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Crossroads



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Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal | Lajes in the Fight!

It's a bird, it's a plane ...

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration WB-57, a high-altitude research aircraft, lands at Lajes Field Monday on its way back to the United States.



Left: A C-17 from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. landed here before the WB-57 to provide aircrew and maintenance support. The last time the WB-57 landed at Lajes was in the 1970s. The 65th Operations Support Squadron provided aerospace ground equipment support. The aircraft landed at Lajes in order to be refueled before going home. There are two fully operational WB-57 aircraft based at Ellington Field near Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Both aircraft have been flying research missions since the early 1960's. (Photos by Guido Melo)



Marriage enrichment is TIME well spent

By Angie Erickson
Volunteer Contributor

It's been nearly 10 years since my husband and I attended pre-marital counseling with an Air Force chaplain, and not an anniversary goes by that I don't think about the valuable lessons that came from those one-hour sessions over the course of six weeks. Looking back, I see that this counseling was one of the wisest investments of time that I could make for my future with the most important person in my life – my spouse.

As a military veteran, I was taught valuable time management skills, as well as, the importance of performing maintenance on my equipment. I operated in a world of acronyms that made sense in order to accomplish the mission. But it wasn't until I attended this pre-marital counseling that it occurred to me that there weren't any acronyms or standard operating procedures that were going to help me with my matrimonial mission.



I started out, as most do, with the best intentions. I spent a great deal of time reading self help books on various subjects to improve myself and of course our relationship, earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in management.

While I seemed to be excelling in my career, it wasn't until I sat at a carwash one day and watched and waited, and waited and watched for several hours as my vehicle was detailed inside and out that I realized that my marriage was suffering.

As a newlywed, I had left the military and went on to manage my own real estate team. It was a new world with its own language, and I came to understand that if I wanted to be successful, it required an investment of time. Some of that time spent went to servicing my vehicle. I had my SUV detailed and frequently maintained because I not only spent a great deal of time driving, but I depended on it to take me and my clients where we needed to go.

I was spending hours upon hours each day building my real estate business and maintaining my vehicle, but what was I doing to improve my marriage? At that car wash I felt the urgency to take a personal inventory of my life, and eight years into my marriage I knew two things were certain: We all have 24-hours-a-day and 365-days-per-year.

How was I spending my time and with

whom was I spending all of my time with? Unfortunately, I was taking better care of my vehicle and most of my clients then I was of my marriage and family, and once I realized that my priorities were out of order I knew that I had to quickly 'pencil in' marriage maintenance!

We not only began to spend more time together, but we sought out marriage enrichment opportunities through base agencies and began to hang out with couples who had time-proven recipes for marriage success!

It took almost a decade but I think I truly have come up with an acronym that works well for me and my husband: TIME (Time Invested Means Everything) is vital to a successful marriage. I did not get married to spend my life apart from my mate, my husband is my best friend, and a man I respect and want to spend time with. Unfortunately, I got so caught up with my career that I had forgotten what mattered most in life – my spouse.

Having a successful career and a fun hobby may be important, but seeking balance and setting priorities concerning marriage are vital for marital bliss. Common sense tells us that if we smile at someone, we should expect a smile back or if you give your spouse a token of affection you should expect a positive reaction. A lot can be said about common sense and time. You've heard it said, you reap what you sow and you get what you give? I believe you have to invent your own successful acronyms along your marital journey, as well as, seek wise counsel if you're going to stand the test of TIME (Time Invested Means Everlasting).

Today my spouse and I take the TIME to run fun runs, dance in the rain and have lunch together. We are committed to our matrimonial mission and are thankful that we have had the military resources available to help us mature and prosper, as husband and wife, so that we may serve as positive role models for our young Airmen.

I encourage you, no matter what stage in life you might be in your marriage, or whatever obstacle or crisis you are facing, to seek wise counsel through the base chapel, life skills or at the A&FRC. Each one of these organizations offers wonderful marriage enrichment opportunities that will strengthen and renew your marriage!

535-4240

actionline@lajes.af.mil

The Commander's Line is your link to me for suggestions, kudos and as a way to work

problems or issues within the 65th Air Base Wing for which you can't find another solution.



Col. JL Briggs

Your chain of command should always be your first option for praise or problems — but when that's not the answer, call or e-mail the Commander's Line at 535-4240 or actionline@lajes.af.mil.

Col. JL Briggs
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



The 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Crossroads.

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Contents of the Crossroads are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

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Good to Know

SARC

Capt. CJ Vaca is the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator. He is located in Bldg. T-112 in the first entrance on the right before reaching the stairs.

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program was created to address the issue of sexual assault and to foster a culture of prevention. The SARC is the source of allowing personnel to report sexual assaults confidentially under the restricted reporting option. To report a sexual assault or for details about the program, call 535-SARC (7272).

Straight Talk Line

The number to the Lajes Field Straight Talk Line is 535-3542 or 295-573-542. This line is updated during emergencies, Force Protection Condition changes and more. For more information on the Straight Talk Line, call 535-3347.

Information Assurance

Information Assurance is everyone's responsibility. Know the key players in the IA team, the information system security officer, workgroup manager, and the wing information assurance office.

Tips for Information Assurance include: Choose a good password at least eight characters long, alphanumeric characters with a mixture of upper and lower case and at least one special character.

Ensure the password function is enabled for the screensaver to protect the computer while away.

Ensure up-to-date Anti-virus software is loaded. For more information, call 535-1304 or e-mail 65cs.scbs@lajes.af.mil.

IDEA program

The IDEA Program is an incentive program to recognize submitters for approved ideas that benefit the government by streamlining processes or improving productivity and efficiency. It also recognizes individuals for intangible benefits such as improving morale or working conditions. Ideas can be submitted via the internet at <https://ipds.mont.disa.mil>. For more information, contact your unit point of contact or the Installation IDEA Program Manager at 535-1144.

Multimedia merges with public affairs

By Tech. Sgt. Christin Michaud
65th ABW Public Affairs

The 65th Communications Squadron Base Multimedia Center merged with the 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs office Oct. 1.

Multimedia services are now located in Bldg. T-100, room 240.

The merger is more than being collocated. It is a move toward strategic communication and streamlining processes.

Through Air Force Smart Operations 21 initiatives, and an Air Force Chief of Staff directive, the career fields merged as a way to capitalize on the advancement of technology.

The Air Force is evolving; the way our service communicates with its internal and external audiences is shifting with technology. News is more readily available online. Most base newspapers are only available online and the Air Force has even created its own podcasts and made it available at www.af.mil.

"The public affairs career field is on the leading edge of tremendous changes in our Air Force and we are actively charting the course for our future rather than letting circumstances dictate it for us," said Brig. Gen. Michelle Johnson, Director of Public Affairs.

This realignment meets the vision of the Air Force Secretary and Chief of Staff to reduce the number of AFSCs by organizing into expeditionary clusters that are tied to the roles Airmen currently fulfill.

"Unifying our career fields and deployment packages ensures that local and deployed commanders receive greater flexibility in the dissemination of information," said Tech. Sgt. Jeremiah Erickson, Base Multimedia Manager. "With the Air Force focused on SmartOps 21, this merger is just another example of how our military is fine tuning itself to

create a smarter and stronger force."

The goal is to tell Air Force story as efficiently as possible and become a focal point for strategic communication.

Team Lajes will see some changes to public affairs and multimedia products and missions in an effort to streamline many of our processes in response to decreased manpower authorizations.

One of the most visible transformations this past summer was to the Crossroads newspaper. It was reduced from a 12-page newspaper to a 4-page newsletter.

The photography mission will change slightly as well. Official portraits for special duty applications, chain of command photos, general officer portraits and group/wing quarterly/annual award winners will still be taken by PA photographers.

Other photo support will be handled at the unit level.

"Most units have their own digital cameras," said Capt. Shilo Weir, 65th ABW, Chief of Public Affairs. "For years, Unit Public Affairs Representatives have been the eyes and ears of the units. Under the merger, some photographic support will be within the unit as well."

Units who take their own photos can submit them to news@lajes.af.mil for use in the Crossroads or on the web.

Lajes is unique in that part of the graphics mission will remain with the local national civilian position here. Graphics personnel in the military will soon retrain into other career fields and most graphic support is being limited or outsourced. This will decrease the support at Lajes with the loss of a military slot, but not eliminate it.

"The overall missions of public affairs and base multimedia are changing, but we will continue to provide the same quality of support to our customers," said Captain Weir.



Photographer Guido Melo, shows Ed Lima, how to tilt his head for a portrait. Portraits are taken the first and third Tuesdays from 8:30 to 11 a.m. and the first and third Thursdays from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Call 535-6267 to schedule an appointment. Official passport photos are available Wednesdays from 1:30 to 4:30 on a walk-in basis. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeremiah Erickson)



Movie Schedule

Today, 7 p.m. – The Brave One (R);
10 p.m. – Shoot'Em (R)
Saturday, 7 p.m. – Shoot'Em; **10 p.m.** – The Brave One
Sunday, 2 p.m. – Shoot'Em; **7 p.m.** – The Brave One
Thursday, 7 p.m. – The Brave One
Synopsis: Visit www.aafes.com/ems

In The Community

Book Fair/Photo and Cartoon Exhibits: There will be a book fair and a photo and cartoon exhibit inside the tent located next to the marina in Praia. Open to the public 10 a.m. to midnight today through Sunday. The fair will also feature concerts by different bands and groups in the evenings.

Half Marathon: There will be a half marathon on Nov. 11 at 10 a.m. departing from the marina of Praia da Vitoria. For more information call 966-744-217 or 912-840-124.

Around Lajes

Oceanview to Begin Serving Breakfast: The Oceanview will begin serving breakfast from 6:30 to 11 a.m. Mondays through Fridays beginning Monday.

Pentagon Federal Credit Union: Some members have mistaken PFCU's Web site when visiting URLs with similar names. An example of one of these sites is www.pentagoncreditunion.com. These sites may advertise loans and savings products, but are not associated with the credit union. Members should only trust Pentagon Federal's official web site: www.pentfed.org. For more information, call 295-513-221.

Armchair Quarterback

Congratulations to week eight winner Eric Roberts. This week's You Don't Know Jack Winner is Peter Pollock again - better stick to your bandwidth!

"In answer to Kevin's question from last week — AMS beat you ... and this was just my first entry." —Eric Roberts



E-mail picks to news@lajes.af.mil before kickoff Sunday. In the case of a tie, a winner will be decided by who picks the closest combined score of the Monday Night game.

AWANA Children and Youth Club: AWANA is a nondenominational, Bible-centered youth organization. The Club at Lajes meets from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays, for ages 3 through 12th grade. For details, call 535-4211.

Cost of Living Allowance Living Pattern Survey: The COLA LPS will be available via the internet, Nov. 1. The survey is open to all active military members regardless if living on or off base. The link for the survey along with training slides will be emailed to all eligible members. Maximum participation is requested. For details, call 535-5174.

Photos with Santa: The community center will offer photos with Santa from 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 9 and 1 to 3 p.m. Nov. 10 at the Sun and Sand Hut.

Home Buying Seminar: 10 a.m. to noon, Monday. For details, call 535-4138.

Parent and Child Communication: This class, scheduled 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Nov. 15 in the A&FRC classroom will help parents identify and learn effective communication techniques. To sign up, call 535-4138.

Jobs/Volunteer

Services NAF positions: For a list of vacancies, visit <http://www.lajes-services.com/jobs/jobs2.doc> or call 535-5200/6582.

Education

University of Oklahoma: Earn a Master's in Human Relations in 16-24 months from OU. Enrollment is open for the next onsite class, HR 5423: Family Systems and Reconstruction, an elective to be held on Dec 4-9. The deadline to register is Monday. Spring registration begins Tuesday. For more information, call 535-3171.

AFCT/AFOQT: The MPF will administer the Armed Forces Classification Test Nov. 15 and the Air Force Officer Qualification Test Dec. 3. To sign up, e-mail james.souther@lajes.af.mil at least two days prior to test date.

DLPT: Computer based testing for Chinese-Amoy, Tagalog, Thai, Vietnamese, German, French, Italian, Hebrew, Cambodian, Indonesian, Hungarian, Dutch, Swedish, Swahili, Bulgarian, and Danish is now available via CBT: S:\MSS\65 MSS Education Flight\DLPT\DLPT List Oct 07.doc

Free Excel Classes: The A&FRC is offering Beginning Excel from 10:30 a.m. to noon Wednesday and 2 to 3:30 p.m. Nov. 14. Intermediate Excel is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. to noon Thursday and 2 to 3:30 p.m. Nov. 15 at the A&FRC. For de-

tails or to sign up, call 535-4138.

Leaders Encouraging Airman Development: The LEAD program allows Airmen to enter the Air Force Academy directly or attend the Academy Prep School. Applicants must be unmarried and have no legal dependents. Application deadline is Jan. 31. For information, visit www.academyadmissions.com or call Maria Tristao-Rocha at 535-3355.

University of Phoenix Reopen: The University of Phoenix offers a Master of Business Administration, Master of Arts in Education (Elementary Teacher Education, Secondary Teacher Education, Adult Education and Training, or Curriculum and Instruction). For more information, call Jenny Wells at 535-1970.

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University Term II Classes: Classes for Term II include Math 111, College Math for Aviation I, which can be used for CCAF – Class dates are Nov. 12-15 & 18 and December 3-6 & 9; and MGMT 322 Aviation Insurance – Class dates are Nov. 26 to Dec. 2. For details, call 535-3375.

Central Texas College-MobileLearning™: CTC offers Microsoft Certified System Administrator Training via video iPod. "Attend" classes when it's convenient; learn how to build a single computer to how to manage a network of users. TA eligible. 18 credit hours. Video iPod provided with program. Enroll today. Call 535-6722, or e-mail lajes@europe@ctcd.edu.

Lajes American School

Parent Teacher Conferences: K-5 conferences will be held Thursday and Nov. 9. Students will bring home an appointment slip. Grade 6-12 will be held Nov. 9. Teachers will be available in the school gym in the morning and afternoon to conference with parents – no appointment necessary.

Classified Ads

E-mail classified ads to news@lajes.af.mil by 5 p.m. the Thursday prior to the week you need it published. Notify the Crossroads when items have been sold. Lajes personnel may also post ads at Lajesads.com. This site is not affiliated with the Crossroads.

For sale: Living room set for sale. Three seat couch, love seat, lazy boy recliner, coffee table and two end tables all for \$400.
Call 295-90-3049 or 965-19-9078.

Children's items needed: Mothers of Preschoolers need donated exersaucers, baby swings, or bouncy seats to use for child care during MOPS meetings. Our growing group of toddlers is 'toddling' all over our babies. Call Becky Heerema at 535-1440 leave message.

Wanted: Donations - clothes, shoes, toys, books, household items, etc. All donations are used for the Lajes High School sports teams to raise money for travel. Will pick up donations, e-mail lajes15@yahoo.com. Thank You for your support.

Need a babysitter? Fantastic with kids. Speaks excellent English. Call 295-542-4910 or 968-883-177. References available.