcycle so she has been showing us gory pictures of his injuries. Luckily, he will be okay his bike on the other hand didn’t fare so well.

TRADITIONAL BOOMS

SMSgt Tim Ireland, IB – “T.I” was cruising along happy on the LTMPA gravy train when the school district called and asked if he was alive and ever coming back to his real job. Well, he finally went back to dealing with real children instead of pilot children, so back to his principal job. T.I has become a real estate mogul recently by adding

a rental property to his other property. T.I. is the only guy I know with multiple Traeger smokers. To me, that is the way to party!

MSgt Dudley Joines – “Big D” is still in the SCPD, the best part of going TDY with Dudley is asking him to tell you cop stories. We still have to kiss the police chief’s hiney and keep them happy since Dudley is always sniffing out retirement points and trying to go TDY forever. He is the only guy I know who can feel a disturbance in the force and know another TDY has popped up and needs to be filled.

MSgt Marshall Hill – “Flanders” is still on a leave of absence from the post office, he says he is doing them a favor, I am convinced he has a twin brother covering the post office while he is pulling the LTMPA days in. Marshall is still the hap hap happiest boom operator in the world. His car could be on fire and if you asked him how he is doing, he would say “fantastic”! Heck he was “fantastic” in the Deid! I personally was “fantastic” in the Deid having him on staff with me; his help making 3 into 6 was priceless.

TSgt Mike Dunlop – Last I heard “Dumpy” was still doing the college gig. He is living on the other side of the state and comes to see us once a month with an occasional deployment thrown in. He is still doing some Iowa Guard “Counter Drug” work between college classes and coaching baseball. I am sure now that school is out for summer, we will see more of him around the squadron, at least enough to keep his tuition assistance going.

TSgt Andy Pick “Picker” just got back from the Deid and was a very happy dad with his kids. Has a young family and two jobs which makes for a very busy life. I am sure he will be back doing the insurance gig next week. The Chief has to send in a permission slip request to the insurance company asking if Andy can come out and play anytime he does work with the Air Guard. Shocking, considering how insurance companies are normally so trusting?

TSgt Angela Flanagan – “Ange” is still the LTMPA goddess! Seems like she is always on the road. If she isn’t TDY, it appears she is selling a house. I think she has sold her house at least 4 times this year! Good thing she is gone as much as she is as I don’t think the Booms can handle playing volleyball with her!

SSgt Melissa Keith – “Boom Barbie” is still chasing her nursing degree and pulled the trigger on making Matt Wulf a respectable man. She recently married young Matt and has been here flying and making some money to cover the cost of school and the wedding down in Mexico. She is heading downrange this Summer to do her part for the “War on Terror” before returning to school this fall.

SSgt Matt Prosser – “Mattdog” returned from lovely Altus and is up to speed. Matt is a fireman here at the airport fulltime, and a boom on the military side part-time. I personally think he tells the firehouse he is booming and then tells us he is doing the fireman thing, and then goes bike riding. His girlfriend recently bought the house right across the street from the Chief. It may mean less bike riding, and more mowing the Chief’s lawn while he’s out of town. Matt has been going TDY and flying on the metric ton of days fireman get off.

A1C Kevin Meinecke – Kevin is back from Altus and mission ready, he is so new he hasn’t gotten tagged with a call sign yet. As he is pretty quiet and does not say much, I’m leaning toward “muffler” as in Meinecke mufflers, but maybe after a few TDYs he will earn one of his own.

RETIREEES / MOVED ON:

CMSgt Tony Fortney
CMSgt James Hill
MSgt Ben Davis
MSgt Chuck Griminger
MSgt Noreen Skelton
TSgt Jeff Lindemann
TSgt Ryan Surber
TSgt Scott Anthone
SSgt Matt Wulf

TINKER AFB, OK

10 FLTS

‘FIGHTIN TENTH’



Greetings from Central Oklahoma, The saying around here still is “If you don’t like the weather now wait an hour and it will change”. Oklahoma City is expanding with the new sky scraper called the Devon tower and we have a Pro basketball team called the “OKC Thunder”. The mission is to FCF 55+ KC-135’s of different series (E, Q, R, O, and N, W) every year. The 10th FLTS FCF’s B-1, E-3 and B-52 aircraft as well as the KC-135. We pride ourselves in sending the “Best airplanes back to the War Fighter”.

SMSgt Rick Powell (AGR): Rick is still taking online classes for his BA in Organizational Management, along with making the Dean’s List at Ashford University. Rick finally sold his Triumph Bonneville and bought a Harley Softail, he rides his 1978 KZ1000 once and a while. Rick still races his Camaro at the track once in a while. Rick and Rowdy are still collecting guns and ammo, Rick is looking for another AK-47 (7.62mm).

Garrick.Powell@Tinker.af.mil

MSgt (Rowdy) Smith (AGR): Rowdy has been working hard maintaining a 4.0 GPA while he works on his BA in Organization Management. Rowdy has been spending a bank vault full of money to make his Corvette fast as hell. Rowdy still has his 1970 Challenger on blocks in the garage along with his Firebird; you hear banjo’s playing every time you walk into the yard. If you visit Rowdy at home he might answer the door with his hands full of guns, AR-15 and a Colt 45 and I think he just bought a Tommy gun too.

Rodney.Smith@Tinker.af.mil

MSgt Frank Valley (TR): (“Excessive use of Force, Valley”) Frank is still a SWAT team member for the Mid West City Police department. Frank’s house is done but he is now building a huge garage. Frank still lives up to his nickname “excessive force” now he kicks doors down with the SWAT team.

Frank.Valley@Tinker.af.mil

Booms of Yore:

SMSgt Quinn Janke (Retired): (No excuses just Results), (CTR) Quinn works at the ALC as a Contractor for the KC-135 Flight Manuals Manager. Quinn is the only guy I know of that has survived a Baboon heart transplant, however the side effects are not completely know? I hear that Quinn sometimes brakes out into money sounds?

Quinn.Janke.ctr@Tinker.af.mil

CMSgt Brian “Brain” Buss (AGR): (“BB”) Brian is now at Altus, OK

Brian.Buss@Robins.af.mil

Ron Poe (Retired): We hear he is in the area but we don't know him, ask Quinn, if you're looking for Ron.

MSgt Beve Katus (Retired): Still living in the local area and working at the ALC on his second retirement. Ask Quinn, he knows all the OLD guys! Harold.Katus@Tinker.af.mil

TINKER AFB, OK

185 ARS



The 185 ARS did not provide an input for the 2012 Boom Signal.

TINKER AFB, OK
465 ARS
“SHIT HOT OKIES”



Whadya mean I gotta write another one of these?! Didn't I just finish the 2011 version? Okie Dokie...you asked for it! Here's the current lineup:

CMSgt Steve “Bif” Robinson In an effort to get this version published in a timely manner, nothing derogatory will be mentioned about our Chief Boom whom may or may not have my orders signed at this time. Bif is a busy guy. Two girls in college, new Camaro, guns-guns-guns (2 college age girls remember?). On top of that he has to maintain 18 world class Booms and keep leadership informed on just about everything. Dang!! When's he gonna find time to order my iPad?

CMSgt Phil “X-Man” Brand Wow. Phil couldn't be more busy. Our Chief of Stan/Evil is currently smarting up by taking several courses and maintaining a 4.0! Is he doing it to make the rest of us seem like the inferior drones with no chance of escape from our dreary meaningless lives? Yes! He also plans on becoming a Physician's Assistant in the near future. Good on ya Phil!

SMSgt Marty “Crunch” Lochman NCOIC of Mobility, Marty is down to just a few months before he bids us farewell and joins the ranks of retired legends. Can you believe this guy started in 74?! After 37 years, 11 months and 8 days of military life, it's time for him to make his exit, initiate his last disconnect and stow the boom. He intends to sleep in, spin a compass cards' needle and where the needle stops will be his course for the day. He'll jump in his Cessna and fly that heading for two hours and see where he arrives. He's going to enjoy his retired life of no more weekends, no more long days with night flights, ORE's, ORI's, SAVS, ASEVS, ADLS, Fit to FIGHT, Commanders Call, all day briefings, CCP, Mobility Folders, meetings, check-rides, students and evals, tests and deployments.

SMSgt Darby “Jose Darbo” Perrin World renowned aviation artist and Boom Signal writer; Darby has had a busy year. New house, lots of work and retirement in sight. Check out his latest creative endeavors here: www.planeart.com (shameless plug). If you haven't seen his work yet, you have probably been in the AF for about 9 months or less and have no business using your time to read the Boom Signal. Go find a T.O. Newbie!

MSgt Rick “Ricky” Erwin Our resident comedian and stuntman is ready for retirement! After a close call with an open hatch over the desert, Ricky has decided that sitting next to the pool after retirement looks pretty good! A self-described “Fast Burner”, Rick made TSgt. In 1978. Since becoming a Boom in 94, the Okies have never been quite the same. Oh how we'll miss the animated antics and shenanigans and stories of giant cookies and F-105 rides.

MSgt Steve “Scalper” Switzer Steve is our NCOIC of the Training Shop. Steve is now the guy to talk to when you want to see an Oklahoma Thunder game. Networking skills and schmoozing have paid off very well for this senior instructor. He’s our equivalent of “Ticketmaster”! This should set him up very nicely for retirement.

MSgt Mark “McGoo” McGougan Still flippin’ cars, body scheduling and still manages to kill some deer every now and then. The McGoo household is testosterone heavy, what with little Kyle McGougan kickin’ ass at wrestling and scoping hotties with his dad!

MSgt Justin “Mayo” Hopkins Justin is up to his elbows in electrician work, plus the Okies have him on the road defending freedom at any given moment! He’s recently acquired a new home (again) and will soon be stocking it with only the finest local single women. I recently asked him for dating advice while sipping a beverage in Bricktown, to which he replied, “More Jaeger Bombs! What?” Still trying to figure that one out...

MSgt Kelly “Kelly-Kelly-Kell-Kell” Witt Kelly is a short timer looking forward to her new job in the Reserve school house at Altus. Students, beware!! Kelly has no time for your winy, meaningless, trivial un-pleasantries about the chow hall and billeting and about how “the BOPTT training was unfair”!! Unless of course you bring beer to this hypothetical complaint session. You might also talk motorcycles first to soften her up. She rocks.

MSgt Charles “Shatz” Dalton \$72,000 (Yes, I said 72K) Boat. Throw a feisty fiancée, 2 dogs, new house, and a sweet art job and you have one happy Boom. What could you have to complain about? “Hey Chaz! Tell me your opinions about corporate greed, Democrats and fuel savings”! Uh-Oh. Somebody unscrew him from the ceiling.

MSgt Ben “FLAPS” Brent Our newest instructor, Ben can expertly produce nearly one TAPR a week without breaking a sweat! Ask him who the greatest instructor in the Boom world is and he’ll let you know...and then you get a back rub. Wants the private pilot license, but Chaz is too busy planting trees and domesticating himself to teach him! Ben likes the boat and beer combo on the weekends and aspires to be the next Okie ART. Stranger things have happened; we did hire Chaz you know...

TSgt Jeff “350” Bass Our resident Heat and Air guy, Jeff keeps it real by smoking electronic cigarettes and starring in commercials that suggest his company may be a better choice when it comes to heat and air professionals. Whoa!! I may have heard a rumor that he was going to give all that up for an ART job! Not unless Ben accepts his bribe and gets a resume` written for him!!

TSgt Scott “Whistle-Britches” Montgomery Scott is an ex-Guard C-130 Flight Engineer and runs a couple of cell phone businesses which enable him to collect cool toys like a Harley, a boat, two 4 wheelers and a couple of Razor’s. If selling one of them will pay for his vacation then so be it. Gotta do what ya gotta do.

TSgt Terry “Squirrel” Allen Brand new TSgt, Terry lives in the Shire with his sister Sam and a striped Ocelot named Larry. Wanna see a nose-gear downlock? Terry will point out where it is every time. Now. Usually. With reasonable promise that it is, in fact not installed until after landing. Terry aspires to one day draw an Active Duty retirement and maybe buy a bumper for his car. Good luck and God Speed.

SSgt Ron “Lil’ Brown Bear” Davis Expert salsa dancer and pineapple farmer, Ron is married to the lovely Guard chick Vanessa. One third of the Air Force Reserve Command Aircrew of the year, Ron has been there, done that! Ex-Army, Ex-Navy and now AF Reserve Bad-Ass. WILL SOMEONE PLEASE GIVE THIS GUY A STRIPE!?!

SSgt Matt “Lil’ Spike” Tompkins World traveler, marathon runner, bartender. Well of course they’re going to make him a pilot! Couple of gold bars and a t-shirt that reads “Lift with your enlisted troop, not your back” and he’ll be good to go.

SSgt Michaelle Sallee Michaelle, an ex-supply troop is more fit than most people ten years younger. She passed fit-to-fight while running on a broken ankle. Wow. One of our newest Booms, she will also soon complete MCT and be released unto the world. D3B4? Disconnect, Disconnect, Disconnect and Breakaway, Breakaway, Breakaway, Breakaway. We had a lot of other call signs for her but this one looks like it may stick.

SRA Rachel “Cable” Jordan Ex cake decorator and brand-spanking-new Boom, Rachel is rocketing through MCT and should be completely qualified in time to go to the desert. Don’t tell her though, she still thinks we’re going to the *dessert*. Ahhhh...gullible.

SRA Dalton Williams *When asked about his sons’ status for the Signal, MSgt John Williams writes me:* “Well, not much to tell about the kid. He had a pretty normal childhood. I found him while I was out deer hunting one winter. I guess his “real” parents had abandoned him and he was being raised by a pack of wolves. When I stumbled upon him, he was suckling from the rear teat of a she wolf, so I went with my first impulse and blew his mom's (the wolf) brains out and scooped him up and took him home. And with a steady diet of turnips and electrical shocks, you have the fine figure of a man that now graces your presence. He also likes to eat. If we were eating the ass-end out of a dead rhino, he would ask for seconds”.

SRA Michael “Big Balls” Moore Ask About his call sign! No wait; I’ll tell ya! Mike had to get a waiver to be a Boom because...well...his testicles are as large as baseballs. Nothing to be ashamed of; I’m sure he’ll catch up to the rest of us very soon! Oh yea, he also likes to hunt, fish, mountain bike and wants to be a cop. Then his dog ran away. Doesn’t matter what I say does it? You’re still thinking about his junk.

Departed:

SMSgt Kathy “Flaming Red Head of Anger” Lowman Kathy has gone to be the Program Director at McConnell AFB, where she has to throw rocks at the booms to get them to fly. Sure not like the Okies, is it?

SMSgt Alvin “Koop” Kuper Koop is the program manager for the newly formed Reserve Squadron at Altus. Oh yes, *he’ll be back...*

Retired:

CMSgt John “Raging” Beasley Whereabouts unknown. If we knew, we’d be scared.

SMSgt Rodney “Bartles” Sanders

SMSgt Max Staats max.staats@tinker.af.mil

SMSgt John “Scooter” Wilson john.s.wilson2@tinker.af.mil

SSgt Josh “Teen Beat” Holdridge Given up a life of exercises, early show times and weekly beat-downs for a civilian life where he’s home with his wife and daughter. WTF man?!

Deceased:

SMSgt Dennis “& James” Smith *_RIP Brother...*

TRAVIS AFB, CA

6 ARS

“VIS EXTENSA”



Squadron Superintendent

CMSgt Derek Cantre – Arrived July 2011 after spending a short 17 years at McGuire AFB, NJ. The Chief is a great addition to the 6th.

In-Flight Refueling Superintendent

SMSgt Randy Kay – Arrived Sept 2011 from McGuire CRW, he is a 135 cross-flow. Still likes to say but in the other plane.

Flight Supervisor's and Line Boom's

MSgt Roy Galloway – Just returned from Travis CRW, finished ReQual and deployed to the desert as chief boom (learned how to make friends and influence people).

TSgt Jennifer Trussell – Finally back to the Sq after 5 months at Instructor Upgrade.

TSgt William Blanton – Filled in for SMSgt Kay and the First Shirt did a good job.

TSgt Eboni Lowry – In-charge of training and doing a great job.

TSgt Jeremy Pratt – Just moved out of Stan/Eval still trying to figure out how he can be gone all the time. Getting ready to attend NCOA.

TSgt Kenneth Harwood – 135 Cross-flow from Kadena, sports the same look as the Chief Boom, maybe it's a 135 thing. Recent NCOA grad.

TSgt Jamie Morton – One of the first to be paroled from the CRW at the 3 year mark, asked him where he wants to work and the only response was anywhere but as a RAMPCO.

TSgt Alfonso Duenez – Just moved into Stan/Eval fully qualified EB, and then mentioned that he would like to move to the CRW/AMOS. Can you say Volunteer?

TSgt Kai Bresser – Stan/Eval, great EB trying to move to be an FTU instructor.

SSgt Josh Burns – Does a great job in the Phase II program, always trying to finish something before SSgt Gregory (CCAF degree?)

SSgt Aaron Burk – Another Phase II instructor doing a great job, hoping to move to Stan/Eval.

SSgt Rachel Wentland – Boom Scheduler after a long DNIF finally went back to the desert.

SSgt Vincent Montojo – Recently qualified, deployed, Scheduler and looking to upgrade soon.

SSgt Kevin Gregory – Stan/Eval, great EB and loves to workout and complete things one step prior to SSgt Burns.

SrA Jonathan Jackson – Does great things everywhere, finalist for the Military Father of the Year.

SrA Travis McGarrell – Does great work, loves to be on the road.

SrA Andrew Bear – Another great Boom, looking to upgrade soon.

SrA Kate Ingram – Just completed Instructor upgrade and went right to ALS. Hoping to be promoted to SSgt this year.

SrA Ken Barber – Air Force poster child, does a great job. Heading to instructor upgrade in a few weeks.

SrA Josiah Harris – Does great work, has a hard time keeping his room clean so we are letting him move off base.

SrA Brett Browne – Just bought a Harley, starting to become a better Boom. Just went to ALS and might go to instructor upgrade next spring.

SrA Arriel Bromley – Very quiet, likes to wreck her cars/leave in the parking lot for months. Looking to upgrade to instructor this fall.

A1C Jessica Kirstein – Almost completed Phase II on –time, will be a good asset.

A1C Uriel Escamilla – Finally got qualified, and then deployed to the desert.

A1C Abbey Braunstein – Newly qualified, deploying very soon.

A1C Justin Lewis – recent FTU graduate, waiting on his cargo check.

A1C Justin Murphy – Working awards/decs, deploying and doing an overall good job.

AMN Steven Karall – Almost fully qualified, just need to thicken his skin.

A1C James Stanley – FINALLY fully qualified and will be deploying very soon, as long as his room stays clean.

A1C Rashond Edwards – Quite boom, with a CLEAN room.

A1C Nicholas McKinney – The “40” year old airman, does a great job and always has a smile.

AB Eriberto Lopez – Fresh out of FTU, looking for his first cargo trip.

INBOUNDS

SrA Long
A1C Brennan
SrA Sanchez

SrA W. Long

MSgt David Megill – Another McGuire transplant via CRW, looking forward to California

MSgt (s) Chris Leon – Sensor Operator duties completed

TSgt Edward Soto – Sensor Operator duties completed

LOSSES

MSgt LJ Molina – HYT (road) 4 months to requal, then TDY, TDY, TDY, TDY and time to retire

SSgt Darren Cully – Had enough and called it quits

SrA Dominick Amadeo – Good Instructor, just didn't had a few testing problems. Can even be found in the Sq, winning the Beer Pong Championship.

Attached/On-Loan

TSgt James Cain – FTU/OST Instructor, getting ready to attend NCOA.

SSgt Pavel Del Monte – FTU Instructor

SSgt Michael Meitz – FTU Instructor

9 ARS

TRAVIS AFB, CA



TSgt Jayson Brady: Currently NCOIC Mobility. Making a fantastic return from the CRW, Shady Brady was just selected for promotion to MSgt!

TSgt Somkit Chittakhone: Working in the CSS and a great addition to the 9th. MSgt Select "kit" from last year, he will sew on all others!

A1C Alexander Coakley: SrA select and recent completion of CDC's, Coakley is a great scheduler and boom.

SrA Rachel Cook: Rachel has been working hard to finish her CCAF and studying for SSgt.

SSgt Mike Durham: Mike Durham is the current NCOIC of scheduling and has just begun the Instructor boom upgrade.

SSgt Jesse Eagles: Newest instructor and father of a baby boom, Jesse should no be confused with his wife and fellow reserve boom, Jesse.

TSgt Daniel Falucho: Dan "The Man" has been busy leading the CSS flight and training his replacement kit. His recent completion of NCOA makes Dan ready for the next stripe.

TSgt Jonathan Farmer: John has just re-enlisted and is dedicated his life to the boom calling. The only 1st term 8yr TSgt in the AF has now become a permanent fixture in the 9th.

SrA David Galindo: Galindo has trouble finding time to be a boom between his constant grooming. He looks like a tan Ken doll! Seriously, not a hair out of place.

SrA Joshua Gamble: Currently in the Scheduling shop. This young man is famous for saying this to an instructor at the FTU, "Show me in the books where it says I have to listen to you." Keep up that quest for knowledge!

SrA Matthew George: Has just completed his eye surgery and can be found walking the halls(bumping into things) of the 9th waiting to get back on flight status.

MSgt Jens Hansen: This new Chief Boom of the Mighty 9th set records with waiver's and extensions to complete his boom training. The crippled old gunner has finally deployed and is known for making the most effective/firm contacts in the AOR.

SrA Daniel Howe: What can I say about Howe that hasn't already been said about the nation of Afghanistan. He is rundown and depleted.

A1C Erik Henry: Erik Henry works in Stan/Eval and dresses like Justin Bieber. Seriously, he has just finished his first deployment and his mustache was as unique as Henry himself.

SSgt Matt James: 19th AF Airmen of the year, Matt was a great Amn! But now is the JEEP NCO. Just finishing his private pilot's license and looks for OTS soon.

SSgt Joe Johnston: The Stan/Eval hammer runs his offices like he runs gel through his hair everyday: perfect!

A1C Shawn Lanmon: Shawn was the first boom to complete phase 2 training without a wavier in over 2 years. Currently he can be found on his first deployment, where he vows to win the war and save us all.

A1C Timothy Lowman: Timothy Lowman is a scheduler in the 9th. He is also an addict. His addiction, you ask? Taking ridiculous photos of himself in flight-related uniforms in the mirror with his cell.

SrA Ian Musgrave: Ian is in charge of the Storage Closet, where no one important can see him. He can also be found at CATM aiming loaded guns at other boom operators and subsequently being removed from the class (THIS HAPPENED TWICE)

SrA Jared Muzyczka: Muzyczka (Pronounced Music) is a highflying solid boom. He is currently working twds his CCAF and IB upgrade.

SSgt Josh Nears: Works in CSS and continues to shine new booms with his instructor awesomeness.

SSgt Justin Newsom: Newsom is the head of Training. His recent completion of the new Boom pod has been critical to the success of the Phase 2 success. He was selected as the 9th IB of the year.

TSgt Luis Noriega: Evaluator Luis "Don't touch me there" Noriega is one of the best boomer athletes, wrecking the fields from sideline to sideline. He is one class shy of completing his CCAf and working twrds his BA in underwater basket weaving.

SrA Dave Pingleton: Dave has just graduated ALS, completed IB upgrade, and is working towards buying his first house.

SSgt Kevin Simon: Newly acquired boom from the bomb loaders of the America's. He is showing promise and has just completed his phase 2 training.

TSgt Scott Steinhauer: Mr. Steinhauer is in charge of all the operations of the squadron. He is like that robot brain from iRobot. Or a sim card... He's so nice.

SrA Jeff Suddy: Our NCOIC of supply, Suddy has been busy building the new Gucci boom facebook page for all to admire our greatness.

A1C Ryan Terry: Is responsible for the most false Sasquatch sightings. This guy could film a Honey, I Shrunk the Kids movie in his back hair.

SSgt Fritz Thompson: Another recent grad from ALS and promotion to NCO. Fritz has the hearts and minds of all young booms.

TSgt Ken Tockey: Ken has a new phrase, “I kick ass” With his recent ass kicking of cancer Ken is busy in the CSS until this great boom returns to fly.

TSgt Jason Trussell: NCOIC of Stan/Eval and wears spandex on his bicycle to work everyday. The recent promotion to MSgt has us all excited to see what new million dollar bike he buys next.

A1C Louis Young: Louis works in Stan/Eval. His recent completion of Honor guard training has been busy keeping the military traditions and serving our community.

TRAVIS AFB CA
70 ARS
“HOME OF THE ORCA’S”



Greetings from the Golden Gate Wing, home of the 70th Air Refueling Squadron. In the past year there has been a few promotions and other changes in the 70th ARS Boom section, here is the list of who remains and who has moved on.

70th ARS “ART FORCE”

CMSgt Joe Lambertus: (Chief Boom) Another year down, and to many to go!

SMSgt Keith Stephens: (DOV) We here in the 70th call Keith “The Cat Man”, don’t ask and we won’t tell!

SMSgt Dave Palmer: (Scheduler) Dave is currently on loan to the 79th ARS to back fill their DOV position.

MSgt A.J. Baxter: (Training) Just like the two previous years, AJ will be AJ!

70TH ARS TRADITIONAL RESERVESTS

SMSgt Dan Quasius: As I write this, Dan is deployed and loving every minute of it!

MSgt Corbett Cadwell: Mongo is still with us, waiting patiently for an ART position.

MSgt Mike Mecum: By the time this is published, Mike will have been retired for 5 or 6 months.

MSgt Matt Fisher: Matt has seen the light and came back to the 70th after a short stint as the Ops Group Career Advisor.

MSgt Mike Hinton: Mike is dual qualified, KC-10 Boom and C-17 Load.

MSgt Jim Hardee: As you may notice Jim has been promoted since the last Boom Signal, Congratulations’!

TSgt Ernie Valles: Ernie has completed his stint at the 349th AMOG, and is back with us in the squadron.

TSgt Alan Green: Still 6’7”, full of S_ _ _ , and working NORCAL FFA, oh sorry FAA.

TSgt Robert Rossman: Robert has finally figured out what a real Reservist is, (BROKE).

TSgt Ryan “Fred” Phillips: Ryan is currently looking for employment, anybody hiring?

TSgt Ryan “K-9” Korhuniak: Ryan recently completed helicopter pilot training.

TSgt Brandon Heyman: Brandon is currently working for the DLA, not sure what DLA stands for.

TSgt Michael Bob: Not much change from last year.

TSgt Mark “Man Code” Short: Mark is still employed, but is now “the” Shell Answer Man.

TSgt James “The Screw” Whittaker: James is still accosting inmates and enjoying every minute of it!

TSgt Jon “Pretty Boy” Pratte: Jon just completed pilot training at Embry Riddle.

SSgt Dan Rufkahr: Dan is currently working for the Napa airport.

SSgt Jessica Eagles: Jessi is the new mother of a baby boy, Congratulations’!

SSgt Daniel “Bones” Fortier: Daniel is working on the Railroad, laying ties...

SSgt Eric Esquerra: Eric is new to the squadron, welcome Eric!

SrA Greg Luedtke: Greg is also new to the squadron; Greg came to us from the 341st MMS at Malmstrom AFB.

TRAVIS AFB CA

79 ARS

“TOGAS”



CMSGT Terry (Hue) Monges – As hard as we try to get rid of him, he just won’t leave! He is still the chief boom of the 79th ARS so the world has not ended yet! We think he’s the Air Force’s secret weapon for the “Fit to Fight” program. Now that he has everyone at Travis running at his daily clinics, they are sending him out to take on the rest of the Air Force. We’ve also heard a rumor that he has submitted changes for spandex uniforms!!
Terry.monges@ua.af.mil

SMSGT Russ Martin - The most (Experienced) and least active Boom Operator in the squadron, has finally moved on from his permanent position as the Wing Stan Eval guru and is going for 4th AF doing what, we are not sure.
Russell.martin@us.af.mil

SMSGT Shawn (Chili) McMahon- Senior Reservist- Chili is a busy man these days, an Instructor at Boeing by day and a trouger by night. Now that he is a proud father of twin girls rumor has it he has recently joined the NRA and is a strong advocate for women’s rights. You can find him singing karaoke on every Hickam OST.
Michael.s.mcmahon2@boeing.com

SMSGT Dave Palmer- Another 70 ARS “fish” joining our ranks, “Great”. Oh wait, he was once a Toga before, okay that must make it all right then. Dave is trying to salvage the 79th ARS Chief of STAN/EVAL position vacated by MSGT Stepp.

MSGT Al (Flyin’ Hawaiian) Young, B Flight Leader – Is still swinging from trees for SMUD, he calls that his “real job”. And for fun, he comes out and lays the “hammer” down during check rides, on poor unsuspecting boom operators. This going to be Al’s last year, Damn (Higher Tenure) who is going to order the awesome food on OSTs?
Bigdog79_2000@yahoo.com

MSGT Harold (Harry) Wenner – Finally went into rehab and got off the crack (MPA orders). He now works for Virgin American as a dispatcher. Harold’s age is catching up to him; in January he had surgery on his knee and has been DNIF for the better part of the year. TDY’s haven’t been the same without him.
Hlwenner86@aol.com

MSGT Dave (Big Wave) Kielhorn – ART- finally turned in his bachelor pad days, broke down and bought a home in Vacaville, where he spends most of his free time fixin’ her up. Dave is currently holding down the scheduling desk.
Dwk81@aol.com

MSGT Shawn (Face Plant) Simmons- aka “Chuck” - When not face planting off of his bicycle, Shawn is a Parole Officer for the State. He is now required to ride his bike with training wheels on and off duty. The Simmons' are the proud parents of two children.

Mowgli@starstream.com

MSGT Tim (TJ) Stepp, ART – Tim is still signing himself up for the trips that go to the best golf courses, definitely now that he has moved out the 79th ARS Chief of STAN/EVAL into trip scheduling. He is happily married and the proud father... of the local dog pound.

Tim.stepp@us.af.mil

MSGT Frank (Bud Man) Carlos – We love getting check rides from the man with the magic cooler, he works for Anheuser Busch (aka InBev) , need I say more... Franky must have been running low on beer in his fridge so he went back to work at Busch full-time. You can find him signing up for every Pac Channel just to be disappointed when it cancels the day prior. He currently resides in West Sacramento with his Wife Edith and two adorable children.

Frankedith@sbcglobal.net

MSGT Laura (Island Princess) Omo – Laura lives in Tucson, Arizona and has made it through three years of marriage, still in good spirits. She and her hubby are having fun trying to make babies... practice makes perfect, and all that practice has finally paid off!! Congrats Laura!!

Usafoomer@yahoo.com

TSGT Jon (Tuck Tuck) Tucker- Tuck is one of the oldest booms in the unit; actually he might be the oldest in the Air Force! Has anyone seen his slip stick? And still saltier than a salt lick.

Jht6@aol.com

TSGT Jesse Farley – Jesse is the squadrons Boom Training ART. If your non-current for ANYTHING Jesse will let ya' know and hound you until your current once again.

Jessefarley@yahoo.com

TSGT Rich (Snuffy) Costafelis – Snuffy “smile your on candid camera” is world renowned for his collection of hilarious squadron's Christmas videos.

Richandgina@comcast.net

TSGT Christy (Thumpy) Jeffreys- Christy, one of the units finest instructors, continually takes every chance she gets to jump on FTU or MPA orders. A girl's got to make a living. Still splitting her time between Northern Cali and So Cal. She also pleads the 5th on answering why her nickname is Thumpy!

Thumpyc23@yahoo.com

TSGT Russ "the Love Mussel" Downie –Chief's second-hand-man, someone has to be it!!! He's continues to enjoy of marriage and we are still waiting for the babies!

Meux77@msn.com

TSGT Scottie “Ritalin Boy” Thomason- Is our newest evaluator and has named himself “The Hammer.” STILL riding on the coattail of his father as boom operator and now into the family business, servicing and loading commercial cargo aircraft here at Travis, so when do you think he will finally understand how to load cargo? We think his goal as evaluator is to give the most Q3's or be the newest Santa Claus!! Beware!!

Darksabre80@hotmail.com

TSGT Atasha “The Baby Making Machine” McClurg – Is currently a full-time mommy to three beautiful and very

energetic little girls. Two years have gone by and she has not gotten pregnant (what a miracle) since she had all this free time off we sent her off to learn to become an instructor. Oh My! She is still pursuing her dreams of becoming a pilot, while the rest of us fear for our lives.

Atasha.Mcclurg@us.af.mil

TSGT Lindy Campbell – Is still a brat! Somehow, she has managed to start a trend of squadron knee surgery. A couple of pilots and another boom have followed her grand example. All those years of being the enforcer on the soccer field has come back to haunt her. She is our latest and newest instructor, uh oh what were we thinking!!! And if you didn't know all ready: Lindy is super cool!!

LindyIsSuperCool@aol.com

TSGT Steve "Stu" Garrbett- After being on MPA orders for a while Steve is currently going to school and spending time at home with his wife and baby boy. He's taking advantage of his much-needed break to perfect his "Hangover" impersonations. Watch out Ed Helms!

Steven.Garrbett@travis.af.mil

SSGT Michael "Muscles" Goirl – There isn't a whole lot to say, he's either been at FTU or in AL Dhafra. As a matter of fact, why did he even leave active duty? Keep up the good work Mike!

Michael.Goirl@travis.af.mil

SSGT Justin Hughes- AKA Honey Badger will do anything for a Kit Kat bar. He is a former Jarhead, had about a 5-year break in service before he wised up and crossed into the blue. He is originally from the Bay Area and currently resides in Concord. Go Giants!!

SSGT Autumn Ohlendorf- Our long lost hire!! Autumn was hired like a year ago, from the MX world but the crazy Medical folks decided to nip pick her medical profile and disqualified her. What the heck? Autumn did not quit and fought back to clear up these medical issues. She can finally enjoy wear the flight suit!

SSGT Michael Bradley- Mike has done it all... active duty life support, security forces, Olympic bobsled team... that is right... Olympic bobsledding! We're all hoping this isn't Chief's ploy to start up a 79th Boom Bobsled Team! Welcome to our dysfunctional family!

SSGT Mike Parks- He is the news boom to join reserve ranks from Active Duty. He plans to attend school in the bay area.

SrA Stephen Zorro- Finally qualified!! Now is trying to get on any flight or trip he can get his hands on!!

A1C Christina Vinson- Is our newest youngest hire! Wait we have a Vinson in the squadron all ready! Her older cousin is Lt. Col Mike Vinson, is the squadron able to handle this? Only time will tell.

LOSSES:

TSGT Joe (Rocco) Huhn- Rocco is now enjoying his newly found status as an "ORF". So we are all sure he's getting even more time with his BFF Jack or is it John?

Roccokc10@aol.com

SSGT Aaron Spencer- We borrowed Aaron from the 70th and he liked it so much over here he decided to stay. Aaron has made a big decision and is going to transition to the dark side "active duty" good luck Aaron.

TRAVIS AFB, CA

621 CONTINGENCY RESPONSE WING



Welcome to the 621 CRW – West. You might be thinking to yourself, “I thought Travis was the 615 CRW?” Amazing what a difference a year makes. As with everything, the only constant is change. In an effort to better serve our nation the 615 CRW has been joined with our East Coast brethren under the 621 CRW Banner.



15 Air Mobility Operations Squadron

MSgt Jason “J-Rez” Resler – jason.resler@us.af.mil – Jason and family welcomed a baby boy into the family this past October. Jason is coming to the end of his tour here with the 15 AMOS, he has orders to Lackland AFB where he will be the new 1A0 CDC writer.

TSgt Christopher “Pain is your friend” McCarthy - cristopher.mccarthy.3@us.af.mil – Chris just got back from his six month all-expense paid vacation to the AI Udeid and is whiter than when he left (how is that possible?). Chris is the founding father of our new and improved PT program; thanks a lot Chris, we hurt in places that we didn’t even knew existed!

TSgt Dexter “Double D, aka Sexy Dex” Morton – dexter.morton@us.af.mil – Dex is also at the end of his tour with the 15 AMOS. Dex is moving back across the street to the 6 ARS. Don’t let Dex fool ya, he is going to miss the AMOS really bad!! Take care Dex, thanks for all that you did!

TSgt Alan “Smiles” Pelletier – alan.pelletier@us.af.mil - Al just got hitched this spring! We’re pretty sure he’s happy, but trying to get any emotion out of Al is like trying to take cake from a fat kid. All kidding aside, Al is doing a great job here in the AMOS.

INBOUNDS

SSgt Calvin Arnold – 351 ARS, RAF Mildenhall, UK

TSgt Alfonso Duenez – 6 ARS, Travis AF, CA

TSgt Michael Fatone – 6 OSS, MacDill AFB, FL



573 Global Support Squadron

TSgt Jack Hester – john.hester.1@us.af.mil – Finally pinned on Tech. Extended a year (no I haven't changed how I feel about the CRW). Looking forward to a quick year so I can back out in the real world.

TSgt Corvus Lowry – corvus.lowry@us.af.mil – Still the most wicked awesome Boom in the history of ever! Fact.

SSgt Russ Hobbs – russ.hobbs@us.af.mil

SSgt Brooklynne Mosley – brooklynne.mosely@us.af.mil –

SSgt Steven Bejarano - steven.bejarano@us.af.mil - I'll be separating in December and moving to Yakota.
bejarano.steven@yahoo.com

SSgt Jessica Stockwell – jessica.stockwell@us.af.mil – Joined the CRW and had a baby.



570 Global Mobility Squadron

SSgt Brian Gerrard – brian.gerrard@us.af.mil - Brian hit his 3 year mark but the CRW is scamming to keep him longer, and is hoping he doesn't get screwed over like he has constantly for the past 3 years. He wants to go back to flying but for some reason they like sending him around the world to sit in a truck and do random mundane tasks. Constantly gone while watching others scam, Brian is racking up some per diem, but also some gray hairs. Brian was set to go back 1 July 2012, but his squadron is trying to put it to August and beyond to put more gray hairs on his head.



571 Global Mobility Squadron

MSgt Israel Hanks – israel.hanks@us.af.mil

TSgt Jamie Morton – willie.morton@us.af.mil –Back to flying.

TRAVIS AFB, CA

KC-10 ATS BOOM INSTRUCTORS



Other than being farmed out to Delaware Resource Group, not much has changed since last years update. The BOT is going through some upgrades this year and were working on the KC-10 cargo load trainer program.

Tim Holt- Tim is still fly fishing and the master of the wood lathe. He's now making custom pens with the wood he's turning. Look for Tim's line of fine writing instruments coming to store near you.

Lee Evans- Lee's doing great. Maggie is still down in SoCal so He's been wearing a path between here and there. Between his cooking and John Bond's it's a miracle that we're not bigger than all outdoors.

John Bond- Still the world's fastest boom operator and master of the silly side trip. John is solely responsible for all of us gaining 10 lbs. He's an amazing cook. John , We don't know how you do it Look for John at an NHRA sanctioned drag strip near you.

Steve Oothoudt – (FCA/HMFIC) For some reason Steve thought he could go sling pallets like he was still a line boom and blew out his knee. Despite the never ending hell that is the workman's comp system , he's back up and running after surgery and dealing with all the crap none of us want to.

Shawn McMahon- Just got back from a UAE deployment with the 79th, and can't stop talking about how much fun it was and by fun he means absolute and complete hell. We think Shawn is going to give up the militia if his number comes up again.

Josh Bracht- Resident tech geek ,master of all things apple and ½ of the ORF boom Hayabusa motorcycle club. Josh's philosophy on Hayabusa ownership is, one is good, two is better . If you need to know how to jailbreak an i-phone give him a call.

Jack Lemons- The other ½ of the ORF boom Hayabusa motor cycle club and softball world champion, I'm not kidding, you should see the ring, It's bigger than my head. If you're looking for Jack he'll be at sport bike night or waxing his new Infiniti.

Rob Tabor- Rob is slowly coming around to the retired way of life. Rob works off John and Lee's cooking by parking a country mile from the building , actually he's afraid that someone might defile his vehicle. His wife claims he spends more time in the garage than with her.

John "DMac" McMillan- DMac has had quite a year. He was hired on last summer and then was almost immediately laid off. Thankfully he was brought back on as a part timer. He's currently working on his master's degree and has been racking up the hours this summer due to the high student load.

SMSgt Dana Hutchinson- (Det-1 HQ AMC Boom) Not sure if anyone else is claiming him, so we'll put him on our list. Hutch got an extension on his HYT and will be retiring later this year. The heir to the Det-1 throne has yet to be named.

If you're out on the left coast, stop by and say hi.

Steven J Oothoudt (OOTie)
KC-10 Boom Operator Flight Check Airman
Travis AFB, California

TYNDALL AFB, FL

601st Air Operations Center 101st Air Operations Group “America’s AOC”



Greetings from America’s AOC in sunny Panama City, Florida!

Here comes the standard tag line; for those who don’t know, the 601st Air Operations Center is responsible for “Homeland Defense” under the umbrella of NORAD/NORTHCOM and AFNORTH. If you’ve flown an O.N.E. mission, you’ve flown for us. The 101st Air Operations Group is the Florida Guardsmen “manpower” that staffs 85% of the 601st AOC. Make sense?

2011 was stressful year in the Guard, with NGB slashing rank across the board. The Booms of the 101st AOG here in the FLANG weren’t spared, as our three positions were cut from Master to Staff. Fortunately for us in AGR status, we can keep the stripes we have, but that means anyone being hired into the unit will have to be Staff going forward. Hopefully we can work with NGB to fix this issue going forward, as this move severely limits our ability to recruit the level of experience required in the AOC.

2012 will be a busy year for us, as any election year with a sitting POTUS up for re-election means lots of CAPs around the country. We welcome the business!

The current players are; (AGR, T32)

MSgt J. Luke Mullins is still fighting the changes TSgt Seifert has been trying to push every few months, living on the old adage "but this is how it's always been done", much to Ryan's frustration. In an attempt to distract leadership from raising eyebrows at how often he seems to travel to Birmingham for "flight training", Luke's started getting creative with GDSS by tracking and jumping on every tanker TDY to Panama City. With recent Enlisted Grade Review changes, Luke's stressing about who he'll get as applicants to replace Ryan when he departs KPAM to rejoin the family in Guarm.

TSgt Ryan Seifert has nailed down the tanker planning portion of the job and has been focusing on his additional duties as the team's tech support, spell checker, and thesaurus, while also finding random processes to change, just to bug the hell out of Luke. He's found that it's most entertaining to implement changes as soon as Luke goes TDY, catching him off guard when he returns. Ryan's wife and daughter recently PCSd to Guam, so he's begun plotting his escape to paradise to join them. He's enjoyed his time with the Florida ANG but decided that since the million dollar house he's living in has become very, very empty and he's started getting the feeling that his Div Chief is plotting his demise to take over the house, it's time to leave the military and move on...again. Chances are, he'll play Guard Unit Roulette and become a guardsman once again soon!

(DSG, T32) – None at this time.

And until the next edition of the Signal, fly safe and never forget...9/11

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OH
AMC TEST AND EVALUATION SQUADRON



SMSgt Don Breitkreutz – On my way out of Dayton and at the time of writing this not sure to where. It appears McConnell and back to operational flying. I have spent the past three and a half years trying to learn and remember acquisition acronym soup and finally feel like I can keep a conversation going. From wireless headsets to our new KC-46 tanker I know more about the mobility forces and our aircraft than I ever knew existed. This has been a great place to learn new things and see the side of the house that equips our operators and war-fighters. Spending the remainder of my free time here looking for new fishing lakes to take the boat on.

MSgt Jason Larimore – Jason arrived here in April after spending 18 months at AFIT earning his Masters Degree in Logistics and Supply Chain Management. He was looking for a place to use his new found talents and hopefully with the new tanker, its training system, and the other MAF platforms he will have ample opportunity to do so. He does offer the opportunity to explain the Enlisted to AFIT process if anyone wishes to partake. Spends most of his off duty time looking for new campgrounds and running trails to prep for the next marathon.

Don Breitkreutz, SMSgt, USAF
AMC Test Liaison to ASC
Wright Patterson AFB, OH

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OH

KC-46A DIRECTORATE



CMSgt Jim Pittman: Still enjoying Ohio and trying to figure out Air Force Acquisitions. Preliminary design of the aircraft is complete. Next July, we will conduct the Critical Design Review and prepare for testing and production. When I'm not working, you can find me at the pond bass fishing or riding at the local motocross tracks. You can reach me at james.pittman@wpafb.af.mil

SMSgt(r)/GS-14 Larry Strong : I finally escaped the "Dark Side (HQ AFMC/A3)" last year. I'm the senior Program Manager for the Sub-Systems and Propulsion IPT in our development engineering department working on a number of things to include, AR systems (boom & drogue), Remote Viewing System, spatial integration, weight & balance, and utilization. It's great to be back in a position where I have an influence on what will be beneficial to our future Boom Operators!!! I AM LIVING THE DREAM. If any of you get to Ohio, please give us a call. Drenda and I would love to hear from you. You can reach me at 937-656-9347 or email larry.strong@wpafb.af.mil.

MSgt(r)/GS-13 Barry "the Sunshine Fund guy" Mayhew: Greetings to my fellow boom operators...past and present. Our program office continues to be heavily engaged in buying the Total Force a shiny, new tanker. Things are crazy here as we box daily with our Boeing counterparts. I currently wear three hats....leading the Maintenance Sub-IPT, managing Type-1 Training development, and overseeing the development of the KC-46 Flight Manuals program. Give me a call (937-656-9322) or drop me a line (barry.mayhew@wpafb.af.mil) to catch up or stop by if you are in the area!

JIM PITTMAN, CMSgt, USAF
Superintendent, KC-46A Directorate
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH

Boom Memorial Names

KB-29 SUPERFORTRESS

7-Jul-51 TSGT HENRY H. HILL
7-Jul-51 ILT JACK W. KERN
7-Jul-51 CPL REGINALD F. RUSSELL
7-Jul-51 SSGT SCOTT L. WALLACE
10-Jul-53 SGT WALTER F. OLSEN
26-Dec-56 TSGT THURMAN RANIER
10-Jan-57 TSGT EDWARD C. CLEMONS
10-Jan-57 SSGT MICHAEL B. MCINTOSH
2-Feb-57 MSGT LAWRENCE M. GRIGORY
2-Feb-57 A2C ARTHUR B. KOSIER
2-Feb-57 A3C FRANKLIN D. SCHWEIGERT

KB-50 SUPERFORTRESS

13-Mar-57 A2C ROBERT E. CRAIG
13-Mar-57 A2C BILLY B. ROSE
8-May-57 SSGT THOMAS E. O'CONNOR
8-May-57 A3C DONALD E. COSPER
13-Aug-58 A2C FRANCIS C. HERMANE, JR.
13-Aug-58 SSGT NORBERT T. KNULTY
22-Jan-59 A2C IGNACIO W. SANCHEZ
22-Jan-59 TSGT WAYNE M. SOUDER
4-Aug-59 A2C THOMAS M. PAYTON
18-Oct-60 SSGT HARDIN A. BAILEY
18-Oct-60 A2C THOMAS J. LANE
18-Oct-60 A3C MICHAEL W. MILLER
5-Mar-61 SSGT HAROLD D. MEEUSEN
5-Mar-61 A2C CLIFTON C. TABOR
8-Jan-62 A2C PAUL M. CLAWSON
8-Jan-62 A2C CARLTON A. LINK
8-Jan-62 SSGT BILLIE D. MOORE
9-Feb-62 A1C GUY L. POWELL
9-Feb-62 A2C RALPH E. REUTZEL
20-Dec-62 SSGT ROBERT T. CRAIG
20-Dec-62 SSGT JAMES R. HAYES
13-Aug-64 SSGT WALTER B. HICKMAN, JR.
13-Aug-64 SSGT CAREY A. LIVINGSTON

KC-97 STRATOFREIGHTER

9-Nov-51 SGT JAMES A. MAINS
27-Jun-54 A1C DAVID ARAMBULA
27-Jun-54 SSGT ROBERT O. GONZALES
27-Jun-54 SSGT VINCENT PROVENZANO
23-Feb-55 SSGT ROBERT E. ROSENCRANCE
23-Feb-55 A2C CHARLES J. SITFA
4-May-55 A1C MARVIN R. DEVRIES
4-May-55 A1C JOSEPH L. PRIDGEN
13-Jul-55 SSGT GEORGE R. MIGNOSA
13-Jul-55 SSGT MARVIN F. RUSK

25-Apr-56 SSGT DONALD S. DELPRIORE
 25-Apr-56 A2C JURI E. JOONAS
 25-Apr-56 SSGT KENNETH E. VANPATTON
 26-Jun-56 TSGT BARDEL A. CRUM
 26-Jun-56 SSGT ROBERT L. WALLACE
 6-Jul-56 A2C WILLIAM L. FALCONER
 22-Jan-57 SSGT JOEL V. BLACKWELL
 22-Jan-57 SSGT RAYMOND E. NOAH
 18-Jul-57 SSGT JACKIE J. JAMERSON
 29-Oct-57 TSGT RONALD E. RUBLE
 12-Nov-58 MSGT CURTIS W. KING
 12-Nov-58 A2C JOHN M. SCSEBBAK
 22-Jul-59 TSGT JAKE SCHMIDT
 30-Mar-60 SSGT SHIRLEY D. RENNER
 27-Jun-60 TSGT ROBERT P. COSTELLO
 28-Feb-61 SSGT ERNEST J. LEMOINE
 5-Nov-64 SSGT GERALD W. SHULTZ
 19-Dec-64 TSGT JAMES R. BILL

KC-135 SRATOTANKER

27-Jun-58 MSGT DONALD H. GABBARD
 25-Nov-58 TSGT RONALD L. CHAMPION
 31-Mar-59 TSGT HERMAN A. CLARK
 15-Oct-59 SSGT PAUL R. THOMASSON
 3-Feb-60 SSGT GEORGE W. SHORT
 9-May-62 SSGT WALLACE R. ADAMS
 10-Sep-62 TSGT JOHN L. DUNCAN
 10-Sep-62 TSGT KENNETH A. QUINN
 27-Feb-63 TSGT DANIEL C. CAMERON
 21-Jun-63 MSGT DANIEL F. DONAHUE
 28-Aug-63 MSGT CARL H. BURRIS
 28-Aug-63 TSGT RAY L. FISH
 8-Jul-64 SSGT ROBERT L. GRAVES
 4-Jan-65 SSGT JIMMY TARDIE
 16-Jan-65 SSGT REGINALD R. WENT
 26-Feb-65 MSGT CAREY W. ADDISON JR.
 3-Jun-65 TSGT LESTER M. ALLSOP
 17-Jan-66 MSGT LLOYD POTOLICCHIO
 17-May-66 TSGT HARRY L. ALEXANDER
 19-May-66 SSGT CHARLES E. STUART
 19-Jan-67 MSGT ORVILLE MONTGOMERY
 17-Jan-68 TSGT CHARLES C. CHAPLIN
 30-Jul-68 SGT CHARLES A. OLVIS JR.
 30-Jul-68 SSGT HURSCHEL D. PRIDDY
 2-Oct-68 TSGT EARL B. ESTEP JR.
 22-Oct-68 SMSGT HOWARD B. BENGE
 19-Dec-69 SMSGT HOWARD G. BENFORD
 3-Jun-71 SSGT RICHARD D. ROUSER
 13-Jun-71 TSGT HUBERT MILES JR.
 13-Mar-72 SGT BRUCE J. KLAVERKAMP
 25-Mar-75 SMSGT JACKIE V. EGBERT
 7-Dec-75 SGT DAVID M. WANDEL
 6-Feb-76 SSGT LLOYD D. BAKER
 26-Sep-76 TSGT GARY L. CARLSON
 19-Sep-79 SMSGT ALBERT L. EVANS

13-Mar-82	TSGT DONALD J. PLOUGH
19-Mar-82	MSGT RICHARD A. CROME
27-Aug-85	TSGT CLAUDE F. ARDEN
27-Aug-85	SSGT DESIREE LOY
17-Jun-86	SSGT QUINN L. DEWITT
13-Mar-87	SSGT RODNEY S. ERKS
13-Mar-87	SMSGT PAUL W. HAMILTON
11-Oct-88	A1C ROBERT L. PARHAM
20-Nov-88	MSGT JAMES L. BORLAND
31-Jan-89	CAPT ROBERT LEWELLYN
31-Jan-89	SSGT DAVID VICKERS
20-Sep-89	MSGT CHERYL HELGERMAN
20-Sep-89	MSGT WILLIAM J. MALICO
4-Oct-89	A1C JACK D. CUPP
19-Nov-97	MSGT ROBERT "TUG" MCGRAW
13-Jan-99	TSGT RICHARD D. VISINTAINER

ADDED SINCE BOOM MEMORIAL DEDICATION
KC-97 STRATOFREIGHTER

27-Aug-56	A1C WILLIAM R. DENNIE Jr.
27-Aug-56	A3C RICHARD A. RIDLON

ADDED SINCE BOOM MEMORIAL DEDICATION
KB-29 SUPERFORTRESS

8-Apr-54	A2C FREDERICK L. MARSHALL
8-Apr-54	A2C WAYNE D. WHITSELL

THE BOOMERS PRAYER

MAY THE WEATHER BE SMOOTH AND THE BOW WAVE SLIGHT,
MAY THE RECEPTACLE BE LARGE AND HAVE A PLETHORA OF LIGHTS.

MAY CARGO AND PAX BE NOT ABOARD,
MAY WE NEVER HAVE TO USE THE PARACHUTE RIP-CORD.

THIS WE ASK FROM THE POWER ABOVE,
JUST LET US DO WHAT ALL BOOMER'S LOVE.
TO DIRECT THE BOOM WITH PRECISION, AND A TOUCH THAT IS SLIGHT,
TO GET THE CUSTOMER ENOUGH GAS TO FINISH THEIR FLIGHT.

OR TO SIMPLY PUT IT,
SO WE CAN JUST ILLUMINATE THE "BOOM ENGAGED LIGHT".

PATRICK QUAID, MSGT, 1997, ILANG RETIRED

Boom Operator's Coin/Card Rules



1. Rules of the game must be explained to all new coin/card holders.
2. If a Boom has never received a coin/card, then they cannot be expected to play the game. This burden of proof is placed on the challenge.
3. The coin/card are interchangeable.
4. The coin card will not be defaced (i.e., drilling, machining, etc.).
5. You can be challenged anytime, anywhere. You must produce a coin/card within 15 seconds of being challenged.
6. When challenging, state whether the challenge is for a single drink or for a round of drinks.
7. Failure to produce a coin/card when challenged results in the challenged buying a drink or round of drinks. If all those that are challenged produce a card/coin then the challenger is obligated to buy a drink or a round of drinks. Once the challenged has bought, you cannot continue to challenge the individual.
8. Under no circumstances can a coin/card be handed to someone. This is considered giving it away and you must barter with that person to regain possession of your coin/card. You must “ground” the coin/card by placing it down on a flat surface. Then, and only then may an individual pick it up and examine it. This is not considered giving your coin/card away.
9. The person who picks up the coin/card is honor bound to place it back where they got it. You cannot be challenged while your coin/card is in someone else's possession.
10. A lost coin/card does not relieve the holder of their responsibilities.
11. These rules apply to any Boom Operator or “Honorary Member.” Local rules can be used; however, apply to local Boomers only.
12. The coin/card should be controlled at all times. Giving a coin/card to anyone is like opening the association to anyone. It is considered an HONOR to be a Boom Operator and have a coin/card. Let's keep it that way!

KC-135 & KC-10 Locations

