



TEAM CHARLESTON HONORARY COMMANDERS AND JOINT BASE CHARLESTON ADVISORY COUNCIL QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

1st Edition, July 2012

This is the first edition of the Team Charleston Honorary Commander and Joint Base Charleston Advisory Council Newsletter. The newsletter will be published quarterly by the Community Outreach Division of the 628th Air Base Wing Public Affairs Office and will be used to keep you updated on what's happening on Joint Base Charleston and informed of upcoming events and items of interest.

This first edition will educate you on what is expected of you as Honorary Commanders and Advisory Council members and provide background and history on both programs. Please feel free to let us know if there are any topics you would like us to address in future editions.

****Save the Date**** ***Upcoming Events***

Jul 27 - 437th Maintenance Group
Change of Command, 10:00 am, in
Nose Dock 2

Aug 13 - 628th Air Base Wing
Honorary Commanders Base Tour
and Lunch, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sep 22 - Air Force Ball @ Embassy
Suites Convention Center, 6:00 pm;
invites to be mailed

Nov (date/time TBD) - Honorary
Commander Weapons Station tour

Note: Written invitations and/or
periodic email reminders will be
sent out for the events listed above.

HONORARY COMMANDERS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Honorary Commanders Program was developed to encourage an exchange of ideas, share experiences and foster friendship between key members of the local civilian community and the Charleston military community. The program provides a unique opportunity for Charleston area community leaders to shadow Joint Base Charleston Wing, Group, Squadron and Mission Partner commanders.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Honorary Commanders Program is to educate key community leaders about the varied missions of Joint Base Charleston units and mission partners, to foster a supportive relationship with the community, increase military involvement in civic endeavors and organizations and make the members of the local community part of our Team Charleston family.

HISTORY

Charleston's Honorary Commanders Program is one of the most successful in Air Mobility Command (AMC) and has been used as a model by several AMC bases and other commands throughout the Air Force.

The program was started in 1996 jointly with 437th Airlift Wing and the 315th Airlift Wing (Reserves) as the Charleston Air Force Base Honorary Commanders Program. After undergoing some modifications, the program was established as a separate program for the 437th Airlift Wing active duty commanders in 2001 and has been inducting a new group of community leaders from a cross-section of the community every year since.

With the stand-up of Joint Base Charleston in 2010, the program was renamed the Joint Base Charleston Honorary Commanders Program and expanded to include active duty Navy and Army commanders from our joint mission partners on the Weapons Station. The number of civilians participating in the program increased from 32 to 45, and the number of active duty commanders participating in the program increased from 33 to 40.

628th Air Base Wing Public Affairs Office Contacts

Rose Alexander
Chief of Operations
(843) 963-5535

Trisha Gallaway
Chief of Civic Outreach
(843) 963-4175

Email:
628awpa.comrel@charleston.af.mil

Honorary Commanders Oath

I do solemnly swear
 To serve honorably
 As a Team Charleston
 Honorary Commander.
 I will support my organization
 And learn about its mission.
 I will share my knowledge
 With my family, my friends
 And my colleagues.
 I will support
 Joint Base Charleston,
 The 437th Airlift Wing
 And the Weapons Station
 Mission Partners
 For the duration of my tenure.
 (So help me God)

Advisory Council Oath

I do solemnly swear
 To serve honorably
 As a member of
 The Joint Base Charleston
 Advisory Council
 As I have during my time as an
 Honorary Commander.
 I will continue to support
 Joint Base Charleston,
 Its mission partners,
 And its 53 mission partners.
 I will continue to share my
 knowledge
 With my family, my friends
 And my colleagues.
 I will support the U.S. military,
 Its mission and its people
 For the duration of my tenure
 So help me God.

**HONORARY COMMANDERS ADVISORY COUNCIL
OVERVIEW**

The Joint Base Charleston Advisory Council consists of community leaders who have transitioned out of the Honorary Commanders Program after having actively served two or more years in that program. The Council was established to assist the base and community leaders in solving problems of mutual interest; help provide continuity in the community relations program, in spite of frequent changes of military personnel; and to develop and accomplish other projects as the Advisory Council deems necessary in the best interest of Joint Base Charleston and the tri-county area. Their objectives are to increase civilian understanding of the military's mission; identify common interests of civilian and military populations; recognize problem areas; and support community efforts of mutual concern.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Advisory Council is to continue to build on the strong partnership that has been formed, continue to educate the community about the mission of Joint Base Charleston, its mission partners and the military in general, and to serve as advocate in the community on issues affecting Joint Base Charleston.

HISTORY

The Joint Base Charleston Honorary Commanders Advisory Council was established in 2003 as the Charleston Air Force Base Advisory Group, consisting of 28 local community leaders who had "retired" out of the Honorary Commanders Program. It stemmed from its members' desires to remain an integral part of the military community. Their motto was, "Charleston AFB has served us, now it is our turn to serve Charleston AFB." In 2006, the name was changed to the Charleston Air Force Base Advisory Council, a charter was written and approved and they held their first election for officers and executive board members. Since that time, they have held annual and quarterly meetings, bi-annual election of officers and inducted additional members. They are now 70 members strong. Following the stand-up of Joint Base Charleston in 2010, their name was officially changed to Joint Base Charleston Honorary Commanders Advisory Council in 2011.

**HONORARY COMMANDERS INDUCTION DAY
MARCH 14, 2012**

The 2012 Honorary Commanders Induction Day started with welcome comments and mission briefings given by Col Richard McComb, Joint Base Charleston commander, and Col Erik Hansen, 437th Airlift Wing commander, followed by a base tour and an up-close look at a C-17 Globemaster III. Then it was on to the Charleston Club where they were administered the oath of office to formally induct them into the program. The day ended with a reception in their honor and social time with their respective active-duty commanders.

Additionally, five retiring Honorary Commanders were recognized for their active support during the past two years and were officially inducted into the Advisory Council during the ceremony.



Colonel Hansen and Colonel McComb answer questions about the missions of Joint Base Charleston and the 437th Airlift Wing.



Observing a working dog demonstration.



Receiving a briefing from an aircrew member during a tour of a C-17 Globemaster III.



Taking the oath of office - Congratulations Team Charleston 2012 Honorary Commanders

WELCOME 2012 HONORARY COMMANDERS



The Team Charleston 2012 Honorary Commanders pose with Col Richard McComb, Joint Base Charleston commander, and Col Erik Hansen, 437th Airlift Wing commander, following their induction ceremony March 14, 2012, at the Charleston Club at Joint Base Charleston.

WELCOME NEWEST ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Those community leaders who transitioned out of the Honorary Commanders Program received a certificate from Col McComb officially inducting them into the Advisory Council. Mrs. Dottie Karst, president of the Advisory Council, was on hand to welcome them and to present an official Advisory Council coin to each of them.



Mr. William Moody, former 628th Air Base Wing Honorary Commander, poses with Col McComb and Mrs. Karst.



Merle Johnson, former 628th Mission Support Group Honorary Commander, poses with Col and Mrs. Karst.



Dr. Jack Shortridge, former 628th Director of Staff Honorary Commander, poses with Col McComb and Mrs. Karst.



Mr. Lester Dempsey, former 628th Logistics Readiness Squadron Honorary Commander, poses with Col. McComb and Mrs. Karst.

Not pictured is Mr. Ken Willingham, former 437th Airlift Wing Command Chief Honorary Commander.

HONORARY COMMANDERS QUARTERLY TOUR - JUNE 12, 2012

The 437th Airlift Wing hosted the first of three quarterly tours planned for 2012. The Wing set aside a full day to give the Honorary Commanders an in-depth look at the Wing's mission, allowing them to meet the Airmen, both maintainers and operators, who support the flying mission. The Honorary Commanders kicked off their day with an Orientation Flight which highlighted and demonstrated the capabilities of the C-17 Globemaster III. Following the flight, they toured the 437th Aerial Port Squadron, the 437th Operations Support Squadron Aircrew Flight Equipment Section and the 437th Maintenance Group Fabrication Flight.

The next quarterly tour will be hosted by the 628th Air Base Wing on August 13, when the Honorary Commanders will get an in-depth look at the 628th ABW missions. Please save this date and plan for a full day once again. Later in the year, we will host another day of touring the Weapons Station mission partners. Our hope is that at the end of your year in the program, you will have gained a much better insight into Joint Base Charleston and how we accomplish our various missions as one team. And most importantly, that you will share what you learn with others in the community.



Team Charleston Honorary Commanders pose with Col Erik Hansen, 437th Airlift Wing commander, and other Wing leadership behind an inflatable life raft during a tour of the 437th Operations Support Squadron Aircrew Flight Equipment (AFE) Section on June 12, 2012. The Honorary Commanders received a behind-the-scenes tour of AEF as part of the 437th AW hosted Honorary Commanders Day tour and C-17 orientation flight.