



RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Newsletter

2023 RHPBA Convention/Reunion, Fort Walton Beach, FL, October 23-27, 2023

Many thanks to all of you who attended and/or supported our Convention/Reunion; the best one yet.
Find recap on page 4 and a sampling of reunion photos starting on page 20.

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Our Wednesday field trip to Tyndall AFB to visit the 801st RED HORSE Training Squadron and their Silver Flag Site.



Former Prime BEEF members at RHPBA banquet; Foreground: Quilts of Valor on display.



From left, photos of alumni members of the 554th RHS, 555th RHS and 556th RHS.



From left, photos of alumni members of the 819th RHS, 820th RHS and 823rd RHS.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE December 2023



First of all, I want to wish everyone a very merry Christmas, a happy New Year and happy holidays! Our Association is looking positive in 2024.

As we look in the rear view, we had an outstanding Convention/Reunion on the beautiful beaches of Ft Walton Beach. We elected new board members that will guide the Association into the future. We had a great visit to the Silver Flag Training Site with the 801st RED HORSE Training Squadron and visited the 'Base of the Future' at Tyndall AFB. The attendees learned what's new in the CE world with visits to the 1st Special Operations Civil Engineer Squadron and the 823rd RED HORSE Squadron at Hurlburt Field. We held a Zoom meeting with several past scholarship winners of our Brigadier General William Meredith Honor Scholarship Program.

A highlight of the Convention/Reunion was an evening show provided by Elvis and his 'Mafia'; an outstanding performance enjoyed by all. Our banquet Thursday evening saw our Quilts of Honor ceremony as well as a great update with Chief Master Sergeant Edward Fitzgerald, the Senior Enlisted Leader at the Air Force Civil Engineer Center. We finished up the week at the Gator Lakes Golf Course and the RHPBA Golf Tournament. All in all, it was AWESOME!



As we shift our focus into 2024, we are starting to plan our 2025 Convention/Reunion in Las Vegas, NV. We are also preparing to advertise, get applicants and award additional Brigadier General William Meredith Honor Scholarship winners. So, if you have family members that are of college/trade school age, be on the lookout.

Lastly, we continue to gather more members and complete our new website. I'd love your help in these last two efforts. Reach out to friends that you served with and let them know about the RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association. I've heard too often from those that say, "I wish I knew about this association sooner!" Our new website is a work in progress and if you have suggestions, please let us know. The RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association is your association!

Again, have a great holiday season!

Engineers ... Lead the Way!
Tony

RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association

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

IT'S UNANIMOUS! 2023 RED HORSE AND PRIME BEEF ASSOCIATION CONVENTION/REUNION WAS EXTRA SPECIAL! (By Dave Corbett)

The 2023 RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association (RHPBA) gathering was one for the books and left an indelible mark in the annals of our history. The event saw participation from members and their spouses hailing from 32 different states. We commenced our journey on October 23rd with registration and a delightful icebreaker. The following Tuesday morning was dedicated to addressing the association's business matters, with updates from the Civil Engineering Center on the RED HORSE and Prime BEEF programs. We also got an up-close look at the clothing and equipment used by RED HORSE and Prime BEEF in their deployments.

Simultaneously, the spouses engaged in their own special event, sewing individual squares that would later be crafted into two beautiful quilts. In the afternoon, we had a meaningful ZOOM call with three of our scholarship recipients who are currently pursuing their college education. Colonel Robert Bartow, Chief of the Air Force Civil Engineer Center Natural Disaster Recovery Division, Tyndall Air Force Base, followed with a briefing on the Tyndall AFB Recovery post Hurricane Michael, emphasizing its role as "The Installation of the Future." A panel discussion about the Gulf War era and lessons learned followed and we capped off the day with a successful Silent Auction. Our evening program featured a special appearance by our very own "Elvis," Kevin Monkman, who regaled us with memories of the '50s and '60s.

Wednesday brought us a bus tour to Tyndall AFB, where we visited the 801st RED HORSE Training Squadron and witnessed their training of Civil Engineering squadrons and others for wartime missions. After a gratifying "burger burn" with the cadre, we explored the new Tyndall Air Force Base, which boasted a mix of completed and ongoing facilities, all in preparation for final completion in 2027. Upon our return to the hotel, some found rest for the weary while others enjoyed a night of karaoke.

Thursday continued our journey with a bus trip to Hurlburt Field. The morning was hosted by the 1st SOCES (Special Operations Civil Engineering Squadron), which provided an enlightening presentation on the role of a Civil Engineering Squadron in the modern world. We then crossed the base to visit the 823rd RED HORSE Squadron for lunch, offering a chance to check out the latest and greatest in contingency equipment, firearms and construction technology. It was also a wonderful opportunity to visit the in-house RED HORSE museum and connect with current squadron members. The afternoon concluded with a promotion ceremony, a special "red hat" ceremony and a very moving retreat ceremony.

Back at the hotel, we had just the right amount of time to prepare for the banquet, a highlight of the event. This year's banquet featured a touching "Quilt of Valor" ceremony, honoring nine members of the original six RED HORSE squadrons and Prime BEEF teams who served in Vietnam or Thailand during the 1966-67 timeframe. An additional twenty quilts were presented to individuals nominated by their friends and family.

Group photos were taken of RED HORSE squadrons, various detachments, and all the Prime BEEF members present. The evening concluded with an inspiring address by CMSGT Edward Fitzgerald, the Senior Enlisted Leader at the Civil Engineering Center.

The week drew to a close on Friday morning with the traditional RHPBA Golf Tournament held at the Gator Lakes Golf Course at Hurlburt, attracting 43 enthusiastic players. Special kudos go to David 'DC' Corbett and the Board of Directors, along with the devoted spouses and sponsors, for orchestrating such a remarkable and successful event. We eagerly look forward to reuniting in Las Vegas in 2025 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of both the RED HORSE and Prime BEEF programs.

Throughout our visit, convention attendees were deeply impressed by the unwavering dedication and exceptional commitment displayed by the RED HORSE and Prime BEEF members, who consistently went above and beyond the call of duty.

USAF RHPBA LADIES QUILTING EVENT, OCTOBER 24, 2023, FT WALTON BEACH QUILTING

Quilts awarded to veterans at our 2023 RHPBA Convention/Reunion, story by Deborah Bowker.



From left to right: 1st Row – Nancy Owen, Carol DeCourt, Christina Corbett, Jeannie Carabajal, Martha Gonzalez, Patrice Petersen, Jill Nelson, Penny Smither, Roberta Poulos, Pam Cooper.

2nd Row – Angel Schauer, Carol Bullock, Monica Guildry, Pam Silva, Sandy McCutcheon, Linda Naumann, Barbara Ouellette, Nancy Stump, Martha Demko, Diane Defoor, Nancy Thurston, Rosalinda Greenfelder, Joyce Olshansky, Maggie Johnson, June Oliver.

3rd Row – Linda Schmidt, Carolyn Jones, Janet Aldinger, Jeaniece Riles, Debbie Bowker.

Absent: Esme Monkman, Kathy Steiner, Jan Cirillo, Yolanda Gonzalez.

The RHPBA ladies really enjoyed making the squares for the Association. We felt that we had achieved something that history will remember. We are looking forward to the 2025 Convention/Reunion.

QUILTS OF VALOR RECEIPIENTS 2023

Story by Deborah Bowker.



The RED HORSE original squadron members are identified below in RED.

Left to Right, 1st Row: Elias Lopez, Tyrone Bullock, Robert McGloughin, **John Burkett**, Dale Thayer, Rosalinda Greenfelder, **Frank Alterman**.

2nd Row: Douglas Owen, William Eves, Jeffery Kametz, **Grady Jones**, Lee Maynard, Stan Irwin, Susanne Waylett, **Floyd Powell**, **Edward Niedzwiecki**, William Smither, **Ted Tedesco**, Daniel Raske, Henry Guildry.

3rd Row: Holt Cartnel, Gil Oliver, Don Bowker SR, Deborah Bowker, Vern Camp, Richard Aldinger, **Ronald Moya**, John Grueter. Robert Gentry is missing due to illness.



Left is **Richard Noakes** with Kathy Steiner, Quilter; Right is Kevin Monkman with Ernest Riles, both presenting their Quilt of Valor by wrapping them around their shoulders.

The Quilts of Valor were presented by the Flying Needles Quilt Guild Group Leader Barbara Ouellette and made to honor and comfort all the living veterans that served during war time. All quilting is done by volunteers through donations. It was a beautiful and heartfelt presentation; everyone was touched deeply. To help other worthy veterans get their quilts, please, send donations to Barbara Ouelette, 819 Holbrook Circle, Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32547. Note: Make out checks to: Flying Needles Quilt Guild Memo - Quilts of Valor. For more information, please contact Deborah Bowker at 606-524-0531. Thank You.

KARAOKE

Karaoke night was loads of fun. We started around 5:45pm and went strong until closing time at 10:00. We sang solos at first and then duets, most of which were made up of men and women; then the whole crowd was singing. Bill Eves also played his harmonica with a solo to Shenandoah. It was beautiful and heartfelt. Lots of people attended and it was a huge success.

RED HORSE MONUMENT

Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, PA:

Contributed by Randy Eckert, Nov 18, 2023.

Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, PA is located just miles from the home of the 201st RED HORSE Squadron. This National Cemetery opened in 1983 and almost from the start the 201st RHS has been doing training projects on these hallowed grounds. Now nearly 40 years later the horsemen, many retired, continue to donate their time to the cemetery keeping the non-government aspects of the cemetery in perfect condition. After all this dedication it is not a stretch for one of the horseman's sons to take on an Eagle Scout project to put a RED HORSE monument here on these perfectly maintained grounds. This is currently the final resting place for 39 Horseman, mostly guardsmen but also active duty.



Maj T. Albright	TSgt P. Bickford	MSgt L. Black
TSgt L. Bond	TSgt R. Burger	TSgt G Chobanoff
TSgt T. Culton	TSgt M Dishong	SSgt G. Ferrebbe
MSgt M. Fritz	TSgt R. Fulk	MSgt E. Fulton
MSgt S. Gerst	SMSgt G. Heblow	SRA K. Humbard
SMSgt H. Kapp	SRA M. Kaufman	SRA S. Knaus
TSgt D. Cozier	TSgt S. Kreider	TSgt L. Krepich
MSgt M. Maiman	SSgt J. Martoccio	MSgt R. McNaughton
CMSgt D. Mendini	MSgt R. Metzinger	TSgt K Murray
MSgt T. Niedzwiecki	TSgt B. Noel	MSgt M. Patt
MSgt L Runkel	TSgt G. Runkel	MSSgt J. Rutter
TSgt R. Sattazahn	MSgt R. Shifflet	SSgt P. Shover
MSgt T. Strangarity	TSgt J. Smith	TSgt J. Zerbe

RHPBA NEWS ITEMS

49TH CIVIL ENGINEERING SQUADRON “DIRT BOYZ” SUPPORT AIRCREW TRAINING MISSION

Published July 19, 2023, DVIDS; U.S. 49th Wing Public Affairs, story and photo by Airman 1st Class Michelle Ferrari.

HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE, NM: The 49th Civil Engineering Squadron “Dirt Boyz” takes a unique approach to environmental stewardship. They showcase their potential for creativity, sustainability, and community-building through innovative projects.

Dirt Boyz is a term of endearment which is said with respect, admiration and distinction throughout the civil engineering career field.

“We do a lot of groundwork from setting up for asphalt, concrete pads, trenching, excavation, digging down flattening, and leveling,” said Airman 1st Class Joshua Feagin, 49th Civil Engineering Squadron pavements and construction equipment apprentice. “We’re called the Dirt Boyz because we use a lot of earth-moving equipment and that’s the biggest reason but mainly we like to play in the dirt. We are all really proud of what we do,” said Feagin. “I wouldn’t want to do anything else in the Air Force.”

One of the most significant impacts of the Dirt Boyz lies in their ability to build communities. Their projects have not only provided shelter but also created spaces for social interaction and cultural exchange. By involving local communities in the construction process, the Dirt Boyz have empowered individuals, fostering a sense of ownership and pride in their surroundings. These projects have become catalysts for change, promoting unity, resilience, and a shared vision for a sustainable future.

“People may not know all of what our job entails so they may have a misconception about our career field,” said Staff Sgt. Bobby Hill, 49th CES pavements and equipment supervisor. “A lot of jobs we do to help create communities consist of getting out of the heavy equipment and doing manual labor like swinging a sledgehammer or using a shovel pickaxe.”

Dirt Boyz demonstrate the versatility of building material by creating sustainable structures such as houses, schools, and community centers utilizing locally sourced dirt. They have not only reduced construction costs, but promoted the use of eco-friendly materials, minimizing the carbon footprint associated with traditional construction methods.

The Dirt Boyz are highly trained and skilled engineers, technicians, and craftsmen who possess determination in various construction disciplines. Their primary objective is to ensure that airfields and infrastructure are operational, safe, and capable of supporting aircraft and personnel.

“Nothing gets done in this space without Dirt Boyz,” said Hill. “We operate everything from pan tools, shovels, sledgehammers, K12 saws, backhoes, loaders, graders, water trucks, airflow sweepers, cranes, dozers, every kind of heavy construction equipment you can think of, we operate.”



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Alonzo Marquez uses a chainsaw to remove debris of a fallen tree at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, June 29, 2023. The 49th CES “Dirt Boyz” Airmen are responsible for maintaining Holloman’s infrastructure by using a variety of tools to complete construction projects.

One of the key responsibilities of the Dirt Boyz is airfield damage repair. In times of conflict, natural disasters, or emergencies, airfields may be subject to damage that can hinder operations. The Dirt Boyz are trained to rapidly assess and repair runways, taxiways, and other critical infrastructure to restore airfield functionality. Their ability to respond swiftly and efficiently is crucial in maintaining air superiority and enabling the rapid deployment of forces.

In addition to airfield repairs, the Dirt Boyz also play a vital role in constructing and maintaining expeditionary air bases. These bases are often established in remote deployed locations where there may be limited existing infrastructure. When these projects are finalized, the RED HORSE Dirt Boyz take on civil engineering jobs to the base.

“As a RED HORSE, everywhere we went people were generally happy to see us,” said Tech. Sgt. Alonzo Marquez, 49th CES pavements and construction equipment noncommissioned officer in charge. “If you were there struggling to live life on a deployed location and a Dirt Boy came to town, you immediately knew that life was about to get better at that location.”

The work of the Dirt Boyz requires not only technical skills but also strong teamwork and adaptability. They often work in demanding conditions, including remote locations, harsh climates, and high-stress environments.

Their ability to collaborate effectively, problem-solve on the fly, and work under pressure is essential to their success.

“There is a sense of pride amongst us that we do what we do for each other and that’s what makes this less of a job and more of a colony,” said Marquez. “It’s about the people. There’s nothing more prideful to a dirt boy at the end of the day than dirty hands and a sweaty, soaked t-shirt. That’s our trophy at the end of the day.”



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jacquetz Craddieth, left, and Senior Airman Eric Wheeler, 49th Civil Engineer Squadron pavement and construction equipment journeymen, utilize a K-12 concrete saw to repair a runway at Holloman Air Force Base.



Airmen from the 49th Civil Engineer Squadron perform airway pavement repair. The 49th CES pavement and construction Airmen are often referred to as “Dirt Boyz” for their constant interaction with various heavy construction equipment and hand tools used to repair and maintain Holloman’s roads, airfields, fences and drainage systems.



U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Aaron Escoto, left, and U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Jorge Capistran, 49th Civil Engineer Squadron pavement and construction equipment journeymen, inspect sealant installed during a previous pavement repair at Holloman Air Force Base.

“The Dirt Boyz are integral to every job on base,” said Staff Sgt. Nicholas Steding, 819th RHS pavements and construction equipment craftsman. “No matter what you do, pavement and heavy equipment operators will be the foundation and that will never change.”

556TH, 560TH AND 567TH RED HORSE SQUADRONS AID ANDERSEN IN TYPHOON MAWAR RECOVERY

Published July 28, 2023 by Senior Airman Akeem K. Campbell, 36th Wing Public Affairs from Pacific Air Forces, an official website of the U.S. Government. U.S Air Force photos by Senior Airman Akeem K. Campbell.

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam: Following the wake of Typhoon Mawar, members from 556th, 560th and 567th RED HORSE from the 622nd Civil Engineer Group, under Air Force Reserve Command, assigned to Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Marietta Georgia, sent more than a dozen Airmen, June 10, 2023, to provide assistance to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, and the local community.

Typhoon Mawar was a Category 4 storm that caused significant damage to the island, May 24, 2023. “Our initial mission was to construct munitions support pads, but after Typhoon Mawar occurred we pivoted our mission to backfill Andersen AFB active duty 554th RED HORSE, enabling them to conduct Task Force RISEUP,” said U.S. Air Force Maj. Lawrence Shemetulskis, the deputy director of operations with the 556th RED HORSE assigned to Hurlburt Field, Florida.



U.S. Air Force Maj. Lawrence Shemetulskis, 556th RED HORSE Engineer, Hurlburt Field, Florida, deputy director of operations, poses for a photo with a group of Airmen from the visiting RED HORSE of the 622nd Civil Engineer Group, under Air Force Reserve Command, assigned to Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Marietta, Georgia, at the Pacific Regional Training Center – Andersen, Guam, July 13, 2023.

Task Force RISEUP is short for Roofing Installation Support Emergency Utilization Program. The program was created to assist local families with homes that needed metal roof repairs after sustaining serious damage from the typhoon back in May.

While at Andersen AFB, Airmen from the 556th, 560th and 567th RED HORSE assisted with base cleanup and specific tasks. They cleared and repurposed 56 Andersen Elementary School rooms resulting in the integration of 120 children dislocated from the closure of the Child Development Center.

“The weather was interesting,” said U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Juan Moreno a structures shop craftsman with the 560th RED HORSE, assigned to Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina.



“When we started doing the clean-up, we thought it was going to be just clean sunshine, but when we started it actually poured down on us, we were soaked from head to toe. The weather was challenging, but it didn’t stop us. It only meant that we had to do things a little more deliberately.” Despite the challenges and circumstances, this mission did provide its benefits.



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. William Harman, 36th Logistics Readiness Squadron operation superintendent, uses a compact track loader to lift tree roots.



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Daniel Solorzano-Ortega, 560th RED HORSE Engineer, Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, pavements and construction apprentice, along with Senior Airman Dawn Clayborne, 567th RED HORSE, Seymour Johnson, North Carolina, engineering apprentice, and Senior Airman Tyrus Singleton, 560th RED HORSE, pavements and construction journeyman, pick up a large tree branch.



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Raymon Charron, 560th RED HORSE, Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, pavements and equipment noncommissioned officer in charge, uses a backpack air blower on remaining debris.

“I think it’s been a good opportunity to just network amongst each other across the units,” said Senior Airman Matthew Garcia, 556th RED HORSE pavements and equipment apprentice. “I also think it was a good opportunity to show what the Air Force Reserve side has to offer as well as help the people here in Guam and helping to get the mission back to where it needs to be.”

The base recovery efforts are ongoing, but once completed the 556th, 560th and 567th RED HORSE will pivot back to their original mission. “That’s what we do,” Shemetulskis said. “We come together as a total force and help one another, we bring total force integration because that is how we’re going to fight.”

Airmen from the visiting RED HORSE of the 622nd Civil Engineer Group, cleared 178 tons of debris including the removal of 16 trees and demolished two 1575 sq. ft. Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) support shelters.

With the assistance of the visiting RED HORSE from the 622nd Civil Engineer Group, 554th RED HORSE was able to conduct the Task Force Roofing Installation Support Emergency Utilization Program.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Kevin Vincent, 567th RED HORSE Engineer, Seymour Johnson, North Carolina, pavements and equipment journeyman, uses a chainsaw to cut tree branches.

REFLECT, REIMAGINE, REINVEST 2023 INDO-PACIFIC UNITY ALLIES AND PARTNERS ENGINEER SUMMIT

Story provided by DVIDS. Courtesy Photos by USAF Headquarters Air Force, August 10, 2023, Office of the Director of Civil Engineers (HAF/A4C) Strategic.

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, GUAM: U.S. Air Force Civil Engineer allies and partners traveled to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, said Lt. Colonel Gavin Brost, 554th RED HORSE Commander to participate in the 2023 Indo-Pacific Unity Allies and Partners Engineer Summit consisting of a Silver Flag Training Exercise, August 7-11, 2023, and Key Leader Engagement, August 9-11, 2023.

Allies and partners in attendance included Australia, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and the United Kingdom.



Indo-Pacific Unity Allies and Partners Engineer Summit participants gather for a group photo on Friday, August 11th 2023, at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. The engagement provided a forum for allied and partnered engineers to exchange views, create professional relationships, enhance partner capacity, promote regional stability, and increase engineer interoperability throughout the theater.

Hosted by U.S. Pacific Air Forces, this summit brought together nearly 150 engineers comprised of allies and partners as well as U.S. Air Force, Navy Seabees, Army, and Marine Corps. The summit provided a forum to exchange views, create professional relationships, enhance partner capacity, promote regional stability, and increase engineer interoperability throughout the theater.

Forums like this offer a rare opportunity for collaboration. The ultimate intent is to build a stronger partnership and enhance our understanding of each other's engineering capabilities. "I hope our Indo-Pacific allies and partners will walk away reflecting on the camaraderie and collaboration they experienced this week, reimagine how we can increase joint interoperability based on each of our unique capabilities, and then reinvest those learning objectives into the future force," said Colonel Kevin Osborne, PACAF Command Civil Engineer.



Col Kevin Osborne, PACAF Command Civil Engineer, briefs participants at the Indo-Pacific Unity Allies and Partners Engineer Summit Key Leader Engagement.

At Silver Flag Guam, the 554th RED HORSE Squadron assisted allies and partners in hands-on activities focused on Command and Control, Rapid Airfield Damage Assessment Surveys, Rapid Explosive Hazard Mitigation, and Airfield Damage Repair.



Airmen representing the Indonesian Air Force, Republic of Singapore Air Force, and Japan Air Self Defense Force participate in the Silver Flag exercise alongside 554th RED HORSE cadre.

"It is important to share our knowledge and capabilities with our allies and partners. I am confident that they will leave here with new skills in hand and a renewed sense of pride in the criticality of their mission space," said Lt. Colonel Gavin Brost, 554th RED HORSE Commander.

During the Key Leader Engagement, the same focus endured. Briefings covered Airfield Damage Recovery, Agile Combat Employment, U.S. Air Force programs, and ally and partner capabilities from all those in attendance. One highlight from the engagement was an afternoon of "speed networking." This included 33 separate bi-lateral discussions where command engineers were afforded the opportunity to meet directly with their counterparts from other allies and partners in attendance.

Hoping to establish a full range of connections with operational partners from this engagement, Wing Commander Paul Howell, Royal Australian Air Force, said he enjoyed learning about how participants approach techniques for airfield repair. "This is critical, especially when Australia is talking about operating across a wide variety of environments," he noted.

The capstone event of the summit was the 356th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Group activation ceremony. The historic ceremony marked the first Expeditionary Civil Engineer Group activation since World War II and the first activation in the Pacific theatre. After the ceremony, ally and partner leaders joined their Airmen at the Silver Flag site to observe their newly acquired skills.

Concluding the summit with the same way he began, Colonel Kevin Osborne left attendees with three words to ponder. "As leaders, we are charged to train the next generation of leaders to continue what we have started, so I will leave you with the same three words we started the summit with. Wherever you are in the world, remember: Reflect, Reimagine, Reinvest."

Silver Flag provided an opportunity for engineers to discuss expeditionary base resiliency concepts and share best practices to ensure airfields can support, launch, and recover aircraft.



Navy Seabees work alongside Royal Australian Air Force and Republic of Singapore Air Force Airmen for the airfield damage repair exercise.



Airmen representing the Indonesian Air Force, Republic of Singapore Air Force, and Japan Air Self Defense Force participate in the Silver Flag exercise alongside the 554th.

PACIFIC AIR FORCES STAND UP 356TH EXPEDITIONARY CIVIL ENGINEER GROUP

Published August 21, 2023, courtesy story from DVIDS, photos by Airman 1st Class Joshua Hastings, Headquarters Air Force, Office of the Director of Civil Engineers.

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam: Air Force Civil Engineers have yet again answered the call to deliver engineer support capability by standing up the 356th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Group (ECEG) at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. The activation of the 356 ECEG was marked by a ceremony on August 11, 2023.

Established by the Pacific Air Forces Commander, the 356th ECEG will have two subordinate squadrons, the 356th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force Squadron and the 513th Expeditionary RED HORSE Squadron, as an echelon-above-wing organization to operate in a hub and spoke method.

The 356th ECEG will support all PACAF engineer requirements across the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, execute theater campaign operations, and activities and investments through the theater security cooperation program by working with allies and partners. As a Direct Reporting Unit to PACAF, and in partnership with the Numbered Air Forces, Joint Region Marianas, and the 36th Wing, the ECEG will help posture the theater for Pacific Deterrence Initiative and Agile Combat Employment operations.

The 356th ECEG is a new designation of the previously inactivated 356th Combat Support Group which saw action at Nakhon Phanom Airfield, Thailand, in 1975. Comprised of Active Duty, Air Force Reserve, and Air National Guard Airmen who are part of either the Expeditionary RED HORSE Squadron, or the Expeditionary Prime BEEF Squadron, the mission of ECEG is to build combat projection platforms and deliver integrated base response recovery capabilities.

"The 356th ECEG is committed to deliver direct engineer support capability to the United States Pacific Air Force," said Colonel Kenneth Joseph, 356th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Group Commander.

The 356th ECEG is the first theater engineer group assigned to the Indo-Pacific in support of U.S. Air Forces since World War II when the 927th Engineer Aviation Regiment was established on Guam to support the U.S. Army Air Corps. The 927th EAR had two subordinate battalions under its command, the 803rd Engineer Aviation Battalion and 804th Engineer Aviation Battalion, who were responsible for the restoration, construction, and sustainment of critical infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific Theater.



Air Force civil engineers enhanced their capability throughout the Pacific region by standing up the 356th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Group (ECEG) at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, on August 11, 2023. In attendance were Air Force allies and partners representing Australia, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and the United Kingdom.

The Engineer Aviation Battalions proved the air forces required their own organic capability during World War II which paved the way for the birth of the United States Air Force in 1947. U.S. Air Force Engineers were built on a legacy and are engineering for the future. The 356 ECEG continues that legacy in the Pacific and joins a proud heritage.

AIR FORCE RESERVE AND ACTIVE DUTY UNITS TEAM UP TO JUMP-START ALASKA BASE ELECTRICAL PROJECT

Published August 21, 2023, Minneapolis-St. Paul Air Reserve Station, an official website of the United States government; story and photos by Senior Airman Matthew Reisdorf, 934th Airlift Wing Public Affairs.

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska: Watching out for bears and working in between the crazy winters, 60 Airmen from the 934th Civil Engineering Squadron recently traveled here to work on the upgrade of an electrical system at a training site named Camp Mad Bull. The 934th Airlift Wing, also known as the "Global Vikings," is Minnesota's only Air Force Reserve unit.

"Camp Mad Bull is highly correlated to the 1980's identity of the Prime BEEF (Base Engineer Emergency Force) teams of civil engineers," said Lt. Col. Natalie Chounet, the 773rd Civil Engineering Squadron commander. "The project that the 934th AW civil engineers are helping out with is a high voltage electrical and extension project."

Prime BEEF training involves a group of engineers providing a full range of support and maintaining a project or site's structural needs, Chounet said. Additionally, this training increases CES readiness in an austere environment priming them for deployments to hostile environments.

The training that the 934th CES engineers received from the project was invaluable. Due to the unique weather and the location of Camp Mad Bull, there was a training necessity for equipment that the 934th CES engineers don't regularly use. "The training we are getting up here is fantastic," said Master Sgt. Kyle Sunne, 934th CES electrical supervisor. "We have got young heavy equipment operators that have not had the opportunity to sit in an excavator and rip open a trench or electrician to stand up a power pole."



Senior Airman Hunter Olson, a 934th Airlift Wing Civil Engineering Squadron engineering apprentice, operates heavy machinery.

The work that the 934 CES engineers did served two different functions. Not only will it lay the foundation for future workers at the site, but the experience also enhanced the training for the Airmen to be ready for future battles that may lie ahead.

“The way the world is shifting right now is to multi-capable Airmen,” Sunne said. “This will benefit them in the long run. It’s taking guys who have not gotten to run heavy equipment or install an overhead system before and teaching them a new skill.”

The 934 CES upgrades on Camp Mad Bull will have a rippling effect benefiting other military branches and opening up more avenues for training. “Being here at JBER, especially with the nature of how joint bases operate, we will see increased training opportunities not only for the Air Force and Army, but also for any units here,” Chounet said. “This is kind of the premier training area for all of the units in Alaska.”

The 934th CES’ dependable reputation was the reason for this project collaboration. Sunne said a past active duty friend reached out for help from the 934th CES because of their reputation for having outstanding electricians. He asked Sunne if they would be interested in making the over 3000-mile journey, and the rest is history.



Tech Sgt. Andrew Brinza, a 934th Airlift Wing Civil Engineering Squadron structures craftsman, removes the dirt off of heavy machinery during the upgrade of Camp Mad Bull’s electrical system at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, on Aug. 9, 2023.

The 934th CES had to consider Alaska’s weather when planning this mission. Alaska has four to five months of habitable construction because of the state’s cold weather. This mission consideration will lead to the successful upgrade of the electrical systems at Camp Mad Bull before the 934th CES leave in late September.

“The big picture with this project is to provide a training site for JBER,” Sunne said. “The field conditions up here during the winter are perfect for training service members for arctic conditions.”



Tech Sgt. Andrew Brinza, directs his crew.

Even though Alaska may be icy and dark part of the year, the JBER locale is different from most bases. There is no place in the world that can be compared to it, Chounet said.

“It’s a unique place that is hard to describe if you haven’t actually experienced it,” she said. “It is a really beautiful state, there are great people here. It’s always interesting to see how the airfield never stops.”



Staff Sgt. Ben Miller, a 934th Airlift Wing Civil Engineering Squadron pavement equipment operator.

The 934th AW CES was at the site for over two months in a series of three different rotations to effectively complete the mission.

“Everybody was fully supportive of the project,” Sunne said. “Three months later, we took a trip up here to look at the site, and we confirmed that we would love to send our guys up here. To be able to get up here and actually put a shovel in the ground is pretty fantastic.”

The communication flowed smoothly and regularly between the 934th CES and the 773th CES, which was the integral reason that the project was able to be completed in an efficient manner.

“The first learning point that I had with executing this project is you can find ways to have a total force solution integrated to executing the project,” Chounet said. “The communication has been frequent, positive, and everyone is looking to make sure this project is left as a success.”

Prime BEEF training involves a group of engineers providing a full range of support and maintaining a project or site's structural needs, Chounet said. Additionally, this training increases CES readiness in an austere environment priming them for deployments to hostile environments.



Senior Airman Nathan Smith, a 934th Airlift Wing Civil Engineering Squadron engineering journeyman, backfills a trench.

TWIN INSTRUCTORS HAVE STUDENTS SEEING DOUBLE

Posted Tuesday, August 29, 2023, AFIT (Air Force Institute of Technology), US Air Force photos and CE weekly submission by Ms. Katie Scott.

AIR FORCE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY: WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OH: Identical twins, Captains Connor and Kyle Egbert, serve as pavement instructors at the Air Force Institute of Technology's Civil Engineer School.

Twin brothers Connor and Kyle Egbert share a bond as strong as concrete. Which is appropriate, considering they are both pavement instructors at the Air Force Institute of Technology's Civil Engineer School and self-described "pavement nerds".



Their love of pavements stems from a materials science lab at Clemson University during their undergraduate studies where they mixed concrete for the first time.

"We studied the science behind the different properties of concrete compared to other construction materials like wood and steel," recalled Kyle. "It was so much fun."

Following graduation from Clemson with Bachelor's degrees in Civil Engineering, the brothers commissioned and came to the CE School for the Air Force Civil Engineer Basic Course. After earning the Civil Engineer badge, Connor went to Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, joining the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Kyle was assigned to the 22nd Civil Engineer Squadron at McConnell AFB, Kansas.

Their first assignments marked the start of the longest period of time the brothers had ever been apart. The six-year separation ended when Connor joined his brother as an instructor at the CE School in June 2023. Kyle had been at the school since December 2021 and was thrilled to have his brother join him. "It's pretty unique in our Air Force careers to have this opportunity to be together," said Connor. "It's been awesome because we thought maybe the only time it would even be possible is if we both stayed in long enough to make lieutenant colonel. There are a couple civil engineer groups where we imagined being squadron commanders together ten years from now."

"Luck just fell in our favor," added Kyle. "The stars aligned that the position opened up the same time I was here."

Connor was notified that he was selected to be an instructor at AFIT while he was a student in his brother's pavement course. "I wanted to be a student in the course to give me a better understanding of the student experience so I could hopefully be a better instructor," said Connor. Having his brother as a student also helped Kyle improve as an instructor.

"Feedback is a big thing for instructors and I know that if I ask him how to improve the course, he's going to give me a very honest and blunt answer," said Kyle. "Plus, he is looking at it from a potential instructor's perspective to see if it makes sense to teach a topic a certain way."

The brothers wanted to be instructors at AFIT for the opportunity to teach and research a topic that they are passionate about, as well as serve as mentors for the next generation of CE officers.

"Captain, now Major, Ryan Hill was our course director for Management 101 and is still one of our mentors to this day," said Kyle. "We learned so much from him and wanted to give back to the community in the same way. I love having that role for young CGOs now."

"With us being mid-level captains now, we want to be somebody that lieutenants or other captains can go to with questions," added Connor. "We were answering questions just the other day from a previous student who had some pavement questions. Having the opportunity to mentor and help others is really important for both of us."



Capt. Connor Egbert, center, Air Force Institute of Technology Civil Engineer School pavement instructor discusses materials properties with students Derek Probstfeld, left, and Jamie Sawyer, right.

The Egbert twins bring complimentary experience to the instructor role having served as airfield evaluators and project managers in vastly different climates; Connor was stationed at Eielson Air Force Base in Alaska while Kyle was deployed to Qatar.

“Alaska summers are generally pretty mild compared to the Middle East,” said Connor. “But the winters can get down to minus-40 or minus-50 degrees, which presents a lot of unique challenges for pavements. So I have that experience of evaluating and designing things differently because of the thermal distress and related maintenance requirements of cold weather.”

Kyle deployed as the airfield pavement evaluation officer in charge of an expeditionary civil engineer group based out of Qatar, where he traveled to seven countries across the Middle East to perform evaluations on different airfields.

“I traveled to Syria and evaluated soil surfaced landing zones as well, which was very rewarding and a unique opportunity that was really eye opening for me,” said Kyle.

Identical twins who are Air Force officers in the same career field and now have the same job may have people seeing double.



Capt. Kyle Egbert, AFIT pavement instructor, teaching a section of WENG 550 - Airfield Pavement Design and Maintenance.

“We’re basically the same person,” said Kyle. “We have all the same likes and interests. Our favorite movies are the same and favorite foods are generally the same. We finish each other’s sentences, all the typical twin stuff.” “The biggest difference between us is that Kyle is probably more extroverted than I am,” said Connor who is older by two minutes. “But Connor is definitely smarter than me,” added Kyle. “He definitely always got better grades than I did.”

Raised in Charleston, South Carolina, serving in the Air Force runs in the family. Their father is a retired lieutenant colonel who worked as civil engineer on active and reserve duty, and their older sister serves in the Air Force as a pediatrician. She completed her residency at Wright-Patterson AFB and was preparing to move to MacDill AFB, Florida, just as Connor arrived in Ohio. “I was really jealous for that year that she and Kyle were at Wright-Patt together hanging out and I was up in Alaska freezing and four hours behind,” recalled Connor.

819TH RHS DEDICATES FTX SITE TO “FATHER OF RED HORSE”

Published August 29, 2023, by Senior Airman Mary Bowers, 341st Missile Wing Public Affairs, Malmstrom Air Force Base. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Mary Bowers.

MALMSTROM AIR FORCE BASE, Mont.: Lt. Col. Justin Delorit, 819th RED HORSE Squadron commander, shakes hands with Chief Master Sgt. Nathan Laidlaw, 819th RHS senior enlisted leader, in front of the newly dedicated field training exercise site at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana, August 18, 2023. The site was dedicated to Brig. Gen. William Meredith, who is referred to as the "Father of RED HORSE" after beginning a series of assignments in the 1960's, in which he was primarily concerned with restructuring civil engineering organizations to adequately fulfill their mission of direct combat support.



Lt. Col. Justin Delorit, 819th RED HORSE Squadron commander, with Chief Master Sgt. Nathan Laidlaw, 819th RHS senior enlisted leader.

TYNDALL CELEBRATES THE OPENING OF FOUR NEW FIRE FACILITIES

Published Oct 2,, 2023. Story and U.S. Air Force photos by Venessa Armenta, Tyndall Air Force Base Public Affairs.

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FL: Team Tyndall celebrated the construction of four fire facilities, Sept. 27, 2023, at Tyndall Air Force Base.

The four new facilities are the first buildings to be completed and officially transferred from contractors to the U.S. Air Force since the base was devastated by Hurricane Michael almost five years ago.

The 325th Civil Engineer Squadron and the 801st RED HORSE Training Squadron, held separate ceremonies to mark these monumental milestones.

“Completing these buildings provides the unit with permanent operational facilities, purposely designed to enhance their training efforts and withstand future storms,” explained Col. Robert Bartlow, Air Force Civil Engineer Center natural disaster recovery division chief. “These facilities are constructed to withstand 165 mph winds and built above the projected storm surge levels.”

The day began with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new 801st RHTS fire contingency training facility, one of three reconstructed structures completed for the unit. The other two buildings are a vehicle maintenance facility and a heavy equipment storage hangar.

“These facilities will help to extend the life span of our vehicles by protecting them from the elements,” explained Master Sgt. Dennis Scott, 801st RHTS fire contingency training section chief. “As I walked through the buildings, I notice the new technology that has been implemented and I know it will help make our processes more efficient.”

Later in the day, the 325th CES fire department held a decoupling ceremony at Fire Station #2 to symbolize the station becoming home to the unit and its members.

“This is a momentous occasion for the fire department. Hurricane Michael ravaged our previous fire stations, which left our personnel and emergency vehicles without a secure shelter for five years,” said Kevin Remedies, 325th CES fire chief. “Firefighters spend as much time at a station as they do at home, so Fire Station #2 and future stations will provide the quality of life these brave men and women deserve.”

The 13,480 square-foot station includes a new alerting system, ten bunk rooms, a full kitchen, and fitness area along with many other quality-of-life amenities. The garage consists of a three-bay vehicle garage, where Tyndall’s first ladder truck will soon be housed.

“I want to express my gratitude to all those who have contributed to making this day a reality,” said Col. George Watkins, 325th Fighter Wing commander. “From the architects and construction teams to our tireless firefighters and the entire Tyndall community.”



U.S. Air Force Col. George Watkins, 325th Fighter Wing commander, left, and Kevin Remedies, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron fire chief, right, detach a fire hose during a decoupling ceremony of Fire Station #2 at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, September 27, 2023. The ceremony celebrates the rebuild completion of Fire Station #2.



Ceremonial hoses are connected in front of the vehicle bays of the new 325th Civil Engineer Squadron’s Fire Station #2 facility before the start of a decoupling ceremony. The ceremony symbolizes the station becoming home for the department and its first responders.



Col. George Watkins, 325th Fighter Wing commander, middle left, shakes hands with Maj. Freddie Stephens, 801st RED HORSE Training Squadron commander, middle right, after cutting the ribbon for the new fire contingency training facility. The facility will house the 801st RHTS and is one of three newly constructed squadron facilities.



The 325th Civil Engineer Squadron's emergency response vehicles sit idle in the new Fire Station #2 at Tyndall. The station is the first building to be reconstructed after devastating damage from Hurricane Michael in 2018.



A newly constructed overhang facility, used to store heavy equipment for the 801st RED HORSE Training Squadron, sits ready for daily operations at Tyndall Air Force Base. The squadron requires heavy equipment like bulldozers to practice repairing a runway during simulated training exercises.



The fire contingency training facility nears completion at Tyndall. The facility will house the 801st RED HORSE Training Squadron and their emergency response vehicles, used to train members across the Department of Defense.

OUTSTANDING AIRMEN OF THE YEAR: BECOMING TOMORROW'S DAF AMBASSADORS TODAY

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs and published August 31, 2023 by Air and Space Magazine; also published Sept 5, 2023 by Patrick Reardon; USAF photos.

NATIONAL HARBOR, Maryland: The Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen for 2023 were recognized and honored during the Air and Space Forces Association's Air, Space and Cyber Conference September 9-13. The winners are authorized to wear the Outstanding Airman of the Year Ribbon with the bronze service star device on the ribbon. They are also authorized to wear the OAY badge for one year from the date of formal presentation. The Airmen were selected based on their leadership, job performance and personal achievement.



Left to right: Senior Master Sgt. Justin Cruz; Tech Sgt. Kimberly Mastrocola; Senior Master Sgt. Sedrick Evans; Tech Sgt. Theodore Sesibe; Master Sgt. Michael Galindo; Staff Sgt. Dhruva Polurau; Tech Sgt. Jennel Edwards; Senior Airman Ryan Hospelhorn; Tech Sgt. Michelle Fernandez; Tech Sgt. Micaela Mahan; Senior Airman Kostiantyn Khymchenko; Senior Airman Jacob Tawasha.

THREE OF THE OUTSTANDING AIRMEN ARE CIVIL ENGINEERS: Highlights of their careers, provided by Air & Space Forces Magazine, are featured below.

- Senior Master Sergeant Justin S. Cruz, Air Force Materiel Command
- Senior Airman Kostiantyn Khymchenko, Air Combat Command
- Technical Sergeant Theodore M. Sebsibe, Air Force District of Washington

SMSGT JUSTIN S. CRUZ, Superintendent, Operations Flight; 21st Civil Engineer Squadron, Space Base Delta 1, Peterson SFB, Colorado, SpOC (Airmen Supporting Space Force); Home of Record: Vilonia, Arkansas.



Senior Master Sgt. Justin Cruz (photo by Senior Airman Brooke Wise/USSF).

Cruz showcased leadership skills by overseeing his base's largest flight. He executed a \$7.6 million budget and 18 service contracts to sustain over 1,000 acres and 205 facilities valued at \$2 billion.

While deployed in support of Operations Inherent Resolve and Spartan Shield, Cruz led a 25 joint-member team to reconstitute bare-base assets and provide reliable power for 340 new living quarters. Additionally, he and his team created an innovative corrosion-control solution for the command's sole Battle Airborne Communications Node aircraft. His leadership drove a \$3 million project to construct the site for the first Air Force owned "Coyote" weapon system, which helped protect six weapon system platforms valued at over \$200 million against unmanned aerial attacks.

SRA KOSTIANTYN KHYMCHENKO, HVAC Journeyman, 633rd Civil Engineer Squadron (ACC), Home of Record: Langley AFB, VA.



Senior Airman Kostiantyn Khymchenko, (USAF photo).

Khymchenko was selected for deployment to Germany in support of Operation ATLAS GUARDIAN and awarded an Air Force Commendation Medal. He led eight translators in 50 multinational teleconferences and advised four general officers on partner-nation air defense. He translated over 30 tactical maps and transmissions from Russia, intel which provided Ukraine with the location of over 400 sites and 1,500 real-time missile launch alerts.

His actions increased the survivability of 40 aircraft, \$2 billion in assets, and 8 million lives. For his efforts, Khymchenko was presented the Ukraine Support Medal by the Ukrainian Minister of Defense and coined by Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force and Secretary of the Air Force.

He was also named wing Airman of the Quarter for the second quarter of 2022 for his role in leading 12 engineers to complete 742 jobs and 36 emergencies, including the protection of a \$10 million ISR server farm at Langley Air Force Base, Va., earning himself a COMACC (Commander of Air Combat Command) coin.

TSGT THEODORE M. SEBSIBE, Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of the Electrical Systems Section, 316th Civil Engineer Squadron, Joint Base Andrews, MD. (AFDW); Home of Record: Clinton, MD.



Tech Sgt. Theodore Sebsibe. (Tech Sgt. Devin Boyer)

Sebsibe leads two sections and 35 engineers, and is responsible for directing continuous maintenance and upgrades for the electrical distribution system supporting 512 facilities worth \$5.6 billion and 26,000 personnel, which earned him a coin from the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman. He also serves as the Commander's Inspection Program administrator—where he leads 12 Air Force Specialty Codes, 456 engineers, and 955 items which was key to achieving a 97 percent compliance rate and receiving the Inspector General Recognition as Superior Performer during the 2022 Unit Effectiveness Inspection. He was the command team's first choice to fill in for 60 days as the Civil Engineer Squadron first sergeant, supporting a 504-person squadron, executing five PME seminars, advising the squadron commander through 24 administrative actions, and resolving 26 family advocacy cases.

US AIR FORCE, CANADIAN ARMED FORCES FIREFIGHTERS CONDUCT JOINT TRAINING

Published October 31, 2023, story and photos by Emily Mifsud, AFIMSC Public Affairs.

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FL: Firefighters from the Canadian Armed Forces are evaluating results of a recent proof-of-concept joint training with Department of the Air Force firefighters at the Silver Flag exercise site on Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, in mid-October.

The Air Force Civil Engineer Center, in partnership with members of the 801st RED HORSE Training Squadron, developed a curriculum for the proof-of-concept training and provided the facilities and equipment to help the Canadian firefighters meet annual firefighting certification requirements.



Firefighters from the Canadian Armed Forces and firefighters from the 801st RED HORSE Squadron pose for a group photo during the first proof-of-concept training at the Silver Flag Training Site at Tyndall Air Force Base, FL.

One of the AFCEC Fire Emergency Services Division team's primary missions is to develop training curricula and tactics, techniques and procedures for Department of the Air Force firefighters. The 801 RHTS operates the Silver Flag site, which is the largest combat support training location in the Air Force.

“Once upon a time, we had these capabilities but we’re still working to get our training facilities built back up,” said Capt. Peter Kearley, chief instructor of Canadian Forces Fire and CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) Academy. “We don’t have these pieces now and the opportunity to train at Silver Flag is filling that gap.”

Alongside the RED HORSE cadre, 12 members of the CAF participated in the training which recreated real-life scenarios so participants could learn the proper techniques and procedures for extinguishing fires and conducting emergency rescue operations.

The longtime first-responder allies frequently work together, so this training opportunity helped strengthen relationships and align capabilities.

“We were able to share strategies and tactics and see how standard operating procedures for firefighting up north compare to our procedures,” said SMSgt. Jesse Marshall, AFCEC fire and emergency services force development manager. “When we deploy together down range, this integrated training will help the future fight since we will already have that relationship built, so there is a common understanding of positions and tactics to effectively mitigate any emergency effectively.”

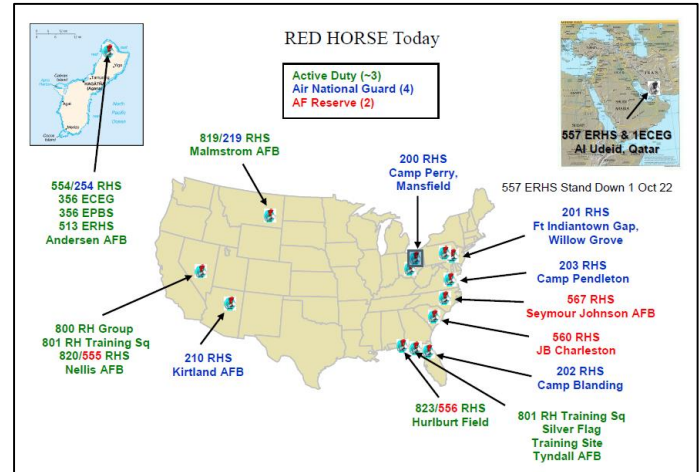
The two countries’ teams will evaluate the training and review lessons learned to determine if it can provide a beneficial and sustainable option for CAF firefighters to meet their annual training requirements.



Canadian Armed Forces firefighters join the 801st RHS for a hand line operation exercise.

RED HORSE SQUADRONS

Present and Past:



Did you know that the Air Force’s Heavy Construction Units were not always known as RED HORSE?

1965	Civil Engineering Squadron (Heavy Repair)
15 Oct 1969	All units redesignated Civil Engineering Squadron, Heavy Repair
15 Oct 1988	All units redesignated Civil Engineering Squadron, RED HORSE
8 Mar 1989	All units redesignated Civil Engineering Squadron
1 Mar 1994	All units redesignated RED HORSE Squadron
Mar 2004	All ANG units redesignated as RED HORSE Squadrons. Guard and Reserve units have approximately 200 members.

RED HORSE Units				
Period	Unit Designator	Component	Location	
5/8/1967- 3/16/1970	1st Civil Engineering Group	Active	Tan Son Nhut, Vietnam	
9/25/1971- Present	200th RHS	Guard 1/2 Sq	Camp Perry, Ohio	
7/20/2008- Present	200th RHS /Det 1	Guard 1/2 Sq	Mansfield, Ohio	
9/14/1971- Present	201st RHS	Guard 1/2 Sq	Fort Indiantown Gap, PA	
April 2008- Present	201st RHS /Det 1	Guard 1/2 Sq	Biddle ANG Base, Willow Grove, PA	
9/5/1985- Present	202nd RHS	Guard 1/2 Sq	Camp Blanding, FL	
Sep 1985- Present	203rd RHS	Guard 1/2 Sq	Virginia Beach, VA	
2010- Present	210th RHS	Guard 1/3 Sq	Kirkland, NM	
1997- Present	219th RHS	Guard 1/3 Sq	Malmstrom, MT (Colocated with 819th)	
1985- Present	254th RHS	Guard 1/3 Sq	Anderson, Guam (Colocated with 554th)	
6/17/1971- 8/31/2015	307th RHS	Reserve 1/2 Sq	Kelly, TX (Inactivated)	
1971 - 2015	307th RHS /Det 1 (308th)	Reserve 1/2 Sq	Barksdale, LA (Inactivated)	
10/1/1965- 9/26/2005	554th RHS	Active 1	Vietnam, Korea	
9/26/2005- Present	554th RHS	Active 1/3 Sq	Anderson, Guam	
10/1/1965- 12/15/1969	555th RHS	Active 1	Vietnam (Inactivated)	
10/1/2001- Present	555th RHS	Reserve 1/2 Sq	Nellis, NV (Colocated with 820th)	
2/66-10/69	556th RHS	Active 1	U-Tapao, Thailand (Inactivated)	
2/23/2006- Present	556th RHS	Reserve 1/2 Sq	Hurlburt Field, FL (Colocated with 823rd)	
2/6/1968- 6/1/1972	557th RHS	Active 1	Osdan Korea/ Eglin AFB (Inactivated)	
10/28/1966- 3/31/1970	560th RHS	Active	Eglin AFB, FL Training Squadron	
11/1/2008- Present	560th RHS	Reserve 1/2 Sq	Seymour Johnson, NC	
7/13/2013- 9/25/2015	583rd RHS	Reserve 1/2 Sq	Beal, CA (Inactivated)	
6/1/2020- Present	800th RHG	Active 1	Nellis, NV	
4/26/2022- Present	801st RH Training Sq	Training Staff	Tyndall, FL	
11/21/2022- Present	801st Det 1 RH Training Sq	Training Staff	Nellis, NV	
1/12/1966- 8/31/1990	819th RHS	Active 1	Thailand, Vietnam, Massachusetts, England	
6/2/1997- Present	819th RHS	Active 1	Malmstrom, MT	
4/8/1966- 4/15/1970	820th RHS	Active 1	Vietnam	
4/15/1970- Present	820th RHS	Active 1	Nellis, NV	
4/6/1966- 6/15/1971	823rd RHS	Active 1	Vietnam	
6/15/1971- Present	823rd RHS	Active 1	Hurlburt Field, FL	
1993- 4/26/2022	823rd RHS /Det 1	Training Staff	Tyndall, FL (Inactivated)	
1/23/1985- 8/1/1996	31st / 712th RHF	Prepositioned	Camp Darby, Italy, moved to the gulf (Inactivated)	
1/23/1985- 1990	7219/ 7319 RHF	Assets	Germany/ Italy, moved to the gulf (Inactivated)	

RHPBA NOTES, UPDATES and OTHER INFO

1. RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association's Website:



The Association is upgrading our web site, rhpb.com. It may take us a little time to get the information as up to date as possible, but we wanted to take advantage of this newsletter to inform you of our work and the changes. We will continue to post our newsletters and interesting information in the meantime.

The biggest improvement is a work around for sending bulk email.

Because emails contain spam and robot messages, email providers are trying to stop these messages, but that also stops us from sending legitimate bulk messages. What we need you to do is go the web site and scroll down to "Subscribe to Blog via email" click on Subscribe and enter your email address to get our posts. The software doesn't allow us to register you, you must do it yourself.

2. We are also launching our own QR code.



A QR code is a shortcut for many smart phones to connect on line data to your smart device.

With many smart phones you just hold the camera lens over the QR code and it will read it automatically and bring up the data. Many attendees at our convention came up to our membership table and had their smart phone access our web site from the web site poster we had on display and register to receive our posts.

In addition to having a membership application you can also pay via credit card. We have also started to use PDF fillable forms so you can complete certain forms on line and email them to us rather than hand-writing the information and then having to mail it to us.

3. RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Membership Information:

Joining the RED HORSE / Prime BEEF Association is 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 the new membership brochure on page 24 and the fillable membership application form on page 25; please send your application to Randy Eckert: 701 Center Drive, Palmyra, PA 17078, 717-269-3914, reckert@rhpb.com.

4. The RHPBA Newsletter: New RED HORSE and Prime BEEF articles are always appreciated and/or any comments you may have regarding the newsletter are always welcome. Please send articles (include photos if you have them) and any comments to Dick Aldinger at raldinger@rhpb.com

5. Special Note: Please add this newsletter to your Squadron Facebook page or distribute through other social media.

6. 2024 Brigadier General William "Tom" Meredith Honor Scholarship Program: Welcome to our 14th annual RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association (RHPBA) Scholarship Program for the 2024-2025 academic year.

The program is available to family members of an RHPBA member in good standing (annual dues are current). A family member can be a member's spouse, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, adopted son, adopted daughter, grandson, granddaughter, and includes the member.

To apply, go to our website: www.rhpb.com and select the [RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association - Gen Tom Meredith Scholarship Program \(rhpb.com\)](http://www.rhpb.com). The link contains information, instructions and guidance for applying. Please direct any inquiries to Scholarship Selection Committee Chair Don Boone via email (dboone@rhpb.com), or text (518-441-7639).

We competitively award scholarships in the following categories to students planning to attend or are currently attending accredited institutions of higher learning, including vocational and technical institutes:

- Qualified high school seniors
- BGED recipients
- Home school students meeting the public high school graduation requirements for their respective state
- Undergraduate students with at least two semesters remaining prior to graduation

Submission deadline is June 1, 2024

7. Convention/Reunion Notes Regarding Photos

A sampling of photos from this year's Convention/Reunion is provided below and on the following pages. The entire collection of photos has been prepared in zip packets to be e-mailed to Convention/Reunion attendees separately. Many thanks again to Henry Guidry for this year's outstanding capture of memories from our amazing week.





RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Convention/Reunion October 23-27, 2023





RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Convention/Reunion October 23-27, 2023





RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association Convention/Reunion October 23-27, 2023



Photo above left is Sue Waylett named Honorary Grand Marshall of the San Antonio Parade. The "Quilt of Valor" she was awarded at our Convention/Reunion is shown in the background.



RED HORSE / Prime BEEF Association

The RED HORSE / Prime BEEF Association is an organization representing the professional and personal interests of more than 600 Active Duty, Retired, Veterans, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve of the United States Air Force RED HORSE and Prime BEEF units



1. Single-Service Orientation...

Our single-service orientation means we only work for YOU, the RED HORSE and Prime BEEF (RHPBA) community.

2. Fun and Keep in Touch...

Members reconnect with old friends and create new friendships by attending RHPBA gatherings in historic and memorable settings.

3. Camaraderie...

Cultivate and maintain good relations with community, foster patriotism, pride, and fraternity.

4. Scholarships...

Annual scholarships for members and their family.

5. Great web site...

Well maintained with current information and historic photos. Keep those "special memories" alive by finding airman from your previous assignments.

6. Informative Newsletter...

Membership includes semi-annual issues of our newsletter, with interesting articles and official notifications of planned gatherings.

7. Affordable...

Four categories of membership. Opportunity to become involved in committees, fund raisers, event planning and the RHPBA.

8. Creditable...

A professional, legitimate, active, involved, established and well working Association that is desirable to belong to.

9. Worthwhile...

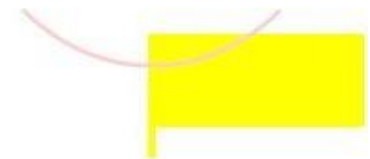
Community programs that help those in need.

10. Or just because you want to join



10 REASONS

Why the RED HORSE / Prime BEEF Association should be your Military Organization of choice...



JOIN

US

TODAY



*Semper Simul
Always Together*

RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association

701 Center Drive, Palmyra, PA 17078, 717-269-3914

reckert@rhpba.com / Web Site: <https://www.rhpba.com>

Regular or Life Membership: Shall be open to all military members who have or are serving in the USAF Civil Engineer field, or in a USAF Civil Engineering unit, which includes the ACTIVE, AFRC, and ANG units, or their predecessor service; Aviation Engineer Force and SCARWAF Engineer Force.

Affiliate or Life 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:

Proper Name: _____ Spouse: _____
Nick Name: _____
Street address: _____
Address (cont.): _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Highest Military Rank: _____
Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

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 the membership or renewal level

Regular Membership, First Year \$10

Regular Membership, Renewal \$20

Affiliate Membership (Dues will be equal to the sponsoring member)

Current Active Duty, \$10

Life Membership (please use the schedule at the right) \$ _____

I would like to be considered for Associate Membership in the RHPBA

Associate Membership, First Year \$10.00

Associate Membership, Renewal \$20

DUES / FEES

Regular Memberships:

First Year: \$10.00

Annual Renewal: \$20.00

Active Duty Military:

\$10.00 per year as long as you are on active duty.

Life Memberships:

Age 45 and under: \$250

Age 46 to 55: \$215

Age 56 to 65: \$180

Age 66 and above: \$125

Associate Membership:

First Year: \$10.00

Renewal: \$20.00



Make it easier to read, complete this form on line.

Pay on line by credit or debit card at
<https://www.rhpba.com>.

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.