

Astro News

General Lyles takes command

Vows people support, continued cost control and next level of business excellence

Staff Sgt. Carl Norman
AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — A simple and tradition-filled ceremony allowed hundreds of well wishers gathered at the Air Force Museum here April 20 to bid farewell to the outgoing and welcome the incoming commander to Air Force Materiel Command.

Gen. Lester L. Lyles accepted the command guidon and leadership of the Air Force's largest and most diverse command from Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff, during the hour-long ceremony. Gen. George T. Babbitt relinquished his three-year command and retired after three and one-half decades of service.

"Just as the Wright brothers proved their flying machine concepts at the turn of the last century, General Babbitt has implemented new concepts to keep our Air Force in tip-top fighting shape," Ryan said of Babbitt's more than \$2 billion savings to the Air Force. "He has been on the forefront on solidifying the efficiency of our business affairs, improving cost accountability and creating agile combat support. The dedicated men and women of this command have all been a part of an exciting and successful time because of his leadership."

Ryan then welcomed Lyles, saying he's the right man for the job and jokingly added his only flaw is being a dedicated Washington Redskins fan.

"General Lyles' assignment as the new commander of Air Force Materiel Command is a natural," Ryan said. "His depth of experience in acquisition and logistics, in so many varied and important Air Force assignments, and in the



Photo by Dave Livingston

Gen. Lester L. Lyles and his wife Mina, (front, center), followed by Gen. George T. Babbitt and his wife, Louise, pass through a cordon of Air Force Materiel Command command chief master sergeants in preparation for Lyles' assumption of command of AFMC.

joint environment, will serve this command and our nation well."

These comments followed an introductory monologue from ceremony narrator CMSgt. Dana Steinhauser, public affairs director for the United States Air Force Band at Bolling AFB, D.C. His words told of Wright-Patterson's history-filled past.

"Other than that day in 1903 on a hill in North Carolina where there just happened to be a good breeze, this is where it all happened," the chief said.

Steinhauser introduced the Air Force Honor Guard who paid tribute to Babbitt with a silent drill team demonstration that drew repeated applause from the crowd. Babbitt then

received the Distinguished Service Medal from Ryan and passed the AFMC banner on to Lyles.

"Never in my wildest dreams could I have imagined the opportunity to serve in this capacity," Lyles said after accepting command, which happened to occur on his birthday.

He said his first priority is to do everything he can to support the people in the command - not just the military members and their civilian counterparts, but their families and the communities that surround each AFMC base. He also spoke of four mandates he brings to his new position.

"First is to continue the great

legacy of Gen. George Babbitt, in business area management and emphasis on cost control in a cost culture," he said. "You (Babbitt) returned millions of dollars to Air Force coffers to allow us to do other things, something the Air Force will cherish for many years to come."

Lyles said he'll also continue to focus on supporting the warfighter in terms of logistics, maintenance, sustainment and supply, "the kind of support that made the war over Kosovo so successful."

Taking this command to the next level in acquisition excellence and science and technology are two other mandates for AFMC's new commander.

"I think a lot of people have forgotten that AFMC has a major acquisition role," he said. "Reinstating excellence in this area is making sure when people think about acquisition excellence, acquisition reform and acquisition innovation, they think of AFMC."

Regarding science and technology, Lyles said there's nothing particular that needs to be emphasized, the broad category is important to him and to the Air Force.

"What I hope to do is forge new and better partnerships with the various agencies within the Department of Defense and other federal government agencies like NASA to help support our technology objectives," he said to media representatives following the ceremony. "I'm one who believes we can do a lot with closer partnerships, even with the limited funds we have."

Lyles has served in many acquisition and logistics positions during his 32-year career and comes to AFMC following a year-long tour as the Air Force vice chief of staff.

The general holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Howard University and a master's degree in mechanical and nuclear engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology.

Leading the way in a materielist world

Libby Van Hook
AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — The Air Force Materiel Command's new commander is following a career track that's destined him to lead the Air Force's most diverse command.

When Air Force Systems Command and Air Force Logistics Command merged in 1992, Gen. Ronald Yates, AFMC's first commander, envisioned the value of combining logistics and acquisition experience to create "materielists." These would be leaders who combine extensive logistics and acquisition experience.

"I was his first experiment," General Lyles said. "He took me, a person with nothing but acquisition, science and technology in his background, and made me vice commander of a logistics center."

Several months later Lyles took command of that center — Ogden Air Logistics Center at Hill Air Force Base, Utah. Following that, he commanded the Space and Missile Systems Center, Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif., giving him the unique experience of having led both a logistics center and a product center.

"I certainly got an appreciation and understanding for the mission, people and excellence in our logistics community," said General Lyles. "I look at myself as being not just a logistics commander, not just an acquisition commander, but a materielist commander with experience on both sides. I hope what I bring to AFMC is a blend of the two."

General Lyles comes to AFMC following duties as the Air Force vice chief of staff and is still formulating what his priorities are following his assumption of command. First and foremost, however, is continuing the excellence and efforts in cost control that former AFMC commander Gen. George Babbitt began.

"Putting the organization and everything you do at AFMC on a business posture, thinking like businessmen in terms of bottomline costs and cost accountability has been an extremely valuable effort," said Gen. Lyles. "It is the right thing to do."

Another priority is to reinstate acquisition excellence associated with the command.

"As much as I value and put emphasis on the support logistics aspect of the command, I think a lot of people have forgotten that AFMC has a major acquisition role," said General Lyles. "AFMC grows and is responsible for Air Force acquisition people, responsible for acquisition organizations, and provides and maintains the entire acquisition infrastructure.

"Reinstating excellence is making sure when people think about acquisition excellence, anywhere in the

country, they think of AFMC as a model of that," said Gen. Lyles. "When they think of acquisition reform and acquisition innovation, I want them to think AFMC."

General Lyles' next priority is science and technology.

"We're living on technologies out of the 60s, 70s, and 80s," he said. "My fear is if we don't continue fairly robust science and technology for the future, we're not planting the seed for Air Force systems in the year 2015 and beyond."

During the next five years Gen. Lyles believes AFMC will be perceived in one word - excellence.

"The command has always been associated with excellent products. I think we can improve on some things, and I think we can do even better in supporting the users," he said. "We need to be good stewards of the taxpayer money, we need to look at and foster partnerships with industry and other agencies in order to do our mission even more efficiently."

How the command manages and structures its acquisition programs is one area the general will be focusing on. Another is logistics support.

"AFMC proved they could do the job in Kosovo," he said. "I'll continue the great things Gen. Babbitt has already done in those areas."

General Lyles feels the most significant challenge facing AFMC is one of resources — particularly manpower.

"We have an aging workforce that in some respects is a manifestation of the drawdown over the last several years," Gen. Lyles said. "During the next several years there will be large numbers of people retiring. If we haven't been able to bring in the right people to nurture and mature in terms of experience, then we're going to be hurting in our ability to maintain an excellent posture."

Another area of concern is dollar resources, but he feels the jury is still out on this issue. He's not convinced AFMC needs more money to get things done.

"I'll be looking very closely at whether or not we can improve in science and technology and improve our infrastructure without asking for a large infusion of new money," he said.

In keeping with the Air Force vision, the general said AFMC will be putting more emphasis on space activities.

"We will be putting more resources in the future of the space program. I see that area growing tremendously," he said. "However, that doesn't take away from the air mission. We need both capabilities.

"We're truly an aerospace organization, and we can't do our missions anywhere near as efficiently

without having a blend of all our capabilities."

When asked what he hoped his friends and colleagues would say if they were asked what principles his words and actions testify to, Gen. Lyles said ...open, cooperative and collegial. He said he firmly believes in an opendoor policy.

"I'm serious about that," said Gen. Lyles, emphasizing that he expects people to keep him informed. "Don't be afraid to pass information to me, good or bad.

"The three word motto I've used in every one of my commands is 'communicate, communicate, communicate.'"

He said he'll be looking for ways he can to communicate with the AFMC people, from the young airmen to officers, and the civilian force.

"More importantly, they can communicate with me," he said.

General Lyles said AFMC is the center of everything the Air Force is about and a very necessary part of accomplishing the service's mission.

"The mission of the Air Force is to fly and fight, and in order to do that we need to have great systems," he said. "AFMC is about providing the capability to support our national security objectives and allow our people to fly and fight effectively. I believe AFMC is extremely valuable and will continue to be that. My vision, my goal, is to make sure that it not only stays in that posture, but grows."

Astro News deadlines

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**Call 363-1221 for more
information.**

What every educated parent should know

Improved teacher-student ratios and more military housing lead to attendance changes

John Ryan
Public Affairs Office

The most frequently asked questions by individuals who are parents here or are inbound to Los Angeles Air Force Base center around what educational options are available to them, said Linda Barentine, of the base Family Support Center.

If this sounds like you, the following information about the opportunities available for you and your child during the upcoming school year will interest you.

There are three basic options for parents to consider when planning a child's education in the Los Angeles area. Either enroll your children in a public school in your area, apply to a magnet or private school or home-school your child. Here are some facts to help you weigh the options.

Local Public Schools

Whether you decide to live in family housing or out on the local economy, most cities belong to the Los Angeles Unified School District.

The district is the second largest school district in the United States. It is approximately 710 square miles with more than 600 schools. Because the school district is so broad, quality varies from school to school. The schools located in San Pedro tend to be well above the district norm.

Most families assigned to Los Angeles Air Force Base live at Fort MacArthur, the Pacific Heights or Pacific Crest. Due to the fact that 71 new housing units at White Point are being occupied by the time school opens in September, there have been some recent changes implemented by the San Pedro/Narbonne Cluster in the elementary school grades.

First of all, children living in the Heights, Crest or White Point housing areas will continue to attend White Point Elementary. Also, all children from Fort MacArthur currently attending White Point Elementary may continue to do so.

In the past, many families from Fort MacArthur opted to have their children attend their area school at Point Fermin for kindergarten since children of this age are by law not allowed to ride the bus or because there was no space available at White Point. After kindergarten, parents at the Fort had the option of continuing to have their child attend Point Fermin or if there was space available, enrolling the child at White Point. Due to anticipated occupancy of the new units at White Point next school year, this will change.

At least for this school year, because of the unknown number of children who will come from the 71 new units at White Point, the district is deferring all transfers except for siblings of current students.

Effective this past March, new and current residents of Fort MacArthur that do not have a child already attending White Point will be enrolled in their local area school, which is Point Fermin elementary. Those families at Fort MacArthur with children currently going to White Point and with another sibling who did not attend White Point last year, will be able to call White Point and the sibling will be put on a waiting list, the same as in previous years.

"We will do our best to ensure that children from the same family go to the same school," said Dona Stevens, principal of White Point Elementary. "But we are limited to the amount of space available in our classrooms."

The limited amount of classroom space is due to the fact that the state of California, over the last few years, has implemented a class size-reduction program, which restricts the class size to 20 students per teacher in kindergarten through third grade.

"Through this program, the teacher is able to provide more individual attention to students," said Dr. Joseph Scollo, Administrator, San Pedro and Narbonne Cluster. "As a result of these actions, testing scores are increasing."

Susan Balmanno, the principal at Point Fermin elementary, is excited to welcome every new student to her school. Balmanno is familiar with the Air Force and military life in general, having been raised in a family whose father spent 32 years in the Navy. She and her husband raised their two children during her husband's 20-year career in the Air Force, which ended when he retired here at the Space and Missile Systems Center.

"I've been the principal at Point Fermin for three years," said Balmanno. "In each of those three years, our test scores have increased."

Today, Point Fermin is at the top of the list of San Pedro schools in third-grade literacy scores. In order to welcome new families and make their transition easier, Point Fermin will have an open house on June 8 at 6:30 p.m.

"We are very proud of our school and want to share with the parents some of the opportunities their children will have when they come to Point Fermin," Balmanno added.

Students living in military housing and going into sixth through eighth grades attend Dana Middle School. High school students attend San Pedro High.

Other School Options

Public magnet schools and private schools are also options available to families coming to Los Angeles Air Force Base.

There are various magnet schools available to students specializing in different areas. One local magnet school stresses performing arts, while another is known for math and science. Selection for magnet school attendance is generally very competitive and will require individual applications.

If you are interested in applying for a magnet program, start the application process as early as possible.

For more information on the magnet school program, contact Linda Barentine at the Family Support Center at 363-5363.

Another alternative to attending public schools is

enrolling children in a private school. There are a number of private schools available in the San Pedro area, including Christ Lutheran (pre-school through eighth grade) and Mary Star of the Sea Catholic (elementary and high) schools. Tuition at these private schools range from approximately \$2,800 to \$3,900 a year.

For families interested in private schools, contact the schools directly to find out about cost and application procedures.

Home-Schooling

Another alternative to public schools and private schools is home-schooling. In fact, approximately 40 Air Force families here are currently home-schooling their children.

Home school, or as it is also known as home study, is when a parent teaches the student in a home environment with an approved curriculum. Once again, Los Angeles Unified School District is available to assist the parent in teaching their child.

"This is not a short-term fix," said Libby Bergen, who is LAUSD's administrator in charge of Home Study for kindergarten through fifth grade. "It takes approximately six weeks for first-time parents to feel comfortable with all of the materials and organization."

The district, through the Home Study program, provides the curriculum, teacher guides, student material and books for the parent and student. The district also goes a step further and provides ways for the children to socialize with other children. The district does this through field trips, workshops and park days.

"Actually, getting children to socialize with other children is not only good for the students, but also for the parents," said Bergen. "It provides the parent an outlet to share their frustrations and successes with other parents."

Where there are many Home Study programs, the district program makes a teacher available to the parent once a week to go over the child's progress. In addition, the same teacher assesses the students' work and provides standardized testing to evaluate the students' progress.

For more information concerning Home Study, contact Libby Bergen at (310) 515-3145 for grades kindergarten through five, Juliette Dieudonne at (310) 326-9341 for grades six through eight and John Gonzalez at (310) 832-3996 for grades nine through twelve.

The Bottom Line

There have been many positive changes within the Los Angeles Unified School District in the last few years. One of the main changes is the accountability teachers, principals and administrators have for student learning based on California state standards. However, one thing remains the same.

"The student is our main focus," said Dr. Scollo. "They are our country's future."

For more information on all of the schooling options discussed in this article, check out the 61st Air Base Group home page on the worldwide web at www.losangeles.af.mil.

Action Line 363-2255



The Action Line is your direct link to **Col. David E. Price**, 61st Air Base Group commander.

Q I am severely handicapped and frequently use the dry cleaning shop at the Base Exchange. There are no handicapped parking slots anywhere near the dry cleaners.

Can something be done about this?

A Thank you for bringing this to my attention. Based on your suggestion, our base civil engineers have created a handicapped parking space immediately adjacent to the BX dry cleaner. This space should facilitate handicapped access to the other BX specialty stores as well.

In addition, our security forces squadron is currently looking at handicapped parking as part of a comprehensive review of our overall base parking plan. Based on that study, we may find additional changes are needed to better situate our handicapped parking places.

The purpose of the *Action Line* is to make Los Angeles AFB a better place to work, live and play. Of course the fastest way to resolve any problem is to ask the person who can actually fix it.

The following is a list of people who can do just that:

	Base Exchange	
David Clore		640-0129
	Base IG	
Dorothy Brown		363-0802
	Chaplain	
Lt. Col. Gary Garvey		363-1956
	Civil Engineering Sqd.	
Lt. Col. William Saunders		363-0287
	Commissary	
Al Cherry		363-6140
	Communications Sqd.	
Lt. Col. Mark Hall		363-0798
	Logistics Sqd.	
Capt. Tam Elliott		363-0351
	Medical Sqd.	
Col. Mark Wisniewski		363-0314
	Mission Support Sqd.	
Lt. Col. Maureen Hurley		363-1230
	Security Forces Sqd.	
Maj. Larry Bartlett		363-0032
24-hour Crime Stop		363-2124
	Services Sqd.	
Gary Van Dusen		363-0430
	Equal Employment Opportunity Program Office	
Leonard Gonzales		363-1565
	Family Support Center	
Tom Sanders		363-5365
	Military Equal Opportunity Office	
Capt. Elizabeth Vallery		363-2806
	Housing	
Jon M. Van Hoose		363-8340
	Legal Office	
Col. Scott Bagley		363-0916
	Area Defense Counsel	
Capt. Art Kirkpatrick		363-6776
Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline		363-2020
TRICARE		363-0261

As always use your chain of command to resolve a problem. If that doesn't work, call the Action Line. Your call will be recorded and if you leave your name and phone number, you will receive an answer.

News Briefs

DACOWITS scheduled for Friday

Ms. Edith R. Perez, from the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services will visit here Friday.

She will conduct a series of meetings with base personnel during her visit. For more information regarding her visit, check the base bulletin for daily updates. For specific information, call 2nd Lt. Helen Hardy at 363-6767.

GPS available to public

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFPN) — The White House announced Monday the United States will discontinue "selective availability" of the global positioning system signals available to the public. SA is the intentional degradation of signals transmitted by Navstar GPS satellites, providing civilian users with accuracy less than what's used by the military. With the removal of SA, GPS accuracy improves up to tenfold, according to Air Force Space Command officials. The new policy went into effect immediately.

GPS is a dual-use, satellite-based system that provides accurate location and timing data to users worldwide. The Space and Missile Systems Center is the home of GPS. The 24-satellite GPS constellation is operated and controlled by Air Force Space Command's 50th Space Wing at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo.

Mandatory government Visa Travel Card use begins May 1

WASHINGTON — By law, all Air Force members traveling on government business must use their government Visa travel card. The mandate went into effect Monday.

However, not having received a card yet won't keep people from official travel and also won't interfere with reimbursements for official travel, according to Michael Weber, program manager for the Air Force travel card program.

"There's a rumor going around that if you don't use the card you won't be reimbursed," Mr. Weber said. "That is not true — we will pay people regardless of whether they use the card." However, not using the card can subject travelers to disciplinary action from their commanders, according to Air Force policy guidance.

The Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998 requires all government travelers to use the card. For the Air Force, this means all active duty, civilian employees and members of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve in federal service should be prepared to use their government travel card.

While travelers can still make ATM withdrawals and aren't expected to put every minor expense on the card, Mr. Weber said officials are requiring it be used for what they call the big three: lodging, car rentals and airline travel.

According to Mr. Weber, it will be up to individual major commands whether to use either a centrally or individually billed account for airline tickets. MAJCOMs using a centrally billed account will pick up the tab for airline tickets when the reservations are made and the traveler will never be directly billed. Those MAJCOMS elect-

ing to use an individually billed account will continue to have travelers bill tickets to their individual card.

Convenience for the customer is key to the government travel card program, said Mr. Weber. Worldwide acceptance of the card is one of these conveniences. "We're even starting to see the card accepted in fast food restaurants," he said. "And I expect once they start using it, people will find the card is just convenient — why take time to find an ATM to get cash when the plastic works." A repayment program known as split disbursement is another convenience.

Split disbursement allows a traveler to designate a dollar amount on their travel voucher for finance to send directly to Bank of America to pay their credit card balance. "Using split disbursement lets finance send the bank what you owe them and have the rest of your travel pay deposited directly into your designated bank account," Mr. Weber said. "I think that's convenient for travelers who don't want to worry about writing checks and it gives them assurance their bills have been paid."

Air Force members who do not have the government travel card should contact their area program coordinator or base comptroller office for an application. Mr. Weber stressed applications need to be filled out completely and signed by the area program coordinator to avoid slowing down bank processing and delaying receipt of a card.

More details on the government Visa travel card are available at www.saffm.hq.af.mil.

Los Angeles sees CONUS cost of living allowance

Effective 1 January 2000, all military members located at Los Angeles AFB (or in the vicinity of LAAFB) should be receiving the CONUS COLA entitlement. However, many military members at LAAFB have not been receiving this entitlement; especially anyone arriving at LAAFB after 31 Dec 97.

The Defense Joint Military Pay System (DJMS) has experienced an Air Force-wide problem identifying members assigned to high-cost areas, such as LAAFB.

In April 2000, a mass system reconciliation was conducted by the Financial Services Office at LAAFB to ensure that all military personnel are receiving a COLA entitlement. Therefore, your April 2000 LES should reflect the COLA entitlement. If you haven't been receiving COLA since 1 Jan 2000, your April 2000 LES will reflect a retroactive adjustment (reflected in the entitlements section, and explained in the remarks section).

All military members are requested to carefully review their Leave and Earnings Statements (LES) to ensure they are receiving COLA.

COLA entitlement is based on *dependency status* (single or married) and *duty location zip code*.

If you are unsure whether you are entitled to COLA because of dependency status and/or duty location zip code, please visit the following web site: www.dtic.mil/perdiem/ccform.html. This site should provide information to answer most of your questions.

If your April 2000 LES does not reflect the COLA entitlement, or if you have any questions relating to this matter, please contact the Customer Service desk at (310) 363-1534.

Honor Guard Elite

Airman 1st Class Shannon Oaks

61st Mission Support Squadron



Airman 1st Class Oaks is originally from Honolulu, Hawaii and entered the military in August 1997. She is currently an Intelligence Operations Journeyman and has been an elite member of the Los Angeles AFB Honor Guard since June 1998. An honor guard veteran, Airman 1st Class Oaks says her friends inspired her to join, and her favorite detail out of all details is going to March ARB, Calif., and performing for funerals. Funeral details are done during two-week TDYs to March ARB year-round. Airman 1st Class Oaks has contributed significantly to the over 500

military funerals and memorial services for Southern California. She won the Dorm of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 1999. She is also pursuing an Associates Applied Science Degree in Communications Applications. Airman 1st Class Oaks volunteers her off-duty time with the Juvenile Impact Program at Narbonne High. She is currently deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Space and Missile Systems Center Spring 2000 Team Excellence Winners — the Directorate of Intelligence. Also congratulations to the SMC Launch Programs Directorate as SMC's nomination to compete for Air Force Materiel Command's Team Excellence awards.

Civilian promotions

The following civilians were recently promoted or selected to a higher graded position: **Dahlia Acosta, George Dugan Jr., Natasha Dunomes, Allison Flanagan, Ann Fujii, Claribel Garcia, Mary Juarez, Janelle Krueger, Anna Mary Menezes and Denise Wall.**

Also congratulations to **David Ganger and Michelle Hayes** who recently received Exemplary Civilian Service awards.

Also, the following people recently received a Notable Achievement award: **Renee Berry, Tamara Jones and Sidney Martin.**

Congratulations to **Jeraline Louis,**

Janice McFarland, Edwin Perez, Marcie Stevens and Chire Tolbert who recently received a Time-Off award.

Enlisted promotions

Congratulations to the following individuals who have been promoted to their next rank in May.

To Airman 1st Class — **Joshua Cintorn** SMC/Financial Management, and **Lynette Cockrell**, 61st Mission Support Squadron

To Senior Airman — **Rodney Rouzan**, 61st MSS, **Lavon Thorpe**, 61st Medical Squadron and **Eduardo Alvarado**, SMC/FM

To Staff Sgt. — **Raminah Hartke**, SMC Launch Programs, **Daniel Ladjevich**, 369th Recruiting Squadron, **Christopher Perez**, 369th RS and **Brandon Whitver**, 61st MDS

To Technical Sgt. — **Daniel Davenport**, 369th RS

To Master Sgt. — **Derek Sykes**, 61st MDS

Company grade officers come to the rescue

John Ryan
Public Affairs Office

There is a lot more to the Company Grade Officers Association than meets the eye. People may think CGOA is a fraternity- or sorority-type of organization for young officers just out of the academy or ROTC. The fact is, the mission of this Air Force-wide organization is to develop company grade officers and community leadership. "At Los Angeles Air Force Base, we do this in a variety of ways," said Lt. Shelli Brunswick, CGOA president.

"Indeed, there seems to be something for everyone who wants to get involved. There are social activities like swing classes at the club, a bike trip to Ensenada, Mexico, attending professional sporting events (baseball, football, etc.), going to the tapings of TV shows, attending the Academy Awards and horseback riding through the Hollywood Hills," Brunswick said.

There are many other projects the CGOA gets involved with to help the surrounding community. For instance, there is the annual 5K and 10K charity run benefiting Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, a non-profit camp for kids with cancer. The run begins at Fort MacArthur. This CGOA-sponsored event resulted in a contributed \$7,500 last year. This year the run will be held May 21 and the point of contact is 1st Lt. Vida Beard at 363-0765. "The run is close to the heart of the many CGOs who volunteer as camp counselors throughout the year," Beard said.

The CGOA is also involved with Camp Del Coronado, a non-profit camp for children who suffer from heart disease. Several CGOs volunteer Labor Day weekend on Catalina Island as camp counselors allowing the children to be "normal" children without any concerns for their illnesses.

More than 40 CGOA members have volunteered each year for over the last five years to

teach a class for one hour a week at Loyola Village Elementary School, a magnet school for the arts in Los Angeles. Due to TDYs, the CGOA volunteers are assigned into groups comprising four to five individuals. These groups are then assigned to one of about eight different classes and assist the teacher throughout the school year. The volunteers help teach the students about space and science and are assigned to grades two through four.

In addition, the CGOA challenged and beat both the Eagles and Top 3 softball teams this year. "Of course we are the reigning base champions and look forward to playing the Base Enlisted Association," said 1st Lt. Tara McLaren, CGOA vice president.

Company grade officers are encouraged to attend one of the CGOA meetings held on the first Thursday of the month at the Sports Lounge from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or contact Brunswick or McLaren at 363-6285 or 363-6874 respectively.

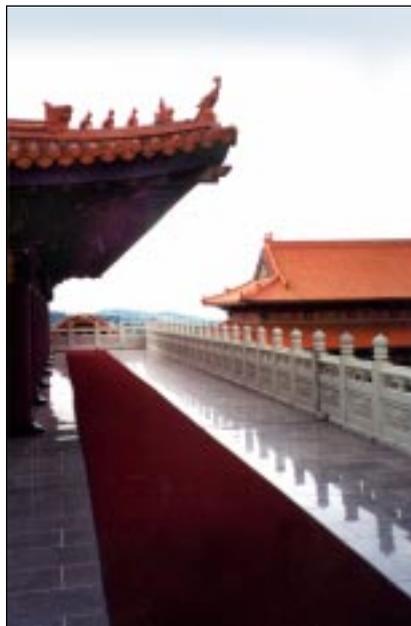
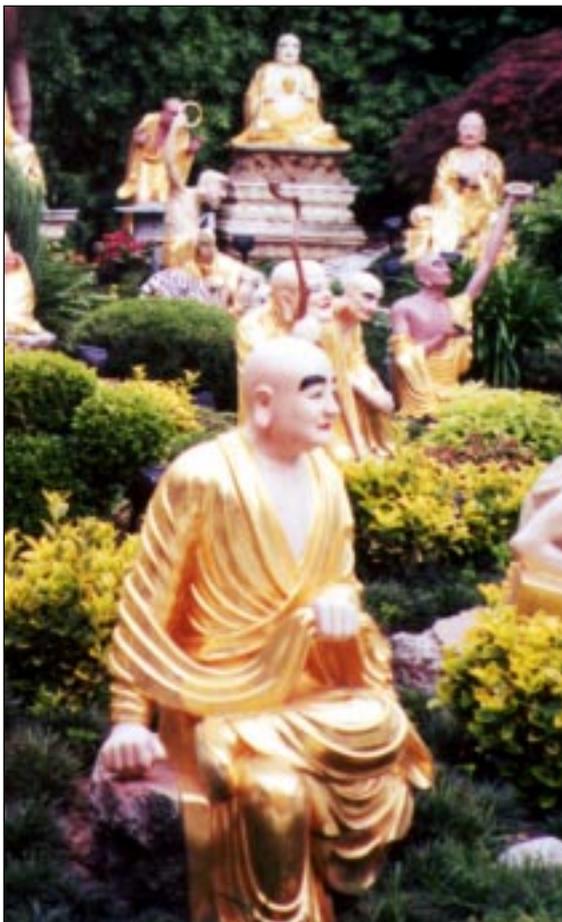


A world away from LA



Photos by Staff Sgt. Jeff Capenos

The main shrine is the center point of Hsi Lai temple. Inside the main shrine sit three golden statues of the Buddha. However, photography within the shrine is not permitted. Inset photo of the Buddha courtesy of Hsi Lai Temple.



Tiled roofs and highly-polished marble floors give the temple its reflective mood.

Left: One of many statue gardens depicting significant historical Buddhist figures.

Staff Sgt. Jeff Capenos
Public Affairs Office

Tucked away in the gently rolling hills of Hacienda Heights, Calif., you can find a place where the hustle and bustle of Los Angeles fades away on clouds of incense, and stone lions and dragons stand guard keeping peace over the grounds.

It's a place where smiling Buddhas sit in manicured gardens welcoming visitors.

It's Hsi Lai Temple, a working Buddhist monastery, which encompasses more than 10 buildings set on 15 acres of hillside. And although its oriental roof tops might seem out of place here in Los Angeles, the temple's classic oriental buildings are worth seeing.

The temple was built in 1988 according to Ming and Ching dynasty architecture designs, the traditional style of buildings, gardens and statuary of Chinese monasteries. Although it is an operating monastery where Buddhists come to worship, the temple is open, free to the public, year-round from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

In addition to the architecture, the temple features beautiful golden shrines, gardens and walkways filled with statues of various Buddhas and a museum featuring Buddhist art and artifacts from around the world.

To visit the Hsi Lai Temple, take Highway 60 East, exit south on Hacienda Blvd., then left onto Glenmark Drive. The temple is immediately on the right. From Fort MacArthur it's a 30 minute drive. See you out there.

Acquisition and Logistics Reform Week registration available on-line

This year's Acquisition and Logistics Reform Week will be May 22-26.

On-line registration for the workshops began Thursday. There is a complete catalog of workshops on-line. ALR Week training is open to all Air Force people, Department of Defense employees and contractors.

This year, workshop numbers have been added to make it easier for people to identify which training level they need. The levels are:

- 100 - General Awareness/Acq Reform Basics
- 200 - Program Lessons, Best Practices, ALR Applications
- 300 - Seminars and Panels for Process Improvement
- 400 - IPT Discussion for Application to Specific Program
- 600 - "Red Teams" on OSS&E, Risk Management

For example: RM 101, Risk Management workshop contains basic awareness information, while RM 201 and other 200-level RM courses will present recent Risk Management lessons learned and best practices; 301 is a panel that will discuss the barriers and opportunities implementing various Risk Manage-

ment methods.

The 400 level workshops are IPT/SPO meetings. Lieutenant Gen. Eugene Tattini, SMC commander, encourages teams to meet with their contractors and customers to discuss implementing specific ideas seen through the week on their program. The 600 level workshops are in-depth program specific implementation focused meetings between an IPT and OSS&E and/or Risk Management experts.

Neither the 400 nor the 600 level workshops will be found in the catalog. They will be scheduled by IPT/SPO leaders, and they will identify who needs to attend.

Instructions for Workshop registration is available at www.ax.losangeles.af.mil/axd/alr2000/alr2000.htm or go to the SMC Home Page at www.laafb.af.mil/ and select "Acquisition Support" on the left side of the page, which will take you to SMC/AXD Home Page. You then click on "ALRW 2000."

For more details, call Capt. Xuyen-Qouc Lyhuynh (310) 297-2833 or 1st Lt. Todd Sullivan (310) 297-2941.

CINC Space visits...



Photo courtesy The Aerospace Corp.

During a recent visit here last week, Gen. Ed Eberhart, Commander in Chief U.S. Space Command, received a tour of the base including a visit to the STAR Chamber at The Aerospace Corp. Pictured with General Eberhart are Mr. Pete Aldridge, The Aerospace Corp. president and Bruce Mau, Senior Project Leader of the STARS Facility. STARS stands for Spacelift Telemetry Acquisition and Reporting System. The three gentlemen are looking at FLIGHTVIS, a real-time launch vehicle visualization tool.

Base celebrates fitness with health and wellness fair

John Ryan
Public Affairs Office

Want to know what kind of shape you are in? Would you like to know more about achieving better health?

The Health and Wellness Center is partnering with the Fitness Center to conduct a Health and Fitness Fair at Fort MacArthur Hall May 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Also, the two centers will team up May 22 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fitness Center in Area B at Los Angeles

Air Force Base, in El Segundo, Calif.

"There will be lots of activities for everyone to enjoy," said Capt. Deborah Schueren, HAWC Director. There will be information distributed on skin, breast and testicular cancer, nutrition, fitness and a host of other health topics. Screenings will also be available for blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose. Volunteers from the American Cancer and Lung Association will also be in attendance.

"Sparky" the fire dog and "McGruff" the crime dog will be in attendance. In addition, there will be a martial

arts demonstration, cursory dental checks, a fitness assessment and a body composition analysis. Drug and alcohol awareness, communicable disease awareness and nutrition seminars will also be available.

Cheerleaders from the Los Angeles Clippers will perform Sunday and Monday. The Fitness Center will conduct various exercise programs throughout the day on Monday.

For more information about the two-day event, call Capt. Deborah Schueren at the base Health and Wellness Center at 363-6266.

SMC *Today*

Got a good story? The staff of the video program, 'SMC Today', would love to hear about it. To submit story ideas for 'SMC Today', call Terry Hagar at 363-2465.

Air show

MARCH AIR RESERVE BASE, CA. — March Field will host its AirFest 2000 air show, "Thunder Over The Empire," May 13-14, 2000.

Highlighting this year's show will be the world famous USAF Thunderbirds demonstration team along with the U.S. Army Golden Knights parachute team. Admission and parking are free and the gates are open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., both days.

The two-day event will feature more than 40 flying acts and 50 static display aircraft. Top civilian aerial acts such as Sean Tucker and the 10-10-220 Challenger, the Silver Wings, and Toyota Airsports, as well as A-10, F-15, F-16, KC-135, and C-141 aerial demonstrations will highlight AirFest 2000.

The appearance of the USAF Thunderbirds marks a return engagement from AirFest '99 and will be the final aerial act on Saturday and Sunday.

For further information, contact the 452nd Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs Office at (909) 655-4137

Revelon run and walk

For the third year, the Los Angeles

AFB Federal Women's Program is sponsoring a team to participate in the annual Revlon Run/Walk to support the fight against breast and ovarian cancer.

For more information, call Bev Campbell at 363-0410, or go to the website at www.revlonrunwalk.com. Sign up fee is \$25.00, which includes a tee shirt and lots of goodies on race day. The event is held at the L.A. Memorial Coliseum.

Self-help extends hours

The Fort MacArthur Self-Help store extended its hours. Now, the store is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. These hours will be in effect throughout the summer. For more information, call Andy Craddock at 363-8310.

Veterans Affairs Study

The Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs have initiated a joint study to compare the effectiveness of different types of rehabilitation for persons who have suffered traumatic head injuries.

Participation in the study is open to all TRICARE-eligible persons between

the ages of 17 and 55 who meet the criteria of the project. TRICARE-eligible persons who qualify can benefit by participating in the program. This is because the standard groups of services that are known as "cognitive rehabilitation programs" aren't normally cost-shared by TRICARE.

Patients in the study will pay TRICARE cost-shares or co-payments for services received.

There will be no deductible since the study involves inpatient care only. The four VA medical facilities involved in the study are James A. Haley Veterans Hospital, Tampa, Fla; Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Minneapolis; Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System, Palo Alto, Calif; and Hunter McGuire Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Richmond, Va.

For more information, call Rosie Manning, the Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator at (310) 363-0261.

AFIT Engineering Society

The Air Force Institute of Technology, Ohio Eta Chapter, of the engineer-

ing honor society Tau Beta Pi, is soliciting nominations of resident school graduates who are Tau Beta Pi Members for its distinguished alumni award. Nominations will be accepted until June 9

Nominations, including supporting documents, should be submitted to Maj. Jeffrey Bons, AFIT/ENY, Bldg. 640, 2950 P Street, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433-7765.

For details, email Jeffrey.Bons@afit.af.mil.

AFA 2000 salute banquet

The Air Force Association is Gen. Bernard Schriever Los Angeles Chapter 147 will host the AFA 2000 Salute Banquet Friday, July 28. SMC Public Affairs will solicit award nominations honoring SMC personnel at the end of April.

Air Commandos

The Air Commando Association Operation Hurlburt Homecoming 2000 reunion will be held at Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Oct. 5-8. For more information, call (850) 581-0099 or FAX (850) 581-8988.

The Club 363-2230

A Cinco de Mayo Luncheon is today in the ballroom. The price is \$5.95.

The May member's special is chili cheese onion fries for \$1.95.

The bar is open Fridays at 4 p.m. Free snacks are available to club members. The disc jockey starts at 5 p.m.

The Club has a barbecue every Thursday this summer in the Area A Mall. Barbecued food is served between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Items are priced a la carte and may include: ribs, chicken, hamburgers, hot links, potato salad, cobbetts, baked beans, coleslaw and fresh fruit.

Barber Shop 363-1733

The shop's hours are Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Building 120.

Youth Services 363-8383

A Spring Fling Dance for children 5 to 12 years old is today from 7 to 9 p.m. at the community center. The cost is \$3 for members and \$4 for non-members. Sunday attire is requested.

It is time to comb that hair, cut and polish those nails, brush those pearly whites and tie those fancy ribbons in your pet's hair to prepare for the Spring Pet Show. Also, pets may bring all their exotic humans too. The pet show is at the Youth Center Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Children between the ages of 5 and 12 years that are youth activities members may sign up for free karate lessons. Classes are Tuesdays from 5 to 6 p.m. in the upper floor of the Youth Activities building. Call 363-8402 or 8564 for more information.

The Ronald McDonald Fun Run is slated for May 21. All ages can participate. All proceeds support Camp Ronald McDonald. Entry fees are \$15 per runner prior to April 28, \$20 after April 29. Sign up by April 24.

Youth Activities is looking for instructors to teach ballet, tap, gymnastics and piano. For more information, call Rebecca Burns at 363-8381.

Youth activities are open to DoD civilian employees' family members. For more information, call 363-8564.

Los Angeles AFB Performing Arts Troupe--want to develop your artistic side? Whether you are or want to be an actor, dancer, singer, artist, seamstress, director, choreographer, carpenter, lighting technician or stage mom/dad, sign up now.

It's time to sign up for the swim team. Last year we had a great team that took home several first-place ribbons. Whether you are a beginner

Easter eggs...



Photo by Shaad Madison

Paul and Cherith Hasegawa, children of Sharon and Lt. Col. Ken Hasegawa, Space Based Infrared Systems Program Office, collected Easter Eggs on Fort MacArthur Parade Grounds Saturday during the base annual Easter-egg hunt.

or an expert swimmer, this program is great. Call youth activities for more information.

A Teen Council Meeting is Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the Teen Center. This is your chance to give your input about things happening at the Teen Center and things you would like to see happen.

There is also a Teen Night Out Saturday from 8:30 to midnight. Events include a pool competition and three-on-three basketball. Also, scary movies will be shown along with munchies being served.

Youth Activities needs instructors to share their talents in ballet, tap, gymnastics, art, music, cooking or any area of interest. For more information, call Rebecca Burns at 363-8381.

Family Child Care 833-8334

The Family Child Care Program is looking for individuals who enjoy working with children, want to work out of their home and earn money. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please call our office at 363-8335. You will receive all the training required.

Community Center 363-8225

The Community Center tours the Griffith Observatory May 13. The cost is \$5 for transportation. The bus leaves the Community Center at noon and returns at 6 p.m. Sign up deadline is May 11.

The Community Center hosts Family Feud Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. Get your families together, or neighbors if you don't have 5 family members, or just come over to watch.

Auto Skills Center 363-1705

The Auto Skills center monthly special is shock replacement, removal and replacement of shocks - \$40 plus parts.

Outdoor Recreation

Equipment rental special: Picnic packs	
Large \$30	Small \$22.50
large canopy	small canopy
four chairs	two chairs
150-qt. cooler	100-qt. cooler
frisbee	frisbee
volleyball Set	volleyball Set

Los Angeles AFB has four recreational vehicle storage facilities located next to Building 219 and 215 in Area B, three next to the FamCamp in Lawndale and one at Fort MacArthur. Storage fees are \$30 a month for RVs over 23 feet and \$20 a month for RVs under 23 feet long.

Los Angeles AFB operates a family campground consisting of 15 hardstand units with hookups for water and electricity located on Aviation Boulevard between Marine and Rosecrans. It is open year-round and advanced reservations are accepted. The fee is \$8 per day. For details, call 363-2081.

