



RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Newsletter



820th RHS BIG ASS BARBEQUE Board of Directors Meeting April 2018 - Las Vegas, Nevada



The 820th RHS Big Ass Barbeque well attended

What a great party! I arrived in Las Vegas a day early for the RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Board of Directors meeting and attended, along with President Stan Irwin, Secretary Don Bowker and wife Debbie, the 820th RED Horse Squadron Bi-Annual Barbeque which is held as part of their Roundup. In addition to active and retired horsemen from the 820th at Nellis AFB, there were RED HORSE retirees and family members from other squadrons who came from all over the United States.

This is an event you may want to attend sometime. The food was plentiful and delicious; the fellowship was contagious with everyone meeting many old friends as well as making new ones. The esprit d'corp which comes from being a part of Air Force Civil Engineering Red Horse Squadrons was "over flowing". During the event Don was able to sign up over 30 new members and we were able to introduce the RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association to over 120 attendees. Many thanks to Dennis Wilson, Lupe Ortega and others who organized such an outstanding event.

They all were excited to hear that our 2019 RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Convention / Reunion will be held in Las Vegas October 8-12, 2019. SAVE THE DATE !!!!!!!

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS DEDICATED TO AIR FORCE MILITARY CIVIL ENGINEERS
(REDHORSE and Prime BEEF) PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**



PRESIDENT'S STABLE

May 2018



The past seven months have been a very busy period for the fledging named RED HORSE AND Prime BEEF Association. Between now and mid - September of last year we have undergone a complete change over in our key operating positions. My thanks to Randy Eckert and Paul Sattler for the smooth change in positions.

The Board of Directors have just returned from Las Vegas where they met to lay the initial ground work for the 2019 Convention/Reunion. We had a very good meeting with 12 board members in attendance. We held the meeting at the Silverton Hotel and Casino, the location we are planning to have the Convention/Reunion in 2019. The Silverton Staff was great and we look forward to working with them in the future. Randy Eckert volunteered to serve as the chair of the Convention Committee and Dick Aldinger as chair of the Publicity Committee and Golf Tournament organizer. Now the hard work begins putting the event together.

The weekend before the board meeting members of the 820th RED HORSE Squadron had their bi-annual round up of past and present members. Our Secretary Donald Bowker, Sr. and Dick Aldinger turned the last day of the round-up into a personal recruiting effort, with 20 plus new association members and 50 plus email addresses as future contacts. In the future when we hear of these non-sponsored reunions and roundups we plan to have a board member in the local area try to attend as our representative and recruiter.

This past December we received an email from the chairman of the Civil Engineering Memorial Committee, Maj/ Gen. (ret) Tim Byers offering the RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association the project of being the maintainer of the CE Memorial after the memorial completion. As this is being written we have a committee in place working the memorandum of agreement with the memorial committee lawyer. The CE Memorial will be in the Memorial Park in front of the USAF Museum located at Wright Patterson AFB Ohio. The Association hopes that memorial will be completed prior to our 2021 reunion/convention which will be held in the Dayton / Fairborn Ohio area.

The upcoming 2019 reunion/convention will be the first time we have matched our new name. We will be highlighting the three Civil Engineering units based at Nellis AFB: the 99CES as the Prime BEEF unit, 820th RED HORSE Squadron, and the 555th RED HORSE Squadron.

We have made a major push in the social media area with a new web site that now is secure, and we have updated our FACEBOOK Site; please check them out. As stated in my first stable comments if you have a question or any ideas to help make us better let me or any of the other association board members know. My e-mail address is stanirwin78@gmail.com or call me at 937-750-8799.

To the Horse and Bull

Stan

Stan Irwin, President,

RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association



RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Board Members

Richard (Dick) Aldinger,
Newsletter Editor/Publicity
4088 Floralwood Court
Orlando, FL 32812
Home: 407-859-7436
Cell: 407-399-8937
famdinger@aol.com

Donald Boone
33 Forestbrook Drive
Ballston Lake, NY 12019
Home: 518-441-7639
dboone555@twc.com

Donald Bowker, Sr.,
Secretary
208 W City Dam Road
Corbin, KY 40701
Home: 606-528-8788
Cell: 606-524-0520
donbsr2002@yahoo.com

John Burkett
6 Mechanic Street
Allentown, NJ 08501
Cell: 609-647-8421
jwburk3454@aol.com

David Corbett
312 Sudduth Circle NE
Fort Walton Bch, FL 32548
Cell: 623-687-8655
dccorbett11@yahoo.com

Anthony (Tony) Davit
25142 Waterstone Estates
Circle East
Houston, TX 77375
Cell: 623-326-8519
davita@hotmail.com

Randy Eckert, *Past Pres.*
701 Center Drive
Palmyra, PA 17078-9117
Home: 717-838-8659
Cell: 717-269-3914
randyeckert@comcast.net

William (Bill) Eves
2197 Fawn Dale Lane
Lincoln, CA 95648
Cell: 916-870-5398
eves.bill@gmail.com

Stanley Irwin,
President
2336 Tennessee Drive
Xenia, OH 45385
Cell: 937-750-8799
stanirwin78@gmail.com

Greg MacDougal,
President Emeritus
236 Winoca Drive
Midway, GA 31320-4327
Mobile: 912-321-8430
gmacdougal46@gmail.com

Karl Oertel
31 Desmond Court
Tonawanda, NY 14150
Home: 716-939-3512
Cell: 716-352-4563
sgtaf@aol.com

Daniel Raske
3 Mildred Road
Burlington, MA 01803-4110
Home: 781-272-4840
draske@verizon.net

William (Bill) Sims
815 Fawnway
San Antonio, TX 78260
Home: 210-481-3686
Mobile: 210-508-4444
winteam@aol.com

William (Bill) Verkest
2402 N. Hunter Place Lane
Arlington, TX 76006
Home: 817-781-8251
billverkest@msn.com

Jimmie West
14300 Heather Drive
Bristol, VA 24202
Home: 276-6669-9505
Cell: 423-383-6944
jimwest@bvu.net



Back. Left to Right: Don Boone, Bill Verkest, John Burkett, Don Bowker, Randy Eckert, and Dick Aldinger
Front. Left to Right: Bill Eves, Bill Sims, Tony Davit, President Stan Irwin, Jimmie West, and Karl Oertel.
Missing: David Corbett, Dan Raske, and Greg MacDougal

The RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association is recognized federally by the IRS as a 501(c)19 nonprofit organization but is not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and it has no governmental status.



NEWS ARTICLES

OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD'S 200th RED HORSE SQUADRON SENDS OVER 183 TONS OF ASSETS TO SUPPORT RELIEF EFFORTS IN U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS AND PUERTO RICO

DVIDS: Story and photos by 1st Lt. Paul Stennett, 179th Airlift Wing. (U.S. Air National Guard courtesy photos by Capt. Kevin Smalley/Released), Oct. 13, 2017.

MANSFIELD, OHIO. The 200th RED HORSE Squadron (RHS) sent a 26-man team to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands to set up and maintain a Disaster Relief Beddown System (DRBS) to help aid in the relief efforts after Hurricane Irma Sept. 27, 2017. With the unique capabilities and assets the 200th RHS has as a self-sustaining unit that can deploy anywhere in the world within 72 hours, the unit is able to utilize its assets to support first responders and aid workers in the aftermath of the hurricane.



The DRBS is a kit which provides basic life necessities such as shelter, latrines, laundry and showers and can support up to 150 people for as long as needed. The 200th RHS is always ready to respond with a team of trusted Airmen for state and federal missions.

In the wake of Hurricane Irma and Maria the Ohio Air National Guard's 200th RED HORSE Squadron (RHS) has been deployed assisting in the recovery efforts in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico since nearly the beginning of a historic hurricane season. The unit's capabilities to be able to deploy anywhere in the world within 72 hours and self-sustain gives them the unique ability to provide the exact support needed in the areas affected by the hurricanes.

The 200 RHS sent two complete Disaster Relief Beddown System's (DRBS) to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands and then the second to Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria hit.

The 200 RHS first sent a 26 person team to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, with a DRBS, after

Hurricane Irma. The team led by Capt. Kevin Smalley, set up the first system U.S. Virgin Islands: 18 Alaskan small shelter systems (tents), 19 Environmental Control Units (ECUs), six generators, a field latrine, a shower/shave unit, 13K All Terrain (AT) forklift, skid steer, electrical support kit and two light carts, all within the initial 48 hours of arriving.

However, the team had to disassemble the kit, secure it and evacuate for safety with Hurricane Maria quickly approaching.

Once Hurricane Maria passed, the team headed back to St. Thomas and had the kit fully functional again within 48 hours. Smalley's team maintained the base camp for over 120 Army personnel from the 602nd Area Support Medical Company, Fort Bragg, N.C. and military police.

Smalley said "I could not be more impressed with the work ethic and attitude of my Airmen in the face of multiple adversities and still making an impact to try to support and improve the local area".

However, a week later, disaster struck again. The camp was flooded with three feet of water from rains after the hurricane. The team spent the next 24 hours relocating 16 of the tents to higher ground about 200 yards away.



"This situation has pushed all of our career fields to work together as a cohesive unit. It's very impressive to see how everyone has come together, working outside of the specialties, to help these people during their greatest time of need" said Master Sgt. Richard Good. "You will rarely find a group of more capable people to accomplish such a task".



In addition to maintaining the base camp, Smalley's team also worked with FEMA to help load cargo onto trucks, worked with the Army Corps of Engineers to clear debris in the local area, helped restore chillers at the University of the Virgin Islands and removed a roof from the roadway blown off from the hurricane.

The Ohio Air National Guard unit also sent a six-man team to Puerto Rico with a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU), see following article. With the island being devastated by the hurricane, basic life essential needs such as drinking water is vital to not only our deployed members but to the local population.

"We are taking the ROWPU to Puerto Rico, we are going down there to set it up to produce fresh drinking water for the local communities for the next several months" Master Sgt. Isaac Strickler, a Power Production Supervisor with the 200th RHS said.

The ROWPU can provide purified drinking water for thousands of people by using a variety of raw water sources such as wells, lakes, seas, lagoons, rivers, oceans and ice holes.

Technical Sgt. Brock Mowry, an electrical power production craftsman with the 200 RHS said, "We will be able to purify up to 1,500 gallons per hour."

The treatment of water is necessary to prevent various waterborne diseases, such as typhoid and dysentery. Providing this asset to the area will increase the quality of life for the population while recovery efforts continue.

Assets such as the DRBS and ROWPU provide basic life needs to military personnel so they can forward operate in austere conditions and keep the mission going.

In total, the 200 RHS sent 183.5 tons of assets on three C-17s and five C-130s in support of hurricane relief efforts. The unique skillsets and capabilities of the unit and its members are what allow them to deploy anywhere in the world and self-sustain in forward operating areas. These type of scenarios are what the unit trains for and is why America has a National Guard. Whether supporting the fight or helping our neighbors, the 200 RHS has a team of trusted Airmen ready for any mission.

OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD'S 200th RED HORSE SQUADRON PROVIDING HOPE AND WATER TO PUERTO RICO

DVIDS: Story and photos by 1st Lt. Paul Stennett, 179th Airlift Wing. (U.S. Air National Guard courtesy photos by Staff Sgt. Heather Swinehart/Released), Oct 26, 2017.

MANSFIELD, OHIO: Members from the Ohio Air National Guard's 200th RED HORSE Squadron (RHS) have been in Comerio, Puerto Rico since Oct. 7, 2017,

providing hope and water. The team is supplying potable water to the area with a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU).



Photo by 1st Lt. Paul Stennett, 179th Airlift Wing. Left to right: 200th RED HORSE Squadron (RHS) members, Master Sgt. Isaac Strickler, Tech. Sgt. Brock Mowry, Airman 1st Class Cameron Copeland, Staff Sgt. Nick Wander, Tech. Sgt. Bryan Adams and Staff Sgt. Heather Swinehart take a moment for a photo at their camp in Comerio, Puerto Rico where they are processing water through a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU). The Ohio Air National Guard Airmen from the 200 RHS are purifying and distributing approximately 12,000 gallons of potable water to civilians and surrounding cities each day.

The ROWPU provides potable water from a variety of raw water sources such as wells, lakes, seas, lagoons, rivers, oceans and ice holes. The proper use of the ROWPU can provide purified drinking water for thousands of people.



A ROWPU is being set in place to provide potable water to the local area and surrounding cities which have not had running water or electricity since Hurricane Maria made landfall.

"We have been working hard to help anybody who comes our way" said Master Sgt. Isaac Strickler, a power production supervisor with the 200 RHS. "The



area they placed us in has not had water or power since Hurricane Maria made landfall”.

The Airmen have been working alongside members from the 139 Brigade Support Battalion (BSB), out of the South Dakota National Guard (NG) and Soldiers out of the 714th Quarter Master Water Purification (WMWP) Company, from the Puerto Rico National Guard, who brought an additional ROWPU.

Strickler and his team have been able to fill three city trucks during the work week that distribute water throughout the local communities. One other truck, which is a 4,000-gallon tanker, is strictly assigned for hospital use and is filled every two days for medical use.

“Our unit has been supplying approximately 9,000 gallons of potable water a day to civilians” said Strickler.

Even with the constant flow of tens-of-thousands of gallons of water each day, the team has not been untouched by the after effects of Hurricane Maria. The original site that was selected was a river that ran through Comerio. However, the team discovered after testing the water quality that it was not safe to use. The river had been contaminated with waste water from housing upstream.

Fortunately, the team was able to locate a stream coming from a nearby mountain and tap into it. Strickler and his team dammed the river at one point to make the water deep enough to pull from. Further down the river, they had to dig out a basin in the river and use an eight-foot steel drum to create a second collection point to allow both ROWPUs to operate.

In addition to locating a safe water source and providing the area with safe, drinkable water, the team brought with them an ice machine. The machine was donated by one of the team member’s friend.

“We have been giving out ice to keep medical supplies cold and so that people can use it in their fridge” said Tech. Sgt. Brock Mowry, whose friend donated the ice machine.

Each day that passes brings with it new challenges and more opportunities to help the people in Puerto Rico to recover after this tragedy and the hard work this team provides does not go unnoticed by the locals.

“Everyone has been gracious and have even brought us some homemade meals, a welcomed changed from MREs or Meals Ready to Eat” said Strickler. “We have people stopping on the side of the road just to thank us and to take photos of us helping the community. There have been countless people coming to us, teary eyed, thanking us for coming down to help”.

Strickler and his team have also been helping out in the local area. They have been able to help the locals by cleaning up debris and by removing trees, left from the flood waters.

Although the days are long and the work is hard, these Ohio Air National Guard Airmen have maintained a positive attitude.

“Being cut off from contact back home was difficult at first and communication is shaky at best, however, the smiles from the people we have been helping is a daily morale boost” said Strickler.

Based on numbers through Oct. 23, the team has produced over 71,000 gallons of water and has distributed more than 55,000 gallons. There is no doubt the training and commitment these Airmen have to their state and nation is unwavering as they are provide Comerio, Puerto Rico with hope and water.



Left to right: Staff Sgt. Nick Wander, Airman 1st Class Cameron Copeland, Staff Sgt. Heather Swinehart and Tech. Sgt. Brock Mowry pose in the iconic O-H-I-O pose in Comerio, Puerto Rico.



Staff Sgt. Heather Swinehart (left) sits with Tech. Sgt. Bryan Adams atop a water tanker that is used to distribute the potable water throughout the city and surrounding area.



Photo shows a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU) the Airmen from the 200th RED HORSE Squadron use to purify water in Comerio, Puerto Rico.



Left to right: Tech. Sgt. Bryan Adams, Master Sgt. Isaac Strickler, and Tech. Sgt. Brock Mowry fill gallon water jugs for civilians who have been without running water or electricity since Hurricane Maria made landfall.

820th RED HORSE: CONSTRUCTION IMPROVES NELLIS FLIGHT LINE OPERATIONS

DVIDS: U.S. Air Force story and photos by Airman 1st Class Kevin Tanenbaum, 99th Air Base Wing Public Affairs, Released Oct 27, 2017

NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, NV. The 820th RED HORSE Squadron completed five months of

construction October 25 on the flight line making Nellis Air Force Base flying operations more efficient.

With this construction completed both runways are able to be open longer, with less aircraft holding times before takeoff, according to Tech. Sgt. Kyle Spade, project manager assigned to the 820th RHS.

“This project makes for more functional, efficient runway operations,” said Master Sgt. Brad Franklin, NCO-in-charge of the Power Production Shop assigned to the 820th RHS. “This project will save 190 hours per year in runway downtime due to barrier resets, \$323,000 per year in jet fuel costs, over 1,500 firefighter man hours and reduce fire truck wear and tear.” The leadership of the RHS was instrumental in the completion of this immense project.

“The skill and leadership of the project NCOs have made this project a success, and have achieved the impossible with completing a two-system install in five months,” said Franklin.

“Over six months of planning, design and contract awards went into the initial push of this project,” said Spade. “Multiple coordination meetings with the 57th Operations Support Squadron and 99th Civil Engineer Squadron advocating for time and logistics were required to make this project successful.”

Not only did this vast overhaul take the combination of multiple squadrons on base working hand-in-hand, but it also took sacrifice from the 820th Airmen who worked on the site.



Airmen assigned to the 820th RED HORSE Squadron take a momentary break from welding rebar during flight line maintenance on Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, Sept. 20, 2017. The Airmen of the 820th RHS finished this project in five months' time.

“From May until end of August, the team was worked 11 p.m. to 8 a.m., Wednesday through Sunday nights,” said Spade. “Then from the end of August through October, we changed to Monday-Friday 4 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. The sacrifice of our 820th RHS Airmen who put in long work days including through all holiday and family days throughout this



whole project ensured its successful completion. It was lot of heavy equipment, and a lot of demanding work.”



Airmen perform flight line maintenance. The construction occurred on both ends of the Nellis flight line and will make flying operations more efficient for the future.



Airmen lay and weld rebar on a construction site on the flight line. Multiple squadrons assisted in the coordination of the construction including the 57th Operations Support Squadron and 99th Civil Engineer Squadron.



An Airman laughs during a break from welding rebar. With this construction completed Oct. 25, both runways are able

to be open longer, with less aircraft holding times before takeoff.

554th RED HORSE SQUADRON RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY CELEBRATES OPENING OF PACIFIC REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER

DVIDS: Story by Airman 1st Class Gerald Willis, 36 Wing/Public Affairs. U.S. Air Force photos by Tech Sgt. Richard P Ebensberger, Released. Dec 08, 2017.

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, YIGO, GUAM. The largest troop-built construction project in the Pacific since the Vietnam conflict, came to a close this month with the completion of the Pacific Regional Training Center on Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

On Dec. 7, the 554th RED HORSE Squadron held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the conclusion of more than 70 construction projects, valued at \$251 million, making up the new PRTC on Northwest Field. Airmen throughout Pacific Air Forces will use the facilities to prepare for real-world contingency and deployment missions. U.S. and partner nation service members will regularly use the training area to strengthen civil engineering skills needed during humanitarian and disaster relief.



Brig. Gen. Douglas Cox, 36th Wing commander, cuts the ribbon marking the opening of the newly established Pacific Regional Training Center at Northwest Field near Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Dec. 7, 2017.

“This site will ultimately be the platform to provide essential civil engineer training for thousands of Airmen every year,” said Master Sgt. Raymond Worley, 554th RHS lead planner for the center. “Instructors from both Commando Warrior and the RED HORSE’s Silver Flag flight can now provide training to nearly 3,000 security forces, civil engineer force support and partner-nation personnel year-round.”

After the original construction of Northwest Field during World War II, the PRTC revitalized use of the grounds instead of developing new areas to enable service members to stay “Prepared to Prevail” throughout future conflicts or contingencies in the region.



The new facilities were built by RED HORSE Airmen. Wearing distinctive red ball caps, these Airmen are trained and equipped to complete heavy construction and airfield repair missions in expeditionary environments.

“Over the past nine years, the troop-built project led by the 554th RHS brought together numerous sister units throughout the Air Force, Navy and partner nations to assist and gain valuable training experience while completing construction projects,” Worley said. “Troop-built projects save the Air Force time and money and allows service members to meet similar goals as they would in a contingency environment.”

The historic airfield also serves as training ground for Silver Flag, a recurring exercise enabling Airmen from across PACAF to practice vital airfield damage assessment, airfield marking, crater repair and expeditionary airfield lighting systems installation techniques.



An aerial view of the Pacific Regional Training Center Oct. 4, 2012, at Northwest Field, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. (U.S. Air Force courtesy photo).

In addition to expeditionary engineers, the 736th Security Forces Squadron’s Commando Warrior flight calls the PRTC home and trains PACAF security forces Airmen on U.S. Central Command and regional tactical requirements in support of contingency missions and home station security.

The PRTC now offers units space for operations, offices, training classrooms and the warehouse storage for vital equipment in support of contingency and humanitarian operations around the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. U.S. and partner nation service members will regularly use the training area to increase readiness and interoperability of Pacific partner forces for effective crisis response in the region.

“As a rapidly deployable unit, staying up to date on all training is a major key to our mission,” said Airman 1st Class Antony Williams Jr., 554th RHS structural engineer. “I’m excited to work hands-on in the new facilities. New sites such as the Heavy Repair Training

facility, will help us prepare to complete any mission in a deployed environment.”

823rd RED HORSE: ENGINEERING THE DEID

DVIDS and U.S. Air Forces Central Command. U.S. Air National Guard photos by Master Sgt. Phil Speck//Released. Dec 20, 2017.

AL UDEID AIR BASE, QATAR. The 823rd RED HORSE Squadron, from Hurlburt Field, FL, is currently deployed to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. Centrally located at Al Udeid Air Base, the 557th Expeditionary RHS is comprised of more than 200 of those RED HORSE Airmen, whose jobs vary from heavy equipment operators; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning technicians; structures specialists; and electricians and plumbers.

RED HORSE differs from civil engineer squadrons because they have rapid deployment capabilities, are familiar with heavy construction, and can conduct well-drilling. They also bring specific knowledge of developing pre-engineered buildings, among other capabilities.

One of their current assignments is to build a new 9,000 square foot structure that will house the 557th ERHS vehicle maintenance, equipment and work center.

They are also building two structures for an aircraft maintenance unit here to improve B-52 Stratofortress maintainers’ work center. These structures combined are approximately 10,800 square feet and will house administration, a warehouse and a work area for the maintainers. The proximity of these buildings to the aircraft will help expedite the time it takes to them off the ground and completing missions.

According to Staff Sgt. Dennis Edick, structures craftsman assigned to the 557th ERHS, working in this deployed location presents a new set of challenges for the RED HORSE Airmen. For instance, 30 foot panels used to construct walls turn into sails in the high winds that Qatar often sees. Obtaining supplies for the new construction can also be a challenge since waiting for the arrival of ordered supplies and clearing them through customs can often take longer than expected.

“Sometimes it can take up to two weeks just to get in [flat] washers. We just can’t run down to Lowe’s and get 1,000 washers like we can back home,” Edick said.

One system the squadron is trying to obtain to help speed up projects is called FRAMECAD, which designs and can fabricate structure pieces and supplies from steel.

“The FRAMECAD system streamlines the construction process while reducing the overall cost of a facility,” said Capt. Charles Heim, AUAB site officer in charge and operations deputy officer assigned to

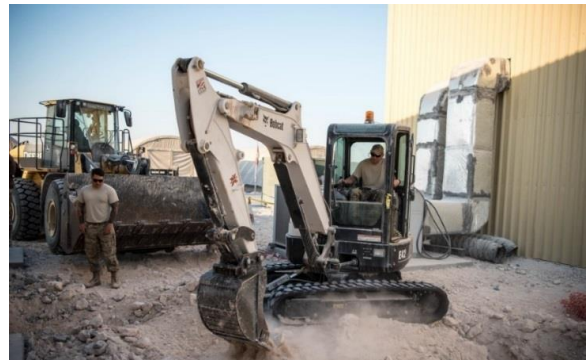


the 557th ERHS. "The FRAMECAD F450iT machine is a cold rolled steel bending machine that bends flat steel into uniform building components that streamline the design and construction process. It is good stuff and will definitely speed up our construction timelines once the training is widespread."

If the squadron were to obtain the FRAMECAD, it would benefit not just AUAB, but all of the AOR. Pieces needed for projects could be fabricated at a central location and shipped via military transport to other forward locations.

Staff Sgt. Quinton McDaniel, structure craftsman assigned to the 557th ERHS, says their squadron prides themselves with a high-level of quality.

"We've been doing pre-engineered buildings for quite a while now and you can see a big difference from the previous rotation," McDaniel said. "There are a lot of little things that we put into our work to make sure our product is best of the best."



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Joseph Roach, a structural journeyman assigned to the 557th Expeditionary Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers (RED HORSE) Squadron, digs a hole for a new structure that will house an aircraft maintenance unit at Al Udeid Air Base.



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Bryan Smith, a structural journeyman assigned to the 557th Expeditionary Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers (RED HORSE) Squadron, fastens bolts on to a new structure that will house the 557th ERHS vehicle maintenance at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. The 557th ERHS has over 200 Airman that specialize in jobs that include heavy equipment operators; heating, ventilation, air conditioning technicians; structures specialists; electricians and plumbers, deployed across the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.



U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Charles Sage, a pavement and equipment journeyman assigned to the 557th ERHS, cuts concrete for joint in the new structure that will house the 557th ERHS vehicle maintenance.



Airmen from the 557th ERHS work on a new structure that will house the 379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron's vehicle maintenance at Al Udeid Air Base.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Forrest Dickson, a pavement and equipment journeyman seals concrete joints in the new structure.



ENGINEERS ON THE MOVE; 1st ECEG CONDUCTS COMBAT CAPABLE CONSTRUCTION

US Air Forces Central Command, photos and story by Staff Sgt. Joshua Horton, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs / Published May 10, 2018



Airmen from the 1st Civil Engineer Group's 577th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force Squadron pose for a group photo at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, May 4, 2018.

AL UDEID AIR BASE, QATAR: Establishing, sustaining and restoring base infrastructure — this is the mission of Air Force civil engineers. When it comes to expanding the presence in hostile environments, however, the unique purpose of the 1st Expeditionary Civil Engineer Group brings their unique capability to the fight.

“When you know you’ve worked on some sort of construction project and then you start to see articles about how ‘a weapons system is now flying combat missions,’” said Lt. Col. Tracy Beattie, commander of the 577th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force Squadron, known as the Prime BEEF.

“You know that the only reason they are there is because we’ve built those shelters, we’ve put that matting down, and we got those tents up for them ready to go. We did all that on the timeline they needed.

“That’s the most fulfilling part,” Beattie continued. “Within the civil engineer career field, it is probably the most you will actively effect combat airpower.”

The Airmen of the 1st ECEG’s 577th Expeditionary Prime BEEF Squadron and 557th Expeditionary Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron, known as REDHORSE, actively increase airpower by performing the jobs in the places that other civil engineers can’t.

The 1st ECEG, based out of Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, conducts many of the same functions as a traditional civil engineer unit including ventilation and air conditioning, electrical, power pro, structures, heavy equipment, plumbers, engineering assistants and production control. According to Beattie, what separates them is their “outside-the-wire, over-the-horizon capability.”

Training requirements members of the 1st ECEG must complete are the month-long combat skills training course, which outfits Airmen with the knowledge, skills and proficiency to survive in hostile environments — and the evasion and conduct after capture course, teaching Airmen how to respond to isolation and capture.

“That special training really allows us to go anywhere in the area of operations,” Beattie said. “We have the training to provide support if necessary when outside the wire or if a (Forward Operating Base) is overrun. If we do get taken, we know how to resist and act.”

These Airmen are charged with a distinctive responsibility because of the expense and difficulty of hiring contractors and the inability of traditional civil engineer units to travel to high-risk environments

“We’re essential to CENTCOM’s mission because without us, it may take much longer and may be much more



expensive to find a contractor who's willing to build in the tighter spots and more dangerous areas," said Tech. Sgt. Joshua Plummer, a 577th Prime BEEF water and fuels system maintenance craftsman.

In addition to being a more cost-effective alternative to contractors, the 1st ECEG is capable of shifting manning to reduce expenses, save time and increase productivity.

"Material acquisition can take a long time," Beattie said "So when you're waiting on items to get here, it costs more money to have contractors mobilize back and forth. With us being here, we actually shift our manning as needed to work on various projects if we're waiting on materials."

The two components of the 1st ECEG, the Prime BEEF and REDHORSE, provide different functions based on mission needs. The REDHORSE is a self-sufficient civil engineer response force designed to support contingency and special operations with heavy construction. The Prime BEEF offers a highly-mobile and adaptable emergency response capability providing repairs and light construction.

Though they touch every country within the AOR, the 1st ECEG often works with their CE components at their headquarters here.

"We are AFCENT's construction team outside the wire, but we are also tenants on Al Udeid," Beattie said. "We work very well together with the CE folks here. When they need more manning, we send extra bodies."

According to Plummer, the 1st ECEG's unique mission is also a fulfilling one. "To me, the most rewarding part is being able to see the customer enjoy it right away," Plummer said. "With the 577th, you get to give somebody something they didn't have. If somebody was sleeping in a tent and you construct a building with air conditioning, you're handing them a better life. To me, seeing that with my own eyes is satisfying."



Tech. Sgt. Joshua Plummer, a water and fuels system maintenance craftsman for the 1st Civil Engineer Group's 577th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force

Squadron, welds parts for a shelf at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, May 5, 2018. Separate from traditional civil engineer units, the members of the 1st ECEG perform construction and repair in high-risk environments all across the area of operations.



An Airman from the 1st Civil Engineer Group's 577th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force Squadron does construction work on an F-16 maintenance hangar at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, May 4, 2018.



Airmen from the 1st Civil Engineer Group's 577th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force Squadron do construction work on an F-16 maintenance hangar at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, May 4, 2018. Separate from traditional civil engineer units, the members of the 1st ECEG perform construction and repair in high-risk environments all across the area of operations.



STABLE NOTES AND ASSOCIATION UPDATES:

1. New Articles are always needed: Please send articles concerning RED HORSE and Prime BEEF including photos to Dick Aldinger at famdinger@aol.com or mail to Dick Aldinger, 4088 Floralwood Ct., Orlando, FL 32812. We are especially looking for more Prime BEEF articles in support of our newly combined association.
2. Association Name Change: Having combined the RED HORSE and Prime BEEF groups into one association, our new name is now the **RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association**. Shown is a newly designed cap showing our new association name:
3. RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Website: www.rhassn.us
4. RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association New Mailing Address: P.O Box 572, Bristol, Tenn. 37621
5. Special Note: Please add this newsletter to your Squadron Facebook page or distribute through other social media.
6. RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Membership Information: You can join the REDHORSE / Prime BEEF Association for a mere \$10 for the first year. Have you considered becoming a Life Member? For most of us "old timers" (66 or over) the cost is only \$125 and you are then finished paying dues for life. You help us too in that we do not have to send you reminders for dues and you do not have to worry about them ever again". This is one way that you can keep in touch with what is going on with USAF Civil Engineering Military Engineers today whether it be RED HORSE or Prime BEEF; see page 15 for detailed information and Application Form; send to 208 W City Dam Road, Corbin, KY 40701.
7. Life Pins: We have just received a new supply of Life Pins. If you are a life member and haven't received your pin by December 1st, please let us know.
8. Christmas Social, 15 Dec 2018: The Alumni of the 307th RED HORSE are having their Christmas Social on Saturday, 15 Dec 2018 in Natchitoches, LA. Steve McCutcheon (smccutcheon@att.net) is coordinating the event and is the contact person. The planned site is the Merci Beaucoup restaurant. If planning to spend the night or



9. Deceased Notifications:
Chief Sidney Marshall Whitlow, 820th and 819th RED HORSE, died 11 March 2018 in Las Vegas, NV.

SMSgt (Ret) Bruce Swafford, one of the original members of Prime BEEF in Vietnam, died 21 December 2017 in Hawaii. Bruce was the NCOIC of Prime BEEF Team #1 sent to Vietnam in 1965 as the pacesetter team. Afterwards, 147 additional Prime BEEF teams deployed along with six RED HORSE Squadrons. After his tour in Vietnam Bruce worked tirelessly to improve the capability of all future deployable civil engineering teams. He has been an enthusiastic supporter of the RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association (formerly REDHORSE Association). He has written articles for the AF Civil Engineering Magazine and our own newsletter. He also designed one of our 2017 Challenge Coins. Aloha Bruce!
10. Step and a Half Coins and Hat Pins. The Association would like to thank association member Mr. George Silva for the donation of 70 sets of coins and hat pins that reflect the likeness of the 554th RED HORSE SQ. mascot in Vietnam. Funds from the sale of the coins sets will be used in our association for recruiting efforts.



11. RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Convention/ Reunion: October 8 – 12, 2019. Yes, the rumors are true! The next RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Convention / Reunion will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada in October 2019. Too early to talk much about what is on the agenda but you can be sure your Board of Directors is working on it already. In fact we have just returned from our semi-annual board meeting which was held in Las Vegas; picture of Board Members on page 3.



Participants and guests to the convention will be staying at the Silverton Casino which is located about 15 minutes from the Airport.

The Silverton complex includes, under one roof, many restaurants, lounges, gaming areas, convention space, hotel rooms and pools. The lobby has a 117,000 gallon salt water aquarium containing 150 species of fish and beautiful mermaids.



Aquarium Image by Silverton Casino.com

Activities are being planned for both members and guests which include excursions to Nellis AFB, the Vegas Strip, Hoover Dam and of course a golf tournament. Stay tuned for more details and be sure to mark your calendar.



Hoover Dam image by eaglewingsvacations.wordpress.com

- 12. 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coins and 2017 Convention Coins. Commemorative coins were produced in 2015 to honor the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Prime BEEF and RED HORSE. The 2017 coins were developed for the 2017 Convention. These coins are still available and can be ordered on-line through the REDHORSE Association website at www.rhassn.us, RHA Store, Coins/Pins. The 2015 coins are priced at \$12.00 each or \$22.00 for the set. The 2017 coins, slightly smaller than the 2015 coins, are priced at \$10.00 each or \$19.00 for the set. Although anyone can look in the online store only RH and PB Association members can place an order.

2015 Coin #1



2015 Coin #2



2017 Coin #1



2017 Coin #2



RED HORSE and Prime Beef Association
208 W City Dam Road, Corbin, KY 40701, 606-524-0520
donald.bowker@rhamail.org / www.rhassn.us

Regular or Life Membership: Open to all military members who are or have served in the USAF Civil Engineer field, which includes the ACTIVE, AFRC, and ANG units, or their predecessor service; Aviation Engineer Force and SCARWAF Engineer Force.

Affiliate Membership: Spouses, children, parents or guardians of those persons, who are or were members eligible for membership, shall be eligible.

Associate Membership: Those persons, who do not qualify for regular membership, but have an interest in RED HORSE or Prime BEEF, may be considered for Associate Membership.

Please provide the following contact information:

Name: _____ Title: _____
Street address: _____
Address (cont.): _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Country: _____
Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____
E-mail: _____
Referred by: _____

Please indicate your Unit(s) assigned. Include month and year.

Unit _____ From ___/___ To ___/___ Base _____ Combat tour ___
Unit _____ From ___/___ To ___/___ Base _____ Combat tour ___
Unit _____ From ___/___ To ___/___ Base _____ Combat tour ___
Unit _____ From ___/___ To ___/___ Base _____ Combat tour ___
Unit _____ From ___/___ To ___/___ Base _____ Combat tour ___
Unit _____ From ___/___ To ___/___ Base _____ Combat tour ___
Unit _____ From ___/___ To ___/___ Base _____ Combat tour ___

Please indicate your war era service. (For IRS tax exemption purposes)

___ I was not active military during any war era listed below
___ Apr 06, 1917 to Nov 11, 1918 (World War I)
___ Dec 07, 1941 to Dec 31, 1946 (World War II)
___ Jun 25, 1950 to Jan 31, 1955 (Korean War)
___ Feb 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975 (Vietnam War)
___ Aug 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984 (Lebanon/Grenada)
___ Dec 20, 1989 to Jan 31, 1990 (Panama)
___ Aug 02, 1990 to today (Gulf War/War on Terrorism)

Please indicate the membership or renewal level

___ Regular Membership, Initiation Year \$10
___ Regular Membership, Renewal \$20
___ Affiliate Membership (Dues will be equal to the sponsoring member)
___ Current Active Duty, Initiation Year \$10
___ Current Active Duty, Renewal \$10
___ Life Membership (please use the schedule at the right) \$ _____
___ Renewal to Life Membership, (please use the schedule at the right) \$ _____
I would like to be considered for Associate Membership in the REDHORSE Association
___ Associate Membership, Initiation Year \$20
I would like to renew my Associate Membership in the REDHORSE Association
___ Associate Membership, Renewal \$20

DUES

Regular Membership dues are \$20 per year, except that the initiation year is set at \$10.

Associate Membership dues are \$20 per year.

Active military member dues are \$10 per year as long as they remain active in the military.

Life Memberships:
Age 45 and under - \$250
Age 46 to 55- \$215
Age 56 to 65 - \$180
Age 66 and above - \$125

Applications received on or after August 1st will be credited to the next full year.

Please include your check or money order and mail to the address above.

Circulation Department
701 Center Drive
Palmyra, PA 17078

Return Service Requested

