



## Brothers in Arms: Americans and Portuguese foster relations

By Senior Master Sgt. Tony Rita  
65th ABW Political Affairs

Change is inevitable, however, don't fear, some constants remain. Mathematicians and physicists, fond of using terms, use "Universal Constant" to express a factor which remains true no matter the forces at work against it. Examples of constants are as obvious as; day follows night, good people die so that others may live and Murphy's Law is a law for a reason. During a recent invitational visit to Regimental Garrison Number 1 in the City of Angra, friendship, pride of service and the profession of arms were obviously universal constants between the 65th Air Base Wing and our Portuguese Military hosts.

True friendship among allies does not just happen with the flick of a pen; it takes the same amount of time and work as any worthy relationship. On Mar. 27, Chief Master Sgt. Douglas McIntyre, 65th ABW command chief, and a group of our senior non-commissioned officers from Lajes traveled to RG1, in the spirit of forging lasting friendships with our Portuguese allies stationed there. No single mandate required this visit; however, a chance and amiable conversation with Sergeant Major Paulo Reis Costa of RG1, during another event, laid the groundwork for an opportunity to better our relations with the Portuguese Army.

Our Lajes families can all remember the sense of security provided us during our last joint exercise. During that exercise, RG1 deployed 83 of their soldiers to bolster our security posture.

Friends have things in common.

Sergeant Major Costa's invitation was our opportunity to explore these common threads. After this visit, we understood and had an even deeper appreciation of their service. Common threads throughout, from 2nd Corporal (Cabo) to Colonel (Coronel) (E-1 to O-6); they were all proud to showcase their regiment, history and service.

First impressions are tough to beat. The pride of service within RG1 was obvious in every face we encountered. An energetic 1st Sergeant, Paulo Matos, provided us a comprehensive account of the history and legacy of this active garrison. He proudly shared interesting facts of the origin of the facility, initially built by the Spanish, dating back to the 1500's. Replete with period stonework, structures and defenses, the Fortress of S. Joao Baptista ("John the Baptist" named after the Portuguese King John IV) in Angra, is steeped in military heritage. Each of the structural stones of the Fort still bear the markings of the masons who proudly put their trademark on their work. Active duty soldiers walk the same halls as soldiers have done for more than 500 years. These Professional soldiers exhibited their pride with every step.

Their motto, found on the Regimental coat of arms "Antes Morrer Livres Que Em Paz Sujeitos" reflects the proud heritage of the profession of arms. These words, roughly translated, "Better to die free, then in peace be subjugated," as remembered by historians, was found in a document dated Feb. 13, 1582. This document was written by Ciprião de Figueiredo, the Governor of the Azores, in response to King Phillip of Spain's attempt to gain this piece of Portuguese soil. A motto which reminds me of our own history, when on Mar. 23,



Lajes NCOs and NCOs from Regimental Garrison Number 1 in Angra met recently to reflect on similarities between the two forces. (Courtesy photo)

1775 our Patrick Henry, during a speech to the Virginia House of Burgesses, stated " ... give me liberty, or give me death."

We, here at Lajes, are surrounded by historic fact and evidence of a heritage of the profession of arms. Every day we pass structures that in the past and present connect us to our military heritage. We are all warriors, dedicated to the defense of our country and our way of life regardless of which country we have sworn to protect. We hold this in common with our Portuguese military friends, and they, as we, hold this defense a sacred trust. Great friends have things in common.

Change will happen, it is only natural, and we manage it every day. Remember to look for the universal constants, they are what sustain us. Strong friendships, pride in service and the profession of arms are constants that we all rely on.

Our Air Force carries on a proud heritage of forging bonds that can never be broken while retaining our core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in all We Do. These core values are also constants; great friends have great things in common.



**UCI Countdown**  
**150**  
Days remaining  
until Lajes Field's  
Unit Compliance  
Inspection



# People skills can be more valuable than book smarts

By Maj. Peter Pollock  
65th Mission Support Squadron

What makes someone an effective leader? Time after time, study after study, the most important attribute of being a great leader is "people skills." In fact, Dr. Edgar Puryear Jr. states "character is the single most important and the most distinctive element shared by the individuals (referring to great American Generals) ... character is everything." I put this in my own terms: you can be as dumb as a box of rocks, but as long as you know how to talk to people, you can lead and they will follow you anywhere.

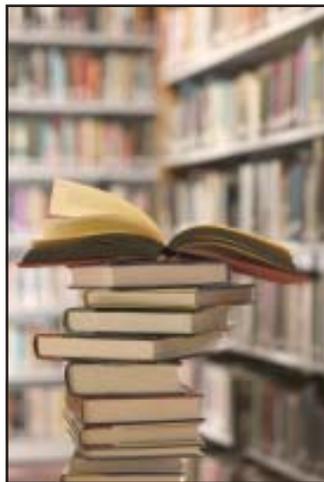
Another word for people skills is "emotional quotient;" another word for book smart is "intelligence quotient." EQ vs. IQ. EQ is much more important to being an effective leader than IQ is. Think about it -- you can be chairing a staff meeting and explaining how on page 121, paragraph 3 of a book written back in 1932, describes the way in which you should dissect a problem and use higher level math to figure out the most appropriate method to accomplish the mission that we have ahead of us; or, you could interact with your staff, brain storm, become educated about the pros and cons of the way ahead you are considering for the organization, and then make an educated decision; not one in a vacuum, because you think you are smarter than everyone else. You may be, but that doesn't mean you should not use their expertise in deciding the way ahead.

Interaction, communication skills, being a motivator, becoming that coach when you need to, becoming a cheerleader at times, providing the organization with a direction for the way ahead -- this will make you an effective leader ... not the fact that you know what's on page 32 of Volume III in the Encyclopedia Britannica.

When you talk to your people, don't talk down to them and don't belittle them. Just because you outrank them doesn't give you the right to feel like you have to prove to them you are on some kind of higher ground. Don't get me wrong, I am not some softie that believes we need to be

touchy feely and hug everyone, but by giving people the respect that they deserve, they will in turn respect you. Now, there are some times when you have to let them know, hey, you're not getting it, and maybe you have to break it down for them, but that should be the exception as opposed to the norm.

When someone comes to my office, let's say for, "mentoring," I like to put them in my chair and give them the opportunity to see what I see from where I sit. If they never have the chance to see an action that has been committed from "the other side of the fence," they might never be able to appreciate where you are coming from and they most certainly will never be able to appreciate the decision that you made. Now, sometimes this "role reversal" is appropriate, and sometimes it is not. You have to make



that call, and just like leadership, whether you do it or not is situational.

People are people; we all have emotions. Recognizing this fact and being able to effectively communicate to people to reach out to them is key. Part of EQ is being aware of what you are good at, and what you are not so good at and need some help with. Some of us are not the greatest communicators in the world, the sooner we recognize this and make a concerted effort to improve, the better.

To be an effective leader, you have to be able to use all aspects of what makes a great leader. Sure, some of us haven't studied the meaning of life, the distance between here and Neptune, or the order of magnitude taken to solve some higher level math problem. But the gift of "people skills," the gift of being able to talk to people and relate to them, is something that I would take any day. If I were picking a team of great leaders to fight our next battle, sure, I would take some of those 60 pound brains out there, to do the thinking -- but as a prerequisite for the majority of my team, I would also ask, "Are you are a people person?"

535-4240

[actionline@lajes.af.mil](mailto: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. Your chain of command



**Col. JL Briggs**

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](mailto:actionline@lajes.af.mil).

**Col. JL Briggs**  
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



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## American Citizen Event

**Hon. Thomas F. Stephenson,  
U.S. Ambassador to Portugal  
will address the American citizen  
community of Terceira**

*6:30 p.m. Apr. 15*

*Auditório Ramo Grande – Praia da Vitoria*

- Open to all American citizens
- Proof of citizenship must be presented (U.S. Passport preferred)
  - Space is limited
  - First come, first served
- Doors will open at 5 p.m.

**The American Consulate will have  
Voter Registration tables available in the  
lobby**

Before the event: 5 to 6:30 p.m.

After the event: 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

***Come and Register to Vote in the 2008  
U.S. Presidential Election!***

*American Citizens age 18 and older are  
eligible to vote*



## Commissary gets new CART

*Marcie Richardson, explains the new Commissary Advanced Resale Transaction System to cashier Aureliano Cabral. Ms. Richardson is an IBM CARTS trainer. Lajes is one of the first commissaries to receive the new checkout system being installed in all European commissaries. One very important change customers should know — checks will be scanned at the registers and immediately returned to the customer. There are also two price verification stations, where customers can confirm the price of an item. One is located in the freezer section and the other is across from the tobacco. (Photo by Jim Marino)*

## Join the circle of knowledge @ library

It's National Library Week, a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers in schools, campuses and communities all over the world – and the perfect time to discover how you can join the circle of knowledge @ your library.

USAFE libraries are celebrating National Library Week Apr. 11-16 - by holding special story hours, featuring book displays and posters, parties and more.

"Everyday, libraries in big cities and small towns, colleges and universities, in schools, businesses and on military bases help transform their communities", says Melinda Mosley, USAFE Command librarian. "In our Air Force libraries in Europe, people of all ages and backgrounds can come together for meetings, programs, to do research with the assistance of a librarian, to find out about jobs on base, email their deployed spouse, find homework help, check out books or movies, or to just use the library as a place to kick back and relax. Over 1.2M visitors walked into our libraries last year; we're honored to be a such a popular destination place for so many people."

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country each April. For more information about National Library Week and about USAFE libraries, visit your local library in person, or visit it online at <http://www.usafelibraries.org>.

Celebrate with library staff 5 to 8 p.m. Apr. 17, Sleepy Time Hour starting at 6:30 p.m. The library is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Closed Portuguese holidays. Hours on American holidays are from 2 to 6 p.m.

*Courtesy of USAFE Services*

## --- Lajes Salutes ---

□ Way to go to Team Lajes' promotees for April: *To Airman 1st Class: Joshua Morgan*, 65th Communications Squadron. *To Senior Airman: John Christiansen*, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron. *To Staff Sergeant: Christopher Noll*, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron; *Kyle Ostwald*, 65th LRS; *Joshua Vincent*, 65th Operations Support Squadron; and *Kelli Werner*, 65th CES. *To Master Sergeant: Josue Cantu*, 65th Mission Support Squadron; and *Carlos Nurse*, 65th CES.

□ Kudos to **Staff Sgt. Donald Werner**, 65th CES, who was presented the Sharp Award in the NCO category for March.

□ Way to go to **Staff Sgt. Rachel Taylor**, USAFE Outstanding Personnel Manager Of The Year, Unit Level Technician.

□ Congratulations goes out to the **Lajes Basketball Team** which was named The Undeclared 2008 USAFE Small Unit Basketball Champion.

□ Kudos to **Elizabeth Anderson**, DoDDS, for earning her Master of Arts in Education through University of Phoenix.



Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p><b>9 a.m.</b> Self pet wash, Atlantic Island Kennels</p> <p><b>5 p.m.</b> Teen Money Matters, LYP</p> <p><b>5:30 p.m.</b> Build Your Own Pasta meal, TORC</p> <p><b>7 p.m.</b> Fool's Gold (PG-13)</p> <p><b>7:30 p.m.</b> Cosmic Bowling</p> <p><b>10 p.m.</b> Definitely, Maybe (PG-13)</p>	<p><b>9 a.m.</b> \$ .25 games all day, every Saturday this month, Bowling Alley</p> <p><b>3 p.m.</b> USAFE Teen Talent Contest, community center</p> <p><b>7 p.m.</b> Set Up 2: The Street (PG-13)</p> <p><b>7:30 p.m.</b> Cosmic Bowling</p> <p><b>10 p.m.</b> Fool's Gold (PG-13)</p>	<p><b>9 a.m.</b> Evangelical Service</p> <p><b>10:30 a.m.</b> Mass</p> <p><b>Noon</b> Praise Service</p> <p><b>Noon</b> Post Office open</p> <p><b>1 p.m.</b> Game Day, Call 535-1203 for info, Sun &amp; Sand Hut</p> <p><b>2 p.m.</b> Set Up 2: The Street (PG-13)</p> <p><b>7 p.m.</b> Definitely, Maybe (PG-13)</p>	<p><b>7:40 a.m.</b> Spring Break Ends - Back to School</p> <p><b>11 a.m.</b> Tradewinds Dining Facility offers daily lunch specials</p> <p><b>11:30 a.m.</b> Daily Mass</p> <p><b>2 p.m.</b> Smooth Move</p> <p><b>4 p.m.</b> Oceanview delivers on base, 535-3387</p>	<p><b>10 a.m.</b> EDIS Playgroup, LYP</p> <p><b>Noon</b> Women's Bible Study, chapel</p> <p><b>11 a.m.</b> Oceanview Pizza special, \$11.75</p> <p><b>5:30 p.m.</b> Mongolian BBQ, TORC</p> <p><b>6 p.m.</b> AWANA, chapel</p> <p><b>6:30 p.m.</b> American Citizen Event, see page 3 for more details</p>	<p><b>9 a.m.</b> Pre-seperation briefing, A&amp;FRC</p> <p><b>1 p.m.</b> Asian-Pacific American Heritage Committee meeting, community center</p> <p><b>6 p.m.</b> College Sexual Assault Safety briefing, Ed Center auditorium</p> <p><b>6:30 p.m.</b> Big Money BINGO sales begin, \$50, TORC</p>	<p><b>9:30 a.m.</b> Effective Communication, A&amp;FRC</p> <p><b>9:30 a.m.</b> Mothers of Preschoolers meeting, chapel</p> <p><b>2 p.m.</b> Beginner Outlook class, A&amp;FRC</p> <p><b>6 p.m.</b> Marriage 103, A&amp;FRC</p> <p><b>7 p.m.</b> Fool's Gold (PG-13)</p> <p><b>8 p.m.</b> Ladies Night, TORC</p>

### Legal Office 535-3546

**New Legal Office Hours:** New hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Power of attorneys are available on a walk-in basis from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday to Friday.

### TORC Events 535-3202

**Brazilian Buffet:** 6 to 9:30 p.m. April 18. Different types of meat and sausage, black beans, Portuguese kale, rice, Farofa, vegetables, salad buffet, fried banana, grilled pineapple and the Brazilian drink "Caipirinha." Cost is \$13.95 for members, \$15.95 for nonmembers. Children 7-12 are \$7.95.

**Texas Hold 'Em:** 6:30 p.m. Apr. 19. Club members only.

**BINGO:** 7:15 p.m. Wednesday and Apr. 30. Ticket sales begin at 6 p.m.

**Chili Dog Thursday:** Chili Dog for \$2.25 plus karaoke with DG "Scooby"

**Sunday Brunch** - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 17 and 24. \$15.95/adults; \$7.95/children from 7-12 years old.

### A&FRC Classes 535-4138

**1, 2, 3 ... Magic Parenting Workshop:** A special parenting workshop for parents of children age 2 to 12 is being held 2 to 4 p.m. beginning Thursday at the A&FRC. The workshop is a 4-part series. The other classes are Apr. 24, May 1 and May 15.

**Home Buying Seminar:** 3 to 5 p.m. Apr. 24. Don't miss this opportunity to learn what you need to know before considering a home purchase.

**Budgeting Workshop:** 9 to 11 a.m. Apr. 18.

**Basic Investing Workshop:** 10 to 11:30 a.m. Apr. 22.

**Credit Management workshop:** 9 to 11:30 a.m. Apr. 23.

### Tax Deadline Approaching

Tuesday is the deadline for personnel to file their taxes with the Internal Revenue Service if they owe money. Anyone stationed overseas is eligible for an automatic two-month extension if they are entitled to a refund. Anyone who owes must pay and file by Tuesday or they will incur interest and/or penalties. Individuals deployed will receive an additional extension. Contact your local unit tax representative for more information.

**65th ABW** - MSgt Martinez, 535-6111  
**65th CES** - TSgt Burroughs, 535-6194 & SSgt Munday, 535-3792

**65th CONS** - Lt. Fehn, 535-1190

**65th CPTS** - MSgt Corpus, 535-2402

**65th CS** - TSgt Krumholz, 535-1453, SrA Brown, 535-1501, SrA Reynolds, 535-2112 & A1C Gonzalez, 535-6868

**65th CS/MSS** - Jenny Wells, 535-1970

**65th LRS** - TSgt Linnane, 535-6445 & SrA Walker, 535-2477

**65th MDG** - Mrs. Richardson, 295-549-496 and Mr. Kay, davidbkay@gmail.com

**65th MSS** - TSgt Jacobson, 535-1144 & SSgt Deuermeyer, 535-6280

**65th OSS** - TSgt Gerner, 535-3915, SSgt Kelley, 535-3669 & SrA Graham, 535-3669

**65th SFS** - SSgt Warden, 535-3222

**65th SVS** - SSgt Newsome, 535-1319

**729th AMS** - Capt. Ingram, 535-3447 & SSgt Baucum, 535-5188

**Military One Source Tax Assistance:** The free tax service provided through Military One Source will end Tuesday. No extensions to the service have been granted yet.

### Annual Alcohol Awareness

Integrated Delivery System will be holding the Second Annual Alcohol Awareness Day at 2 p.m. Apr. 18 at the LRS Supply Warehouse. For details, call 535-4252.

### Fitness Center 535-6126

**Spring Family 5K Run/Walk:** 9:30 a.m. Apr. 19 at the fitness center.

**Massages:** Stone or Wrap, Relaxation, Pregnancy, Specialty and Chair massage. Sessions 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

**Basketball Court Closure:** The gymnasium/basketball court will be closed 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday through the summer.

### Library 535-3688

The library is now reopen. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Closed Portuguese holidays. Hours on American holidays are from 2 to 6 p.m. **National Library Week:** Sunday through Apr. 19. Celebrate with the library staff 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday. Sleepy Time Story Hour will begin at 6 p.m. Children may come to Story Hour in their pajamas.

### Classified Ads

E-mail classified ads to [news@lajes.af.mil](mailto: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](http://Lajesads.com). This site is not affiliated with the Crossroads.

For Sale: 1998 Opel Corsa Standard (5 speed), power windows and locks, dual front air bags, new exhaust and muffler system, low mileage 43K miles, Hatch back trunk, A/C and heat, Portuguese tags, and much more. \$3,500 OBO Available now. Call 535-6267 or 962408190

For Sale: 1990 Chevy S10, 4.3L V6 4X4, Great truck! \$1,200 obo 295-549-120

For Sale: Briggs and Stratton gasoline powered generator with (4) 120V outlets and one 240 volt outlets. Used only once. 2 years old in perfect condition. PCS soon so must sell. 11 hour run time. Operation manual included. Call 295-549-228 or email h82bpor\_2000@yahoo.com

For Sale: 1994 Ford Ranger Truck Extended Cab XLT Series New Brakes/Rotors Metal Tool Box included 110k Miles, Great Cond. Asking \$2,500 OBO Call Mike @ 964224165