



## In Brief

### CFC kick-off

The 2007 Team Tyndall Combined Federal Campaign runs Sept. 17 to Oct. 29. For additional information, please call Capt. Edward Mangual at 282-4317 or 1st Lt. Patrick Wilkinson at 283-4858.

### Luncheon

The Hispanic Heritage Luncheon is 11 a.m. Oct. 3 at the Club. The cost for club members is \$12 and for non-club members is \$13. Live entertainment will be available. For more details, please call Staff Sgt. Vanessa Goris at 283-7026 or Capt. Francisco Vega at 282-4623.

### RAO meeting

The next Retiree Committee meeting is 10 a.m. Oct. 9 at the 325th Mission Support Squadron conference room 204, building 662. All retired military members and their spouses are welcome to attend. For more information, please call 283-2737.

### Triathlon

Tyndall Tri/Dualathlon is scheduled 7 a.m. Oct. 20. The cost is \$30 for DOD card holders and \$40 dollar for non-DOD card holders.

Individuals interested in participating, please call 2nd Lt. Kevin Lawracy at 523-3838.



Staff Sgt. Timothy Capling

The 81st Range Control Squadron rounds their last lap in formation during the POW/MIA vigil run here Friday. The 81st RCS were the last of more than 300 runners to run in this years event.

## Tyndall honors lost heroes with vigil run

**STAFF SGT. TIMOTHY CAPLING**  
325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Airmen at Tyndall Air Force base continued a tradition to recognize prisoners of war and those missing in action with a 24-hour vigil run and retreat ceremony at Flag Park here Friday.

The run, a tradition started 18 years ago by the 81st Range Control Squadron here, consists of volunteers running the perimeter of the park with a red, white and blue baton continuously for 24 hours.

Retired Lt. Col. Donald Bazzel got the idea, from then Capt. Dan Williams, to have a 24-hour vigil run to keep the memory of all POWs and MIAs instilled in our hearts, said Lt. Col Barbara M. Omstead, 81st RCS commander.

Colonel Bazzel was an air-battle manager and the commander of the 81st RCS.

"In 1989 he and four others ran on the flight line for a full 24 hours," she said. "The five of them took turns running while the others rested and cheered each other on."

The run has since migrated to the base Flag Park.

This year's run was kicked off by Col. John Bird, 325th Fighter Wing vice commander, running his laps first.

Not even the threat of a possible tropical storm dampened the spirit.

"We had more than 300 runners this year to include 442 laps and 261.291 miles ran," said Senior Airman James

Mitchell, the coordinator for this year's run and a mission director technician and instructor evaluator with the 81st RCS.

Time slots are divided into 15-minute segments and each one was run by an individual, a small group or an entire squadron.

"The baton was constantly moving for the length of the entire run," said Airman Mitchell.

"To run 24 hours is a small price compared to what these men and women have sacrificed," Airman Mitchell said.

The run was concluded with a traditional military retreat ceremony at the park consisting of formations

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*Checkertail Salute*

**Maggie Warren**



Lt. Patrick Casey

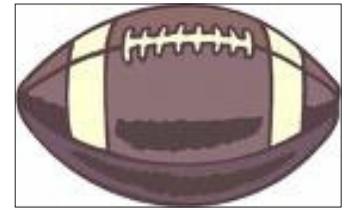
**Maggie Warren, 325th Mission Support Group, receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Brig. Gen. Tod D. Wolters, 325th Fighter Wing commander.**

Ms. Warren managed the resources for six squadrons, one detachment and one division. She also led and trained 14 resource advisors and 70 cost center managers. Ms. Warren has recently retired from United States Government Sept. 26.

- Duty title:** Group Resource Advisor
- Hometown:** Atlanta, Ga.
- Time on station:** Fifteen years
- Time in service:** Thirty years
- Hobbies:** Gardening and mentoring to children and parents
- Goals:** To live each day to its fullest and be happy with that moment in time
- Favorite thing about Tyndall AFB:** The diversity of jobs and personalities
- Favorite movie:** The Notebook
- Pet Peeves:** People who do not take pride in their appearance
- Proudest moment in the military:** Having served my country in the United States Marine Corps and working for all four branches of the military

*The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.*

**2007 Standings  
Flag Football**



(as of Oct. 1)

Team	Win	Loss
AMXS	5	0
SFS	4	0
SVS	4	1
COM	3	1
MOS	4	2
OSS	3	2
MXS	3	2
MDG	3	2
MSS/FW	3	2
601st	2	3
ACS	1	2
CES	2	4
CONS	1	3
53rd	1	6
823rd	0	4
AFRL	0	5

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of senior NCOs, the First Term Airmen Center, Airmen Leadership School and local veterans.

The ceremony started with a hand-off of the baton carried during the run from Colonel Omstead to local former POW John Anderson, who was the guest of honor at the ceremony.

Anderson was performing duties as a radar operator on a B-17 in World War II when his plane was shot down by enemy forces. Anderson and his crew parachuted and were captured by the Nazis exactly two months after D-Day and were held captive until the following April when he was liberated by British forces.

"We'd like to let POW/MIA know, they are not forgotten by recognizing their sacrifice every year," said Tech. Sgt. Leroy Ridgel, a professional military education instructor at the Airey NCO Academy here and coordinator of the ceremony.

"We don't do this because we have to; we do it because we want to," said Colonel Omstead. "So many people gave so much to keep this great nation free, and there aren't enough words to express our profound thanks... so we run."



**Identify this ...**

**Can you identify this object?**

If so, send an e-mail to [editor@tyndall.af.mil](mailto:editor@tyndall.af.mil) with "Identify this" in the subject line.

Three correct entries will be chosen at random and drawn from a hat to determine the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office.

Senior Airman Joshua Miazga, 325th Communications Squadron, correctly guessed the Sept. 24 "Identify This" as a coca-cola can. Congratulations Airman Miazga.

# TAAA to hold 2008 elections

**STAFF SGT. VESTA ANDERSON**  
**325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

The Tyndall Active Airmen Association will hold its annual elections Nov. 8 at 3 p.m. in the Community Activity Center here.

TAAA is a non-profit, private organization created by Airmen to establish a foundation and open avenues to transform today's Airmen into positive role models for the military and civilian community through self-motivation and professionalism.

"All executive and head-of-committee positions need to be filled," said Senior Airman Malisa Mills, current TAAA president and 325th Medical Support Squadron lab technician. "This is a great opportunity for

highly-motivated Airmen who are ready to make a difference."

Elections will be held for the offices of president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. These individuals will serve as the governing body for TAAA.

Elections will also be held for the head-of-committee positions. These committees include the volunteer, publicity, membership and fundraising committees.

According to the constitution of TAAA, all active members who are up-to-date on their membership dues are eligible to hold an office in the organization. Dues are based on the pay grade of the Airman. For example, an E-2 Airman would have a membership due of \$2.

Furthermore, TAAA will be asking for unit representatives who will be responsible to get news and information to their unit's Airmen and also to be the voice of those Airmen during the monthly meetings.

TAAA's focus is not only on bettering Airmen

professionally, but also to better Tyndall and its community.

"Our volunteer efforts extend beyond annual base functions such as the Big Bunny Easter Egg Hunt or the air show," said Airman Mills. "We volunteer to support community events as well and are active with mentoring school children and visiting the veterans around the local area."

"The added responsibility of being an officer in TAAA is a great 'leap' towards future NCO responsibilities," said Tech. Sgt. Publio Casillas, 325th Operations Support Squadron Mission Services Element NCO in-charge and Focus 56 president. "The interaction with the other pro-organizations along with the management skills utilized and honed leave nothing but positive marks on these Airmen."

For more information about TAAA and its elections, please e-mail Airman Mills at [malisa.mills@tyndall.af.mil](mailto:malisa.mills@tyndall.af.mil).



Staff Sgt. Vesta Anderson

## Educators get educated

**Left: Dr. Jim Kerley, president of Gulf Coast Community College and members of his staff listen intently as Lt. Col. Lance Pilch, 43rd Fighter Squadron operations officer, delivers a brief on the F-22 Raptor during a base tour Tuesday. The Tyndall Public Affairs office offers Base tours to local civic groups and high schools as part of Tyndall's community relations program.**

**Bottom left: Staff Sgt. Michael Sirmons, 325th Maintenance Group Squadron Lead Crew Team Chief, inspects weapons load.**

**Bottom right: Gloria Crawford, GCCC public safety, controls the arms of a robot at the Air Force Research Laboratory during the tour.**



Staff Sgt. Vesta Anderson



Staff Sgt. Vesta Anderson

# Tyndall's response put to the test

1ST LT. AMANDA FERRELL

325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Periodic exercises are conducted at Tyndall to ensure Airmen are able to react quickly and effectively to contingencies and emergency situations both on the installation and in the local area.

The most recent exercise, which kicked off Sept. 10 here, tested more than Team Tyndall's reaction time to potential threats and emergencies. The four-day exercise tested overall Airmen vigilance, deployment preparedness and wing-wide communication skills during a suspected terrorist attack on base.

While exercise scenarios vary from terrorist threats to natural disaster preparedness, the exercise held last week intertwined two separate events simultaneously.

"The initial exercise scenario was an AEF deployment leaving from Tyndall and arriving at a base in Southwest Asia," said Frank LaBroad, 325th Fighter Wing Exercise Evaluation Team chief.

The second and concurrent scenario was an increasing threat of terrorist activity in and around the surrounding area.

"The exercise incorporated deployment operations, which continued on to the cantonment area where ATSO training was evaluated. Concurrently a bio-terror threat to the installation was unfolding," said LaBroad.

Fifty active-duty personnel representing squadrons and career fields from across Tyndall participated in the initial phase of the exercise, which tested Tyndall's ability to mobilize personnel en masse to an overseas location.

Each person selected to participate in the first phase of the exercise processed through a mobility line. The line mimicked the real-world out-processing system, and included an in-depth review of personal documents, medical clearances and training records.

"The success of a deployment operation rests on individual responsibility and preparedness," said LaBroad. "Each individual is responsible for ensuring personal information is kept current in VRED, Unit Deployment Managers are kept in the loop on medical status relating to profiles, and family care plans are functional." Common discrepancies are dog tags, VRED errors, items missing from deployment records and training documents.

In the cantonment area, Airmen set up tents and simulated hardening a facility while subject to enemy attacks chemical and conventional weapons such as missiles and mortars. Knowledge of the Airman's Manual (AFMAN 10-100), a good attitude, and sense of urgency is key during this phase of the exercise.



Staff Sgt. Vesta Anderson

## Can't fly without us

**Airman 1st Class Chase Capehart (goggles) and Airman 1st Class Cory Fennig, 43rd Fighter Squadron F-22 Assistant Dedicated Crew Chiefs, check the oil status on an F-22.**

"The deployment preparedness exercise here was similar to contingency exercises I've participated in while stationed in Korea," said Staff Sgt. Kevin Peterson, 325th Fighter Wing senior emergency actions controller. "We relied on information in the Airman's Manual to dictate our response to events such as chemical attacks and breaches in installation security. The same skills were tested here during the exercise last week, which helped reinforce my understanding of contingency operations."

Sergeant Peterson deployed to Pakistan in 2003, and is now preparing for a second tour of deployment duty.

"While I'll be deploying as an individual from Tyndall, processing through a mobility line offers a huge advantage," said the sergeant. "Having all base agencies at once in the same location makes the process fast and efficient. It's also nice to have support personnel such as chaplains and medical staff there in case you need extra support before you deploy."

Exercise operations in the cantonment area were followed by a base-wide threat scenario putting security forces, first responders and on-scene commanders to the test.

The scenario simulated a situation where a terrorist organization sent an envelope containing anthrax to the installation, said LaBroad.

Tyndall security forces, fire fighters, bioenvironmental and medical personnel responded to the scene. All agencies swiftly reacted to the situation, and while relying on training expertise and procedures, they were able to successfully respond to an extremely hazardous situation.

"My role in exercise operations on Tyndall is to provide the wing commander an accurate, unbiased assessment of the wing's readiness capabilities," said LaBroad. "Findings from local exercises are compiled and analyzed by members of the Exercise Evaluation Team, and actions are taken to make Tyndall's response prompt and effective."

Findings from planned exercises note infractions to Air Force policy and procedure, and are addressed post-exercise. Units responsible for certain actions during contingencies are tasked to review procedures to ensure successful execution in the future.

"The objective of all exercises here is to test Team Tyndall's ability to meet then exceed standards during emergency response situations and to ensure our members remain as vigilant, reactionary and prepared as possible," said LaBroad.

Future exercises are planned for Tyndall personnel, and will continue as the 325th Fighter Wing prepares for an upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection.