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The Lankford Leader

PROUDLY SERVING PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION NEEDS
ACROSS COMPONENTS, SERVICES AND NATIONS

The Lankford Leader is a newsletter specifically designed to keep Command Chiefs informed about events, activities, and ideas at your Paul H. Lankford EPME Center.

Recent Graduate Award Winners

As with any educational endeavor, there are those who stand out among their peers. While all of our graduates should stand proud, having met the rigorous demands of Enlisted PME, some have distinguished themselves through individual accomplishments and are deserving of special recognition. The Award Recipients for NCOA/ALS class 11-8 are:

John L. Levitow Award

TSgt Kimberlee McFann, 20th Operations Support SQ
SrA Michael Matulich, 452nd Security Forces SQ

Distinguished Graduate Award

NCOA

TSgt Veronica Bird, 14th Weather Squadron
TSgt Steven Bobbitt, 372nd Training Squadron
TSgt Cori Branstetter, 347th Recruiting Squadron
TSgt Rebecca Collins, USAF Band Mid-America
TSgt Tisha Drayton, 20th Maintenance Operations SQ
TSgt Aimee Edwards, 628th Aerospace Medicine SQ
TSgt Jonathan Huber, 509th Security Forces Squadron
TSgt Shawn Hyler, 4th Equipment Maintenance SQ
TSgt Tiffany Jones, USAF Mobility Operations SC
TSgt Lucas Krajewski, 338th Training Squadron
TSgt Richard Lawson, 93rd Air Ground Ops Wing
TSgt John McIlvoy, 18th Air Refueling Squadron
TSgt Gretta Taylor, 121st Security Forces Squadron
TSgt Alan Thereault, 20th Reconnaissance Squadron
TSgt Matthew Thomas, USAF Band of Mid-America
TSgt Lindsay Wolf, Headquarters 9th Air Force
TSgt Donald Woods, 108th Air Refueling Wing
TSgt William Woodson, 165th Air Support Ops SQ

TSgt Glynnis Young, Headquarters Air Mobility Command

ALS

SrA Travis Andersen, 128th Air Control Squadron
SSgt Anthony Hayden, 123rd Airlift Wing
SrA Matthew Quackenbush, 452 Air Mobility Wing
SrA Braden Sikkema, 123rd Airlift Wing

Academic Achievement Award

TSgt Amber Saienni, 338th Recruiting Squadron
SrA Travis Andersen, 128th Air Control Squadron

Commandant Award

TSgt Jessica Davis, United States Air Force
SrA Kareem Spearman, 108th Communications Flight



Official class photos and photos of the graduation award recipients are located at the below website.

<http://www.angtec.ang.af.mil/photos/mediagallery.asp?galleryID=7767>



UPCOMING LANKFORD CENTER EVENTS



The guest speakers for the upcoming graduations for ALS/NCOA are as follows:

ALS/NCOA	12-3	CMSgt James Cody	Command Chief, Air Education and Training Command
ALS/NCOA	12-5	CMSgt Lonnie Slater	Command Chief, Air University
ALS	12-6	CMSgt Thomas K. Stout	Chief, Mission Support Division
NCOA	12-6	CMSgt Timothy Daiker	Command Chief, Air National Guard Readiness Center
NCOA	12-7	CMSgt Larence W. Kirby	Command Chief Master Sergeant, 501 st Combat Support Wing, Royal Air Force Alconbury, United Kingdom



Commandant's Corner *It's Not Science Fiction*

“Aim High, Cross into the blue, we’ve been waiting for you, It’s not science fiction; it’s what we do every day!”

The advertising slogans of our Air Force have changed over the years but they all have one thing in common: they call for people who dream big dreams! In his dissertation, “Touching the Face of God: Religion, Technology, and the United States Air Force”, Colonel Tim Cathcart suggests Airmen feel devotion to flight and Airmanship on a level approaching religious fervor (2008). The pure excitement for what we do in our Air Force has propelled generations of American children to raise their right hands and sign up. From those who take care of Airmen in our clinics and hospitals, to those who secure our pay, to the aviators themselves, every American Airman has a role to play in making exciting things happen. No bomb drops and no missile fires; no picture is taken and no target tracked; no afterburner lights without you doing what you do. Dreams come true every day. Tomorrow’s amazing technology is here, today. Our Active, Guard and Reserve Airmen conduct combat missions half a world away from Nevada, North Dakota,

and New York. They launch and recover aircraft on 24-hour bombing sorties, conduct offensive and defensive cyber warfare and steer satellites in orbit over enemy combatants. Meanwhile, Airmen continue to care for and feed one another, they keep warfighters healthy around the clock, make sure we are paid and that our families receive adequate care. We are the keepers of American dreams. In studying management, we learn that most people who quit jobs don’t quit because they dislike the nature of the work. They quit leaders. People who leave their jobs do so to relieve themselves of stressors born of bad leadership: dictatorial direction, self-centered scheduling, overbearing output goals, or repressiveness and reprisal. Our Airmen enter the Air Force because they dreamed. They imagined working in an environment where miraculous things were happening all the time. They signed on a dotted line to have their dreams fulfilled—and they hoped. They hoped in some small way they could contribute to the miracles of air, space or cyberspace. We must not be dream-killing leaders.

Leadership in our total Air Force is nothing more or less than a sacred trust to secure the dreams of Americans. Each Airman coming to us from technical training believed they would be part of something amazing. They wanted to participate in the technology of tomorrow and at the same time, defend freedom and

democracy around the world. Sure, they may have wanted money for school, gas, or clothing as well, but there are a lot of ways to earn money. Our Airmen joined the Air Force to experience what we do every day. And we are obliged to lead them. One of our Air Force’s institutional sub-competencies is to develop and inspire others (AFI 36-2618, Table A3.1). Noncommissioned Officers must understand and demonstrate this competency (4.1.3). If NCOs don’t help their Airmen realize dreams, they are failing. Finding ways to lead our Airmen while fulfilling their dreams is what we REALLY do every day!

FUTURE CLASS START & GRADUATION DATES

NCOA		
Class	Start	Graduation
12-3	6 Mar 12	12 Apr 12
12-5	1 May 12	7 Jun 12
12-6	23 Jul 12	29 Aug 12
12-7	17 Sep 12	24 Oct 12
ALS		
12-3	12 Mar 12	12 Apr 12
12-4	7 May 12	7 Jun 12
12-6	18 Jun 12	19 Jul 12
Satellite NCOA Phase I		
12-4	12 Mar 12	8 Jun 12
13-1	20 Aug 12	16 Nov 12
Satellite NCOA Phase II		
12-4	11 Jun 12	27 Jun 12
13-1	26 Nov 12	12 Dec 12

“Exceed to Succeed”

DONALD E. FELCH

COMMANDANT, PAUL H. LANKFORD EPME CENTER

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