

Heartland WARRIOR

Volume 17, Issue 12

December 2012

GRISSOM



AIR RESERVE
BASE

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Heartland WARRIOR

Vol. 17, No. 12
December 2012

This Air Force Reserve online magazine is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services, family, and friends of Grissom Air Reserve Base.

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The editorial content is edited, and prepared by the Public Affairs Office of the 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom ARB, IN, 46971-5000.

Any questions regarding any content should be directed to the editor at (765) 688-3348.

Staff

Col. Don Buckley.....commander
Lt. Col. Gary Lockard.....chief, public affairs
Maj. Kelly Howard.....public affairs officer
Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays.....editor
Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner.....assistant editor
Staff Sgt. Carl Berry.....staff writer
Staff Sgt. Benjamin Mota.....staff writer
SrA. Andrew McLaughlin.....staff writer
SrA. Jami Lancette.....staff writer

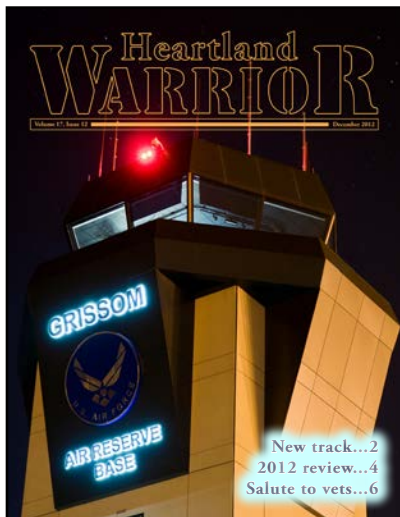
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On the cover...

Grissom's new state-of-the-art air traffic control tower is pictured here. The \$7.4 million tower helps control both military and civilian air traffic over north-central Indiana and was completed this year. It's just one of the many major milestones for Grissom in 2012. See Pages 4 and 5 for a complete overview of 2012 at Grissom. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)



Airmen performing their fitness assessment take off to start the cardiovascular portion on Grissom's new running track. The rubberized track is located across the street from the fitness center. (U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Jami Lancette)

Running track now open

By Senior Airman Jami Lancette
Public Affairs staff

After much anticipation, construction work has finally ended on Grissom's new running track and runners have something to say about it.

The new running track, which opened for use just in time for the November unit training assembly, was put to the test by Airmen taking physical fitness tests.

"I like this one a lot better," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Hubbard, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron hydraulics systems apprentice. "There's more cushion and there's not as many turns; it's real easy."

The extra padding and less turns have Airmen talking, but there are many more reasons why the new track appeals to its runners.

Because it's not on the street, runners don't have to worry about traffic. There are also no inclines like there was to the old running track, said Chris Wiley, Grissom Fitness Center's lead physical fit-



Senior Airman Austin Cullison, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, heads toward the finish line on Grissom's new rubberized running track.

ness technician.

The new running track is located directly across the base fitness center off of Doc Evans Ave. and makes use of vacant space behind Grissom's lodging facility.



Chief Master Sgt. Tamara Jones, 434th Development and Training Flight facilitator, demonstrates a proper push-up to trainees during the November unit training assembly. The purpose of the 434th D&TF is to prepare new enlisted Airmen for basic training and to help the Air Force Reserve with long-term retention. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Ben Mota)

Flight helps prepare trainees for basic training

By Staff Sgt. Ben Mota
Public Affairs staff

Just as a bird stretches its wings to prepare for flight so must new trainees here at Grissom prior to leaving for basic training.

Grissom recently introduced a development and training flight consisting of approximately 50 individuals in an effort to conquer many of the unknowns Airmen have prior to leaving for basic training.

“The purpose of the program is to prepare new enlisted Airmen for basic training and to help with long-term retention,” said Chief Master Sgt. Tamara Jones, 434th Development & Training Flight facilitator. “We want members to know that this is what they want before they go to basic training rather than them deciding that this was not the right path after they return from tech school.”

The Air Force spends approximately \$150,000 on each enlisted

Airmen by the time they have completed basic training and technical training school, Jones explained, adding that the Air Force Reserve Command is experiencing an increased numbers of Airmen leaving the military shortly after training or immediately after their initial enlistment contract has ended.

Long waiting periods between basic training and recruitment in addition to poor preparation prior to basic training can lead to problems for new recruits.

The program’s design will help to ensure Airmen are both physically and mentally prepared for the basic training before they go, explained Jones. This preparation will save the military money by eliminating individuals who are not prepared or simply decide the military is not for them, she continued.

James Miller, 434th D&TF trainee, stated that during his time in the D&TF he has participated in regular physical fitness that has helped prepare him for basic train-

ing. He also learned proper rank structure and other military customs and courtesies.

“The program has really helped me become acclimated to the military,” said Miller. “I feel that I am better prepared for basic training, and I know what to expect when I get back.”

And, there’s more than just a preparation benefit for the trainees.

The program also gives trainees the opportunity to meet and speak with other people who are going through the same thing, she said.

“While trainees are participating in the program they are mandated to follow the same rules as traditional reservists regarding attendance and discipline,” she added. “They also earn retirement points and time in service while participating in the program.”

The D&TF program is a mandatory program implemented by Air Force Reserve Command. All Reserve units were expected to have a D&TF by Sept. 31, 2012.

2012 YEAR IN REVIEW

January

February

March

April

May

June



▲ Jan. 5: Grissom aircrew return from a two-month deployment to Southwest Asia.



◀ Feb. 5: Grissom's air traffic controllers work around the clock bringing in thousands of Super Bowl XLVI fans.

◀ March 4: Master Sgt. Cindi Webb, 434th Force Support Squadron, and another Airmen participate in a special Wingman day held here at Grissom



▲ June 1: Col. Don Buckley takes command of the 434th Air Refueling Wing.

June: The 434th Civil Engineer Squadron trains in England. ▼

Jan. 27: 434th Security Forces Squadron police officers train to be the first in the Air Force Reserve Command to implement electronic control devices. ▶



April 24: Indiana Army National Guardsmen use Grissom as their predeployment MEDEVAC training. ▶



May 2: Master Sgt. Michael Morris and other Grissom Airmen return home to family and friends home from a deployment. ▶



▲ May 10: Grissom reopens its newly renovated vehicle maintenance facility, which first built in 1957 and was in desperate need of modernization.

May 14: Doc Evens Avenue is renamed in honor of Lt. Col. (Dr.) Marvin Evens, a Grissom A-10 pilot who died in 1992. ▶

25+ million pounds of fuel offloaded

150+ deployment taskings met
260+ volunteers deployed

Supported Operations
Enduring Freedom, New Dawn,
Odyssey Dawn and
Unified Protector

1, 2, 3, 4 missions

July 7: Grissom holds its annual Family Day picnic to thank servicemembers' families for their support. The day included a host of activities, military displays, contests, concerts, food and information. ▶



Nov. 2: Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Roger Machut presents Grissom Marine Capt. Capt. E. Markus Trouerbach with a Purple Heart medal for wounds received during combat in Afghanistan in 2008. ▶



July

August

September

October

November

December



▲ Aug. 3: Grissom opens its new \$7.4 million state-of-the-art air traffic control tower.

Sept. 28: Grissom Marines transfer the remains of Sgt. Bradley Atwell, a Marine who lost his life while supporting combat operations at Camp Bastion in Afghanistan. ▶



◀ Oct. 27: The Base Exchange at Grissom reopens after a \$380,000 renovation that added an 80 percent increase in line items to the store's inventory.

▲ November: Airmen start their physical fitness test from the starting line of the base's brand new track.



◀ Aug. 5: Grissom is turned into a battlefield as the base's Air Force, Army and Marine Corps reservists train together during a joint forces exercise.



\$149.5 million economic impact

Jobs

\$71.2 million payroll
\$46.1 job creation

Contracts

\$32.2 million expenditures
\$14 million new construction

Where We Live



November 2012

Soldiers honor veterans with concert

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner
Public Affairs staff

Few Americans have born the responsibility, sacrifice and honor that come with the title “veteran.”

But those who have, and those who support them and all for which they have stood, were treated to a special concert by the U.S. Army Field Band’s Jazz Ambassadors at the Honeywell Center in nearby Wabash, Ind., Nov. 12.

Prior to the concert the Grissom Community Council held a dinner, and the evening was formally kicked off by a presentation of the Colors by Soldiers from the 316th Tactical Psychological Operations Company, a U.S. Army Reserve unit stationed at Grissom.

The Jazz Ambassadors, also known as America’s Big Band, then went to work showcasing their many talents in a slew of patriotic songs in the packed venue.

“I think if you were a veteran, or if you had any sense of patriotism, you had to leave there feeling good,” said Hal Job, GCC Wabash regional director and U.S. Navy veteran. “It’s always great when we can recognize our veterans.”

Job also said that the concert was especially moving for him and veterans as the performance brought back memories of camaraderie, pride and patriotism.

“It really does bring it all back,” he added.

The Jazz Ambassadors are the official touring big band of the U.S. Army. The 19-member ensemble, formed in 1969, travels on tour for more than 100 days annually performing at formal public concerts, school assemblies, educational outreach programs, festivals, and radio and television events.

According to their website, the Jazz Ambassadors use custom compositions and arrangements to highlight the group’s creative talent and gifted soloists. Their diverse repertoire includes big



U.S. Army Field Band Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Lopez plays bass during a special Veterans Day concert held at the Honeywell Center in nearby Wabash, Ind., Nov. 12. The organization’s four performing components, the Concert Band, the Soldiers’ Chorus, the Jazz Ambassadors and the Volunteers, each travel over 100 days annually. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

band swing, bebop, Latin, contemporary jazz, standards, popular tunes, Dixieland, vocals and patriotic selections.

The night was also a memo-

rable one for Spc. Fayne Lawson, Pfc. Michael Klingsmith and Pfc. Alexander Woodall, the 316th

See ‘Concert’ page 7
Heartland Warrior

Civil engineers provide vehicle safety checks

By Senior Airman Andrew
McLaughlin
Public Affairs staff

With winter on its way, vehicle safety is important as ever, and checking the little things can prevent potentially big problems.

434th Civil Engineer Squadron Airmen conducted their annual vehicle safety check during the November unit training assembly here.

“We are providing vehicle safety checks for winter,” said Senior Airman Kenneth Ray, 434th CES electrical systems journeyman.

434th CES members checked tire pressure, made pressure adjustments as needed and looked under the hood to check oil levels and point out any potential problems. This service was open to any Grissom Airmen who wanted their vehicle checked.

Proper air pressure in tires not only helps improve safety, but it has another benefit as well.

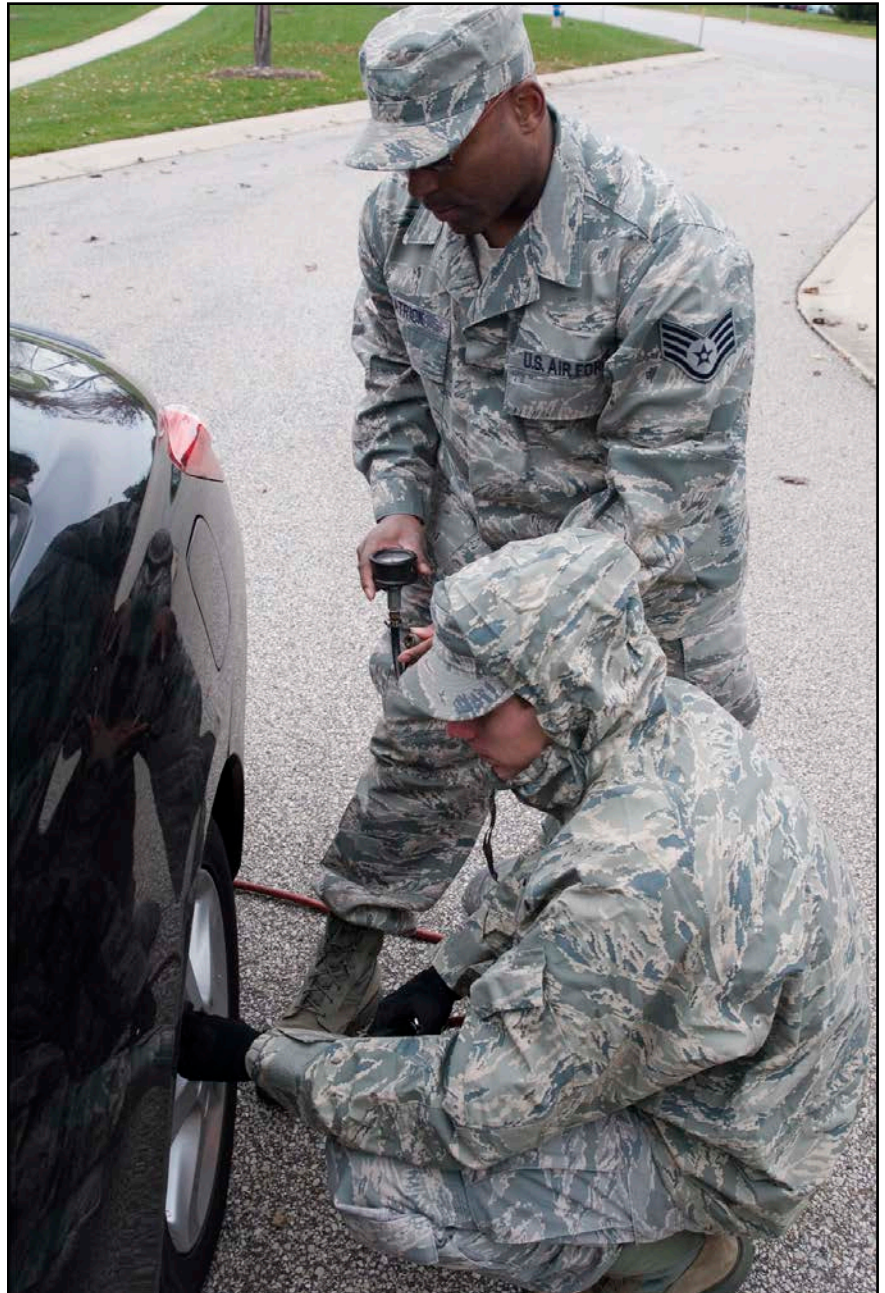
“It’s good for efficiency and increased mileage,” said Tech. Sgt. Daniel Knouff, 434th CES electrical systems craftsman.

Ray also stressed the importance of this benefit to drivers.

“If air is low, you use more gas,” he said. “Proper air pressure saves you money.”

According to a study done by Carnegie Mellon University, the average person who drives 12,000 miles yearly on under-inflated tires uses about 144 extra gallons of gas, at a cost of \$576 a year based on \$4 gallon calculation.

The study also states that any vehicle running on soft tires is contributing as much as 1.5 extra tons (2,880 pounds) of greenhouse gases to the environment annually.



Staff Sgt. Sam Patrick and Senior Airman Gabriel Wood, 434th Civil Engineer Squadron electrical systems journeymen, check tire pressures on an Airman’s vehicle here Nov. 3. Maintaining proper tire pressure can save money on gas. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Andrew McLaughlin)

Concert, from page 3

PSYOP Co. Soldiers who not only presented the Colors but also had dinner with the GCC and were able to take in the concert.

“Going up and presenting the Colors is what it’s all about because we

are paying respect to the flag and all those who have served and given so much for it,” said Klingsmith. “And, it’s about paying that respect forward.”

The Army color guardsmen trained and

practiced repeatedly to make sure every detail was precise and every command was clear.

“The more we’re dead on with our movements, the more it shows we care about our nation and our veterans,” added

Klingsmith.

The 316th PSYOP Co. is just one of three Army Reserve units stationed at Grissom and provides world-wide PSYOP support to conventional and special operations units, both in peace and war.



Off and running

Airman from the 434th Air Refueling Wing take off running between Grissom's nose docks during a Run the Runway 5k race held here Nov. 4. The 3.1 mile course took participants from the starting line at the nose docks along the taxiway and down a portion of Grissom's runway. The fastest runner was William Chapman, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, who finished with a time of 18:59. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays)

AFRC program aims to help Airmen

Staff Sgt. Carl Berry
Public Affairs staff

The Air Force Reserve Command established the Psychological Health Advocacy Program with the understanding it is common for Airmen to face problems from time to time.

"As an Air Force reservist, there are experts to assist you with getting the psychological assistance you or family needs," said Trisha Best, PHAP north region outreach specialist. "The PHAP does not provide

diagnostic treatment or counseling services, however we do provide assistance to all AFRC members and their families regarding a variety of mental health issues."

One of the services provided is a military pathways program entitled a Different Kind of Courage, which allows members to complete an anonymous screening for mental health issues.

"I have seen the PHAP change people's lives," added Best. "For example a person contacted us seeking financial assis-

tance and after asking a few questions we were able find help that would address her family and medical issues as well."

"The term psychological has negative connotations such as post traumatic stress syndrome, but it also deals with other mental health stressors such as lack of sleep, change of habits or any abrupt change in a person's life," shared Alison Duncan, 434th Air Refueling Wing sexual assault response coordinator. "I highly recommend the program to reservists and

their families."

Airmen having thoughts of harming themselves or others should call 911 or the National Suicide Prevention lifeline at 1 (800) 273-7255.

For more information about PHAP Airmen should contact the regional case facilitator in their area. For the north region contact Jennifer Wedel at 1 (937) 257-2396, for the south region contact Argarita Stewart at 1 (678) 655-2464, and for the west region contact Karen Orcutt at 1 (707) 424-2704.

Kokomo career center visits Grissom

Staff Sgt. Carl Berry
Public Affairs staff

Students from local high schools enrolled in a criminal justice program visited Grissom Air Reserve Base to learn about emergency management, military police, and fire fighting.

“The children enrolled in our program are interested in the different aspects of the criminal justice career field, so coming to Grissom allows the students to actually see some of the other career fields associated with criminal justice,” said Lee Bargerhuff, Kokomo Career Center criminal justice instructor.

The students first received short briefings about security forces, fire fighting and emergency management from the respected experts located on Grissom.

“I thought it was very interesting to learn how firefighters, cops, and emergency management personnel work together during incidents,” said Eli



Tech. Sgt. Clarence Ayers, 434th Security Forces Squadron patrol officer, answers questions from Kokomo Career Center students. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Carl Berry)

Grimes, Kokomo High School student.

After the briefings the students were giving the opportunity to use some of the equipment used by the different organizations.

“Seeing the vehicles used by the police and fire department was my favorite part of this trip, mainly because I want to become either a police officer or firefighter,” said Tommy Melton, Kokomo

high school student.

The trip also included a tour of the Miami County Correctional Facility, where students were able to hear stories from some of the inmates and speak to the guards.

In the limelight

Promotions

To master sergeant – Felita Calvin, 434th Force Support Squadron; Rosalba Delapaz, 74th Air Refueling Squadron; and Jose Gomez, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

To technical sergeant – George Navarro, 434th FSS; Samuel Scoskie, 434th Maintenance Squadron; and Nadine Ward, 434th Air Refueling Wing.

To staff sergeant – Matthew Bratthauer, 434th ARW; and Michael Womack, 434th MXS.

To senior airman – Alan Benhart, 434th MXS; Brent Cannon, 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Brandon Dillman, 434th Security Forces Squadron; Kody Harmon, 434th Maintenance Operations Flight; Andrew Parlogean, 434th Civil Engineers Squadron; Bradley Rodriguez, 434th CES; Adrian West, 434th SFS; and Amanda Wright, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

To airman first class – Keith Diamond, 434th MXS; Jacob Hosier, 434th MXS; and Cory Shirk, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron.



Leaders continue 'Thanks'giving tradition



Master Sgt. William Hurley , 434th Communications Squadron first sergeant, carefully carves out slices of turkey next to Lt. Col. Bryan Runion, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander, during a special Thanksgiving meal Nov.3. Grissom leadership served the base a holiday meal as a way to say thanks. (U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Jami Lancette)

By Senior Airman Jami Lancette
Public Affairs staff

Roles were reversed for 434th Air Refueling Wing leaders as they rolled up their sleeves and were stationed behind the food line to serve hungry Airmen a Thanksgiving treat.

As done by commanders and leaders in the past, Col. Don Buckley, 434th Air Refueling Wing commander and fellow senior leadership donned aprons and chef hats to serve up Thanksgiving tradition here Nov. 3.

"It's a great opportunity for them to see how hard our cooks and servers work", said Master Sgt. Felita Calvin, 434th Force Support Squadron dining hall manager. "And it gives the Airmen a chance to see them."

And see them they did as both Grissom's senior leadership and dining facility staff kept busy as Grissom troops came through doors in droves.

"We fed over 450 people," said



Col. Don Buckley, 434th Air Refueling Wing commander focuses in on his next customer during a Thanksgiving meal Nov. 3.

Calvin. "We served 600 pounds of meat; 16 turkeys, 75 pound steamship round roast and 20 hams."

In order to make the Thanksgiving dinner a great experience for Airmen, dining facility staff looked at

last years numbers as well as how the overall Thanksgiving experience went to gauge how much food they needed this year to ensure.

Last year the dining facility had only nine turkeys and ended up running out of it quickly, leaving some out, so this year there were more turkeys and food purchased, said Calvin.

But it wasn't just a focus on quantity that drove this year's success. Quality of service was also a big emphasis.

"Last year we only had one line that served the Thanksgiving meal and the other line was for snacks", said Calvin. "The main line was out the door, so this year we made both food lines the Thanksgiving meal."

All of the hard work and changes made by DFAC staff here seemed to pay off and work in their favor.

"I feel it was a good a pace," said Tech. Sgt. Gandy, 434th Force Support Squadron store room non-commissioned officer in charge. "People weren't waiting and were very pleased."



Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley discusses the importance of modernization and the challenges ahead for the Air Force at the 2012 Aerospace and Defense Investor Conference in New York, Nov. 29, 2012. (U.S. Air Force photo/Dave Wilson)

SecAF: ‘Modernization can’t wait’

NEW YORK CITY -- The Air Force’s senior civilian addressed the importance of modernization and the challenges ahead for the Air Force at the 2012 Aerospace and Defense Investor Conference here Nov. 29.

“Among the most difficult challenges facing the Air Force is the need to modernize our aging aircraft inventory as the defense budget declines,” said Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley. “New threats and technologies require new investments.”

Donley conveyed the careful strategic choices made in crafting the service’s budget, highlighting the importance of research, development, procurement and construction -- “investments in future capability.”

He specifically addressed the need for modernization among fighter, tanker, bomber, space and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platforms as “high priority investments,” while other important capabilities like a new trainer and joint surveillance and target attack radar system are not yet funded.

“The plans and resources available for modernization are not optimal, but we are making tough choices to keep them workable with the right priorities for the future,” he said. “Further reductions in defense would make these choices even harder.”

Among these choices is readiness, which the secretary stressed is one area the service is not willing to taking additional risk.

“We see readiness -- in personnel, training and materiel dimensions -- already frayed. We have made

important efficiencies and we are programmed for more,” he said. “There are few options for reducing the size of our forces and still being able to execute strategic guidance.”

In line with defense guidance, the Air Force has set a clear picture of its investment spending and priorities -- priorities that the joint force and the American public depend on, Donley said. For example, the service’s ten largest investment programs include four space systems critical for access to space, secure communications, missile warning, and navigation and timing.

“America’s Air Force remains the most capable in the world, but modernization can’t wait,” Donley said. “These new threats and investment needs, like cyber and missile defense, are not theoretical possibilities for the future. They are here, now.”

Amidst the challenges and emerging requirements involved with modernizing the service, Secretary Donley stressed the importance of balancing effectiveness and efficiency, containing program requirements and costs, and continuing to be responsible stewards of taxpayer resources to make it work.

The two-day conference featured speakers from industry and the Department of Defense, including remarks from Robert Hale, under secretary of defense and chief financial officer; and Frank Kendall, the under secretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics. (AFNS)



TO HONOR

Grissom seeks base honor guard manager

"To honor with dignity" is a motto worn over the heart of every ceremonial guardsman as they serve, providing military funeral honors and representing Airmen everywhere.

This sacred task is not performed without extreme attention to detail along with planning and preparation, which is why 434th Air Refueling Wing leadership is looking to hire a manager for the Grissom Air Reserve Base Honor Guard.

"The person doesn't necessarily have to have honor guard experience, although that would be a plus," said Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner, Grissom ceremonial guardsman. "What we are looking for is someone with a deeply rooted

passion to serve and someone who has amazing people and managerial skills."

Working with Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and Scott AFB, Ill., honor guards, Grissom's honor guard manager will be responsible for managing an all-volunteer team of more than 40 ceremonial guardsmen as they perform military funeral honors throughout the state of Indiana.

"We won't be looking for how well someone can march or how straight they can stand," explained Orders-Woempner. "We're looking for someone who has a well-rounded skill set, is extremely motivated and professional, can multitask and coordinate

with high ranking individuals, and can inspire others to serve."

On top of being responsible for over 100 military funeral honors details a year, the honor guard manager will have to work orders requests, handle color guard requests from the community, recruit and train ceremonial guardsmen, manage honor guard supplies and assets, and act as a resource advisor.

Applications must be received by Orders-Woempner no later than 4:30p.m. Dec. 1 to be considered. A board will be convened Dec. 2 where applicants will get a chance to interview for the position.

Application packages must include the following:

- Military and civilian resumes
 - A data verification brief from the Virtual Military Personnel Flight
 - At least one letter of recommendation from a commander, supervisor, first sergeant or flight chief
 - A member's last three enlisted performance reports (if they have that many)
 - An individual fitness test report
- To meet the board, members must be in full service dress uniform. Those unable to meet the board Dec. 2 must make arrangements with Orders-Woempner in advance. He can be contacted at (765) 688-3348.
- (Editor's note: Article compiled by 434th ARW Public Affairs staff.)*